

WASHINGTON.

Prospect of Intervention in Cuban Affairs.

Sailing of Dr. Hall's Arctic Expedition.

Reduction of Officers in the Internal Revenue Bureau.

WASHINGTON, June 10, 1871.

The Cuban Question—Prospect of English and American Intervention.

Reliable information has been received here relative to the position the English and Spanish governments take as to the sale of Cuba to the Cubans. The Spanish government is entirely in favor of selling the island to the Cubans themselves, and the English government, though, of course, not wishing to take any especially prominent part in the settlement of the difficulties pending, is also anxious to end the existing strife in the same way. But the difficulty arises, whence is the money to come for the purchase? for Spanish greed has eaten up all the produce of the country. The question has been so far solved by the presumption that the United States shall become the guarantee to Spain for the payment of the money, and already a banking firm in Amsterdam has offered the needed loan, provided the United States shall become the security. Thus the settlement of the Cuban question hinges upon the point whether or not the Washington government shall become responsible for the bankrupt Cubans in their dilemma, and the friends of Cuba very anxiously await a reply. The government here are well aware by this time that only official courtesy prevents the English Cabinet from taking the initiative in this matter, as Lord Granville is entirely in accord with the views of the Spanish Ministry on the settlement of the Cuban question. It is understood that active preparations are on foot to lay before the President and his Cabinet the advantages that would ensue from the proposed purchase by the Cubans of their native island. At all events the cession of the island by Spain, under the circumstances, while it may be the result of an impoverished treasury at home, shows that the new government at Madrid is desirous to be rid of an elephant that has been the cause of endless trouble.

Sailing of the Polarís for New York.

The Polarís sailed this afternoon, with all her officers and crew on board, for New York. It was given out yesterday that she would leave to-day, and as a consequence there was a large number of visitors in the yard all the forenoon, and at times the vessel was so crowded that the officers and crew were somewhat incommode. Among those who called were the officers of the yard and many acquaintances of the officers of the ship, to say goodby, but in no case would Captain Hall respond when the word was coupled with an expression implying a doubt as to the success of the expedition, and in this the officers and men were with him, each being sanguine of meeting their friends in Washington again. The whistle was blown as a signal for all not having business on board to leave, and after a few hurried parting words the lines were cast off and the vessel glided out on the river amid the waving of hats and handkerchiefs and the exchanging of goodbys. The rigging of the Tallapoosa, near the ship house, was manned by the crew, who gave the staunch little craft three hearty cheers as she passed, which were returned by her crew.

Reorganization of Military Divisions.

The announcement in these despatches that the military divisions of the country would be reorganized and transfers and interchange among the generals would take place has occasioned considerable excitement in military circles. A number of letters have already been received from various parts of the country at the War Department, asking for favors in the event of a reassignment of commanding generals. Notwithstanding the recent official contradiction, there are still grounds for maintaining that unless the intention of the administration be abandoned—and that is not probable—the end of the summer will bring radical changes in the military situation, reaching as far as a new arrangement of the entire country into three great divisions, one taking in the entire territory occupied in whole or in part by the Indians, and the others dividing between them the territory reaching to either ocean. General Sheridan, unless he should be kept in the West by anticipated Indian troubles, will, as already stated, assume the augmented command reaching from North to South along the Atlantic; General Schofield the interior division, and Generals Halleck or Meade, probably the former, will be invested with chief military command on the Pacific slope, the Indian localities alone excluded.

Tice Meters to be Discontinued.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has issued a circular relative to the Tice meters now in use in distilleries, which concludes as follows:—

"It having been ascertained by experience that these meters, as a class, do not fully answer the purpose for which they were intended, their use is hereby discontinued, and those attached to distilleries may be detached. The meters being the property of the distillers, they are at liberty to dispose of them as they may desire."

The Ku Klux Committee at Work.

The Ku Klux Investigating Committee to-day examined Judge A. J. Willard, of the Supreme Court of South Carolina, and D. W. Chamberlain, the Attorney General of the same State, together with Judge Luther R. Smith, of the Supreme Court of Alabama. Their testimony contained no points of unusual interest, being confined chiefly to the condition of affairs in their respective neighborhoods.

Large Number of Internal Revenue Officers Discharged.

The services of 316 assistant assessors of Internal Revenue were dispensed with since the 1st of January last, and a further reduction of 150 is estimated during the present month. At a low estimate the reduction already made will effect a saving of over \$300,000 per annum.

The Defalcation in the Post Office Department.

The examination of the accounts of F. A. Macartney, late disbursing officer in the Post Office Department, is not yet complete, but the Postmaster General is satisfied that the deficiency is not more than \$20,000, and that the assignments and the sureties will fully satisfy the government.

Special Agent of the Post Office Department.

L. M. Terrell, of Indiana, was to-day appointed special agent at large of the Post Office Department on mail depredations, and assigned to duty for the State of Texas.

Bids for Building Materials.

Secretary Fish and Supervising Architect Mullet, in the presence of witnesses, to-day opened bids for concrete rubble stone cement and sand for the new State Department building.

Weekly Finance Statement.

The receipts of fractional currency for the week ending to-day amount to \$60,000. The shipments were:—Notes, \$1,043,106; fractional currency, \$74,055.

The Treasurer holds in trust as security for national bank circulation, \$358,579,400, and for public deposits, \$15,712,500. National bank circulation outstanding at this date, \$317,071,973.

Internal revenue receipts to-day, \$383,201; grand total for the fiscal year, \$136,511,399.

Treasury Balances.

The balances in the Treasury Department to-day were:—Currency, \$5,294,879; coin, \$89,580,000; certificates, \$32,555,000.

Annual Revision of American Tonnage Statistics.

The Register of the Treasury has issued a circular and blanks to customs officers throughout the country for a careful revision of the tonnage of this country. This revision is made annually, but the means adopted this year, it is believed, will secure a greater degree of accuracy than ever before, special efforts having been made to ascertain the facts in regard to the loss of vessels at sea, sales to foreigners and vessels abandoned as unfit for service. While our shipping engaged in foreign trade remains in the low condition in which

it was reduced during the war, it is believed that the annual reports for June 30, 1871, will show a very fair degree of prosperity in the coastwise or home trade. The cause of all this is well known to everybody. In our foreign trade our ships enter into free competition with the ships of all the world, and the result is that British ships have superseded American ships, even in our own ports. In our coastwise or home trade foreign vessels, on the other hand, are not allowed to engage. American vessels, under this protective measure, have the enterprise all to themselves, and hence enjoy a more prosperous condition.

New Issue of Internal Revenue Stamps.

The Internal Revenue Bureau will change all the stamps on or about the 1st of August, substituting two kinds—one called the sensitive stamps, so that the use of acids to remove canceling marks will destroy them beyond reuse; the other to be printed in such colors as to prevent imitation by means of photography. Much time and attention have been bestowed upon this subject, and it is supposed the precautions against fraud in the reuse of stamps will save a large sum of money to the government.