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In the trial of the packers at Chicago the point has again been raised that the government is barred from prosecuting them under the indictment found because they are entitled to immunity under a section of the law which grants freedom from prosecution to any person who is compelled to produce incriminating evidence against himself. The packers claim that they gave such testimony to Commissioner Garfield.

Poultney Bigelow, magazine writer, whose criticism of the management of Panama canal affairs was recently denounced by Secretary of War Taft, was a witness before a senate committee. Mr. Bigelow refused to reveal the names of some of his informants, and several members of the committee insisted that he should be required to answer.

There was an explosion in a coal mine at Detroit, W. Va., January 18. Eighteen miners were killed.

In the bill providing for the final disposition of the affairs of the five civilized tribes in the Indian Territory, it is revealed that \$75,000 attorney fees were paid to Mansfield, McMurray & Cornish. This fee was denounced by Representative Mann of Illinois as highway robbery.

The urgent deficiency bill reported by the house committee directs that the eight-hour law shall not apply in the construction of the Panama canal or on the canal zone.

Marshall Field, the Chicago merchant, died in New York City. He had been stricken with pneumonia.

In the English elections the liberals won pronounced victories. John Burns was re-elected by a majority of 1,800. Mr. Balfour was beaten, and the members elected were distributed as follows: Liberals, 167; unionists, 73; laborites, 31; and nationalists, 50. Joseph Chamberlain was elected by a large majority.

Four midshipmen were dismissed from the Annapolis naval academy, charged with hazing.

Henry Wulff, former state treasurer of Illinois, was recently sentenced to two years in the house of correction on the charge of using the mails to defraud.

Major General Bates is now active head of the United States army.

The Morocco conference is in session at Algeiras. The American delegates, whose appointment has been severely criticised in the senate, have been instructed to have nothing to do with the solution of Morocco problems save to express the hope that whatever arrangements may be entered into equality of rights shall be guaranteed to the United States.

William E. Curtis, writing for the Chicago Record-Herald, says that the total output of gold for the world for 1905 was about \$375,000,000—an increase of \$28,000,000 over the preceding year. He says the gains were made in South Africa, the United States and Alaska, while the Australian product decreased.

A shortage of \$78,000 has been found in the Kansas state treasury, and it is claimed that the present

treasurer and his predecessor are responsible.

The Philippine tariff bill was passed by the house January 16 by a vote of 258 to 71.

John T. Winship of Saginaw has been elected chairman of the democratic state central committee of Michigan. He succeeds E. O. Wood, who resigned.

Rev. W. M. Cleveland, brother of former President Cleveland, died at Columbus, Ohio. He was 73 years of age.

The general staff of the army in a report to Secretary Taft has recommended that the ship subsidy bill be passed in order to provide transports for the army in time of war.

Robert G. Lowe, publisher of the Galveston News, is dead.

Governor Higgins of New York objects to an investigation of the executive department by the legislature. This objection grew out of the proposal to investigate the office of superintendent of insurance. The governor says he is the one to make such an investigation.

Mr. Hale of Maine, speaking in the senate January 15, denounced the appointment by the executive of American delegates to the Moroccan conference.

The canal commission has again asked congress for more money. This time it asks for \$5,340,786 to carry on the work from April 1 to July 1, 1906.

It is announced that Governor Cummins of Iowa will be a candidate to succeed himself. He is now serving a second term.

Captain Frank Frantz, formerly a rough rider, has been inaugurated governor of Oklahoma Territory.

Eighteen negroes were killed and forty-five injured during a panic in a Philadelphia church, resulting from the cry of "fire."

A commission composed of distinguished Chinese is touring the United States for the purpose of studying political, social and economic questions.

A Washington dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald, referring to the railway rate bill to be agreed upon by democratic members of the house says: "The bill is a comprehensive measure. Its essential difference from what is understood to be the majority measure, the bill of Mr. Hepburn of Iowa, is that instead of authorizing the interstate commerce commission

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