

NEWS OF THE WEEK SUMMARIZED.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Minnesota men at Washington think the Bassford appointment will be revoked.

The president appointed John E. Carland United States district attorney for Dakota.

Peter H. Black, a colored Democrat from Cincinnati, is an applicant for Register Bruce's place.

Minister Cox qualified at the state department recently, and will sail for Turkey June 17.

Zach Montgomery of California has been appointed assistant attorney general for the interior department.

Senator Vest rejoices in the appointment of D. W. Ware of St. Louis as superintendent of the National Park.

Ex-Commissioner of Agriculture Loring has great confidence in Washington real estate. He is investing largely.

Consul General Leonard of Calcutta, in a report to the state department, points out the danger to American wheat from Indian competition.

Postmasters commissioned: J. F. Vogle, Le Mars, Iowa; J. R. Ratekin, Shenandoah, Iowa; J. R. Parrshall, Faribault, Minn.; H. C. Moore, Brodhead, Wis.

Mr. Nimmo, chief of the bureau of statistics, will remain in the treasury department until June 1 to complete his reports. After that he will travel in Europe.

The president appointed as collectors of internal revenue William T. Bishop, First district of Ohio, and Asa Ellis, First district of California.

Misses Manning, Endicott, Lamar, Garland and the two younger daughters of Secretary Bayard are not yet in society, but will be debutantes next winter.

Secretary Bayard talks most at the cabinet meetings, and Postmaster General Vilas comes next. The other secretaries manage to edge in a word now and then.

Col. Deahna, who was thrown out of Land Commissioner Spark's room for claiming his extra expenses as a timber agent in Nevada, has been paid all but \$25 that he claimed.

Secretary Manning assures a G. A. R. delegation that his department will respect the laws relating to veterans in office, but intimates that democratic veterans will be given the first chance.

The police census of Washington, which gave the city a population of 235,000, is said to be erroneous. The population is less than 200,000. Many office seekers from the states were counted in.

Col. Hunter Brooke of Ohio, a clerk in the adjutant general's office, died in Washington of pneumonia. He served as a staff officer during the war with Generals McCook, Roccenrans and Thomas.

Postoffice inspectors are informed that postmasters and clerks found guilty of irregularities must be at once reported to the United States district attorney for prosecution.

The postmaster general orders that fourth class postmasters who have been in office for five years must file new bonds.

Secretary Lamar has directed future payments to be stopped on the work of improving Hot Springs creek, in Arkansas, because the work is not satisfactory. The appropriation amounted to \$60,000, of which \$40,000 has already been expended. The contractors will appeal to the court of claims.

The appointment of Asa Ellis, a granger resident of Los Angeles, Cal., as collector of internal revenue at San Francisco, was a great surprise to the California Democrats, here, as Mr. Ellis had filed in application for the place. Justice Fields, of the United States supreme court, has been pressing Mr. Maynard for the place. It is thought the president will not appoint men of either of the factions to future vacancies in California.

From the state department it is learned that there is profound feeling at Halifax over the contemplated change in the office of consul general. Several weeks ago Wakefield G. Frye of Maine had placed his resignation at the disposal of the department, but the Nova Scotia merchants have become possessed of the idea that his action was not entirely voluntary. A great bundle of petitions has been forwarded to the president asking that Mr. Frye be continued in office.

The president recently appointed the following: Michael M. Phelan of Missouri to be consul general at Halifax; United States marshal, Walter H. Bunn, northern district of New York; United States attorneys, Henry M. McCurdy, western district of Tennessee; James H. Hawley, Territory of Idaho; James Cripps Wickliffe, district of Kentucky; H. C. Branstetter, receiver of public moneys at Boise City; A. Jones, receiver of public moneys at Roseburg, Or.; William L. Townsend, receiver of public moneys at Lakeview, Or.; Matthew H. Maynard, receiver of public moneys at Marquette, Mich.; William C. Russell, receiver of public moneys at Natchez, La.; H. M. Bickel, receiver of public moneys at Larned, Kan.

THE CASUALTY RECORD.

The loss by the Miles City fire is found to reach \$100,000.

The principal business portion of Wells, Iowa, was burned.

Half of the Alderson block, four stores, at Merrill, Wis., was burned Saturday the 23d. The fire caught in the basement about 10 o'clock a. m.

The stores burned were occupied by Sigmond Heinemann, general store, and Ross & Arley, drug store. Heinemann's stock was valued at \$50,000. The total loss is about \$70,000.

Millie Alma of New York city, a trapeze performer, fell with her apparatus, at Toronto, a distance of nearly fifty feet. After getting into position a large guy rope holding up the tent parted and detached the trapeze stays, letting the performer drop. She struck in sitting posture, and received severe injuries to her spine, as well as internal bruises.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Thomas Gunning died in Brooklyn and left \$16,500 to relatives and \$12,000 to be expended in prayers for the soul of the testator, the souls of his family and the souls of all others who may be in purgatory.

The second Sunday in June, childrens Sunday, were the last words of Rev. W. J. Hahn, as he fell over dying in his pulpit at Des Moines, Iowa. He was pastor of the African Methodist church and had just repelled with warmth, accusations emanating from his flock that cast a taint on his Christian department.

CRIMES AND CRIMINALS.

At Michigan City, Dak., Andrew Abrahamson was killed by the night watchman of the Pillsbury & Haribut elevator.

At Cobden, Ill., Alex. Welker was shot and

killed by a man named William Mayes. The trouble was over a girl, with whom both were in love. Mayes escaped, and is still at large.

A special from Newark, N. J., says: A deadly fight occurred between J. P. Buffington and August Killian, farmers. The battle between the two men is described as being one of the bloodiest personal encounters ever heard of in this state. Both are dead.

Charles Angell will be released from the Joliet prison Thursday, May 28. He went there in 1878, on a ten-year sentence, for embezzling \$125,000 while secretary of the Pullman Palace Car company. The fugitive was at last captured in Lisbon, Portugal. He pleaded guilty, and returned \$84,000 of the property. Gov. Hamilton refused to pardon him.

Thomas Crawford, the defaulting city treasurer of Oswego, N. Y., who is now in Hamilton, Ont., states that he found himself \$800 short at the end of his first year as treasurer. He confided his trouble to Father O'Connell, of St. John's church, Oswego, and in accordance with his advice engaged in margin dealing, hoping to make good the shortage. The final result was his flight, leaving a \$20,000 deficit.

The grand jury at Bloomington, Ill., found one hundred and twenty indictments against leading citizens of Metropolis, Mass. county, for conspiracy to swindle life insurance companies, including the Mutual of this city and several eastern companies. Among the indicted are John H. Norris, mayor of Metropolis, George Musgrave, deputy sheriff, two of the leading physicians, and several lawyers. The ring operated by insuring people on their deathbeds on false statements as to health and age. Its gains amount to fully \$20,000, and plans were laid for \$100,000 more.

GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

Serious differences are said to exist between the English and American Bible revisers.

Camp township, near Des Moines, Iowa, is enjoying a scandal, which resulted in the elopement of a Mrs. Carper with a man named Sterling.

John W. Potter, a Democratic leader in Northern Illinois, the owner of daily newspapers at Freeport and Rock Island, and founder of the Eagle at Cork, Ireland, is dead.

The women of Vancouver, Wash., are arranging to hold a "woman's celebration" on the fourth of July, and to duly rejoice over their newly acquired privilege as voting citizens.

A \$10,000,000 real estate mortgage by the Postal Telegraph company to the Farmer's Loan and Trust company was filled in the Erie county clerk's office at Buffalo, N. Y., recently. It is dated Jan. 23, 1882.

It requires sixty-four people to take care of the federal buildings in Philadelphia, at a cost of \$45,000 a year. The New York buildings are looked after by eighty-five persons at an expense, in salaries, of \$62,808.23.

Gov. Robinson of Massachusetts has adopted the sensible expedient of dropping suddenly and quietly and alone upon the private lunatic asylums of the state. No institutions need more overhauling and turning inside out than these.

The Illinois senate passed an anti-oleomargarine bill. It prescribes a penalty of \$25 to \$200 fine and imprisonment from one to six months for selling adulterated milk or cream, and a fine of \$1,000 for making oleomargarine out of substance other than that produced from unadulterated milk, or any article in imitation of butter or cheese, or to sell as butter or cheese.

FOREIGN GOSSIP.

The merchants of Halifax petition the state department for the retention of Consul General Frye.

Mr. Mayon of Montreal has been fined \$2 for kissing his daughter, who has been adopted by Mrs. Morn.

The customs officer at Regina, N. W. T., has been fined for bringing spirituous liquors into the territory.

The health officer of Montreal has just made the startling discovery that glanders is widespread among the horses in that district, and even as far as Quebec.

It is reported here that Russia has for some months had at Cabul an agent disguised as a native. The czar, it is said, has presented Gen. Komaroff 100,000 roubles.

Edward Sheppard, proprietor of the Toronto Daily News, was remanded to the criminal assizes for alleged libel in publishing that Col. Oamnet, the commanding officer of the Sixty-fifth regiment, and Maj. Dugas had shown the white feather and refused to proceed to the front with their regiment.

Lieut. John Loomis Shock, assistant naval constructor of the United States navy, on special duty at the Royal college, Greenwich, England, committed suicide by shooting himself. Shock is said to have been engaged to a young lady in this country who was recently married, and his friends attribute the suicide to this disappointment.

The earl of Roseberry, lord privy seal of Great Britain, has arrived and been received by Bismarck. The papers insist that his visit has political significance, and predict that the result will be new negotiations between England and Germany with regard to the affairs of Egypt, and against the interest of France in that country.

The Times says that the feeling of anxiety is growing and that the negotiations have come to a standstill. British officers have arrived at Herat and report that the fortifications of Herat are stronger than they supposed they were. A battalion of Russian engineers is extending the fortifications at Sebostopol. The completion of the Russian ironclads in the docks of Paris announces that an Indian, the reputed son of Nana Sahib, leader of the Sepoy revolt in India, is at present an officer in the Russian army, and that he is treated with princely honors.

The state of the negotiations between England and Russia is still enveloped in complete mystery. The one thing certain is that Russia totally refuses to ratify the frontier line agreed on between her envoy and the English government. Lord Granville and Mr. Gladstone expressly deny the report that Russia objects to English officers for fortifying Herat, or demands the neutralization of Afghanistan. They admit that fresh difficulties have arisen respecting arbitration and the arbitrator. England is understood to object to the king of Denmark, while Russia insists upon having him. Nor have they succeeded in framing an agreement defining the limits of arbitration.

Mr. Gladstone said that arbitration must include acts for which the respective governments were responsible. This can only mean a new effort to induce Russia to submit to Komaroff's conduct to inquiry. Altogether the situation, under the strain of this prolonged delay, has grown much graver than it was last week.

Some Territorial Appointments.

Secretary Lamar dictated from a sick bed a list of twelve territorial appointments, the result of his day's work with the president. Among them was the name of Morris Taylor, for surveyor general of Dakota, which, it is understood, was not made as a recognition of M. H. Day, the national committeeman, but because of Taylor's endorsements were so strong that there was no getting around them. Mr. Taylor is not a practical surveyor. Mark K. Shafer is appointed register, and D. T. Branble receiver at the Waterbury land office, and E. W. Miller and G. W. Boyington register and receiver at Aberdeen. Ex-Senator Tipton, who came to Washington in February, hoping to be called into the cabinet, waited, and went home thinking he would get nothing, is made receiver of the Bloomington (Neb.) land office. Ex-Senator Ross of Kansas is to be governor of New Mexico. He is one who voted against Andy Johnson's impeachment.

Senator Vest has at last got the Yellowstone Park in his grip. His man D. W. Ware was appointed superintendent. Mr. Ware is a St. Louis broker, described as honest, driving and capable. He has visited the park several times. He is a semi-misanthrope, hating a great many men and things, and Mr. Vest had him appointed because of his general ugliness. All the above appointments have been officially promulgated by the president.

Big Fire at Lansing, Iowa.

A large fire occurred recently at Lansing, Iowa. It was discovered at 2:12 o'clock, and destroyed \$150,000 worth of property. The insurance is \$60,000. Four three-story brick buildings, 12 two-story bricks, 6 dwellings, 6 barns, and twenty families were burned out of their homes. Thirty-five buildings in all were destroyed. Following are the principal sufferers:

Concert hall, occupied by J. W. Thorpe; boot and shoe stock mostly saved. L. Tucks, clothing; Joe Urnersback, restaurant; S. Kinnis, law library; West house; H. W. Warkling, cigar factory; L. G. Seam's boot and shoe; J. Tully, general store; George K. Oiler, store; The bank, with L. E. Tellow's law office, postoffice and Haughton gallery; D. P. Spencer's residence, W. D. Morgan's residence and J. Herick's house.

The loss to Lansing is terrible, and many sufferers will be unable to insure, and being poor will be unable to build. The fire originated in the rear of the Concert hall, a fine three-story building, and swept south and east, consuming the Lansing bank, postoffice and the Lansing Mirror and Journal office, and the stores, hotel and dwellings. The Lansing department was telegraphed for, and started a special train, but turned back from Caledonia, the fire being under control.

Gladstone Catching It Everywhere.

London Cable: The political situation in England is not only regarded by Englishmen as anomalous, but it now forms the chief subject of comment in all the continental papers. The leading organs of European public opinion outside of England severely criticize the present British ministry. Mr. Gladstone gets the lion's share of all this continental denunciation. The Vienna Monday's Review says it is possible that the English parliament may abolish Mr. Gladstone and his cabinet for their blundering management of British foreign affairs, but it thinks that sooner the ministry that has "sacrificed the honor and vital interests of the British empire." The Algemeine Zeitung of Vienna, says that Mr. Gladstone has imparted an "aimless nervousness" into European politics which the paper declares is alienating great continental powers from England. "Who (what nation) would be rash enough to be Gladstone's friends?" asks the Zeitung. The Rassegna of Rome advises Italy to closely observe the negotiations in progress between England and the ports for a Turkish occupation of Suakin. Such an occupation would seriously modify Italy's position at Massowah. The Rassegna says, and Italy is, intensely interested in England's intentions concerning it.

Shooting Affair in Dodge County, Minn.

John Leahmann, living near Claremont, thirteen miles east of Owatonna, Steele Co., went to the residence of William Van Ruden, a quiet, respectable farmer, and attempted to quarrel with him, accusing him of many offenses of which he claimed to be innocent. Finally Leahmann loaded his gun and said he had come to shoot Van Ruden. Leahmann advised Van Ruden to stop at the shooting and would not stop at the warning of Van Ruden, who fired and killed him instantly.

Another account says: They had trouble for several years and Leahmann was in the habit of going over to Van Ruden's and shooting at his chickens, sometimes threatening to shoot him. Recently Leahmann went to Van Ruden's with a loaded gun. Mrs. Van Ruden went out and requested him not to shoot in the yard as he might shoot some of the children. Leahmann said he would shoot all he wanted to and could shoot her if he desired, whereupon he discharged his gun off in the pasture. Van Ruden appeared, and after some words with Leahmann, went into the house, brought out his gun and shot Leahmann. Van Ruden went to Kasson, Dodge county, at once and gave himself up. Leahmann was a bachelor about forty years of age, and had one brother living. Van Ruden has a wife and one child. Both parties were well-to-do farmers. Leahmann had \$600 on his person.

A Relief of the Manistes.

It is now eighteen months since the steamer Manistee went down in a terrible gale on Lake Superior, and on all board perished. Nothing has been seen or heard from the Manistee since but an occasional bucket or piece of timber washed ashore in the vicinity of Fish creek, Wis., until recently when a party of trout fishers while angling up Fish creek some distance from its mouth, found a sealed bottle containing a piece of paper on which was written: "On board Manistee. Terrible storm to-night. May not live to see morning. Yours to the world. John McKay." McKay was captain of the Manistee at the time of the disaster. The people of Ashland, with whom McKay was in the habit of doing business, carefully compared the handwriting on the slip of paper found in the bottle with receipts and other documents of the late captain, and pronounced the handwriting on the slip to be his, without question. The slip of paper has been sent to the widow of the late captain McKay for further identification.

Senator John Sherman was tendered a public reception at San Francisco, by members of the chamber of commerce, board of trade and manufacturers' association. In a speech he said: "We want a certain adjustment between silver and gold, that both these metals may be coined free; that they may be deposited in the United States treasury in exchange for money certificates, and both be so adjusted that they may travel all over the world equal to each other in every land. To accomplish this silver must be purchased, coined and paid out at market rates, or received on deposit at market rates, and paper money issued for it. This will give a bimetallic money, good not only in San Francisco, but in New York, London and other parts of the world."

THE HOPEFUL SETTLERS SAFE.

Commissioner Sparks Explains the Scope of the Late Order Suspending Final Action on Land Entries.

Washington Special.—The order issued by the commissioner of the general land office, dated April 3, declaring that final action upon all entries of the public land, except private cash entries and such scrip locations as are not dependent upon settlement and cultivation, should hereafter be suspended in Colorado, Dakota, Idaho, Utah, Washington Territory, New Mexico, Montana, Wyoming, Nevada and a small part of Kansas, Nebraska and Minnesota, and also declaring that final action should be suspended upon all timber entries throughout the country, has caused great confusion in the territories named and decided opposition from the agents and attorneys at Washington and elsewhere, who are engaged in the business of securing patents for claimants. It is claimed that the order in question is paralyzing commercial business in all parts of the country and doing serious injury to settlers who wish to prove up on their claims so that they can borrow money to go on with the improvement of their lands. Commissioner Sparks said recently, when asked for his opinion upon this point:

That order was intended to cover what I term infested districts. I have written a number of letters to people who are complaining about it and I want it thoroughly understood that there is no disposition on my part to do honest settlers an injury. It is only the knaves and thieves that I am after. I have dozens of letters from persons living in these districts who approve of the order and say that in many regions not one entry in fifty is bona fide. It is a business practice to do false swearing to get a title to land. Timber entries are almost uniformly fraudulent. Now it is to catch these people that I have said that we should suspend final action on claims. This whole office, including the assistant commissioner, the law clerk and the various chiefs, is so busy with the necessity and wisdom of that order. We talked it all over and thought of various means to be employed for the end desired. One was to close the local land offices; but in that event settlers arriving in the district would find themselves unable to locate. That plan would not work. Then it was suggested that we close the land office here, but that would be obviously unadvisable. So there was nothing for me to do except to say that I would not ask the secretary of the interior nor the president to approve and sign patents when I believed that fully one-half of them were fraudulent. In this way I believe I have saved the public domain.

FULLY A MILLION ACRES

of land since April 3. The charge has been made that the order was political and geographical in its character, that the south was excepted. There are but four states in the south where the United States has land offices—Florida, Alabama, Louisiana and Arkansas. Texas owns her own land. I fancy there is some fraud in Florida. In due time I will reach that. It cannot be said that the south is excepted because Secretary Lamar is a southern man. The south was excepted because the bulk of fraud is not in the South. There is five times as much territory in the North that is not included in the order. Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, nearly all of Minnesota, Nebraska and Kansas are not included, and in two of these states—Michigan and Wisconsin—I know there is fraud that we ought to look after. It was not the intention to prostrate the land business all over the country. Nothing of the kind has been done. What we really after is to prevent the public domain from going into the hands of knaves and speculators. The bona fide settler can borrow just as much money on his certificate of entry or his duplicate papers as he can upon the patent. All the first-class loan and trust companies of the East desire to know is that the borrower should be a bona fide settler and that he will be entitled to a patent. It is the knave who wants his patent rushed through in borrow-four hours. You will find that to-day in Illinois forty out of every one hundred entrymen have never gotten their patents. They lie here in this office, and the settlers were satisfied to have simply the duplicates. But you will find that the Louisiana backbones patents were taken out of this office promptly, just as you will find patents have been taken in all cases where there is fraud.

ENCOURAGING THE SETTLERS.

When I am satisfied that there is good faith on the part of the settler, there will be no difficulty in his getting a patent. I shall satisfy myself by means of special agents and detectives whom I can thoroughly trust and upon whom I shall put such checks and counter detection as will make it absolutely certain that no false swearing or fraud can be committed. I see that the fight is begun upon me from the land office lawyers here and all over the west, and that the newspapers largely interested in the whole subject of land office business have opened fire upon me; but I have determined to stand by the order. I mean to make the bona fide settler pick out their land, file their entries upon it, and go on with their improvements. The land is theirs just as much during the five years which the law requires them to stay upon it as it ever can be, and if they are worthy people there will be no difficulty in their borrowing if they need to do so. I can see that, in order to relieve these people of their anxiety, I should allow thieves and rascals to take millions of the public domain by false swearing.

Consul Leonard on India Wheat.

A letter has been received at the state department Washington, from Consul General J. A. Leonard of Calcutta, formerly of Rochester, Minn., furnishing interesting facts in relation to the production and exportation of wheat from India. The exportations of last year were 9,375,447 tons. Mr. Leonard says:

The question to what extent wheat growing will increase in India is one that cannot be answered either accurately or definitely. It is certain that the wheat-growing area is increasing, and there is good reason to believe that it will keep on increasing, and there can be no doubt that the wheat of India will yield abundantly; but I do not think reliable information either as to the amount of land under cultivation or the yield per acre is obtainable. Wheat is and will be raised cheaper in India than in America. Our improved machinery cannot compete with the laborer who works for 7 to 10 cent a day, and with that sum will feed and clothe himself and family; who lives in a house that can be built for less than \$5, and wants scarcely any clothing, no furniture, and less and cheaper food than any other civilized human being. But it is doubtful whether this cheap wheat can be got to England or Europe as cheaply, or can be sold here for any less than the wheat from America. The transportation of grain, and especially the handling of it by coolies whenever it has to be transferred, and the charges of the different middlemen are likely for some years to come to cost more than the shipment and handling by the railroad and elevator system of America. There can be no doubt that under the same conditions of transportation and trade, wheat from India might be furnished so cheaply as to entirely undersell that from America. There has been much discussion of the influence of new railroads in cheapening the transportation of wheat in India, but there is not any immediate prospect of the rapid extension of the railroad system. During 1883-84 there were 230 miles of new railroad built in India. But there is sure to be an amount of wheat raised and exported from India for the future sufficient, with that from Russia, Egypt and other sources, to prevent actual scarcity in the buying wheat markets of the world, and to keep down the prices of American and all other wheat.