

SOME LIVELY POLITICS.

Meetings of Republican Conventions in Several of the States.

Exciting Proceedings at the Gatherings in New Jersey and Delaware.

President Arthur's Administration Indorsed and Delegates Pledged to Him Elected in Many Instances.

Other Delegates Pledged to Others or Will Go Uninstructed.

TRENTON, N. J., April 17.—There are 645 delegates at the state republican convention. A temporary organization has been completed by the state committee. The candidates for delegates-at-large are Senator William J. Sewell, George M. Robeson, John Hill, Judge William J. Hoffman, Col. John J. Toffey, Zebina K. Pangborn, Cortlandt Parker, William Walter Phelps, F. A. Potts, Senator John J. Gardner, and J. Frank Fort. Four delegates-at-large are to be chosen. The chances favor Sewell, Gardner, Phelps, and Fort. The county at large are entitled to vote as follows: Atlantic, 14; Bergen, 19; Burlington, 40; Camden, 39; Cape May, 7; Cumberland, 22; Essex, 104; Gloucester, 17; Hudson, 29; Hunterdon, 22; Mercer, 22; Middlesex, 27; Monmouth, 30; Morris, 29; Ocean, 11; Passaic, 19; Salem, 17; Somerset, 15; Sussex, 18; Union, 32; Warren, 23.

The convention was called to order at 12:30 by ex-Senator Hobart. The delegates were late in arriving and the house and many disorders prevailed. Prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. Suddifer. Senator Griggs was then nominated temporary chairman and elected by acclamation. He made a short speech in which he alluded to the industry of the delegates and the republican party for safety. He said he hoped the delegates would be sent to Chicago uninstructed. Congressman Horst, Michigan, presided at the convention. After the appointment of committees the convention took a recess until 3 o'clock. The convention at 4:15 o'clock elected Senator Sewell, William Walter Phelps, Senator Gardner and ex-Senator Hobart, delegates at large to the Chicago convention. The convention reassembled at 3 o'clock. The temporary officers of the morning were elected permanent officers. Nominations for delegates were called for, and Senator Sewell, of Camden; Congressman Phelps, of Bergen; John J. Gardner, of Atlantic; ex-Judge Tart, of Newark; George M. Robeson, of Camden; Frederick A. Potts, of Hudson; John Hill, of Morris and Cortlandt Parker, of Newark, were nominated. The committee on resolutions then submitted the following platform, which was adopted:

We, the republicans of New Jersey in convention assembled, make the following declaration of principles: Resolved, That the wise, conservative, and patriotic administration of President Arthur commands our cordial approval. Resolved, That the prosperity of our country depends on the number of its people, and that the protection of our homes; that the republican party has always supported the same of protection and it pledged to maintain it in the future; that the democratic party is pledged to a financial policy which would destroy the industry of our agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial industries; that we view with alarm the most recent tariff act, which would reduce the present Congress in favor of permanent reduction in the tariff; that a revision of the tariff which may be needed to protect the protective systems and not the enemies of the protective system.

Resolved, That we congratulate the people of New Jersey upon the enactment by the present legislature of a resolution condemning the acquisition of corporate property in which legislative reform republicans have been foremost. Resolved, That the present federal civil service act is a needed step toward the perfection of our system of government, and that the civil service commission should be continued, and its field of action enlarged, and that the principle should be extended to all departments. Resolved, That the business interests of the country demand the repeal of the law requiring the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus. Resolved, That we demand that every citizen shall have a right to cast a free ballot, and have it honestly counted.

The balloting then took place and resulted as follows: Phelps, 402; Gardner, 381; Sewell, 359; Fort, 311; Potts, 315; Toffey, 296; Hill, 204; Robeson, 135; and Parker, 85. Necessary to elect was 323. The result was as follows: Sewell and Fort were declared elected. After a short speech by Mr. Phelps, the convention adjourned. The following are the names of the district delegates: First district, W. Noble and T. P. Harrod; second district, W. H. Skirm and Frederick Roebing; third district, T. W. Herbert and J. R. English; fourth district, John O. Blair and W. H. Long; fifth district, Watson Cook and W. H. Long; sixth district, H. Lebach and William Riker; seventh district, James Ramsey and James Gopple. The delegates were not instructed, but one-third at least are for Edmunds.

Delegates from the republican state convention opened here to-day. There is practically no fight over national questions, but the fight hinges upon the question as to which action shall control in state politics. The convention was called to order at 12:30 p. m. Job H. Jackson, of Wilmington, a prominent Blaine man, was made temporary chairman. Previous to the assembling of the convention a joint delegation from all the counties passed a resolution condemning the removal of Judge Wales from the state of the United States bench, but decided not to present the resolution to the convention. This removal made a vacancy on the state bench which has been filled by the appointment of Judge Whitley, a democrat.

In calling the convention to order, Richard Harrington attempted a speech in vindication of his course as chairman of the state central committee, following which he made a disclaimer of responsibility in the removal of Judge Wales. This statement was received with a storm of applause and hisses, cries of "Put him out," and confusion, and for a moment it looked as if some of the most excited delegates would come to blows. The interposition of George V. Massey quieted the uproar. When order had been partly restored, Levi C. Bird offered, on behalf of the unpledged voters, to give each faction half the delegates to Chicago.

No action was taken on Mr. Bird's offer, and a short but hot discussion over the credentials of the Broad Creek delegates ensued. Harrington got the floor again, but was howled down, and a motion to refer the subject to the committee on credentials was passed. The temporary organization was then made permanent, committees on resolutions and credentials were appointed, and the convention took a recess for half an hour. Upon reassembling the committee on resolutions reported a platform which is essentially that of the county rights or Blaine wing. The platform contains four planks. The first divides the state into four delegate districts, of which Wilmington city constituted one; the rest of New Castle county, the second; Kent county, the third, and Sussex county, the fourth, the aggregate number of delegates elective remaining unchanged. The second plank dissolves the present state central committee. The third plank authorizes each district to name its own members of a new state committee, the members named to be subject to ratification by the convention, and the committee to appoint its own chairman. The fourth plank declares that hereafter Blaine is peculiarly Delaware's favorite for the presidency, but favors sending delegates to Chicago uninstructed, except as to how far their recognized opinion their constituents ought to guide them to respect the presence of delegates from republican states.

The adoption of the platform was followed by minority and majority reports from the committee on credentials, which evoked a long and noisy discussion about the right of Richard Harrington, Judge Fisher, and delegates from the first ward of Wilmington to their seats. After great confusion the majority (Blaine) report was adopted by the delegates. The following delegates to Chicago were then elected: New Castle, Washington Hastings and John Pilling; Kent, George V. Massey and John H. Hofferker; Sussex, Wm. Stewart and Daniel J. Lawrence. All the delegates are known as Blaine men except Hastings, who is an administration. Six alternates were also chosen, one of whom, Joseph T. Mass (colored), from Wilmington, is admitted to the members of the convention. After the appointment of a state committee, according to the new rules, the convention adjourned.

TWO VICTORIES.

But, as Usual, They Were for the Visiting Nines.

The Buffaloes and Baltimore, Overcome Washington Players.

The hard hitters of Buffalo, fresh from their victories over the strong Virginia team, barely escaped defeat at the hands of the Washingtons yesterday. The home nine took the lead at the start, good hits by Beach and Humphries and errors by White and Brothers giving two runs, the Buffaloes going out in regular order to Barr and Hawkes. Joy scored in the fourth inning off a fumble by White, a passed ball, and a dropped fly by O'Rourke. Brothers led off in the second inning with a terrific foul ball, which Beach got after a long run, but dropped by coming in contact with the ropes. The champion then struck safely; Myers followed suit, and with two men on earned bases several runs scored, but Lillo popped up a fly for Yewell and Collins struck to Hawkes, who touched out Myers, and with Yewell's assistance threw Brothers out at the home plate amid great applause. Fennelly, Hawkes, and Joy made fine double plays in the third and fifth innings. Brothers broke the tie in his club in the fourth inning, getting first on called balls, and home on the clean hits of Myers and Lillo. Runs were also made in the sixth and seventh innings on singles by White and Hagau, aided by errors of Fennelly and a wild pitch, tying the score. Brothers led off in the eighth with a base hit, and on Collins' long fly to center. This proved the winning run as the Washingtons were quickly disposed of by Hagau and Richardson.

The batting of Buffalo was well matched by the brilliant fielding of the local nine, in which Morgan, Yewell, and Hawkes were noticeable, the latter's play being the feature of the game, putting out four and assisting eight. Humphries caught without an error. Brothers, White, and Myers led in batting. The score is as follows:

Table with columns: Name, R, H, E, P, O, A, E. Buffalo: O'Rourke, 1; Beach, 1; Richardson, 2; Morgan, 1; Lillo, 1; Fennelly, 4; Hawkes, 2; Hagau, 4. Total: 29 36 24 15 4.

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THE CUBAN PATRIOTS.

Gen. Aguerre's Stirring Proclamation Urging a Strike for Liberty.

NEW YORK, April 17.—The following is the proclamation issued to the Cubans by Gen. Aguerre upon recently landing in Cuba: Obeying the orders of my superior chiefs, and fulfilling the duty that every Cuban has to fight without flinching against the enemies of the independence and liberty of his country, I have not hesitated to place myself in command of those patriots who, under my orders, have just landed in our country, bearing with them arms and munitions of war. My duty as a patriot and as a soldier is to lead you to the triumph of our last revolution.

To the bravest I give the glory of taking arms and fighting in the ranks. To the more pacific the duty of helping in every way without exception, no matter to what class they belong or what are their opinions, and to all that do not do their duty the martial law will fall.

To the Spaniards and other foreigners who will help us to put down this insurrectionary government, which only cares for tyranny and spoils, we will treat them as brothers. For enemies and traitors there will be no mercy. Cubans, very near is the day when the veterans of our liberating armies—Gomez, Garcia, and others—will come to take the place of honor in the ranks of the army of the republic, and for them under a good organization, and under the banner of independence we will prove to the world that we are not materialists, but men of country, but men who are worthy of an independent country. Long live the republic!

A proclamation was also issued at Kingston, Jamaica, by Gen. Aguerre, to the inhabitants of Cuba, saying that he had organized societies and revolutionary centers in the United States, Mexico, Honduras, Jamaica, Venezuela, and Colombia, just the same as in Spain and in the island of Cuba, and he notified the people that Gen. Garcia is coming at that moment to meet him. He recommends all the revolutionary centers to send all the funds to the central committee.

Key West, Fla., April 17.—Advices from Havana state that the government refuses all the newspapers information regarding Aguerre and the movements of the insurgents, thereby increasing the alarm and distrust. According to private accounts Aguerre is now in the jurisdiction of Cienfuegos, having had various successful encounters with the troops. The insurgents now number a respectable force of five thousand men, and are making contributions on the farmers and planters. Great consternation reigns. The country people are leaving their homes.

A BLOODY RIOT.

Pole and Hungarian Laborers Go and Each Other with Knives, Clubs, and Pistols.

PITTSBURGH, April 17.—Between thirty and forty Hungarians and Poles employed at the Edgar Thompson Steel works at Braddock, Pa., engaged in a bloody riot this morning about 1 o'clock. Pistols, knives, clubs, and every conceivable weapon were brought into service and freely used. The fight lasted two hours, and when finally quelled by the citizens, a vigilance committee was organized to investigate the cause and suppress the riot. It was found that three men had sustained serious injuries and that a number of others were slightly hurt. Joseph Miller, a Pole, had a severe laceration in the head and face. He will probably die. Wm. Smith, a Hungarian, was shot in the back of the head. He will recover. Albert Wolanski, a Pole, was badly cut in the head and face, and had an eye chopped out. Five of the rioters were taken to the hospital. The riot was the result of bad blood between the Poles and Hungarians. Last night the Poles living in Bruggerman's row were celebrating the return to their country of their secretary, Louis A. Wittay, and in the evening the party broke freely of liquor and frequent minor quarrels occurred. About 1 o'clock Miller went for a drink of water, when he was attacked by Hungarians. His fight was a desperate one, and he was severely wounded. While the battle was in progress the citizens, who became alarmed, organized, marched on the mob, and succeeded in dispersing the rioters without bloodshed. Five of the rioters were taken and lodged in jail. This morning at a hearing they were held in \$500 bail each. The wounded men are doing well and no further trouble is apprehended.

The Huguenot Society.

NEW YORK, April 17.—The Huguenot society of America held its annual meeting here to-day and elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, John Jay; president for New York, Edward F. De la Motte; secretary, A. W. Wittay; treasurer, Morey Hale Bartow. Chauncey M. Depew was elected vice president of the society in Staten Island; Rev. E. Depuy, vice president in New Baltimore; Robert C. Winthrop, president in Boston and Charles M. Depew, vice president in Pennsylvania. Twenty-six new members were elected, among them being Prof. H. M. Baird, L. Turnure, T. F. Quintard, Right Rev. W. E. Barry, H. G. Marquand, and Jacob D. Vermilyea. A number of books have already been purchased by the society to establish a library.

Dynamic in Boston.

BOSTON, Mass., April 17.—At about 10 o'clock last evening two men in a light open buggy drove on Cradock bridge from Boston end, and when about in the middle of the bridge one of the men left the buggy and re-entering the buggy drove rapidly toward Cambridge. A loud explosion followed a few moments later, which sent a column of smoke high into the air. An investigation showed that an explosive had been placed in a ten pound powder can and fired by a detonating cap and fuses. Horse cars were approaching from either direction but were too far away to feel the effect of the explosion. It is thought that the attempt was directed against one of the many horse cars which pass this point at this hour.

A Bishop Consecrated.

WILMINGTON, D. C., April 17.—Rev. Alfred A. Watson, D. D., was to-day consecrated Bishop of the new Episcopal diocese of eastern North Carolina. The ceremonies took place in St. James' church and the building was crowded to its utmost capacity. There was a large attendance of clergymen from this and other states. Bishop Green, of Mississippi; Randolph, of Virginia; Howe, of South Carolina; Lyman, of North Carolina; Meely, of Maryland; and Seymour, of Illinois, were in the vicar. Bishop Watson is a native of New York, but has been a resident of this city for a great many years.

Affairs in Egypt.

LONDON, April 17.—A death from cholera is reported to have occurred aboard the Indian troop ship Cecropia, between Lake Tinsah and Port Said, on the Suez canal. CAIRO, April 17.—Zehab Pasha refuses to accept the post of assistant governor of the Sudan to which Gen. Gordon recently appointed him. An English lady has offered £20,000 for the rescue of Gen. Gordon. CAIRO, April 17.—Gen. Gordon has his position in the Sudan. Zehab Pasha has sent to Khartoum immediately.

The Brooklyn Postoffice Site.

NEW YORK, April 17.—It is stated that the investigation into the action of the treasury officials who reported in favor of purchasing the Washington street site for the new postoffice in Brooklyn, is likely to lead to the resignation of the chief clerk, James Campbell and Robinson have been petitioned by their constituents to take immediate action and have been furnished with evi-

denote tending to show the purchase was secured by fraud.

A better site, it is said, can be had for \$200,000 less. The owner owns a liquor store on Johnson street, has demanded \$100,000 before he will transfer his lease and Liebman, the owner of the property, has agreed to pay it.

A MUSCULAR GHOST.

The Hostile Demonstrations of a Disembodied Spirit, or Something, at a Seance Last Night. "Quit whacking me over the head with that violin!" exclaimed a REPUBLICAN reporter last night, addressing himself to the semi-darkness of a little curtained space in one corner of John B. Wolf's upstairs parlor, No. 616 Third street, and holding up his hands in an attitude of self-defense. A seance was in progress and the reporter was peering over the edge of the curtain that formed the hypothesis of the triangle made by the wall of the room and the ceiling. A few moments before he had been asked by the medium, Dr. W. M. Keeler, who, with two companions, sat with clasped hands in front of the curtain, to pass a writing tablet over the curtain to the spirits in the rear, and having done so, something seized the paper and pulled it down with considerable force. "Now, a pencil," said the medium, and the reporter obediently reached forward a little stub of pencil. A hand grabbed the stub and tugged away at it. The reporter clung to the pencil, and the spirit uscular spirit of his clutch, leaving the sharpened point of the scriber's thumb and forefinger. A vigorous scratching was heard on the table behind the curtain, and in about five seconds the pencil was thrown back into the reporter's hand, who was laughing with ungodly glee at the thought of having fooled the spirit with a pointless pencil. It was half in the middle of the seance, and the spirit was a little time in discovering the position that had been practiced on his ghostship. He was evidently a very ill-tempered spirit, for the tablet was hurled into the reporter's face after the pencil was thrown back. The reporter returned good for evil, and picking up the musical instrument thrust it half way over the curtain, turning round to throw the rest of the medium's head. Instantly something grabbed it, but the thought flashing across the reporter's mind that it might be the medium's flesh and blood hand, he pulled it back, not without an effort, and then he turned the spirit's head in another way, so that the portion behind the curtain was at least four feet from Dr. Keeler's back. Something once more seized it and after a little struggle wrenching it from the hand of the seance conductor.

"Please stand over there at the end and look over the curtain," said the medium. "You may see something." The reporter did as directed, and in the dim light he saw a bell, a tambourine, the violin, and some other trinket lying on a table. By stretching over he could reach any of the articles. There may have been other objects there, but he could see nothing else. While the reporter was looking at the trinkets, a raised up from that table at least a foot, and stood on end in the air. Then, with a backward swing, such as a base ball player makes before striking at a ball, the instrument went at the reporter's head. The neck advancing probably a foot, and the belly coming on the writer's head. The operation was repeated twice, and was then that the reporter suggested that the decidedly vicious whacking had proceeded far enough.

While hanging his hand over the curtain during the exhibition it was grasped by an unseen hand, a large, strong, bony hand, and felt very material to the touch and must have belonged to a very large man. The reporter tried to hold it, but could not. There may have been a large man behind the curtain. The reporter did not see him. The hand was much larger than the medium's.

The Actors' Fund Benefit.

CHICAGO, April 17.—The performance in aid of the actors' fund this afternoon netted about \$1,500. The performance was given at Haverly's theater under the direction of Manager W. J. Davis, other houses contributing playing talent instead of opening their doors. Mrs. Lantry gave the screen scene from "The School for Scandal" and Mrs. Collier's company gave the first act of "Storm Beaten," Edouin and Sanger's company gave the first act of "A Bunch of Keys," and Rehan's comedy company gave the third act of "The Second Opinion."

Baltimore, April 17.—There was no performance to-night at the Academy of Music for the benefit of the Actors' fund. Miss Davenport said she could not give an extra performance without detriment to her health, and in lieu sent her personal check for \$300.

The Wendell Phillips Oratory.

BOSTON, April 17.—The arrangements for the oratory on Wendell Phillips at Fremont temple on Friday afternoon have been completed, and the orator, Mr. George William Curtis, will speak to an audience of representatives of the various churches, societies and private parties. All of the counsel were necessary. There were at least ten openly acknowledged counsel for the defense in the first trial and eight in the second. Of these, three were but three for the prosecution. Some of the time of Mr. Bliss was frequently taken up in attendance upon the grand jury and out of court, when the whole labor of the case was thrown upon Mr. Merriek and Mr. Ker, who had to conduct the frequent and vexatious interjectory questions raised in order to prolong the trial in pursuance of the policy of the case.

On the 25th of March I requested Mr. Bliss to retire, and on the 21st of March, 1884, Mr. Merriek withdrew. I have recently employed Mr. Ker to assist me in the trial, which he had previously prepared and with which he is familiar. His last employment is from March 31, 1884, and is a compensation of \$1,000 per month, which was properly paid for the services. In the first trial of the case against Dursley et al. I personally appeared in court as often as my other duties would permit, followed the case with care from day to day, and made the closing argument before the court and jury.

Death of the Former Secretary of Andrew Johnson.

NEW YORK, April 17.—Edward H. Wierman, 45 years old, who was formerly, it is said, President Andrew Johnson's private secretary, died suddenly yesterday at the Coleman house; it was supposed by his own family that he had been suffering from cholera. He was a native of Kentucky, and was recently in the employ of the Lehigh and Pacific Railway company. Among his letters was found one to John H. Mason, in which he expressed an intention to commit suicide. It was known he was subject to heart disease. He dropped dead in front of the clerk's desk.

A Smallpox Epidemic.

ASHLAND, Pa., April 17.—Smallpox has apparently secured a firm hold in this county. There are at present nineteen cases in this place, and three cases were developed in Shenandoah to-day. At Centerville two cases were discovered in the Polish quarter, where the disease is at present confined.

Reception by Gen. and Mrs. Sherman.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., April 17.—A brilliant reception was given by Gen. and Mrs. Sherman to their daughter Mrs. Thacker and her husband, between two and three hundred persons, including several from Washington, were present by special invitation.

A Bishop's Serious Illness.

CONVINGTON, Ky., April 17.—Bishop Toombs, Catholic, of this diocese, is seriously ill and his death is expected at any time. Age and heart disease are the causes of his condition. He has received the rites of the church from Archbishop Elder.

A Priest's Death.

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., April 17.—The Rev. Father Sanchez, the last of the pioneer Franciscan missionaries, who arrived here in 1841, died to-day, aged 71.

The Weather.

For the middle Atlantic states, fair weather during the day, increasing clouds and local rains by night, with a heavy shower in eastern Virginia, nearly stationary temperature.

BREWSTER'S LETTER.

The Attorney General Gives the Senate Information About Special Counsel Fees.

MacVeagh and Bliss "Came to an Understanding" About Pay.

Merrick and Ker Reduced Their Charges, but Bliss Declined to Do So.

The Trials Not Fruitless, Although the Defendants Were Acquitted.

The attorney general sent to the senate yesterday, in reply to the senate resolution asking for copies of all papers and data bearing upon the compensation of special attorneys in the star route cases. He accompanies these documents with a letter explanatory of the action of the department of justice in relation to the employment and fees of special attorneys in those cases, in which he says:

The compensation for legal services in these cases was first fixed by my predecessor, Mr. MacVeagh, at a consultation with George Bliss, esq., at Long Branch, N. J., in the presence of Mr. James, then postmaster general, as you will observe from the letter of Mr. Bliss to Hon. William Lawrence, first comptroller of the treasury, dated Nov. 13, 1882.

It seems that at that time Mr. MacVeagh did not think he had authority under the law to enter into a contract binding the department to pay a specific sum for future services. The fact is the law does not contemplate such contracts, but Mr. MacVeagh not having the statute at hand pleaded his inability to do so as a reason for not entering into a formal agreement.

However, they came to a mutual understanding which was deemed its equivalent. I do not think the rate thus fixed to be either immoderate or in excess of the ordinarily paid in New York to lawyers of active practice. It must be remembered, too, that Mr. Bliss was taken away from home and a prosperous business, and that he was selected because of his peculiar fitness for investigations of this character, having had large experience as United States district attorney in New York city in like examinations.

Had it been originally proposed that the cases would occupy a long time, probably the rate fixed would not have been asked or given. When, however, the trial was tediously protracted by the policy of the defense, the sum total paid for their services, Mr. Bliss did appear excessive, and I accordingly urged that some abatement be made by him, as I did also to the other counsel. Mr. Ker's bill I reduced, and Mr. Merrick made reductions at my request. The result of the extraordinary character of the case, which would bring about the withdrawal of Mr. Bliss. Besides this, had a new attorney been employed in his place it would have taken him several months to learn the facts and make the necessary researches, and the withdrawal of Mr. Bliss would have increased rather than diminished the expense, though he were employed at a lower rate. The compensation of Messrs. Merrick and Ker was fixed by me, not extravagantly, I think, in view of the trials embraced 9,374 pages of closely printed matter; the labor was extreme, and the counsel were engaged continuously for months, and often to a late hour at night. In view of the importance of the cases and the responsibility devolving upon the attorneys for the government, I do not think the amount received by Messrs. Merrick and Ker excessive or out of proportion to that paid in cases of even less magnitude. Mr. Bliss insisted upon his remuneration with the requirements of the original contract, in one instance claiming that it allowed him to charge for arguments a sum in excess of \$100 per day, which I refused to grant, and the 4th day of November, 1883, he wrote a letter threatening to withdraw from the case if his account was not paid.

While the cases were in progress I thought it injudicious to insist upon corrections which would bring about the withdrawal of Mr. Bliss. Besides this, had a new attorney been employed in his place it would have taken him several months to learn the facts and make the necessary researches, and the withdrawal of Mr. Bliss would have increased rather than diminished the expense, though he were employed at a lower rate. The compensation of Messrs. Merrick and Ker was fixed by me, not extravagantly, I think, in view of the trials embraced 9,374 pages of closely printed matter; the labor was extreme, and the counsel were engaged continuously for months, and often to a late hour at night. In view of the importance of the cases and the responsibility devolving upon the attorneys for the government, I do not think the amount received by Messrs. Merrick and Ker excessive or out of proportion to that paid in cases of even less magnitude. Mr. Bliss insisted upon his remuneration with the requirements of the original contract, in one instance claiming that it allowed him to charge for arguments a sum in excess of \$100 per day, which I refused to grant, and the 4th day of November, 1883, he wrote a letter threatening to withdraw from the case if his account was not paid.

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Two of the defendants were convicted on the first trial, but the irregularity and inconsistency of finding the defendants guilty and general conspirators, those who made the whole scheme to rob the government, was so manifest that the verdict was set aside upon a motion of the government. On the second trial there was an acquittal.

The public men who were involved in these cases were not on their trials before these juries alone; they were on their trials before the people of the United States, and they were convicted by the common judgment of the whole country. They are not punished by imprisonment, but they had better be in prison than now at large, objects of scorn and derision.

These prosecutions have not been without their usefulness, either. I have been informed by the postoffice officials that they have saved the government in that department alone \$250,000 per annum. The effect has been to deter all of the adventurers who through some officials have assumed me that before these cases were begun the halls of the postoffice department were filled with these dishonest jobbers. They are there no more. The wholesome terror of these trials has expelled them. The thoroughness of these investigations has made it plain that there is no place so high that a man can become a scoundrel for a thief or a public robber.

Mr. George Jones Denton.

NEW YORK, April 17.—A morning newspaper to-day published a report that George Jones, the publisher of the New York Times, will retire altogether from any part in the conduct of the paper when he goes abroad the coming June. Mr. Jones, when his attention was called to the item, said: "There is no truth whatever in it. I have a strong desire to visit Europe, but I do not doubt very much whether I shall go abroad this year, as my wife's health is not good."

An Expert's Test.

PHILADELPHIA, April 17.—A witness entered the house of Mrs. Hoffman, on Broad street, this forenoon, and notwithstanding the fact that the lady, her daughter, and the servants were in the house, stole a watch, several rings and other jewelry, and a \$331 shawl, the entire haul being valued at \$1,250.

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