The Somerset Herald.

WEDNESDAY. - - - - - - May 19, 1875.

ATTORNEY General Pierrepont assumed the duties of his office Saturday, as did ex-Senator Pratt, as Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

TIOGA county has elected Miss Sarah J. Lewis, a graduate of the State Normal School, County Superintendent of Common Schools.

"HANDSOME, refined looking young women," according to the Reading *Times*, get so drunk that they tumble over on the streets in that city, and are hauled to the station house on a wagon.

HON. MONTGOMERY BLAIR has written a letter (published in the Baltimore *American*) taking ground in favor of John W. Garrett, of the B. & O. Railroad, as the anti-monopoly Democratic candidate for President.

JUST as the West was being congratulated on the assumed fact that the late cold spell had destroyed the young grasshoppers, comes the report from Kansas and Missouri to the Chicago *Tribune* that these pests have reappeared in countless numbers, taking a southeasterly course.

JAMES B. M'CREARY, the Democratic nominee for Governor of Kentucky, is a nephew of United States Senator M'Creary. He was an officer in the rebel army, and hence has "a clear war record from a Confederate standpoint"—this having been announced as the first requisite condition to nomination.

THE miners in the Connellsville coal region are all out on a strike, and consequently the coke business, which was just beginning to have a little life infused into it after the protracted distress caused by the financial crisis, is again flat on its back. The strikers have been indulging in riotous demonstrations, and the jail in Uniontown is filled with rowdies, who will neither work themselves nor permit others to work.

THE late magnificent Republican victory in Indianapolis was won solely by active, thorough work. The *Journal* of that city says: "Scores of Republicans, who rank among the best citizens and heaviest taxpayers in the city, remained at the polls of their respective wards nearly all day, using every legitimate means to secure a fair election and a Republican victory." Consequently, a Republican victory did follow.

THE Philadelphia *Inquirer* thinks that the nomination of Gov. Hartranft by the Republican Convention will paralyze the opposition and lead to an overwhelming victory, which will be of immense advantage in 1876. He has been so good a Governor that party lines ought to be broken down in electing him again. The *Inquirer* believes that the Democrats will enter the State campaign without the slightest prospect of success in this respect, and that the re-election of Hartranft is a mere formality.

EX-U. S. SENATOR JOHN SCOTT is about removing from Huntingdon to Pittsburgh, where he will permanently reside. He has been appointed solicitor for the "Pennsylvania Company," which has charge of all the railroad lines owned and leased by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company west and south of Pittsburgh.

The position is a responsible and onerous one, requiring first class legal ability, which Mr. Scott unquestionably possesses. We presume the duties of this position will in a great measure retire Mr. Scott from active participation in politics, which will be a very serious loss to the Republican party, both of the State and Nation.

IT appears that Mr. Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Douglass, was regularly victimized by the whiskey ring. Employees in his office were debauched and acted as spies for the thieves, who were kept fully informed of all his intentions and movements, while his trusted officers in the West were bought to furnish him false information and shut up his eyes, as to the frauds which he suspected, but could not fathom, because of their complicity with them. Mr. Douglass loses his position because of his apparent lack of vigilance, when in fact the frauds were only unearthed by Secretary Bristow employing officers not connected with the revenue department, and personally unknown to the officials and their confederate thieves, who watched them for weeks before the evidence justified the seizure of their establishments.

EX-CHIEF JUSTICE Geo. W. Woodward, of this State, died suddenly at Rome, a few days since. He was a native of Wayne county, where he was born in 1809. In 1836, when but twenty-seven years of age, he was elected to represent Luzern county in the Constitutional Convention, where he rendered efficient service. Twenty-five years of his life were spent on the Bench—he having been appointed Presiding Judge of the Fourth Judicial District in 1841, and to the Supreme Bench, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Coulter, in 1851—and elected the same fall, for the full term of fifteen years. For five years of his term he was Chief Justice. While in Europe in 1868, he was elected to represent the Twelfth Congressional District in Congress, and re-elected in 1870, but was defeated in 1872. He was a member of the last Constitutional Convention, and gave his time, after it closed its sessions, to the practice of his profession. He went to Europe last fall, intending to remain a year, but an attack of pneumonia, while at Rome, put a sudden end to his life.

A PORTION of the Democratic press is engaged in the laudable business of attempting to make it appear that the gigantic whiskey frauds just discovered, are the result of the excessive taxation of spirits. It will be remembered that when the proposition was pending in Congress to add the additional twenty cents to this tax these same gentlemen urged an increased tax on tea and coffee, hoping thereby to make political capital out of the cry of "taxing the luxuries of the poor." Failing in this attempt they are trying to take their revenge by asserting that the whisky frauds are the legitimate consequences of increased taxation. The thinness of this allegation is very perceptible to those who know that the increased tax did not take effect until March 3d, while as early as in January the Secretary of the Treasury had information of the perpetrations of the frauds, and has ever since been quietly at work ferretting out and accumulating evidence against the thieves.

The law is all right, and a tax of one dollar per gallon can be as readily collected as one of ten cents, provided the revenue officers are honest and will do their duty. The proof is cumulative that the officers were the recipients of a large share of the money realized from the frauds, and we trust that every scoundrel of them will be convicted and sent to the penitentiary. It is a further satisfaction to know that the large amount of property seized, in connection with the amounts that can be recovered on the bonds of the distillers and rectifiers, will fully compensate the government for the loss of tax sustained.

AN immense whiskey ring—similar to the one that perpetrated such enormous frauds on the revenue during Andy Johnson's administration—has been discovered to exist in the West, and thirty-two distilleries and other property amounting to several millions of dollars has been seized by the government officials at St. Louis, Chicago, Milwaukee and other places. It seems that early last winter the Secretary of the Treasury became satisfied, from the fact that quantities of whiskey was being put upon the market at a price less than the tax and cost of manufacture, that there must be a large increase of illicit distilling, and accordingly took measures for its detection and suppression.

The methods resorted to to cheat the Government are various. One is to keep an account of, and make purchases equal to the regular production, and secure that in excess, and sell it without tax or stamps. Another method is to apply to the Collector and receive tax paid stamps, for which they pay their full value. These they place upon what would be called "straight" goods, which are taken to the rectifying houses and dumped. So far the transaction is honest. The rectifier, after dumping the whiskey, removes the tax paid and warehouse stamps and returns them to the distillers, the gauger certifying that he has seen the same destroyed. These stamps are then placed upon fresh barrels filled with illicit goods and shipped to New York, or some other point, and no entries of the transactions are made upon the books of the distiller, the only entry appearing being the first shipment to the rectifying house.—Another mode of selling illicit goods is to send a package having the rectifier's stamps upon it to a dealer, say in Charleston, S. C., and when the goods are used to have the same stamps returned and placed on fresh packages filled and sent to the same dealers, without any entries having been made upon their books. To render this practicable the stamps, which are supposed to be put on with a strong glue, are in reality prepared on the back so that they will not stick, and are kept in place by small nails, so that no difficulty whatever is experienced in removing them.

The headquarters of the ring were at St. Louis, but it had covered the whole country with its secret network, and had assumed the character of a vast conspiracy to swindle the Government and saddle upon honest taxpayers an excessive and unjust proportion of the national expenses. Two-thirds of the whiskey shipped from St. Louis for the last year has, it seems, been what is termed crooked," as whisky which has not paid tax is called. The amount of the frauds in St. Louis alone will not fall below a million dollars annually for the last two years. The developments at Chicago and Milwaukee are also on a great scale. Illicit whisky has been traced into all the prominent Eastern and Southern cities, and the Government is in possession of the necessary proofs to enable it to trace the larger part of all the illicit traffic which has been carried on for the last year. The law follows the spirit wherever it may be found, till it has paid the tax.

Of course these frauds could only be perpetrated through the connivance of the gaugers and storekeepers, and probably the Collectors, and the Secretary has determined to have all officers implicated, as well as the distillers, prosecuted to the full extent of the law. It is alleged, also, that this "ring" had not only corrupted the local officers, but had their paid spies in the office of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue at Washington, and thus were kept fully posted in regard to all contemplated measures for their detection.

A Raid in Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, May 13.—About 500 barrels of whiskey; the product of Western distilleries recently closed by the government, were seized in this city to-day. The seizures were made at five or six different warehouses.

A GIGANTIC WHISKY RING.

DISTILLERS, RECTIFIERS, DEALERS, AND REVENUE OFFICERS IN IT.

A DESCENT MADE AND THIRTY DISTILLERIES AND RECTIFYING ESTABLISHMENTS SEIZED IN WESTERN CITIES.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Officers of the Government to-day made descents upon the dishonest and cheating distillers and whisky dealers in St. Louis, Milwaukee, Chicago, Evansville, and in several other cities in the West and South. No very specific reports of the success of the operations, except in St. Louis, have been received to-night, but in that city alone seizures of property to the value of $700,000 have been made. The distilleries which it is believed have been seized are sixteen in number; five at St. Louis, one at Evansville, Ind., four at Chicago, and six at Milwaukee. The principal rectifying houses in these cities have also been visited, and the seizures of distilleries and rectifying establishments have been at least thirty. The investigations have been proceeding quietly but vigorously, through the office of the Solicitor of the Treasury, till within the last ten days, since when the officers of the Internal Revenue Bureau have been co-operating in the work. It was not till a few days since that the alarm was given to the Whisky Ring, and the information from St. Louis shows that, after all, they were not expecting the method of proceeding adopted, though they were anticipating trouble. The ring has had efficient spies, and those who have been in confidential relations with high officers, as the following incident, which also illustrates the magnitude of the fraudulent combinations, will show. It was decided last Friday, very secretly, by Secretary Bristow, in connection with only a few of the officers necessary for the duty, and with the knowledge of the Cabinet, that the seizures should be made to-day. Saturday the St. Louis distillers were informed from Washington that the lightning would strike on Monday. They were not, however, able to avert the force of the stroke. Supervisor Howley was sent from New York to St. Louis to attend the seizures there, Supervisor Tutton went from Philadelphia to Chicago, and Hedrick, of Iowa, to Milwaukee. It may be said that the evidence thus far obtained does not show that these Supervisors or Collectors of the districts were in collusion with the Ring, but they cannot escape readily the charge of at least gross inefficiency. The seizures have, as will be seen, been the most extensive and important of the kind ever made in this country.

Complaints of respectable firms engaged in the liquor traffic, that contraband spirits were upon the markets in such quantities as to interfere with legitimate trade, were brought to the attention of Secretary Bristow early in the Winter. He gave the subject careful consideration, and conferred with Commissioner Douglas, who was confident that only very small lots of distilled spirits could escape the payment of taxes and such alone as was manufactured in out of the way places, and smuggled into trade in an unusual manner. He relied upon the perfection of the system of collection which he had arranged, and the integrity of the officers in the service. He claimed, rightly, that extensive evasions of the whisky tax could not succeed without collusion and corruption among internal revenue officers, particularly among gaugers and storekeepers. He did not believe his officers were corrupted to such an extent as the complaints would imply.

Secretary Bristow did not dismiss the subject from his mind, and facts continued to reach him which confirmed his belief that the whisky tax was by no means thoroughly collected. About the 22d of February, he received information that movements of special agents of the Internal Revenue Bureau, and business transactions of that office were promptly communicated to members of the suspected Whisky Ring who were constantly informed of every official action which it was for their interest to know. This condition of affairs seemed to the Secretary to demand action on his part, and he determined to employ new and unsuspected agencies to operate independently of the Revenue Bureau, especially as it had become well established that agents of the bureau could make no movement whatever without the knowledge of parties in the Ring. The secret Service force of Solicitor Wilson's office was therefore brought into the work.

On the 19th or 20th of April the Department received a telegram stating that certain suspicious shipments had been made by Bevis & Frasers, from St. Louis to Savannah, Charleston, and Wilmington. The Chief Clerk of the Solicitor's office was thereupon sent to those places and was instructed to cause careful examination to be made of the shipments in question, and particularly to take records of the serial numbers of the warehouse and tax-paid stamps. There were discovered by this examination packages in Charleston and Savannah bearing the same numbers, and the fact was established that Bevis & Frasers were duplicating their goods. In the system of the whisky tax, it is impossible that two packages of liquor upon which the tax has been honestly paid should bear the same number, and the duplication of numbers was conclusive evidence of fraud.

Following up the inquiry respecting duplication of numbers, the most trusted men in the secret service were sent to St. Louis, Chicago, and Milwaukee, and every supected distillery and rectifying establishment was placed under the strictest surveillance. To St. Louis was sent James J. Brooks, Assistant Chief of the secret service, formerly well known in connection with proceedings in Philadelphia, against the Ring there. Mr. Herr of Philadelphia was sent to Chicago.

At this point of the history of the detection of the frauds, it seems necessary to explain in brief the series of checks that have been established to guard against the sale of the product of the stills till the Government tax has been paid. The distiller keeps an account of the barrels produced and sent to the bonded warehouse, together with the dates and serial numbers of the barrels; the Government Storekeeper keeps also an account of the packages received, together with serial numbers and the value and serial numbers of the warehouse stamps attached. The Storekeeper also renders an account of the packages sent out from warehouse, and all packages have to be removed the same day the tax-paid stamp is attached. So there can be no mingling in store of stamped and unstamped packages. The accounts can be compared with each other, and should, of course, agree. They show, also, how many packages ought to leave the warehouse on any particular day. If more barrels were removed on any one day than the accounts show to have been stamped and delivered, a fraudulent issue is conclusively proved. The special agents would, therefore, take rooms in some place where they could command a view of the warehouse operations, and would count very carefully all the packages delivered. The counts on being compared with the records established still further the existence of fraudulent deliveries of spirits. In short, the operations of the special agents show that the dealers who have been implicated were paying taxes upon only about one-half their production, or that the Government got the tax only on one barrel in every two barrels produced. In addition to the means before alluded to for detecting irregularities are the wholesale dealers' accounts. These accounts must show from whom each package was received, the serial numbers of the package and of the stamps upon it. Transcripts of all the wholesale dealers' books have been made in New York, Boston, and Philadelphia, and they afford the means, by comparison with the official accounts, of tracing out each untaxed package that reached the market through regular trade channels. The work of comparison is now in progress, and will be pushed forward with unremitting activity.

There were several methods discovered by which the frauds detected were perpetrated. The following is a description of one of the favorite modes. It involved collusion between the distiller, the rectifier, the gauger, and, perhaps, the storekeeper. Each distiller had a favorite rectifier. For instance, Bevis & Frasers sent their goods to Bevis, Frasers & Co.; Ulrie, distiller, and Tenseher, distiller, sent their products to G. Bensberg to be rectified. These parties, are in St. Louis. Under the regulations of the Internal Revenue Bureau, when goods are sent to a rectifying establishment, the rectifier must, before emptying the package, give notice on a blank form. No. 122, of his intention to rectify or re-distill. The form requires that the serial number of the packages, the numbers of the warehouse and tax-paid stamps, with the number of gallons and proof of the spirits, and the name of the original inspector, and the distiller who produced it, shall be stated. When this notice from the rectifier is received at the office of the Collector, he sends a gauger back to the rectifying house with it, and the gauger is required to verify the numbers and contents of the packages, and on the bottom of the form he must certify that he saw the contents of the packages emptied, and the stamps, marks, and numbers on the barrels erased and destroyed. When the spirits have thus been emptied in the presence of the gauger and the proper entries have been made, the notice is returned to the office of the Collector, and at the end of the month, all such notices are forwarded from the Collector's office to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue. The history of the barrels of highwines thus disposed of, if all the officers concerned have done their duty, is ended so far as the Government is concerned since the tax has been paid on the production, and the rectifier and various dealers through whom it afterward passes to the consumer, are dealt with according to the other methods.

The law has been violated by the implicated producers and officers, who have either emptied the barrels without destroying the stamps, and have sent them back to the distillers to be refilled and introduced into trade surreptitiously, or in most of the cases openly, without suspicion, through regular channels. In some cases the erasure of numbers and marks on the emptied barrels has been apparently complete, but the stamps have been carefully and ingeniously "lifted," and returned to the distiller to be reused.

The fraudulent operations have been upon a grand scale. In St. Louis five out of six distilleries have been implicated. In Chicago four out of seven distilleries are charged with evasion of the tax, and cheating the Government. The following rectifiers are also implicated: Rollee, Junker & Co., and Golsen & Eastman. In Milwaukee six out of ten distillers and seven rectifying houses have been implicated. The investigation shows that in St. Louis alone the revenues have been defrauded to the amount of $1,000,000, and there is evidence that from the 1st day of January to and including the 1st day of April, 3,000 barrels of untaxed spirits have been placed in the market by St. Louis distillers. The tax on a barrel of highwines is about $60, in round numbers, so the Government has lost since the beginning of the year $175,000 in that city.

The law follows the spirit wherever it may be found, till it has paid the tax, and through taxes and penalties much that has been lost may be recovered. Secretary Bristow has given orders that no compromises must be considered. The evidence is overwhelming against the parties implicated, and their cases must go into the courts.

Contraband Whisky Seized.

BOSTON, May 15.—For some days past United States Revenue Collector Slack and detective Hayes have been quietly investigating the books of the liquor firms in this city, having learned that a large amount of contraband western liquors had been shipped to Boston. The investigation has resulted in the seizure in transit to this city of some $50,000 worth of liquors, consigned principally to D. T. Mills & Co. and C. A. & W. Bird. Thus far no firms in this city have been implicated in any direct complicity in the contraband traffic. The investigation is still proceeding.

Later.—As a result of the investigation into the liquor establishments of this city, about five hundred packages of liquors, valued at $2,000,000, the property of thirty different firms, were seized.

Kentucky Republican State Convention.

LOUISVILLE, May 13.—The Republican State Convention met at Masonic Temple, this city, to-day. Gen. John M. Harlan, of Louisville, was nominated for Governor; Hon. Robert Boyd, present State Senator from Lawrence, for Lieutenant Governor; Hon. William Cassius Goodloe, present State Senator from Lexington, for Attorney General; Reuben Patrick, of Magoffin, for Register of the Land Office; Dr. William Berry, of Ohio, for Auditor; and R. B. Ratcliff, of Lawrence, for Treasurer.

Mining Troubles.

TYRONE, PA., May 13.—The strikers, with John Siney at their head, have succeeded in stopping all work on the Moshannon Branch. There has been no violence; simply overpowering by superior numbers those who wish to work. The Morrisdale mines, on the Phillipsburg Branch, are still working about seventy men, and the mine at Powelton is working about thirty men.

WILKESBARRE, PA., May 13.—A straggling fire was kept up from 10 o'clock last evening, until 4 this morning upon the Sheriff's posse at Hutchinson's breaker by the striking miners. They hope in this manner to frighten the posse away. Four more men went to work for Hutchinson this morning.

OSCEOLA, PA., May 13.—John Siney, President of the Miners' National Association, was arrested here last night on the oath of Captain Clarke, charged with conspiracy.

OSCEOLA, PA., May 13.—John Siney, President of the Miners and Laborers' Benevolent Association, while addressing a large meeting of excited miners at this place to-day, said that if Captain T. E. Clarke, of the police force, received any injury the miners would not be to blame; it would be the fault of the persons who sent him here. He also said that there were times when persons were justifiable in violating the law; that it was robbery, and the persons who came here now seeking to take the places of those out on a strike were robbing the children and women of their bread, and should be treated accordingly. Siney then rent his infuriated crowd up to Powelton, some three miles south of this town, to drag the men from their work, as they did at Fisher & Miller's Works yesterday. It is the universal belief here among disinterested citizens that if there is bloodshed the blame will rest with Siney and Parks, who are under pay of the national organization, and who, it is believed, are being paid by shippers in other regions that are now working to keep this strike up. Siney and Parks are both foreigners, and have made some very heavy threats against native born miners and the shippers who are all native born.

A Son Murders His Mother.

BOSTON, May 13.—The small town of Newbury, Essex county, was the scene of a tragedy early this morning. Wm. Russell, a widower, aged 30 years, quarreled with a younger brother in his father's house, and upon the interference of his mother, a woman of 60 years, he turned upon her with terrible ferocity, and almost severed her head from her body with a shoe-knife, killing her instantly. He then attacked the father, and would have killed him but for the interference of neighbors, who secured the murderer after a struggle. The younger brother and father were both badly wounded, but will recover. As he had threatened to kill the family, it is supposed that he is insane. He is now in jail at Newburyport.

The younger brother of William Russell the Newbury murderer, is in a critical condition, and the tragedy of to-day will probably be a double one.

Serious Illness of Ex-Vice President Breckinridge.

LOUISVILLE, KY., May 12.—A special to the *Courier Journal* from Lexington, just received, says Gen. John C. Breckinridge is sinking rapidly, and death may be expected at any moment.

LOUISVILLE, KY., May 12.—An important surgical operation was performed upon Gen. John C. Breckinridge, at his home in Lexington, Ky., on Tuesday, by Dr. Gross, of Philadelphia, and Dr. Sayre, of New York. His breast was penetrated by tubes inserted between the ribs, and some relief was afforded. The physicians are of the opinion that the General's liver was injured by a blow received during the war from a fragment of shell, and that his present suffering is due entirely to that cause. The physicians entertain hopes that the operation will prove a permanent advantage to the patient.

Revenue Frauds in New Orleans.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 16.—When the whiskey investigations were begun in the West, a corps of Treasury detectives were assigned to service in certain portions of the South, where fradulent distillation was understood to prevail. From the reports which have been received at the department, it is learned that the evidence has been secured to show that the evasions of the whisky tax have been relatively as great at New Orleans as at any of the other points where seizures were recently made. As soon as the necessary arrangements of the department are perfected, seizures will be made of the offending establishments in New Orleans. From these seizures another immense haul of contraband whisky is assured.

Condition of the Crops.

TOLEDO, May 13.—The *Blade* publishes this afternoon an elaborate crop report, carefully compiled from statements by competent parties at 150 points in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and Iowa. These statements indicate that from one-quarter to one-third of a crop of winter wheat has been killed, but that has been nearly offset by the increased number of acres sowed, and the quantity of spring wheat will, if everything is favorable, henceforth bring the whole production to that of an average crop. About a quarter of last year's crop still remains in the hands of the farmers. No considerable quantity of wheat ground is reported as having been plowed. The amount of corn being put in this year greatly exceeds that of last year.

Seizure in St. Louis.

WASHINGTON, May 14.—Solicitor Wilson, of the Treasury Department, to-night received a telegram announcing the seizure of 818 barrels of whisky in St. Louis to-day, belonging to Alrice, and Fainlan & Bro.

Placing Obstructions on a Rail Road Track.

PORT JERVIS, N. Y., May 13.—James Milligan, a stranger here, was lodged in Pike County jail for placing obstructions on the track of the Erie Railway on the Delaware Division. His object is supposed to have been plunder.

Seizures in Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, May 13.—The rectifying establishment of B. A. Fleaman & Co., Kansas City, has been taken possession of by the United States authorities, and the distillery of Shehans & Sons, St. Joseph, has been seized.

Miners Riot's in Fayette.

The trouble among the coal miners along the branch railroad between Broadford and Mt. Pleasant assumed a serious aspect yesterday. For several days, since the strike in that region, large parties of the strikers have been patroling the country, and by threats of violence forced many of the Fayette, Painter, and Dexter mines to leave off working. Some who resisted their outrageous demands were assaulted and beaten by the strikers. The proprietors of the miners applied to Sheriff Messmore for protection, when that official, with a posse, proceeded to the scene of the disturbance and succeeded in arresting some thirty of the ringleaders, who were lodged in the county jail at Uniontown. These arrests were made Wednesday. Yesterday the Sheriff was notified that the strikers were again on the war-path, that two bands, numbering one hundred men each, were preparing to attack the miners who refused to join in the strike. He again collected a force and visited the seat of war. The following special dispatch to the *Commercial*, from Uniontown, received last night, tells the remainder of the story:

UNIONTOWN, PA., May 13—The Sheriff's men all returned by the 7:20 express to-night, having with them nine more of the rioters, making about forty men in all who are lodged in the Uniontown jail. Great excitement prevails here. T. J. D.

Escape From Sing Sing and Recapture.

POUGHKEEPSIE, May 14.—While an engine attached to an extra freight train going to New York city was passing through the arch at Sing Sing State Prison, about four o'clock this morning, four convicts jumped on the engine, presenting revolvers at the engineer and fireman, and compelling them to get off. They then cut the engine loose from the train and started southward, abandoning the engine three miles north of Tarrytown, where it was found with both the cylinder heads broken. Officers are in pursuit of the fugitives.

Three of the convicts were captured near Sleepy Hollow. They had stolen the clothes of the engineer and fireman. The fourth one is being hotly pressed, and will be captured.

Retirement of Commissioner Douglass.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 16.—Commissioner Pratt took charge of the Internal Revenue office to-day. At an informal meeting of the officers, clerks and other employees of the Bureau of Internal Revenue this afternoon, to give expression of their feelings in reference to the severance of official relations with Commissioner Douglass, his successor, Commissioner Pratt, was called to the chair, and complimentary resolutions were unanimously adopted. Commissioner Pratt declared his sympathy with the feeling manifested in the resolutions, which were "so well expressed and so well deserved." His own appointment, he said, was unexpected and unsolicited, and he wished that he might at the close of his own term of service enjoy the same appreciation and good feeling.

Execution of a Negro Murderer.

CHARLESTON, S. C., May 14.—Josh Frazer, colored, was hanged at Camden, in this State, to-day for the murder of Benjamin Cooper in December last. He was convicted on circumstantial evidence, but after conviction confessed the crime. On the scaffold to-day he confessed that he had murdered also his wife and child and a negro woman, and that he had burned many barns and gin houses. He was perfectly resigned. The rope slipped, and death was caused by strangulation in seven minutes. Six thousand persons were present. There was great religious excitement, but no disturbance.

The Constitutionality of the Internal Revenue act to be Tested.

MILWAUKEE, May 14.—The four distilleries which had been released by Court on special bonds resumed operations yesterday. A dispatch was received from Washington ordering the officers to stop them until they had given new bonds in place of those given on the 1st of May. The distillers telegraphed to distillers at Chicago, St. Louis and elsewhere, proposing to unite with them in testing the constitutionality of the internal revenue act. A favorable reply was received from Chicago, and the distillers have resolved to proceed. They have retained ex-Senator Carpenter to take the question into the courts.

Destructive Tornado.

TOLEDO, OHIO, May 10.—A tornado passed over the village of Green Springs, Ohio, yesterday afternoon, blowing down three houses, by which three children were killed, and demolishing every chimney in the place. Passing northward, several houses and barns, between Green Springs and Clyde were blown down and trees and fences destroyed. At Clyde, the Nichols House was partially unroofed, and considerable damage done to stores and residences between Clyde and Bellevue. Along the line of the Lake Shore Railroad scarcely a building escaped uninjured. The course of the storm was from south to north, and its track about two miles wide.

The Miners' Strike.

WILKESBARRE, PA., May 11.—About thirty men went to work in Hutchinson's mine this morning. They marched from their homes in a body, and were armed with rifles and revolvers. A crowd of men, women, and boys followed them with threats and imprecations, and were only deterred from acts of violence by the weapons of the workmen. The women were particularly bitter with invectives, and at one point in the mile march nearly precipitated a conflict. Threats were made to have a crowd this evening, when the men came out of the mines, large enough to mob them. Through fear of this, the authorities were called upon this morning by Mr. Hutchinson for protection, and a posse is now being raised to go to Kingston this afternoon.

Bravery Rewarded.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, May 12.—At the quarterly meeting of the Board of Managers of Adams Express Company held here to-day, George H. Price, who killed the robber in his car on the Pittsburg and Fort Wayne Road a few days since, was voted $1,000 in gold. They also voted $2,000 per annum to the Expressmen's Aid Society, to be paid to the heirs of deceased members who die in the service of the company.

Mining Troubles.

HUNTINGDON, PENN., May 12.—The force of men who left here yesterday morning with Fisher and Whitehead succeeded in running the blockade and reaching their destination. John Siney, of the anthracite region, was addressing a mass-meeting of mines, when it was announced that three carloads of blacklegs had arrived. The meeting broke up in confusion, and about 900 men and women, armed and equipped, repaired to Fisher's and Whitehead's mines. They were met by Fisher and Whitehead, who forbid them to come upon their property. The mob faltered, and sent a delegate in the person of John Siney to confer with Fisher and Whitehead. He said that it was a peaceable strike, and asked that a committee might go to the men and try to induce them to leave the region. The request was granted, and a committee passed on to the miners to confer with the men, but failed to induce a single man to return. A second committee was sent in, but succeeded no better. Not one would consent to return. One man suggested to shoot Mr. Fisher if he stood in the way. The mob then fell back and consulted. Finding the blacklegs could not be persuaded, under imprudent advice they made a wild and furious charge, sweeping over Mr. Fisher and his party, men and women, brandishing clubs, forcibly entered the houses. Some of Fisher's men were seized and dragged out, their baggage thrown out of the windows, the doors broken down, provisions and valuables appropriated. Men who have been working in the mines for weeks were taken out, and all marched by the mob toward Tyrone. They marched all night, Fisher and Whitehead arrived at Osceola about midnight, and came to Tyrone on the early train. The strikers have become wild and ungovernable, and say all new men must and shall leave the region. If the men had resisted blood would have been shed freely. The Sheriff had promised to be in attendance to protect the new men, but owing to some cause not fully explained he did not come. The success of the mob for the last two days threatens the total suspension of business. The miners propose to clean out every bank operated.

A Struggle Between a Guard and a Siberian Bloodhounds.

Patrick Eustace, says the Philadelphia *Bulletin*, is one of the guards at the Eastern Penitetiary, whose duty is to make the rounds of the institution at night to learn if all's well. This he does in company with two Siberian bloodhounds. On Tuesday night last, while accomplishing this duty, the dogs quarreled and a terrible fight ensued between them. Eustace inserted his club between the jaws of the one which had between his long fangs the other's throat.

The savage brute released his his hold and flew at the guard, catching his arm and forcing his teeth deep into the flesh, through the thickness of an overcoat, undercoat and two shirts. The guard used his club freely, but this would have availed little had not the second hound come to the rescue of his master, and even then the victory of man and beast was dearly bought. Having secured the enraged animal, and, as the guard believed, subjected him sufficiently, Eustace went into the warden's office, where his wounds were dressed.

About two hours later the Guard Lennan was making a tour of the yard with the hounds, when Guard Eustace happened to cross some distance off. The moment the hound heard his footsteps he uttered a low cry and bounded swiftly off in the direction of Eustace, who was apprised of his danger by a shout from Guard Lennan. Eustace turned, drawing his revolver at the same time, and pulled the trigger as he saw the hound approaching him. The first shot took effect, and the animal staggered and fell, shot through the heart. A few seconds later and he would probably have had his fangs in the throat of the guard.

The convicts at the Penitentiary stand in continual fear of these savage growlers, perhaps the most savage and resentful of the canine family.

G. A. R.

National Encampment—Hartranft Elected Commander-in-Chief.

CHICAGO, May 13.—The second day's proceedings of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic have consisted of the transaction of considerable business relating to the constitution of the order and its internal policy. The utmost harmony prevailed. The following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: Commander-in-Chief, John F. Hartranft, of Pennsylvania; Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief, J. S. Reynolds, of Illinois; Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Charles J. Buckbee, Connecticut; Surgeon General, John W. Foye, of Massachusetts; Chaplain-in-Chief, Major W. Reed, of Wisconsin. Governor Hartranft was present and made an address accepting the office. The Encampment has adjourned to meet next year at Philadelphia. To-morrow the members are to be the guests of the Board of Trade and the Board of Public Works.

Shooting Affray.

LEAVENWORTH KAN., May 11.—At about 10 o'clock last evening Col. D. K. Anthony, Postmaster and editor of the *Times*, and William Embry, editor of the *Appeal*, met on the stairway of the Opera-house when the Colonel asked Embry if he wished to see him, to which Embry replied, "Just as you say Col. Anthony; if you wish to see me we will go down stairs." The Colonel then stepped up one step, when Embry said: "No, you don't shoot me in the back," and stepped up by his side. Col. Anthony then struck Embry a severe blow on the upper lip, when three shots were fired by Embry, two of which took effect in Col. Anthony's breast, and it is supposed will prove fatal. He is still lying in the Opera House, and is steadily sinking.

LATER.

Col. D. K. Anthony continues in a critical condition. He was removed from the opera-house about half past four o'clock this morning to his residence. He has been conscious all day, and conversed freely with friends. Embry, who shot him, is now in jail awaiting the result of Col. Anthony's wounds.

At Sandusky, Tuesday evening, a young man by the name of Henry Gorth, shot a companion by the name of Hartwick Robraom, with a load of bird shot, in compliance with a sportive permissoion to do the same.

WASHINGTON.

The War on the Whiskey Ring—More Seizures.

WASHINTON, May 13.—A telegram to solicitor Wilson from Milwaukee says that in one of the distilleries seized in that city there were found subterranean tanks with a capacity of twenty-five thousand gallons. This is strong confirmatory evidence of illicit production and the wisdom of the seizure. In three of the St. Louis distilleries seized similar confirmatory evidence was found in secret entrances to the cistern room, and in the fourth the keeper was bribed and the books burned.

The examination of the vouchers and returns of the whiskey distilled and rectified at Cincinnati and shipped from that place is now being made, and the seizure will be made in a day or two. It was the intention of the authorities to make the seizure there to-day, but it has been delayed in order to examine some additional papers that have come to hand. Thus far no evidence has been found showing frauds in Cleveland or Pittsburg.

THE SEIZURES IN SOUTHERN CITIES.

No return has yet been received from officers in southern cities, who, on Monday where ordered to seize lots of crooked whisky, but the orders have doubtless been carried out.

The Pekin-alcohol works, Ill., were seized yesterday with 275 barrels of whisky.

Supervisor Hunt reports everything all right at New Orleans.

At St. Louis on Monday an internal revenue storekeeper betrayed the coming of the secret service force, and enabled certain distillers to secure and burn their books and papers.

When the Secretary of the Treasury was asked yesterday how much the government would probably save by the movement against the whisky ring he replied he could not tell. "It is enough to know," said he, "that 'there's millions in it.'"

COMMISSIONER DOUGLASS.

Commissioner Douglass will vacate his office on Saturday. Mr. Pratt is at the bureau to-day getting information as to the duties which he will have to perform.

THE DRIVING PARK ASSOCIATION.

At the spring meeting of the Washington driving park association, yesterday, the $750 purse for 2:29 horses was won by Albert Meade. Five heats were trotted and the best time was 2:33.

PEACE ASSURED IN EUROPE.

WASHINGTON, May 13—An official telegram has been received at the Russian legation from Berlin, stating that the emperor leaves Berlin entirely convinced of the conciliatory dispositions which exist there and which assures the maintenance of peace.

MORE WHISKY SEIZURES.

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Solicitor Wilson of the treasury department, to-night received a telegram announcing the seizure of 818 barrels of whisky in St. Louis to-day, belonging to Ulrice, Tainlan & Bro., and another announcing the seizure of the rectifying house of Pike, Barrett & Dile, of Cincinnati.

The Lexington Races.

LEXINGTON, May 12.—First race, mile heats. Only one heat was run, which was won by Searcher in 1:41¾. This is the best time ever made. Gray Planet last year made the next best, at Saratoga, running against time, in 1:42½, and Alarm had previously made it in 1:42¾. After the race Searcher was put up at auction, and was bought for his owner at $5,000.

Fall of a Bridge.

ALBANY, May 13.—A new iron bridge, recently erected over the Erie canal by the state authorities, a few miles above this city, gave way yesterday afternoon carrying with it a team of horses, wagon, two men, and a large stove. Two men named Kelley and Sullivan, were seriously injured.

An Attempt at Parricide Followed by Suicide.

CHICAGO, May 15.—A dispatch from M'Gregor, Iowa, says Albert Young, son of Senator Young, of Wisconsin, shot his father at noon yesterday, and then committed suicide. It is thought that the son had committed forgery, and resorted to this means of covering it up.

Three Sisters Drowned.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, May 11.—A special dispatch to the *Commercial* says:

Three ladies, daughters of Peter Harnum, of Upper Sandusky, Ohio, were drowned in the Sandusky River, near that place, yesterday, while attempting to cross the stream in a wagon.

Eighty-nine Bodies Recovered from the Wrecked Schiller.

NEW YORK, May 13.—A special dispatch from London says that eighty-nine bodies of persons who were lost on the wreck of the steamship Schiller have been recovered. Among them are the bodies of Walter Blackeven, steward; Mes. Henry Friend, and Henry Martin; the body of a male with "A." marked on a signet ring, "A. T." marked on linen—Augnot Thomas. The body of a young lady having a diamond set in a massive gold ring was found at a distance of twenty miles from the scene of the disaster. orders have been received directing that the body of Miss Dimock be shipped for America. A diver has made a survey of the wreck.

Whiskey Seizure.

CINCINNATI, May 13.—Collector Weitzell, by order of the treasury dpartment, this afternoon siezed the large whiskey house of Pike, Dople & Barrett, No. 819 Public Landing; and placed the same in charge of United States Marshal Thall. An inventory of the property will be made. Some interest is excited, as it is uncertain what others may also be involved.

One of the students of Wittenburg College, Springfield, had his skull fractured on Monday evening while playing at quoits.

The first white child born on the Western Reserve was Lucy, Kingsbury, a daughter of Judge Kingsbury, of Newburg, Cuyahoga county.

Sixteen uncongenial souls will ask release from the tie that binds them to their worser halves at the next term of the Summit county Common Please Court.

It is said a tack factory is to be established at Fallston, Pa.

The Whisky Fraud.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—The further prosecution of the whisky frauds, together with all the evidence and records will on Monday be turned over by the Solicitor of the Treasury to Mr. Pratt, Commissioner of Internal Revenue. The various supervisors who have been working with the Solicitor have been ordered to report direct to the Commissioner and receive further instructions from him. The secret service force of the Treasury, however, will continue to aid the internal revenue authorities in detecting and seizing "crooked" whisky and bringing offenders to justice.

Destructive Fire.