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CURRENT COMMENT.

NINETEEN counties of South Carolina are using their convicts to improve the roads.

One hundred and seventy-six Armenian towns are said to have been blotted out by the Turks.

NEW YORK has 24,065 more women than men between the ages of 20 and 25, and Chicago has 35,967 more men than women.

NICOLA TESLA, the electrician, has invented an apparatus which he believes will cure any organic disease. The apparatus gives 100 shocks a second.

SEN. CHARLES DILKE said the other day that sooner or later all of North and South America is destined to become a part of the United States, Canada included, and this will be in obedience to natural relations.

CECIL RHODES, who has been the ruling spirit in South Africa, and who is so rich that the Bank of England thinks nothing of cashing his check for \$1,000,000, saved his life by going south when he was a boy after he had lost one lung.

In his annual report Railroad Commissioner Billings, of Michigan, makes the gratifying statement that for two successive years not a passenger was killed on a Michigan railroad by what could properly be called a railroad accident.

THE mule law of Iowa seems to be working very well as a temperance measure. During the first year of its operation, the number of places in which liquors were sold decreased 30 per cent, and the amount of revenue derived from it was \$1,150,317.

A STRONG effort is being made to locate a revision of the English marriage laws. The movement has arisen in consequence of the great increase in the remarriage of divorced persons. The queen has given instructions that a strict inquiry should be made into the matter.

A COMMITTEE representing the tea trade of the United States has recommended to congress the imposition of a duty on tea. It is asserted that the removal of the duty on tea by this country has been a positive injury to the consumer, because of the poorer quality which has been imported since then.

THE Indianapolis Journal says Senator White, of California, has made an attack upon the rules which permit members to talk continuously about nothing. If such a change could be made as would stop talk which seems to have no other object than to waste time or fill the Congressional Record it would be a genuine reform and at the same time rescue the senate from popular contempt.

DURING the year 1895, the Utica (N. Y.) Herald tried to keep a record of all people reported to have died in the United States at the age of 100 years or over. The total reported was just 100. Two-thirds of these were women, all but four being white women. The oldest person to die was a colored male, who was 125. A white man died at St. Louis who had claimed to be 140, but there was no proof that he was over 121. The oldest white woman was 120. There were 14 people whose ages ranged from 110 to 125.

THERE is much suffering in Cuba, and a prospect that the hardships will increase rapidly. The industries of the island are generally suspended and railway lines interrupted. Travel on all roads is dangerous. The destruction of the sugar and tobacco crop means a loss of \$100,000,000, to which must be added the sacking and burning of thousands of buildings. A famine is certain in Havana and Matanzas, where multitudes of laborers will soon be without work or bread.

In order to bring about a more general observance of Washington's birthday, the Union League club, of Chicago, announces that in co-operation with the express companies it will furnish the words and music of "America," "Hail Columbia," "Red, White and Blue" and "Star Spangled Banner" free to any organized celebration of the day anywhere in the United States. A free distribution of the songs for celebrations in Chicago has been conducted for a number of years by the club, and it is proposed to make this general.

THE Indiana Cremation league, with duly elected officers, has been formed at Anderson. The list shows over 600 members in the state, including persons in almost every walk in life. The requirements of the organization are that when a member dies he is to be cremated instead of buried. The body is to be placed in a gold plated coffin and taken to Cincinnati, where it will be cremated. The association is to bear the expense of the cremation. The ashes are to be put in a small urn made especially for the purpose and returned to the relatives of the deceased.

GEN. WALKER, commander-in-chief of the G. A. R., recently said, in talking about pensions and pensioners, that the Grand Army of the Republic was in favor of using every means to stop fraudulent operations, but in 96 cases out of 100 it was not the pensioner who was guilty of fraud in cases investigated; but those impersonating pensioners. Among no body of men was there less fraud. He believed that, except where otherwise by special legislation, all pensions should be issued uniformly, the widow of a colonel receiving the same pension as the widow of a private.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Gleaned By Telegraph and Mail.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

A WASHINGTON dispatch stated that the republican leaders in the house were striving for an early adjournment, and unless the senate held them back expected to wind up the business of the session in the early part of May.

The executive committee of the populist national committee was unexpectedly called together on the night of the 18th at St. Louis, after the adjournment of the main committee, to consider some new proposition from the St. Louis Business Men's league, and, after a discussion, the committee decided to hold the convention in St. Louis on July 22. It was also stated that there would also be a convention of free silverites throughout America at the same time and place.

It was said that Melville E. Ingalls, president of the Big Four railroad, would be Ohio's candidate for the democratic nomination for president.

BISHOP HAYGOOD, of the M. E. church south, died at his home in Oxford, Ga., on the 19th, of paralysis, aged 57.

The Spanish cabinet has decided to supersede Gen. Martinez de Campos and his lieutenant, Gen. Arderius, owing to differences which exist between them and the political parties in Cuba. Gen. Polavieja, it was understood, would be appointed commander-in-chief in Cuba.

The Indiana Liquor league will oppose the Matthews presidential boom, because the governor signed the Nicholson bill.

It was officially stated at Pretoria, Africa, that Dr. Jameson and the others who are in prison with him will be released unconditionally by the Transvaal government.

The disagreement between the co-pastors of the First Presbyterian church at Washington, Rev. Dr. T. DeWitt Talmage and Adolos Allen, has been settled by the church session calling for Mr. Allen's resignation.

CHICAGO democrats think that the location of the democratic convention at Chicago has vastly improved the chances of Col. William R. Morrison as a presidential possibility, and unless a radical change in the local sentiment occurs Morrison will have the Illinois delegation instructed for him. The same claim was made in behalf of Vice President Stevenson.

EX-PRESIDENT HARRISON, at New York, made the formal announcement that he and Mrs. Dimmick were engaged to be married, but that the wedding would not take place until after Lent.

JAMES H. ECKELS, the comptroller of the currency, spoke at Chicago on the 16th on "Our Currency System." He criticized it severely, especially the greenback element in it, and said the legal tenders ought to be retired.

It was reported at Washington on the 16th that the Venezuelan boundary commission would probably not have the honor to settle the question, there being good reasons for supposing that the matter will be terminated in a manner satisfactory to all concerned. It was believed that the basis of it would be arbitration, as proposed originally by the United States, but with a limitation that would suffice to save British pride and appear to maintain British consistency.

The democratic national committee has chosen Chicago as the place and July 7 as the date for holding the national convention.

The Rome correspondent of the London Chronicle said that the pope, through Cardinal Satolli, has made a semi-official proposal to President Cleveland to arbitrate the Venezuelan question. The pope was much hurt by England's refusal last year, when Venezuela proposed the pope as an arbitrator.

The balloting in the legislatures of Maryland and Mississippi for United States senators still continued on the 16th with no apparent prospect of breaking the deadlocks.

The citizens of Havana, Cuba, were said to be clamoring for the resignation of Capt-Gen. Campos. The outbreak of popular feeling was said to be of a sort that could not be silenced and there was every indication that it put an end to Campos' power for usefulness in the Spanish cause.

A DISPATCH from Key West, Fla., on the 16th said that there was a great deal of friction between the two insurgent generals, Gomez and Maceo, the latter being the leader of the negroes and the former the leader of the whites. Race troubles were at the bottom, the negroes learning that the whites had stated that the negroes would not be allowed to participate in the direction of public affairs.

MISCELLANEOUS.

By the explosion of a gasoline tank at Cincinnati on the 20th, Jacob Brub, a barber, his wife Rosa, and a 12-year-old son were probably fatally burned. The house in which they lived was entirely consumed, entailing a loss of \$10,000.

The sub-committee to secure options for a national park on the 4,000 acres of land surrounding Vicksburg, occupied by Gen. Grant and Gen. Pemberton during the siege, have completed their work and returned to Washington. They will recommend the purchase of the 4,000 acres at \$112,000.

Gov. RENFROW, of Oklahoma, has offered a reward of \$200 for the arrest of the assassin who shot down William Wyanke in his own yard at Guthrie.

SHARON FULLER and George Holt, colored, were fatally shot, and Frank Stewart, white, dangerously injured in a quarrel over cards at Dingess, W. Va.

It was recently reported at Washington that a proclamation on the Cuban cause had been drafted by the president and Secretary Olney and might be looked for at any time. It was thought the proclamation would not go so far as to recognize the Cuban republic, but would be a plain declaration of neutrality between the contending parties. Little credence was placed in the report, that Cuba was to be sold to Great Britain.

THE Venezuelan boundary commission has got down to business and has selected S. Malet Provost, a New York lawyer, as its secretary. The commission has invited both England and Venezuela to submit their evidence in the boundary dispute so as to save time.

DANIEL SHEETS, a farmer living near Greensburg, Pa., was instantly killed; his two little children aged five and seven years, with Harry Baker, a neighbor, were fatally hurt; John Rhodes seriously injured, and Mrs. Sheets badly bruised by a large tree falling across the sled in which they were out riding.

JOZ CHOYNSKI, of California, knocked out Jim Hall, of Australia, in the 13th round at Maspeth, L. I., on the 20th. It was a slugging match, up to the 11th round and Hall seemed to have the best of it, when Choynski seemed to improve wonderfully.

ALMOST the entire population of Cuba, a village in the western part of Putnam county, O., was engaged on the 20th dragging Blanchard river for the bodies of five children, a girl and four boys, drowned the previous afternoon. They were playing on the ice, when it broke and they disappeared.

MGR. CROSELLI has been selected to succeed Mgr. Satolli as the pope's representative in America. Satolli has not yet decided when he will go to Rome.

THE Lehigh Valley passenger train from Wilkesbarre, was precipitated into the depths of a coal mine near Hazleton, Pa., on the 20th. The engine was wedged in between the baggage car and the ground and was crushed to death. The freeman escaped with a lacerated scalp, but probably died. Several passengers were also more or less injured.

THE National Dairy union concluded its convention at Chicago on the 16th. Ex-Congressman Hatch, of Missouri, was elected president; D. W. Wilson, of Elgin, Ill., secretary, and George Lynn, of Chicago, treasurer.

An earthquake shock was experienced in Craig, Col., at 6:45 on the evening of the 18th. Articles were thrown from shelves and clocks stopped, but no serious damage was reported.

A DISPATCH from Lima, Peru, said that the mayor of San Miguel had seized and caused to be burned in the public square of the city all the Bibles and stock of the agent of the American society.

THE German empire celebrated on the 18th the anniversary of the crowning of King William of Prussia, grandfather of the present emperor, as emperor of Germany and the consequent re-establishment of the German empire. Emperor William delivered an address from the throne and issued a decree granting amnesty to offenders whose sentences did not exceed six weeks' imprisonment or 150 marks fine.

EX-REGISTER OF DEEDS CHARLES RIDER was arrested at El Reno, Ok., charged with embezzlement and for mutilating county records.

EX-CONGRESSMAN GEARY, of California, who made existence in America a life of penance for the Chinese, was said to be at Washington to promote a policy on the same lines against the Japanese. The Pacific coast was having an influx of Japanese immigrants, who were operating in a different field from their late adversaries, the Chinese, who followed in the paths of lower labor.

A SPECIAL from Philadelphia on the 20th said that James J. Corbett had stated his willingness to sign articles of agreement to fight Fitzsimmons 25 rounds provided he put up \$20,000 to guarantee that he would appear in the ring at the time fixed upon.

ADDITIONAL DISPATCHES.

GEN. THOMAS EWING, who was knocked down by a cable car at New York recently, died on the 21st. He was at one time chief justice of Kansas and went into the war as colonel of the 11th Kansas volunteers. He will be remembered for his famous "Order No. 11," depopulating the counties of Missouri that bordered on Kansas.

An explosion of natural gas at Key Key, Ind., on the 21st killed one man and injured four others fatally.

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW made an address before the New York bar association at Albany on the 21st. His speech was devoted to the Monroe doctrine and he strongly favored an international court of arbitration and hoped one would result from the present differences between the United States and Great Britain.

At the senate on the 21st about 70 minor bills were passed. Senator Call presented a telegram from Key West, Fla., that three American citizens had been taken off the steamer Olivette and taken to Havana by the Spanish authorities. A resolution was offered on the matter and it was referred to the foreign relations committee. The house passed the urgent deficiency bill after considerable debate on the abnormal growth of the expenses of the United States courts.

A FIRE in a theater at Ekaterinoslar, Russia, caused a panic among the audience and they made a wild rush to get out and forty-nine persons were killed.

THREE men were killed and four seriously injured on the 21st by the explosion of acetylene gas in a building at New Haven, Conn., occupied by English & Mersick and F. Pfezlar & Co., hardware manufacturers. The explosion set the building on fire, and it was destroyed, with its contents, the loss amounting to \$100,000. There were 40 people in the building at the time of the accident, and for a time the report was current that fully half of these had perished.

As the result of a fire at 415 Broadway, St. Louis, late on the night of the 21st, five firemen were buried in the ruins. One was afterwards rescued, badly injured. The other four were believed to have perished. Another fireman, who was cut by glass and suffocated by smoke, died on the way to the hospital. Alloe & Co., dealers in surgical instruments, where the fire occurred placed their loss at \$150,000 and it was thought the loss on the building would amount to \$50,000 more.

KANSAS STATE NEWS.

DURING the year just closed 220 divorces cases were filed in the Shawnee county district court at Topeka. Of these 115 divorces were granted and 44 dismissed.

Since his appointment last March, M. C. Kelley, state treasury inspector, has turned into the state treasury \$3,866.61, as the surplus for the first nine months of his term.

The supreme court has handed down an opinion in the Snow-Hudson state printership contest, giving the office to J. K. Hudson. Associate Justice Allen delivered the opinion.

Gov. Morrill has offered a reward of \$300 for the apprehension of the person or persons who burned to death Robert, John, William and Archie McFadden in their home at Frontenac, December 30.

It was lately discovered that the body of Mrs. A. M. Roll, wife of a prominent member of Eggleston post, G. A. R., at Wichita, had been stolen from its grave in Highland cemetery, that city. Old soldiers were making investigation of the matter.

C. F. Hutchings, the Kansas City, Kan., attorney who was reported as having been cited to appear before the United States district court at Topeka for contempt, with other attorneys, attended as counsel for the defendants instead of as one of the defendants.

C. A. Rich and Mrs. E. J. Charlton, who lately eloped from Lawrence, were arrested in San Francisco. Mrs. Charlton vowed that she would not live with her husband again under any circumstances. It was stated that Rich would be brought back to answer the charge of abduction.

The Kansas Medical society has sent out announcements of its annual meeting, to be held in Topeka, May 13. A factious agenda is attached, which says: "We expect by May to have the Gothenberg system in vogue, so that you can take refreshments in the basement of the capitol."

Masked men the other night held up and robbed the night agents of the M. & T. road and two other men who were waiting for a train at Fort Scott. The robbers secured a gold watch and small sums of money from the men and \$34 from the company's safe. There were two of the robbers who escaped without being identified.

The State Bar association, recently in session at Topeka, was one of unusual interest. The annual address was delivered by Judge Henry, of Missouri, and many interesting papers were read. A resolution was adopted in favor of a constitutional convention for the purpose of providing amendments and changes in the judicial article of the constitution.

Fire at Leavenworth the other day destroyed the brick cottage on the Latta estate with all its contents. In the house was stored nearly every article of furniture, statuary and bric-a-brac belonging to Mrs. Sallie E. Wilson, who is the oldest daughter of Gen. John A. Halderman, ex-United States minister to Siam. The goods were valued at \$10,000 and were insured for \$2,500. Mrs. Wilson is in Europe.

The supreme court of has denied a rehearing of the case of Jonathan Banks, a newsdealer at Leavenworth, who, after being placed in jail for violating the law concerning the making and distribution of scandalous publications, sought release by habeas corpus proceedings in the supreme court. The writ applied for was denied and the law upheld in an opinion written by Associate Justice Allen.

A late Topeka dispatch is authority for the statement that everybody in Kansas is buying corn. Bankers, speculators, grain buyers, merchants, farmers, editors and others who can scrape together a few dollars are putting it into a pot with their neighbors and buying corn with it. It is estimated that of the 200,000,000 bushels of corn raised in Kansas last year no more than ten per cent. has been shipped out of the state.

Several days ago Mrs. Charles Dean, of Topeka, left her two small children in a room to themselves while she "ran over to a neighbor's." Upon returning she found that some one had removed the clothing from her 14-months-old babe, seated it upon the top of a hot stove and fled. The flesh of the child was cooked to the bone, and it died in a few days. The miscreant who performed the fiendish deed had not been arrested.

Mrs. Joseph Hildebrandt, wife of a farmer living near Marysville, gave poison to her eight children, ranging in age from two to 14 years, the other morning and then hanged herself in the barn. The mother and seven children were dead when found and the eighth child could not recover. Her husband was in a hospital in Kansas City suffering from cancer. It was supposed that her struggles with poverty and want had driven the woman insane.

At the recent meeting of the State bar association at Topeka, officers for the ensuing year were chosen as follows: President, Chief Justice David Martin, of the supreme court; vice president, Judge William Thompson, of Burlingame; secretary, C. J. Brown, of Topeka; treasurer, Howell Jones, of Topeka; executive council, A. A. Goddard, of Topeka, chairman; T. B. Wall, of Wichita; M. B. Nicholson, of Council Grove; W. R. Smith, of Kansas City, and John W. Day, of Topeka. The annual banquet closed the proceedings.

Jacob Shafer, an old soldier who had been in the Topeka insane asylum about a year, committed suicide recently by hanging himself to his bedstead by means of his sheet. He was 55 years of age.

The sheriff tied up two Santa Fe freight trains at Atchison the other day by attaching them on an execution for \$6,496.40 for unpaid taxes. The matter was finally satisfactorily arranged.

Henry Page, of Kansas City, Kan., who applied for a pension 28 years ago, has just been granted a pension of \$8 per month, dating from July, 1898.

A Cuban incident. A Lewistown man who was in Cuba during a former revolution says that only a person acquainted with the country can understand why the Cubans have such a great advantage over the Spanish. He once witnessed an attack by the rebels on a Spanish camp at an old sugar cane plantation. Before the attack was made, the captain of the rebels walked up into a cane-field 200 yards from the camp and looked it over. A bloodhound used by the Spanish sniffed his presence and ran out into the field. Seeing the man standing there he went up to him. It proved to be an old friend who had often fed him before the revolution. The man loved the dog, but he loved the cause more, and taking out his "meat cleaver," as the Americans called the peculiar knife axe the rebels carried to cut wood, fight and make their way through cane-fields with, he pretended to pat him on the head, and with one blow quietly dispatched the creature, which might otherwise have given the alarm to the camp.—Lewistown (Me.) Journal.

HURRAH FOR PENNSYLVANIA.

The farmers of Pennsylvania are to be congratulated. M. M. Luther, East Troy, Pa., grew over 200 bushels Salzer's Silver Mine Oats on one measured acre. Think of it! Now there are thirty thousand farmers going to try and beat Mr. Luther and win \$200 in gold! and they'll do it. Will you?

Then there is Silver King Barley, cropped on poor soil 116 bush. per acre in 1895. Isn't that wonderful—and corn 230 bush. and potatoes and grasses and clovers, fodder plants, etc., etc. Freight is cheap to all points.

IF YOU WILL CUT THIS OUT AND SEND it with 10c postage to the John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., you will receive their mammoth catalogue and ten packages grains and grasses, including above oats, free. (K.)

SELF-CONTROL is promoted by humility. Pride is a fruitful source of uneasiness. It keeps the mind in disquiet. Humility is the antidote to this evil.—Mrs. Sigourney.

FITS.—All Fits stopped free by Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. No Fits after first day's use. Marvelous cures. Treatise and \$2 trial bottle free to fit cases. Send to Dr. Kline, 361 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

SH.—"I wish you wouldn't smoke that cigarette in my presence." He—"Then I'll throw it away." "Oh, I didn't mean that."—Life.

I AM entirely cured of hemorrhage of lungs by Fiso's Cure for Consumption.—LOUISA LINDAMAN, Bethany, Mo., Jan. 8, '94.

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If you have borrowed from health to satisfy the demands of business, if your blood is not getting that constant supply of fat from your food it should have, you must pay back from somewhere, and the somewhere will be from the fat stored up in the body.

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