

CURRENT COMMENT.

No fewer than 692,807 people named Muller are now living in Germany.

In 1838 a tame elephant could be bought in India for \$25. Now their prices range from \$750 to \$4,000.

GEORGE SAUND always wrote at night, and when the fever was on her she never ceased until late in the morning.

ALGERNON CHARLES SWINBURNE was 55 years old recently, and is said to have little desire now to do any new work.

It is estimated that over 100,000,000 people now speak the English language, over 90,000,000 German and over 41,000,000 French.

Mrs. BURNETT is said to have nearly ready a number of new things, the most interesting of which is a sequel to "Little Lord Fauntleroy."

EMERSON BENNETT, who wrote "Aurifer Flower" and some fifty other American novels, is 70 years old, but is still hale and hearty.

The biggest university in the world is at Cairo, Egypt—a country which is not mentioned at all in the statistics—and has 11,000 students.

Huxley, the scientist, said recently that he had no objection to the title professor, but he asks his friends, if they love him, not to call him doctor.

The elder James began work by taking off his coat. Next, he would roll his shirt sleeves up to the elbows, and work in that way throughout the day.

UMBRELLAS are rarely used in Aden, Arabia. Rain has fallen there only twice in twenty-nine years. Previous to the last rain, which occurred in 1888, there was a period of dry weather which lasted twenty-six years.

ASPARTIC ACID, as many suppose, is an animal product. It is prepared from the roots and stems of a plant grown extensively in Persia, Belochistan and India. In the last named country cooks use it in all kinds of puddings.

The empress of Japan only appears in public clothed in the garments of her native country about once a year. On other occasions she wears the sweetest things that Parisian artists can build for her and looks well in them.

LETTERS in India were treated with shocking indignity before Christianity entered that country. Many of them were buried alive. The English rulers have put a stop to this custom, and for fourteen years there has been a special Christian mission to the 135,000 letters in India.

The statement that until this year 200 February has had five Mondays for 200 years was referred to the University Knowledge and Information bureau, New York, which says that even so late as 1785 there were five Mondays in February of the years 1616, 1644, 1674, 1700, 1712, 1740, 1768, 1785, 1820, 1850, 1884, 1892. The like will occur in 1904.

MEASUREMENTS of weight by the "stone" arose from the old custom farmers had of weighing wool with a stone. Every farmer kept a large stone at his farm for this purpose. When a dealer came along he balanced a plank on the top of a wall and put the stone on one end of it and the bags of wool on the other until the weights were equal.

GEN. OUBTCHOFF, recently placed in command of the Russian armies, is too stout to sit in a saddle and even walks with difficulty. His wife is a Frenchwoman, and he is one of the most enthusiastic advocates of a Franco-Russian alliance. This brings her, as an ardent Francophile, and a hater of everything German. Gen. Oubtchoff is some 60 years of age.

PYTHAGORAS thought the heavenly bodies to be separated by intervals corresponding to the harmonic lengths of strings, therefore he and his followers held that the movement of the spheres gave rise to a pleasing sound called the harmony of the spheres. He thought this, and also that the human soul, perceived by the first ear, were the music of the spheres.

GEN. LORD WOLSELEY at Schastopol lost an eye and received a severe wound, the trace of which is clearly visible on his cheek to-day. He was then a young engineer officer, and stood in the advance line of the army, leading a company of sappers. When a round shot struck near him, shattered a gabion full of stones, killed two men and threw Lord Wolseley to the ground.

CHICKEN'S hats merely rest on the top of the head and are kept in place by a cord or band beneath the chin. The sort varies indefinitely. The hat worn by the manager of the London and North Western railway, who has been for some years past, is the peacock's feather from 25 cents to \$2 and the button from 50 cents to \$5,000. The high-priced buttons are cut from rubies, caruncles and garnets, and set in handsome cases made of gold, silver, glass, or wood.

THE actual names given in a census of the families of the counts at Fort Supply include Mrs. Short Nose, who was before her marriage, Miss Frying Hole; Mrs. Big Head, formerly Miss Short Nose; Mrs. Nibs, formerly Miss Young Bear; Mrs. White Crow, formerly Miss Crook Pipe; Mrs. Howling Water, formerly Miss Crow Woman; Mrs. White Stump, Mrs. Sweet Water, Mrs. White High, daughter of Mr. White Gull, and Miss Osage, daughter of Mr. Hard Case.

So far as research has been able to determine, glass was in use 2,000 years before the birth of Christ, and was even then not in its infancy by any manner of means. In the Sardin collection at the British museum there is the head of a Roman model of glass, bearing the name of an Etruscan king of the eleventh century. This is the oldest specimen of pure glass bearing anything like a date now known to exist.

The invention now known as "bleeding," the mode of varnishing pottery with a thin film of glass, is believed to date back to the first Egyptian dynasty. Proof of this is found in the pottery of the age above referred to.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Gleaned By Telegraph and Mail.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL. The Ohio democrats nominated the following as their candidates for state: W. A. Taylor, for supreme court judge, John P. Deigan, and Thomas A. Lee, for supreme court clerk, W. H. Wolfe.

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MISCELLANEOUS. The Grant monument at Chicago was struck by lightning. Three persons were killed and two injured.

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NATIONAL DEMOCRATS.

Meeting of the Democratic Convention at Chicago.

Called to Order by Chairman Brice, of the National Executive Committee. Temporary Organization—Address of Chairman Owens—Sympathy for Blaine.

CHICAGO, June 21.—At 12:45 o'clock yesterday Senator Calvin S. Brice, chairman of the democratic national committee, called the convention to order.

The Central News, of London, announces that owing to pressure brought upon him from within the liberal ranks, Mr. Gladstone will alter his home-rule project with a view to exclude the Irish from representation in the imperial parliament, or to reduce to a minimum their power of interfering with imperial matters.

The new lease on the bayou protecting the town of Bayou Sara, La., broke and the town totally submerged to a depth varying from 4 to 10 feet.

The London Times announces that Earl Spencer intends to sell the famous Ashburn library at auction in 1893, unless it is previously sold intact.

The most deplorable state of affairs exists in the San Antonio section of Texas, as a result of a rain fall during the past three weeks.

CAPT. G. W. BOYNER, a wealthy horse raiser of Cleburne, Tex., is under arrest for poisoning Dick Templeton.

DR. R. Q. WELLS, of New Orleans, has killed, in his laboratory, four men.

Six of the Barcelona strikers have been sentenced to three years' imprisonment each for rioting.

The sentence of Capt. Baker, of the U. S. steamer Osborn, has been reduced from one year to three months' imprisonment. Baker was convicted of causing the death of a sailor by brutal treatment.

Two strikers were called out to suppress the strikes at Tower, Minn.

The associated trades of New York adopted resolutions demanding that the world's fair be open Sundays.

Dealers in Boston, dealers in hope, have suspended.

The indictments against the Maverick bank directors of Boston were quashed in the United States district court.

The freight haulers of the Great Lakes, including the Pennsylvania, have joined in a demand for an increase of wages.

At Marble Head, Ill., the three-year-old daughter of Monroe Berberie took a fatal dose of strychnine.

The chief of the bureau of statistics reports that the total value of the exports of merchandise from the United States during the twelve months ended May 31, 1892, was \$28,757,324; same in 1891, \$48,888,913.

PAIRS of a maelstrom have been discovered near Sherman.

A MARKED decrease in acreage and condition is reported in all Iowa crops.

The steamer Clifton, from Havana, is held at quarantine station, below New Orleans, to be inspected.

Two patients were found on board with what was supposed to be malarial fever. The patients are improving, and are under treatment at the lazaretto, in Havana.

The vessel will be detained at quarantine longer than usual.

A PART of the Kentucky Malt Co.'s plant at Louisville, Ky., burned the other day, including 105,000 bushels of malt. The loss is \$125,000; insurance equal to loss. The fire caught in the top story by friction of the machinery.

The body of Mrs. J. Pennington, who was known recently as one of the most beautiful actresses in America, was found in Wade park, Cleveland, with a revolver and a bottle of chloroform by his side. A letter in his pocket to his wife showed it to be a case of suicide. Pennington was 42 years old, and was born at Iowa City.

The race between the White Star steamer Alaska and the Cunarder Andania across the ocean to the westward.

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PALACIO GONE.

That is He Has Resigned as President of Venezuela.

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OUR RELATIONS WITH CANADA.

The President Sends an Important Communication to the Senate—Re Recommendation of the Secretary of State in Relation to the Navigation of the Canadian Canals.

WASHINGTON, June 21.—In a state paper sent to the senate yesterday in answer to a resolution of February 24, calling for information relative to any proposals for negotiations with Canada, the president sends the death-knell of that project, and deliberately recommends that congress immediately proceed to ratify upon the demand for the repeal of the navigation laws (guaranteed by the treaty of Washington) in connection with the navigation of Canadian canals.

The president in his communication to the senate in answer to the resolution of February 24, has called attention to the fact that the navigation laws (guaranteed by the treaty of Washington) in connection with the navigation of Canadian canals.

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