

CURRENT COMMENT.

The Canadian House of Commons has voted \$1,000,000 for a new canal at Sault Ste. Marie.

DR. NAUSEN, the noted Swedish explorer, has started for Greenland to explore the east coast.

SEVERAL large iron companies of Pennsylvania have given notice of ten per cent reduction of wages.

A GOVERNMENT decree has been issued appointing three days for festival celebration of the abolition of slavery in Brazil.

ADVICES have been received in Auckland, N. Z., from Tahiti to the effect that the French were about to annex Raratonga island.

A NEGRO at Ackworth, Ga., was given sixty-two lashes recently for circulating damaging stories about a number of young men of that town.

THE Princess Alexandria, daughter of the King and Queen of Greece, is soon to marry the Grand Duke Paul, youngest brother of the Czar of Russia.

A PARTY of title collectors and police were attacked by a mob at Llan-fild, Wales, the other day, and in the conflict that followed thirty-five persons were injured, seven of them seriously.

LOUISE MICHEL, the Anarchist Frenchwoman, attended the Roussiez and appealed to the jury to acquit Lucas, who shot her some time ago. Deputy Laguerre defended the prisoner. Lucas was acquitted.

THE Oldenburg Diet has unanimously approved the proposed convention for the construction of a port at Nordenham, opposite Bremerhaven, and the associated project for the establishment of a new transatlantic steamship line.

THE Zilveren Kruis, the first Dutch man-of-war to enter the Golden Gate in fifteen years, is lying off San Francisco. She is a training ship on her way to Japan, China and the Dutch colonies of India where she will make a prolonged stay.

A MOB went to the house of John McDaniel, near Carbon, Tex., recently and gave him notice to leave the country. He was accused two months since of whipping one of his sons to death, and he was recently suspected of whipping his daughter. He took the hint and departed.

A COMMITTEE of citizens from Lexington, Ky., headed by Representative Breckinridge, waited on the President recently and invited him to visit Lexington next July, in case he should accept a similar invitation to visit Cincinnati on the 4th of that month. The President said he would consider the matter.

THE British Foreign Arbitration Committee has presented Mr. Chamberlain with an illuminated address eulogizing his service as Fisheries Commissioner. The address is signed by a large number of prominent persons, including Lord Tennyson, the Bishop of London, Earl Derby and Lord Hartington.

THE Pittsburgh (Pa.) Steel Casting Company has received orders to forward the new cast steel gun to Washington. Should the final test of the weapon prove successful the company will at once build trial guns, on conditions similar to those under which the present gun was made for Russia, Italy, China, Austria and Japan.

THE announcement that a traffic agreement had been effected between the Memphis route and the Georgia Pacific is a little premature. The Georgia Pacific is not completed to Birmingham and as yet no such an agreement has been made. It has been understood, however, by the management that an agreement would probably be made.

MRS. BURNETT has won a complete victory over Mr. Seeborn, who against her protest dramatized her charming novel, "Little Lord Fauntleroy," into a much less charming play. Mr. Seeborn is ordered to cancel all passages copied or colorably altered from the novel and submit them for the plaintiff's examination when canceled, and pay the costs of the action.

THE Supreme Court of Michigan has unanimously declared the Local Option law unconstitutional. The law is a direct violation of article 4, section 20, of the Constitution. This article provides that no law shall embrace more than one object, which shall be embodied in its title. The Local Option law was entitled: "An act to regulate the manufacture and sale of liquor," which was not at all what it was for.

THE amended postal convention with Canada admits to the mails exchanged between the United States and the Dominion the following articles at the rate of one cent for two ounces, which, in our domestic mails are subject to letter postage of two cents per ounce, viz.: Books and newspapers, manuscript, written maps and drawings, written sheet music, written or partly written documents of like nature. Action by Congress is needed.

SENOR ROMERO, the Mexican Minister, speaking recently of the suicide of Benson, who swindled the people of the City of Mexico by the sale of bogus Patti concert tickets, said that he regretted very much the occurrence and believed it a rash and uncalculated act. Benson, once in Mexico, would have been tried by a jury, which might possibly have acquitted him, because the Mexicans instead of having any ill will against him could not help admiring the ingenuity, adroitness and audacity with which he deceived them, and would have felt rather kindly toward him.

CONGRESSIONAL.

In the Senate on the 14th Mr. Stewart introduced a bill to amend the Constitution so as to only require a majority, instead of two-thirds, to pass a bill. The bill was referred to the Committee on Elections, made a report in the case of Mr. Turpie, of Indiana, which confirms Mr. Turpie in his seat. The House committee on the bill introduced a resolution for a committee of five to investigate the meat product of the United States and if there exists a combination to control prices. The House bill making an appropriation to certain departments to participate in the centennial exposition at Cincinnati from July to October was amended and passed. The Annual Industry bill came up as unfinished business, but the Senate went into executive session and then adjourned. In the House a resolution was introduced to amend the tariff bill so that it should be amended on the tariff bill should be amended on Saturday. After the introduction of bills debate on the tariff bill continued until adjournment.

On the 15th Senator Blair introduced a joint resolution to amend the Constitution so as to allow the District of Columbia representation in both houses of Congress to be determined by the Committee on Elections in the case of Mr. Turpie, of Indiana, was taken up and after some debate adopted and the committee discharged from further consideration of the case. The House bill making eight hours a day's work for letter carriers passed. The Annual Industry bill was displaced from its position as unfinished business and the Senate bill was introduced. The tariff debate occupied the time of the House during the day.

In the Senate on the 16th the resolution to amend the Constitution so that the tariff should be amended on Saturday was taken up and a lively debate ensued. Senator Vest strongly condemned the methods of the tariff commission, which tended to the destruction of the cattle interests of the country by reducing the price to producer and increasing that to the consumer. Senators Plumb and Chandler heartily concurred with the views of Senator Vest. The resolution was amended and adopted. After passing thirty-eight bills the Senate went into executive session and passed a bill for the relief of the pensioners for the loss of an eye at \$16 per month and proportionate for the loss of both eyes. The tariff debate was continued in the morning and continued until adjournment.

The Senate on the 17th agreed to the Cincinnati centennial exposition, and after some talk the Pension Appropriation bill was passed. Thirty-four other bills were passed. The Cincinnati centennial exposition was adjourned until Monday. After agreeing to the conference report in regard to the Cincinnati centennial the House resumed consideration of the tariff bill and debate continued until adjournment.

The Senate was not in session on the 18th. It was a busy day in the House on the 18th. The House passed a bill for the relief of the pensioners for the loss of an eye at \$16 per month and proportionate for the loss of both eyes. The tariff debate was continued in the morning and continued until adjournment.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL. The Senate Committee on Finance has authorized the chairman to appoint a subcommittee to investigate tariff matters. The action of the committee is understood to look to a thorough inquiry into the subject and to report a tariff bill to the Senate.

SENATOR EVANS has introduced a joint resolution to amend the Constitution so as to provide for a final failure of diplomatic efforts to effect an amicable settlement, to take such other measures as in his judgment may be necessary to collect indemnity from the Government for the loss of the lives suffered by the Venezuelan Steam Transportation Company of New York by the forcible seizure and employment in war of the company's steamers Hero, San Fernando and Nutria by the Venezuelan Republic.

THE Democratic State convention at Nashville, Tenn., re-nominated Governor Robert L. Taylor on the fourth ballot.

In the labor convention at Cincinnati on the 16th the joint committee on the interests of harmony was reported as being unable to agree upon a common platform. The platform adopted by the Union Labor party practically excluded it from affiliating with the United Labor party.

THE New York Democratic convention for the election of National delegates, were highly laudatory of President Cleveland and instructed the delegation at Chicago to act in support of his re-election. Resolutions were also adopted declaring against trusts and approving Governor Hill.

SENATOR MORRIS has appointed the following committee on the tariff and revenue subjects: Allison, Aldrich, Hiseock, Beck and Harris.

THE Missouri Republicans have nominated a State ticket headed by Elbert Erwin Kimball, of Vernon County, for Governor.

OHIO Democrats have made the following nominations: Secretary of State, Boston G. Young, of Marion County; Judge of the Supreme Court, Lyman R. Critchfield, of Adams County; Board of Public Safety, James Emmett, of Pike County. The platform endorsed the National Administration and the Mills tariff bill and expressed sympathy for Ireland.

THE Louisiana Democratic Legislative caucus on the first ballot nominated R. L. McEnroe, of Iberville Parish, for Governor. On a ballot for Junior United States Senator, the result was: White, 37; Eustis, 31; Jones, 30; Blanchard, 15.

A DISPATCH from Berlin says: "Prof. Virchow's examination of the matter from the Emperor's throat confirms the results of his former examination. He finds nothing proving the existence of cancer."

THE United Labor party at Cincinnati on the 17th nominated Rebecca H. Sawyer, of Illinois, for President, and W. H. T. Walker, of Council Grove, Kan., for Vice-President.

JOSEPH B. ANDERSON, who was recently nominated for Governor of Tennessee by the State Prohibition convention, died at Knoxville on the 15th.

WILLIAM M. GREEN, assistant to President Ingalls, of the C. L. S. & C. railway, has been appointed general manager of the Chicago and North Western.

JOHN RUSKIN, the noted English critic, is nearly restored to health and has resumed his literary labors.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A MEETING of the Fenian Brotherhood was held in New York recently. Representatives were present from a number of the Fenian Brotherhoods in the various parts of the world. The Fenian Brotherhood is a secret organization of Irish-Americans.

VICE-CHANCELLOR BIRD, at Trenton, N. J., recently decided the case of the Hutchings heirs against Henry George. The case was decided in favor of Henry George, a bequest for the purpose of aiding him in the circulation of his peculiar ideas and theories among the people was declared void. Bird said that George advocated a theory of land ownership which was a violation of the laws of the land, and he could not sanction the spreading of such sentiments.

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KANSAS STATE NEWS.

AN unknown man was killed by a train on the Leavenworth, Northern & Southern railroad, near Atchison, the other night. TOPEKA now boasts that her new city directory shows a population of 45,000.

THE House Committee on Agriculture at a special meeting referred to a sub-committee the Butterworth Lardine bill and its various substitutes looking to the taxing of adulterated food products. The sub-committee will have authority to report a new bill.

A TIMBER explosion occurred at the powder house at the Prattville brown stone quarry near Stockton, N. J., the other morning. One man was killed and a number of houses were wrecked and considerable property was destroyed. The report was heard twenty miles away. Three hundred kegs of powder exploded. The explosion was caused by workmen dropping a keg of powder.

THE central meeting of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, began in Philadelphia on the 17th. There were over 300 delegates in attendance. It was presided over by the Rev. Dr. J. J. Van Hook.

A BREAK occurred in the Sky levee, two miles below the Hannibal (Mo.) bridge on the 17th. The territory covered by the floods was forty-five miles long and six miles wide. The damage was immense and could not be computed.

ADVICES from the island of Tahiti say that a party of natives surprised a French patrol and killed an officer of marines and two sailors.

THE Dublin Exchequer Court has dismissed the appeal of Father McFadden, of Gweedore, against the doubling of his sentence on appeal. The court held that a county court has the power to increase sentences.

TWO-THIRDS of the young tobacco plants in Western North Carolina have been killed by recent frosts. The weather was very cold.

RICHARDSON'S interior decoration works, Cleveland, O., were destroyed by fire the other morning. Loss, \$60,000.

THE rates between Chicago and Louisville for the round trip have been cut to eleven dollars.

THE court house of Sydney, the county seat of Fremont County, Iowa was burned to the ground the other night, and the records, except the treasurer's, were destroyed. An attempt was made a few years ago to blow up this building, but the records were covered up a short time before the fire broke out. The fire was incendiary.

THE German Government is trying to influence the leading banking houses against a Russian loan. It is expected that a loan of \$30,000,000 will be committed in the autumn by a French syndicate.

FOUR horse thieves were hanged recently by vigilantes on the western border of the Cherokee Strip. Two of them were notorious criminals, the other two being unknown.

THE E. E. Baker Post, G. A. R., Philadelphia, has got into hot water with the order by admitting the Confederate General, Joseph E. Johnston, to membership.

FRED KISS and William Kieny, aged fifteen and thirteen years respectively, were killed by a train while crossing a Providence & Boston railway bridge near Providence, R. I., recently.

JAMES LAWRENCE, of New York, after a brief hearing in the writ of habeas corpus in the case of Mrs. Scofield (charged with being concerned in the death of Broker Hatch), granted her discharge. Delaney was held in custody for the purpose of recovering Mrs. Scofield was a most unheard-of proceeding.

HEAVY rains at Fayetteville, Ark., have caused an overflow of the White river. At Alma, Ark., the rivers were overflowing and it was feared several lives had been lost.

THE conviction of McQuade, the New York city bootlegger, has been confirmed by the Supreme Court.

SENATOR FALLER'S (Dun's) report for the seven days ended May 17, 1891, for the Senate, 163; Canada, 20; total, 183, compared with 309 the previous week and 180 the corresponding period of last year.

THE cruiser Baltimore, now building at Crampton's yard, will probably be launched on July 4. It is the largest vessel of the Navy has been advised accordingly.

THE village of Zarnikof, Pomerania, has been destroyed by fire. There was no loss of life.

JACOB VANDENBURG, at New York recently, in giving his side of the story of his relations with his wife, who is suing him for limited divorce and alimony, said that he met her in a house of ill-fame, and as he was young and inexperienced he became her dupe and consented to a secret marriage. He said the girl's name was Mary Smith, but she called herself Viola Ward. Her family lives at Casenovia, N. Y.

ADDITIONAL DISPATCHES. BUSINESS was moderately active in the London money market during the week ended May 15. Dealers were quoted at Berlin and Frankfurt. At Paris the market was quiet with a firm tone.

WILLIAM F. CODY (Buffalo Bill), Indians, cowboys, animals, tuffs and paraffin arrived at New York on the 30th from England on the steamer "Columbia."

CLEARING HOUSE RETURNS for week ended May 19 showed an average decrease of 16.8 compared with the corresponding week of last year. In New York this decrease was 21.6.

MANY MISHAPS.

Disastrous Fire at Harrisonville—Thirty Vessels Lost—Bound in the Lake.

Fires at Boonville and Marshall—Young Lady Fatally Burned—Railroad Collision.

The Mississippi Floods—Aged Woman and Three Children Burned—Conflagration in Austrian Poland.

HARRISONVILLE, Mo., May 21.—Fire started in J. N. Dehann's lively stable on the northeast corner of the square Saturday night, caused by the explosion of a coal oil lantern, but was thought to have been extinguished before it had done any damage. The embers, however, smoldered until four o'clock yesterday morning when almost a ton of lumber, which was ablaze and all efforts to save the burning buildings were vain. S. J. Beattie, wholesale and retail dealer in groceries and liquors, suffered a heavy loss and only saved about one-third of the grocery stock. He succeeded in carrying his books and valuable papers. The house adjoining him, occupied by John Eazy, harness and saddlery, was saved and his loss was small. Two six horses that were left in Dehann's barn, after the first fire, could not be taken out and perished. One of them, owned by A. Martin, was a fine blooded horse, valued at \$1,700. Postville's furniture house with all five acres of stock, barns, etc., was destroyed, as was also a warehouse north of it, filled with second hand furniture belonging to F. X. Runnenburger. The following are the losses: T. D. Evans on barn and grocery building, \$7,000; insurance, \$2,500; D. K. Hall on second hand furniture, \$1,000; Runnenburger, furniture about \$350; F. X. Beattie on stock about \$9,000; insurance, \$2,000; A. Martin's horse \$1,700; not insured; Dehann's stock, harness, etc., about \$150; no insurance; C. Postwater on stock of furniture and household goods, \$5,000; insurance, \$1,000.

YOUNG LADY FATALLY BURNED. McPherson, Kan., May 21.—As Miss Hilda Dehann, a beautiful sixteen year old girl, was sitting on the porch of her home, she was struck by a hot iron from the roof of the house, which she was repairing. She was severely injured and died a few hours later.

BOONVILLE, Mo., May 21.—A fire started in the stable of J. W. Bell's fire station on Vine street, in this city, caught fire at one o'clock yesterday morning, and were nearly consumed. The loss is estimated at \$2,500; fully insured. What seemed likely to be a very disastrous fire was checked by the prompt and efficient work of the fire department. There were frame buildings and lumber yards surrounding the stables on all sides.

MARSHALL, Mo., May 21.—Between four and five o'clock yesterday afternoon a fire started in the storehouse of E. C. Brunner, a coal and gasoline merchant, in this city. The building and its contents, thirty-five barrels of coal, were consumed and a carriage and blacksmith shop adjoining it, belonging to A. J. Runnenburger, were also destroyed. Brunner's loss is about \$1,000 and Chromer's about \$500. The building and contents were partially insured.

AIR BRAKES PAID. DENISON, Tex., May 21.—Yesterday afternoon a collision between two trains, No. 6 going north and No. 1 going south, occurred three miles west of Denison, at Ray Switch, the two engines being badly damaged and the passengers shaken up, but none seriously injured. The fault was in the most productive farming lands in the valley. Sunday morning the great break occurred in one of these, the Indian grove levee. During the day two other crevasses were made and within a few hours thousands of acres of land were without that promised a yield of from forty to sixty bushels to the acre were laid waste. The farmers had been working on the embankment night and day in the hope of saving their homes, and when the flood came a majority of them had barely time to save their families, so sudden and overwhelming was the onrush of the torrents. Outside of the embankment was a foot deep and the water was so high that it poured through the opening with a roar that could be heard a long distance. Every moment increased the width of the crevasses. Thirty homes were deserted on the levee, many of the owners who were sent out to give warning of the danger, in many cases the people being obliged to leave every thing and fly to the bluffs or seek safety in boats.

SEVERE ELECTRIC STORM. FR. SCOTT, Kan., May 19.—A severe electric storm visited this city Thursday night accompanied by an unusually heavy rain. The lightning struck a barn belonging to James G. Ogden, ruining the building and contents, among which were a valuable Jersey cow and a team of horses, causing a loss of about \$2,000. A number of residences were unroofed and otherwise damaged but none of the occupants injured. A heavy windstorm passed to the north and east of the city about six miles, demolishing a number of residences and barns and uprooting orchards and forest trees, but so far as we are aware no human life was lost. The path of the storm was from the southwest to the northeast, and it entered Missouri about five and one-half miles northeast of this city. The damage is said to be great, but it is impossible to get full particulars.

HARD HITS. ALMA, Ark., May 18.—The heaviest rains that have perhaps ever occurred in this part of Arkansas have fallen within the last two days, in consequence of which the streams are all overflowed and the oldest inhabitants say the water is higher than ever known before. The fields of cotton and corn in the bottoms along the various streams are entirely inundated, and even fields one mile from the streams are covered with sheets of water. Any manufacturing concerns in the bottoms are being washed away root and branch. So quick was the rise that the people living along the stream were forced to make their homes in a moment and men and women could be seen swimming and wading with their children to dry land.

FATAL FREIGHT TRAIN ACCIDENT. WICHITA, Kan., May 19.—About four o'clock last evening as the local freight train was a half mile north of Sedgewick City the caboose and three cars became uncoupled. The engineer did not notice the fact until he had gone about three miles and started back, forgetting that the detached cars were coming toward him. The train was stopped by the speed of the train at the separation. The brakeman stood on the rear of the train to make the coupling, and the cars came together with such force as to crush him and destroy the train. There were several passengers in the caboose. One lady had her arm broken and others were less seriously injured.

THE SNELL MURDER. Starting Developments Promised in the Chicago Millionaire Murder Mystery. CHICAGO, May 18.—There are new and important developments in the Snell murder case. This is on the authority of A. J. Stone, who says that in a short time the public will be enlightened and all the mystery surrounding the crime cleared away. Tascott has been found. That is to say, he has been found. People who have been at a loss to account for the ability of a comparatively inexperienced boy without means or many friends to evade the police for three months with the skill of a practical crook, who has ample money and friends at command, may be assured that W. T. Tascott has no such ability and has done nothing of the kind. The last arrest of the three or four who participated in the crime, he was quickly apprehended and promptly sequestered for the good of the community. There is no change in the line here and there are some thirty vessels on the lake, unable to make a port. A dozen passengers of the Canadian Pacific steamer, Alberta, started to leave on the 17th, but were detained by the police. The Alberta and Company have large passenger lists. They have been outside a week and it is feared their provisions will run short.

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SEVERE ELECTRIC STORM. FR. SCOTT, Kan., May 19.—A severe electric storm visited this city Thursday night accompanied by an unusually heavy rain. The lightning struck a barn belonging to James G. Ogden, ruining the building and contents, among which were a valuable Jersey cow and a team of horses, causing a loss of about \$2,000. A number of residences were unroofed and otherwise damaged but none of the occupants injured. A heavy windstorm passed to the north and east of the city about six miles, demolishing a number of residences and barns and uprooting orchards and forest trees, but so far as we are aware no human life was lost. The path of the storm was from the southwest to the northeast, and it entered Missouri about five and one-half miles northeast of this city. The damage is said to be great, but it is impossible to get full particulars.

HARD HITS. ALMA, Ark., May 18.—The heaviest rains that have perhaps ever occurred in this part of Arkansas have fallen within the last two days, in consequence of which the streams are all overflowed and the oldest inhabitants say the water is higher than ever known before. The fields of cotton and corn in the bottoms along the various streams are entirely inundated, and even fields one mile from the streams are covered with sheets of water. Any manufacturing concerns in the bottoms are being washed away root and branch. So quick was the rise that the people living along the stream were forced to make their homes in a moment and men and women could be seen swimming and wading with their children to dry land.

FATAL FREIGHT TRAIN ACCIDENT. WICHITA, Kan., May 19.—About four o'clock last evening as the local freight train was a half mile north of Sedgewick City the caboose and three cars became uncoupled. The engineer did not notice the fact until he had gone about three miles and started back, forgetting that the detached cars were coming toward him. The train was stopped by the speed of the train at the separation. The brakeman stood on the rear of the train to make the coupling, and the cars came together with such force as to crush him and destroy the train. There were several passengers in the caboose. One lady had her arm broken and others were less seriously injured.

THE SNELL MURDER. Starting Developments Promised in the Chicago Millionaire Murder Mystery. CHICAGO, May 18.—There are new and important developments in the Snell murder case. This is on the authority of A. J. Stone, who says that in a short time the public will be enlightened and all the mystery surrounding the crime cleared away. Tascott has been found. That is to say, he has been found. People who have been at a loss to account for the ability of a comparatively inexperienced boy without means or many friends to evade the police for three months with the skill of a practical crook, who has ample money and friends at command, may be assured that W. T. Tascott has no such ability and has done nothing of the kind. The last arrest of the three or four who participated in the crime, he was quickly apprehended and promptly sequestered for the good of the community. There is no change in the line here and there are some thirty vessels on the lake, unable to make a port. A dozen passengers of the Canadian Pacific steamer, Alberta, started to leave on the 17th, but were detained by the police. The Alberta and Company have large passenger lists. They have been outside a week and it is feared their provisions will run short.

ROOSEVELT, N. Y., May 21.—A fire started in the stable of J. W. Bell's fire station on Vine street, in this city, caught fire at one o'clock yesterday morning, and were nearly consumed. The loss is estimated at \$2,500; fully insured. What seemed likely to be a very disastrous fire was checked by the prompt and efficient work of the fire department. There were frame buildings and lumber yards surrounding the stables on all sides.

MARSHALL, Mo., May 21.—Between four and five o'clock yesterday afternoon a fire started in the storehouse of E. C. Brunner, a coal and gasoline merchant, in this city. The building and its contents, thirty-five barrels of coal, were consumed and a carriage and blacksmith shop adjoining it, belonging to A. J. Runnenburger, were also destroyed. Brunner's loss is about \$1,000 and Chromer's about \$500. The building and contents were partially insured.