CAPITAL CHESTNUTS.

The Interest of the Railroads in the Present Cholera Discussion.

The Ancient Republican Supreme Court Judges Will Not Resign For Awhile.

Gen. Grant Really in Danger of Losing the Princely Income of the Amount Donated For His Support.

Senator Saulsbury's Peculiar Suit For Slander—The Prosecution in the Swaim Trial Gets in its Evidence.

Buckner Thinks His Silver Bill Will Pass—Discussing State Militia—The Bankruptcy Bill to Come up Monday.

SHOT GUN QUARANTINE.

[Special Telegram to the Globe.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Dr. Outten, who has charge of the medical department of the Wabash system, and who has been in attendance at the meetings of the national board of health, was asked to-night: "What is the relationship of your railway medical department to the national board of health?"

"Well," he replied, "if you remember anything of the shot gun quarantine established along some of the railroads in times past, you must know that we are greatly interested in all that points to such matters. In the time of epidemic a man going over the Iron Mountain road, for instance, would find himself brought under the operations of half a dozen separate and distinct quarantines in a day's ride. Perhaps these had no relations with each other, no interchange of bills of health, but acted independently and caused great annoyance and delay. Now, don't you suppose it would be greatly appreciated by the railroads if there was a well organized national system of quarantine under the intelligent direction of a national board of health, to be put in harmonious operation during a time of the epidemic? We would like to see that take the place of the old methods. Travel isn't encouraged by the appearance on the station platforms of committees armed with long poles to punch a stranger getting off, with the admonition: 'Here, you son of a gun, get back there; you can't stop here.'"

"There is also to be said about the interest we as physicians connected with the railroad service have in such a gathering as the one just closed," said Dr. Jackson, taking up the conversation. "We are as certain to have cholera in this country as summer is to come again. The prevention of panics and the provision for proper precautions are of the greatest importance. The medical departments of these railroad systems are able to reach the thousands of employes directly, and when we reach them we reach their families, too. We shall have to tell them what to do, and our relations are so close with them that they will take the advice given and follow it. By cooperation with the national board of health we can do much toward controlling the infectious disease and lessening its ravages, so we are here to get all the information we can, to be fully prepared to do our part when the time comes."

Dr. Outten had considerable experience at the St. Louis quarantine, just after the war, with cholera. To show how the disease might be checked, he said that, with patients dying at the rate of a score a day or more, and with a large number of negro troops there, a rigid system of disinfection and prompt attention to the first symptoms resulted in putting a complete stop to cholera among these soldiers in ten days after the matter was taken in hand. The disease was then prevalent in South St. Louis and continued so long after it was stopped at quarantine.

AGED SUPREME COURT JUDGES.

Information from reliable sources, mostly derived from personal interviews and from intimate friends, is to the effect that there will be no resignation of judges in any of the courts at Washington before the 4th of March next to permit President Arthur to place Republican jurists on the bench who would serve during the next Democratic administration. It had been supposed up to this time that Associate Justice Brady, of the supreme court of the United States and two or three judges of the supreme court of the District of Columbia, would resign within the next two months, as they have or will within that time reach the age of seventy, and will have been more than ten years on the bench, which would entitle them to retire on full salaries for their lives, but it now transpires that none of these judges will retire, all evidently having hopes of living till another Republican president will appear in Washington to appoint their successors.

GEN. GRANT'S STRAIGHTENED CIRCUMSTANCES.

A gentleman intimately connected with Gen. Grant and conversant with his business affairs was in this city this week, and was asked if Grant really needed the pension which he has just declined or the salary of a general on the retired list. His reply was: "Grant does need it, and if he doesn't get put on the retired list he is liable to find himself in a very few years really impoverished. His house in New York is not enough to meet Vanderbilt's claim of $150,000, and all the property he has left is his house in Washington on Iowa circle, which has been rented for $1,800 a year. He has a salary of $10,000 a year as president of the Mexican National railway, but any annual election of officers may throw him out of that. He is getting 6 per cent. interest on the $250,000 raised for him a few years ago, which amounts to $15,000 a year, but he won't get that long. He only gets that under the guarantee of Drexel, Morgan & Co. The stock doesn't pay it. When the subscription was made the first name on the list was that of Gov. Morgan for $5,000. The largest subscription was Jay Gould's $25,000. When the $250,000 had been raised the question arose as to how it should be invested. Government 4 per cents. were proposed, but they would yield less than $10,000 a year. Gould was then pushing Wabash us, and the preferred stock was paying eight per cent. annually. Some of the subscribers urged that the money be invested in Wabash. Jesse Seligman objected. Any railroad stock he said was subject to fluctuations which this fund ought to be safe from. Besides, if the investments were made in Wabash Jay Gould would cause the information to be circulated all over Europe that the Grant fund was invested in Wabash because of the exceptional security of that stock, and he did not want the fund used to advertise any man's railroad. The result was a compromise. The fund was invested in Wabash stock upon Drexel, Morgan & Co. guaranteeing 6 per cent. for ten years. Gould used the fact of this investment all over Europe to boom his railroad, and having worked the market sufficiently on one side, sold short and let the stock drop, which it did till last May it fell to 13. The guarantee of 6 per cent. expires in about three years, and then the $250,000 will cease to be worth anything. The $450,000 which was raised for Grant while he was general of the army he sunk in Long Branch real estate speculations with Tom Murphy. The result of Long Branch lots, Wabash stock and Fernando Ward is that Grant has extremely slender provisions for the future.

SAULSBURY'S PREDICAMENT.

Senator Saulsbury is a gay bachelor of sixty-seven winters, upon whom the belles of Washington have for long years tried their batteries in vain. His brother senators often joke him upon his continued resistance to the blandishments of the fair and false. Recently Senators Beck and Hampton and some others got up a story that he had made an oath in 1860 never to marry until a Democratic president was elected, that he had long been smitten with the charms of a youthful beauty from one of the eastern states, and would lead her to the altar on the day that Cleveland was inaugurated. This fiction they have circulated far and wide, and the consequence, as Senator Saulsbury says, is that every pretty girl he has flirted with in the last ten years now looks at him as if she expected him to get on his knees and declare himself at once. He says he must do something immediately to protect himself, as he may be confronted with half a dozen suits for breach of promise. He has, therefore, engaged Senator Pugh, of Alabama, to bring suit for heavy damages against Beck, Hampton and others for slander.

THE SILVER DISCUSSION.

Judge Buckner, chairman of the banking and currency committee, in a conversation with Secretary McCullock, expressed a belief that his bill to suspend for three years the coinage of silver dollars would become a law this session. It is certain one of the first amendments offered will be to strike out the three years clause so as to continue the suspension until further legislation. Inquiry among members of both houses failed to find any great amount of expectation that anything is to be gained by an attempt to galvanize into life the so called international silver conference. It is not for a moment believed that either England or France will enter into an agreement which would bind them to increase the coinage of silver. England does not want it and France has as much as she can do to maintain her already large stock of silver at par with gold.

STATE MILITIA.

As soon as an opportunity is presented Representative W. R. Cox, of North Carolina, will ask the house to set apart a day for the consideration of the bills now pending before the committee of the whole respecting state militia. One of these measures, that introduced by Mr. Connolly, of Pennsylvania, authorizes the secretary of war, upon the application of a governor of a state, to detail an officer above the rank of first lieutenant to act as instructor of tactics, etc. The other bill, introduced by Mr. Strait, of Minnesota, and strongly endorsed all over the country, fixes an annual appropriation for providing arms, equipments, etc., for the militia at $600,000. The bills were referred to the committee of the whole house on March 19 last.

THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

Representative Neill received last night a memorial from the merchants exchange of St. Louis asking for the passage of the bankruptcy law. This is at variance with most of the memorials on that subject which come from the west. The sentiment of the east is, so far as these petitions indicate it, in favor of the law, while the expressions which come from the west on the subject are opposed. The St. Louis paper will be presented to-morrow. The committee on judiciary will probably ask for a suspension of the rules on Monday for the passage of the bankruptcy bill. The Lowell bill is the one now before the committee, and Mr. Mayburn says that he learns that the British parliament passed a bill almost identical with it last January and reports its operations to be so far satisfactory.

SECRET OR NOT.

The senate committee on foreign relations met to-day and discussed without action the resolutions which have been offered looking to the consideration of the Spanish treaty in open session, and the removal of the injunction of secrecy from the Nicaraguan canal treaty. The prospects for the adoption of either proposition appears to be growing less daily, and of those who favor the abandonment of the secret session in these instances succeed in abolishing it, it will be after a bitter and determined struggle, as Senator Edmunds is said to be very much opposed to throwing open the doors. Senator Van Wyck will call up his resolution providing for the consideration of the Spanish treaty in open session at the first opportunity.

OUR EXPORTS.

The annual statement by the bureau of statistics regarding the exports of the past year shows that the direct exportations of wheat from Chicago have been 912,328 bushels, which exceeds any of the twenty-five ports mentioned, save New York, Boston, Baltimore, San Francisco and Willamette, Oregon. The wheat shipments of the year from New York were 20,000,000 bushels, from Baltimore 15,500,000, Philadelphia 4,500,000, Boston a little over 1,000,000, San Francisco 18,000,000, Willamette, 3,000,000. Of corn Chicago's direct exportations were 3,384,648 bushels, Boston 4,500,000, Baltimore 5,500,000, New York 19,000,000. Of the 9,000,000 barrels of flour exported 2,000,000 went from Boston, 4,000,000 from New York, and 1,000,000 from San Francisco. The number of gallons of alcohol exported in the year was 3,897,082. Cologne spirits 39,558, bourbon whisky, 2,595,901, rye whisky 834,087, all others 44,443. The exports of leaf tobacco were 192,130,820 pounds, valued at $17,405,232.

THE SWAIM COURT MARTIAL.

[Western Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The prosecution in the Swaim court martial rested their case this morning with the examination of Gen. David B. McKibben, who simply corroborated the testimony given by Col. Morrow yesterday.

Paymaster General Rochester was called. He identified the letter written by Col. Morrow asking to have his (Morrow's) pay stopped, except as to Washington. The action witness took in regard to this letter was, he said, to instruct his chief clerk to write all paymasters to stop paying Morrow's pay accounts until further orders; except as to Washington. This order was issued about the 18th of April, 1883. In answer to a question by Gen. Grosvenor, the witness said at that time he did not know Morrow's accounts had been duplicated. He said he might have known it through newspaper rumors. He testified the practice in the war department when it discovered an officer had overdrawn or duplicated his pay acounts, was, until a year ago, to call on the officer for an explanation. Since then the custom has been to report the facts to the deputy. He added it has not been the custom of the paymaster's deputy to take notice of mere rumors. The witness said Col. Morrow had asked that matters be so arranged that his pay could not be drawn except as to Washington. Hence he had ordered his pay stopped at all other places. He did not know at the time that there was anything wrong with Morrow's pay accounts.

Major. A. D. Carey, of the paymaster general's office, was next witness. He testified to having received Morrow's letter in the absence of Gen. Rochester, and to having taken it to the secretary of war; also, that the secretary had declined to have Morrow's name put on the stoppage circular, but had said he had no objection to having paymasters notified that Morrow's accounts were to be paid only at Washington. That had terminated his connection with the matter. He did know at the time that Morrow's accounts were duplicated. He first learned they were from a newspaper dispatch in May, 1883. Adjourned.

THE ANLANTIC AND PACIFIC LAND GRANT.

The conferees upon the bill for the forfeiture of the Atlantic and Pacific land grant, held a final meeting to-day and disagreed. The house conferees refuse to assent to any provision which would send the question to the courts.

REVOLUTION AT COREA.

The secretary of the navy received a cable message this morning from Rear Admiral Davis, at Nagusaki, announcing a revolution in Corea, and asking that the United States vessels Terenton and Ossipee should go there immediately.

Washington Waifs.

The conference committee on the bill declaring the forfeiture of the Atlantic & Pacific land grant had a meeting to-day and agreed to report to their respective houses that they were unable to agree.

A number of members of the house were in the chamber this morning answering letters and discussing the probabilities of legislation during the present session. The general opinion is that no legislation of importance, beyond the appropriation bills, will be effected.

Senators Logan and Cullom have united in recommending the reappointment of Postmaster Palmer at Chicago. There is talk of an effort to get the appointment of Assistant Postmaster Squires as a non-partisan, with the hope that he may keep the position during the regular term.

Efforts will be made Monday to suspend the rules and fix a day for the consideration of the McPherson bill, allowing banks to issue notes up to the full value of their bonds deposited, also the Dingley bill, allowing the investment in United States bonds of currency deposited with the treasury to secure bank notes.

A leading conservative Democrat says there is undoubtedly a more friendly feeling for the project of putting Gen. Grant on the retired list, if it can be accomplished, among Democratic senators and members than among the Republicans. Bills in his favor have been twice defeated through the opposition of Republican members of the military committees. Southern members of congress have almost universally expressed themselves in favor of such a measure.

It is learned here to-day that the cause of the unceremonious refusal of the appropriation committee, last session, to put a clause in the sundry civil bill to pay Hallet Kilbourne's verdict against John G. Thompson, ex-sergent-at-arms, was because of a letter written to a member of the committee, by Mr. Kerr, of the star route prosecution, saying that the verdict was obtained by fraud and bribery and with the knowledge of Thompson. The letter has caused a good deal of stir, and there is talk of an investigation.

Bob Ingersoll's Prediction.

[Special Telegram to the Globe.]

PITTSBURG, Pa., Dec. 13.—Col. Bob Ingersoll passed through the city to-day en route to Washington. He is willing to bet $1,000 that Arthur will not be senator from New York. Said he: "Arthur is a genial good fellow, a shrewd politican, and has made an excellent president, but there is an undercurrent of opposition to him in New York which will not let him into the senate. I think that either Warren or Everts will go into the senate from New York, but there are elements of discord which Mr. Arthur could not draw together.

Railway Items.

[Special Telegram to the Globe.]

CHICAGO, Dec. 13.—Commencing to-morrow the Northwestern will place a dining car on its Dakota train, going north, leaving Chicago at 9 a. m. The car will be cut off at Brookings, where it will be attached to the south bound train, arriving at Chicago at 7 p. m.

Milwaukee & St. Paul passes of the issue of 1884, except those issued to railroad officers, will not be honored after December 31. Annual passes to railroad officials will be good until January 15.

The Central Iowa railway has cut down work in its shops at Marshalltown, to five days of eight hours per day, instead of men or reducing wages.

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