

WASHINGTON.

FOR INGERSOLL ON THE RECENT REMOVALS BY THE PRESIDENT.

An Old Law Governing Hours of Labor in the Departments—One of the Legacies Left by Secretary Stanton—Dr. Bliss and the Award of the Garfield Board of Audit—Collectors With Too Much Business on Hand.

[Special Telegram to the Globe.] WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—In conversation with a number of politicians in the lobby of Willard's to-night, Col. Ingersoll took occasion to criticize the president very severely for the removal of Marshal Henry, Postmaster Angier and Assistant Parker. "It's the most unjust thing I ever heard of," he said. "Arthur did not wait until he had proof of the truth of the charges against them, but summarily removed them without any show of reason."

"You don't want to get into a fight with the president," said one of his listeners. "You have enough on your hands now with Judge Wylie."

"I would like to have twenty such fights on my hands like the one I had with the court," Ingersoll retorted. "Do you know," he continued, "if the court persists in its persecution of me for a week longer he will bring the sentiment of the country around to our side?"

This is very pretty as an assertion, but there are grave doubts as to its beauty when tested as a prospective fact.

DEPARTMENT WORKING HOURS. An old law regulating the office hours of all the departments has been unearthed by a treasury official. It reads as follows: "From the first day of October until the first day of April in each year, all bureaus and offices in the state, war, treasury, navy and post office departments, and in the general land office, shall be open for the transaction of public business at least eight hours in each day, and from the first day of April until the first day of October in each year at least ten hours in each day, except Sundays and days declared public holidays by law."

The present working hours in the departments are seven hours in the winter and six hours in the summer. The subject was brought to the attention of the secretary of the treasury with a view to its effect on the question of closing that department at noon during the coming Christmas holidays in accordance with the custom that has obtained for many years back. Secretary Folger said he would look into the matter. When approached on the subject to-day he was decidedly noncommittal as to his conclusions. Great concern is manifested in the treasury department as to the secretary's intentions in this regard, and this evening asserted that the question will be brought before the president and his cabinet next week.

THE DUTY ON COAL. The tariff commission report recommended a reduction of the duty on coal from 75 to 50 per cent. This has been agreed to by the senate finance committee. Senators Davis and Camden, of West Virginia, will oppose this recommendation on the ground that if it becomes a law Nova Scotia coal can be sold more cheaply than native products.

ONE OF STANTON'S LEGACIES. During the war the government seized all the money and specie belonging to the Virginia state banks and turned it into the United States treasury. Secretary Stanton secured the passage of a law authorizing this, and when the affairs of the banks were settled, the firm of Isaacs & Co. bought up a claim against the government for a mere song. To-day the committee on war claims decided to report a grant of \$100,000 to the firm in satisfaction of all demands.

THE BLISS-HAMILTON CONTROVERSY. Dr. Bliss will not enter a libel suit against Dr. Hamilton on account of the charge that he administered morphine to Garfield after the consulting physicians had forbidden it. He says he cannot afford to discuss the subject of Garfield's sickness and death, and comforts himself by saying Hamilton never made the charge against him. An interesting story was told to the GLOBE correspondent to-day, in explanation of the reason why Bliss made a show of refusing to accept the \$6,500 awarded him by the Garfield board of audit. He gave out one day that he would fling the check in the faces of the board; that it was beneath his dignity to accept such a paltry sum. The following day, however, he went quietly to the treasury department and drew out the money. Soon afterward a gentleman called at the department and presented a claim for \$1,000 against Dr. Bliss, and asked to have it taken out of the money due the doctor. If it had been generally known that Dr. Bliss was going to accept the money he might not have had a chance to collect it; his creditors would have been there before him.

and means of this house is hereby instructed to investigate said allegations or any other matter or thing pertinent to the same, that said committee be and the same is hereby authorized to send for persons and papers, administer oaths, and examine witnesses, and as speedily as may be, report the testimony so taken to this house, with its recommendation by bill or otherwise.

The object of this resolution is no secret here. It is believed that the main purpose to serve is to bring about an investigation of the charges made by Jay Hubbell against Dr. Bell, the collector at Detroit. Hubbell charges that Bell is under a fixed salary paid him by the Canada Southern, Great Western and Grand Trunk railroads, which, together with his salary from the government, and the fees arising from the sales of manifest and other blanks, bring the income up to about \$17,000 per annum. Last summer these charges were preferred against Bell, and the secretary ordered two special inspectors to Detroit to investigate them. This report, which was never made public, was presented to Acting Secretary French, who ruled that upon the information in the report of the inspectors he saw nothing to condemn. Rumors have since been current that the report was not as full as the developments justified; hence the re-investigation, by the ways and means committee. At the time the charges were made against Bell, he excused himself by saying he was paid the salary by the roads to see that they conformed strictly with the law. This is regarded by Hubbell as a rather lame excuse. Hubbell says that Mr. Bell cannot possibly deny the charges against him. Bell is known to be one of Ferry's most active supporters in the state, and Hubbell says that he (Bell) pursued him relentlessly during the last campaign because of the charges preferred against him last summer. Hubbell says the committee will not be able to take up the investigation till the tariff report is disposed of, and that as he expects to be in Michigan during the recess and the early part of January, he cannot give his attention to it, but that a sub-committee will thoroughly sift the whole matter.

A friend of Senator Ferry was heard to remark to-day that he regarded it as part of the programme to get Ferry's active friends out of the state just about the time of the senatorial election. Hubbell said to-day that while he was in the campaign he did not pretend to reply to all the charges that Bell, Gavitt and others of Ferry's friends made against him, but that now he should meet them on their own ground, and if he was pushed to do so he would be prepared with ammunition that would surprise the people of Michigan. It is a well known fact that an effort was made last fall to have Wm. A. Gavitt transferred to some other state on the ground that he was in Michigan interfering with the selection of members of the legislature in Ferry's interest. The secretary of the treasury gave the matter some attention, but Ferry's strength was greater than Hubbell's in this case, and Gavitt was left, Hubbell says, to pursue his efforts to pledge members of the legislature for Ferry. Hubbell says the best men of the state who supported Ferry last fall in having Gavitt retained are now anxious to have him removed. He denies that the investigation has any bearing upon the senatorial contest, but he believes it is intended solely to purify and clear out the custom house, at Detroit, which is said to be run by a man under salary of several corporations, doing a large business with the custom house. The resolution is very broad in its terms, and it is thought Special Agent Gavitt too will be called upon to state to the committee what he knows about Michigan affairs.

THE NEXT HOUSE. According to a list of representatives elect prepared by Clerk McPherson, of the house of representatives there will be in the next house 191 Democrats, 119 Republicans, two Greenbackers, five Independents and six Readjusters, giving the Democrats a majority of fifty-nine over all. There are now two vacancies caused by the deaths of Updegraff, of Ohio, and Heron, of Louisiana. One of these will be filled by a Democrat, and the other by a Republican, so that the Democratic majority will remain at fifty-nine when the house is full. The five members classed as Independents are Finery, of Illinois; Lyman, of Massachusetts; Chalmers, of Mississippi; Yorke, of North Carolina; and Ochiltree, of Texas. The two Greenbackers are "Calamity" Weller, of Iowa, and Brumm, of Pennsylvania. The six Readjusters are all from Virginia. It will be seen by this that for statistical purposes at least Mr. McPherson regards Chalmers as having been elected from the Second Mississippi district instead of Manning. There is a contest in this case as to whether the name of Manning or Chalmers shall be placed on the roll. McPherson is careful to say that in making up this table he has not intended to foreclose that case, but has simply put Chalmers' name on the list because the official vote of the district shows that he received a majority. Senator Kellogg has received a dispatch stating that two Democrats of Assumption parish, Louisiana, have been indicted by the grand jury for abandoning a ballot box. The technical reason assigned by these white Democrats for abandoning this box is that there were two votes in it in excess of the registered number of voters, and in the box there was some 900 majority for Kellogg. This is the first time that Democrats have been indicted for election frauds in that state. The grand jury which found the indictment was composed entirely of white men and no negro witnesses were brought before it.

[Western Associated Press.] WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—There is good reason to believe the decision reached by the United States supreme court in the Curtis political assessment case will be announced to-morrow. It is understood the civil rights cases and the bond cases of New Hampshire and New York against Louisiana will not be decided until after the holidays. Tuesday next the argument begins in the important tax case of the county of San Mateo, Cal., vs. the Southern Pacific Railroad company, involving the extent to which state taxation is affected by the provisions of the fourteenth amendment to the federal constitution. In view of the importance of

the principles to be settled by the decision, the court allows three full days for argument. The county of San Mateo and the state of California will be represented by ex-Chief Justice Rhodes and Attorney Hart of that state, and Benjamin H. Brewster, attorney-general of the United States. The Southern Pacific Railroad company will be represented by Senator Edmunds, ex-representative of the growing crop. The Senator Conkling and ex-Judge of this state of California. At the conclusion of this argument the court will take a holiday recess until January 3. The treasurer of the United States received from "J. R." attorney, \$4,000 in cash for account of the conscience fund.

The December corn returns to the department of agriculture make a direct comparison with the product of last year. In November the yield per acre was reported, and in October the last report of the condition of the growing crop. The range of variation in the results of these three separate tests is but 3 per cent, with so slight a difference that the tendency of more accurate information is towards a reduction. The present and final returns aggregate in round numbers 1,625,000,000 bushels. The permanent estimates will be published after an analysis of all the records of area, condition and production of the year, and a conscientious adjustment of all possible differences. The New England states show a product of six and one-third millions, 1,000,000 less than last year, and 2,000,000 less than in 1879; the Middle states 76,000,000, eleven more than last year and ten less than in 1879; the Southern Atlantic states 137,000,000, being 35,000,000 more than last year and 25,000,000 more than in 1879; five gulf coast states, 171,000,000, being 200,000 more than last year and 62,000,000 more than in 1879; the western states, Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee on the central belt, 170,000,000, 70,000,000 more than the previous crop and 21,000,000 more than 1879. In seven corn surplus states from Ohio to Nebraska and Kansas, which produced a record of 1,201,000,000 bushels in the census year, there appears a reduction of 225,000,000 bushels, more than 100,000,000 of which is in Illinois and nearly 100,000,000 in Iowa. Each state shows an increase over last year, very heavy in Missouri and Kansas. Total increase 240,000,000 bushels. In Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota or Lake belt the product is 80,000,000 bushels, nearly the same as in 1878, and an increase of 9,600,000 bushels over last year. There is a large increase in Dakota, and an aggregate increase of the mountain and Pacific coast region. There is much reduction in quality and intrinsic value in the Northwest from immaturity and injury by frost, and especially in Iowa, the returns of wheat production, made with more enlightened judgment after garnering, has been entirely completed, do not vary more than 5 per cent. from the highest indications of any monthly returns of the season, yet they are lower in December and render it nearly certain that permanent estimates cannot surpass 600,000,000 bushels and may fall to reach that figure.

A canon of the Republican senators, this morning, decided to call up the pending civil service bill immediately after the morning hour and reach a vote to-day if possible. Receipts of national bank notes for redemption during the week ending to-day, \$2,053,000; bonds held by treasurer to secure national bank circulation, \$362,096,650; to secure public moneys in national depositories, \$1,344,000; bonds deposited to secure circulation during the week, \$2,342,100; to secure circulation withdrawn during the week, \$2,172,200; national bank notes outstanding, \$362,581,929; lawful money on deposit to redeem notes of national banks reducing circulation, \$23,576,724.50; liquidating banks, \$13,750,122.24; failed banks, \$1,083,107.20.

About 240 Southern matrimonial and natal associations have been placed upon the black list of the postoffice department, and postmasters are instructed to return to the senders the money orders addressed to the associations. The Michigan Mutual association is the only affair not in the South mentioned in the list. New postoffices have been established at West Leisnering, Fayette county, Pa., David Kauf postmaster; Dorcy, Carroll county, Ind., Albert M. Pittman, postmaster; Mentone, Kosciusko county, Ind., John E. Johnston, postmaster; Bohest, Platt county, Neb., Herman G. Lueschen, postmaster; Wetsel, Vanwert county, O., Emanuel S. Crites, postmaster; Meqnon, Ozaukee county, Wis., Andrew Jackson, postmaster.

Speaker Keifer to-day designated Representatives Calkins, Steele, Pierce, Urner, Updegraff, Matson, Colerick, and Shallenburger, a committee to attend the funeral services of the late Mr. Orth. The committee will leave here to-morrow for Lafayette, Ind.

POLITICIANS.

A BUDGET OF GOSSIP ABOUT MEN WHO WANT TO SERVE THE PEOPLE.

The Next Candidate for Governor of Ohio—How Blaine Showed Bad Faith to Garfield—A Politician Who Cannot be Depended Upon—Judge Hoadley as a Presidential Possibility.

New York, Dec. 16.—At Mansfield, O., I talked with Gen. R. Brinkerhoff, one of the state commissioners of corrections, a Democrat since 1876. Said I, "Mr. Brinkerhoff, who will be the next candidate for governor of Ohio?"

"The Republicans," said the free trade champion of other days, "will probably nominate Cornelius Aultman. He is a worthy man and their old political material is worn pretty threadbare. The Democrats are expecting to put in George Hoadley, but I do not see how he can take a barren office like that without there is something beyond it. He is the foremost lawyer in Ohio, with a professional income of \$50,000 a year. To lay this down for a place that almost any man can fill is too much of a sacrifice."

"Will he be a candidate for the senate?" "Oh no." The air in which this was said made me reflect that perhaps Mr. Hoadley would only run for governor with the promise of Ohio's support for vice-president or president, but the conversation took another turn, and this was only my suggestion. I told Mr. Brinkerhoff that Tilden had once, at least, referred to Hoadley as a presidential alternative, and that the Indiana Democrats were sworn to kill off any Ohio candidate whatever, being practically sold for McDonald, and considering that New York had the authority alone to checkmate them, said:

"Was Governor Foster unwise to press the license law question?" "No. The Republican politicians were acting a pitiful part against their governor, to whom they owe many a contribution, both of money and of sagacity, in past times of need. Foster has more liberty and courage than his party. When he appointed me on the board of corrections, Republicans from my own town were intolerant enough to enter a protest against it, because I had become a Democrat. He said the work to be done justified my selection. I think him the best representative they have left. He has business, executive and popular qualities, no lack of convictions and courage, too."

"Why did you get over to the Democracy?" "The Republican party has been drifting for years past. I felt uneasy in it. Soon after the war closed with my Democratic antecedents I wanted the party to come to some standard of principle, and for want of it they met with overthrow. They kept playing and fencing for position. I find the Democratic party, in Ohio at least, sound now on all essential questions. No heresy, or isms, or crank person has any influence in it. It is a better instrument to depend on now than that other party, which, with a good claim to a respectable membership, is without definite ideas or courageous popular convictions."

This free and by no means interview conversation was held in the rear room of Mr. Brinkerhoff's bank. I asked him if Sherman and Pendleton were not nearly counterparts of each other in graces, wealth and ability, and perhaps general character as to ability. Mr. Brinkerhoff thought they were equals, and neither first class. My friend then asked me if the Republicans were going to nominate Blaine for president. I said I thought they would if they did not hope to win, because he was unquestionably their favorite, but if they had a living hope, I thought they would not.

"I stumped his district for Blaine several years ago," Mr. Brinkerhoff said, "and traveled long journeys with Blaine. I liked him, but found him too uncertain in his promises. About 1871, when he was made speaker the second time, he promised the revenue reform element to make Garfield chairman of the ways and means committee. He promised positively, and gave it in writing to Garfield. The condition was that the revenue reform element would not oppose Blaine for speaker. He was elected and I went to see him in that little den he kept in the basement of the capitol. He said to me, 'How would this suit you for the committee of ways and means?' He kept his finger on the paper while I read the list. Garfield did not hear it, though his name was not included. Daves' name was. Said I, 'Mr. Blaine, this will not suit the revenue reform men at all. You promised us Garfield.' 'Oh, said he, 'I do not say this is the committee; it is only tentative. To see how you like it.' Said I, 'Mr. Blaine, do you think Daves is a revenue reform man anywhere?' 'Oh, yes,' said Blaine, briskly, 'for great tariff modifications.' I went away satisfied we had been deceived, and hailed Garfield up stairs in the capitol. He was in a great hurry, as of elation. Said I, 'Let me say something to you. Come to my house to-night.' Garfield replied: 'I can't stop now.' I went to his house and saw Garfield. 'You are not to be the chairman of the ways and means. Yes I am,' Garfield said, 'and have had Blaine's promise over and over again, and he wrote it to me in a letter.' 'Have you got the letter?' I said, 'No; Blaine asked me the other day to give it back to him.' 'Garfield,' said I, 'he has cheated you. He says Kelly, of Pennsylvania, will take a fit if he appoints you, and that the older members of congress expect to receive these leading chairmanships.' 'Why,' exclaimed Garfield, 'if he does not appoint me he is the basest of men. On the strength of his assurance I have made all my arrangements to stay in Washington the whole summer, working up the tariff bill.' 'General,' said I, detailing the whole interview, 'you are going to be cheated. He means to break faith.' And so it was. Yet Garfield put Blaine in his cabinet."

"What do you think of Garfield, General Brinkerhoff?" "He was a man of high ability, one of

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The president of the bank came in while we were talking and I contrived to ask about the financial condition of northeastern Ohio.

"There is a stringency of money," was the answer, "and heresabout it comes from the fatality of farmers, who expect to get higher prices for their grain and are holding it instead of receiving the money and letting it come out in the local business of the towns. They go by some instinct or superstition instead of by general information and hence they will come into the towns and buy a pair of boots on credit, while their bins and barns are full. So the merchants must raise money upon their notes to meet their own debts in the cities, and as the stringency becomes more general, so does the price of grain fall, money being worth more than wheat. The artificial disturbances in the prices of cereals, and produce effected by the speculators at New York and Chicago also daze the farmers, and tend to make them of a speculative and waiting turn. This is the cause of the only material injury to business, the crops being held back. In every other respect we are doing well. The factories, the great horse market here, everything else is healthy."

A prominent citizen told me at Mansfield that John Sherman's wealth was exaggerated. "I do not believe," he said, "that Sherman is worth above \$300,000. He has two farms near Mansfield, one being his wife's, and he now stays here only part of the summer." At this point Gen. Brinkerhoff said: "Sherman came to this town of Mansfield to practice law, and in 1856 he was nominated for congress on what seemed a forlorn hope, but the knowledge that he was a Republican party man had depleted the Democracy so that Sherman was elected as a whig. He was immediately fortunate in getting on the committee to investigate the border ruffian outrages in Kansas, because the other members of the committee were inefficient, and Sherman showed considerable pluck and courage there. He took with him a distinguished stenographer from Washington named Lord, who wrote the report for Sherman coming back, and issued it in the latter's name. He gave him wide publicity. Then he was an untiring worker, and as a politician he is one of the most thorough-going we have. His greatest mistake was using President Hayes' administration to elect himself president, by which he did neither Hayes nor himself any good. If he had waited till the present year there might have arisen a call for him, not liable now to be made."

"Suppose you do not nominate Mr. Hoadley for governor, who will be your man?" "Our congressman, Judge Geddes, of this town, if he could be got to accept, would make a proper candidate. He is one of the best men in congress. We shall have a fine Democratic delegation from Ohio in the next congress. The Cincinnati members are both a credit to the city and state. That Follett family is one of the most capable in the state. There are several brothers, all strong men."

ALL AROUND THE GLOBE. The epizootic has broken out in the Camden Transfer company at Philadelphia. Three Peruvian notables have been sent to Chili, having refused to pay the latest assessment. Bishop McMahon, of Hartford, dedicated St. Patrick's church at Waterbury, Conn., yesterday. Hoffman & Smalley, of Elkhardt, Ind., retail dry goods, have assigned. Liabilities \$40,000; assets unknown. All Saints church at New York was dedicated yesterday by Archbishop Corrigan, assisted by many priests. Rev. Joshua Coit has resigned the pastorate of Lawrence Street Congregational church, Lawrence, Mass., to accept the secretaryship of the American Home Missionary society. Gordon Brown retires from the editorial management of the Toronto Globe to be succeeded by J. F. Taylor, a paper manufacturer who has large financial interest in the Globe Printing company. Johan Most, the Socialist, did not arrive at New York yesterday. The programme arranged in anticipation of his arrival was observed. A public reception will be given at Cooper institute on Monday night.

POLYGAMY IN IDAHO. A Sound Message by the Governor to the Legislature. BOISE CITY, Idaho, Dec. 17.—The territorial legislature is now fully organized. The assembly has elected N. W. Fancie, Republican, speaker. The governor's message was delivered before the general session. He denounces in strong terms the evils of polygamy, which to a considerable extent prevails in Idaho. He says if the Mormon church cannot survive the loss of this criminal practice, it deserves to perish from the face of the earth. He suggests the adoption of some measures so that no person shall be excluded from testifying in any proceeding in polygamy on account of marriage relation with defendant; that cohabitation with more than one woman will countenance the offense; that to prevent the doctrine of polygamy or encourage others to enter into polygamous relations be punished severely; that congress be memorialized to amend the present anti-polygamy laws; calls attention to the fact that in several counties of Idaho Mormons both vote and hold office; that the prohibitions of the Edmunds bill should apply to that territory as well as Utah, and also directs attention to the present defects of the laws of Idaho, and suggests remedies.

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ALL AROUND THE GLOBE. The epizootic has broken out in the Camden Transfer company at Philadelphia. Three Peruvian notables have been sent to Chili, having refused to pay the latest assessment. Bishop McMahon, of Hartford, dedicated St. Patrick's church at Waterbury, Conn., yesterday. Hoffman & Smalley, of Elkhardt, Ind., retail dry goods, have assigned. Liabilities \$40,000; assets unknown. All Saints church at New York was dedicated yesterday by Archbishop Corrigan, assisted by many priests. Rev. Joshua Coit has resigned the pastorate of Lawrence Street Congregational church, Lawrence, Mass., to accept the secretaryship of the American Home Missionary society. Gordon Brown retires from the editorial management of the Toronto Globe to be succeeded by J. F. Taylor, a paper manufacturer who has large financial interest in the Globe Printing company. Johan Most, the Socialist, did not arrive at New York yesterday. The programme arranged in anticipation of his arrival was observed. A public reception will be given at Cooper institute on Monday night.

POLYGAMY IN IDAHO. A Sound Message by the Governor to the Legislature. BOISE CITY, Idaho, Dec. 17.—The territorial legislature is now fully organized. The assembly has elected N. W. Fancie, Republican, speaker. The governor's message was delivered before the general session. He denounces in strong terms the evils of polygamy, which to a considerable extent prevails in Idaho. He says if the Mormon church cannot survive the loss of this criminal practice, it deserves to perish from the face of the earth. He suggests the adoption of some measures so that no person shall be excluded from testifying in any proceeding in polygamy on account of marriage relation with defendant; that cohabitation with more than one woman will countenance the offense; that to prevent the doctrine of polygamy or encourage others to enter into polygamous relations be punished severely; that congress be memorialized to amend the present anti-polygamy laws; calls attention to the fact that in several counties of Idaho Mormons both vote and hold office; that the prohibitions of the Edmunds bill should apply to that territory as well as Utah, and also directs attention to the present defects of the laws of Idaho, and suggests remedies.

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THE GREAT LEGISLATORS AND SCHOLARS IN OUR PUBLIC LIFE, AND HE MADE A FATAL ERROR IN GIVING BLAINE THE SENIOR CABINET POSITION.

The president of the bank came in while we were talking and I contrived to ask about the financial condition of northeastern Ohio.

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