

CURRENT TOPICS.

CHAUNCEY M. DEWEY pays the bills of one student every year at Yale, selecting the young man in his own way.

LINDSEY MUSE, the veteran door-keeper for the secretary of the navy, has served in that capacity for fifty-seven years.

PROF. DOREMUS, it is said, makes \$25,000 a year from chemical analyses of patent medicines and other similar articles. He does all his work with his left hand, his right arm having been amputated in 1871.

PUBLIC PRINTER Rounds says that the report that he is thinking of starting a new weekly paper in Washington when he is displaced from his present position "is all bosh—the worst kind of bosh."

PATRIOTISM runs as high among the Berlin cabbies as with the Parisian jehus who declined to take a fare from Victor Hugo. Lately Marshal von Moltke drove home from the reichstag in a passing carriage, and on reaching the house the cabman positively refused to be paid his due, declaring that the honor of driving so great a man was sufficient reward.

HANS MAKART painted Sarah Bernhardt's portrait and made it so life like as to be altogether unrecognizable to her. She refused to accept it, and then covered it with a yellow tint that gave it the appearance of a skeleton ghost in a London fog. In this plight the picture was found among his effects, and was sold with the rest of his paintings. Sarah did not bid for it.

VICTOR HUGO, writes one of his poet's closest friends, died as he has lived—a deity. He is familiar with the idea of death, and often quotes the words "Dei voluntas" with ontion serenity. But his absolute conviction is that the priest and the dogma are bad in every possible religion, and their influence has even been fatal to humanity.

JUDGE THEOPHILUS HARRINGTON was a Vermont supreme court judge in the days when slavery first existed in some of the northern states. An action of trover was brought before him for a negro slave, the plaintiff making out his proof of title to the African legally. The judge told him his title was defective. "What more do I need to make out a title?" "A bill of sale from Almighty God in the first place," was the judge's reply.

Two of the greatest men in France, Victor Hugo and Ernest Renan, speak no modern language except their own. They claim that they have never felt any inconvenience, as the literary men of other nations have made it a point to learn French. Both Renan and Hugo are rewriters of style, and it may be that their superiority in this respect is in some measure due to the fact that they have spent none of their energies on the languages of other countries.

MRS. CUSTER has now been eight years a widow, and during the best of these years she supported herself by acting as secretary to the Society of Decorative Art. Her work then was to see that the government was kept up to date.

As the early part of the rebellion Edwin Parke Custis Lewis, recently appointed minister to Portugal, was captured by Capt. Basil T. Bowers, a union officer. Lewis was a conscript officer in the confederate army, and Capt. Bowers captured him about a mile from his home in the valley of Virginia. His young wife made eloquent a plea that Capt. Bowers paroled his prisoner. Since then they have been good friends. Lewis afterward went to Winchester, took the oath of allegiance to the United States, and saw no more of the confederacy. His wife, the daughter of Col. Hare, of Clark county, Virginia, died and Mr. Lewis went North and married a wealthy lady.

Some time ago Mrs. Garfield gave R. B. Hayes a moment of her day and husband, which is kept with zealous care in Hayes' Fremont house. It is a small brass calendar, with the months, days, and years in little cylinders, and was turned as time goes on. This was always on Garfield's desk, and he used it for years in his Washington library. He took it to the white house, and made it a rule to turn it each morning, thus reminding himself of the right date before beginning the day's work. On the morning of July 3 he turned the cylinder and finished some business before going to his death at the depot. The little calendar was never regulated from that day, and remains now as he left it on that fatal morning, marking "Saturday, July 3, 1861."

A WRITER in The New York Tribune says that the curious letters received by President Cleveland remind him of one that was received by Gen. Garfield shortly after his election. It was from an Indiana man, and ran about like this, after a long introduction: "It has always been my ambition, dear Mr. President, to own a saddle horse that had been ridden by a president. If you have a saddle horse that you are willing to sell when you go to Washington, please let me know the price of it. If you haven't any such horse, I wish you would look around among your neighbors and find one and ride it awhile and then let me have it. Please don't buy it until I know the price. As I don't want any one to work for me for nothing, I enclose one dollar for your trouble to look up a good horse."

THE COMING SHOT OF WAR.



The above map will be found useful, showing, as it does, the geographical relation of the disputed region between the Heri-Rud and Murrah rivers to Russia and British India, and the sources of supplies for English and Russian troops, respectively. The Russian railway system is shown, and the points where it crosses the Heri-Rud and Murrah rivers. The map also shows the Caspian Sea, the Black Sea, and the Persian Gulf. The text discusses the strategic importance of the Caspian region, particularly the railway lines that connect the Russian Empire to the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. It mentions the discovery of oil in the Caspian region and the potential for a large-scale conflict over these resources. The text also discusses the military movements of the Russian and British forces in the region, and the role of the railway system in these operations.

SUMMARY OF NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Dupuch Lake Fight. Winnipeg dispatch: Alec Stewart, who participated in the Dupuch Lake fight and was wounded, sent a description of the fight, which was published to-day. He states that 300 rebels participated, led by Gabriel Dumont. The rebels were armed with revolvers, shotguns, and muskets. The fight was a hard-fought battle, and the rebels were eventually defeated. Stewart was wounded in the leg during the fight.

Queen Victoria's only surviving son, the Duke of Cambridge, has not been outside of St. James' palace for twenty years. Since the arrival in London from the Sudan of the Canadian, several of them including Col. Kennedy, have been attacked by small pox.

Archbishop White received a dispatch via Calgary stating that Father Tommaso di Barchio had been accidentally killed by the half-breed of the same name in the Yukon Territory. The Irish bishops now in session intend to urge the pope to denounce the increasing number of mixed marriages between Protestants and Catholics.

The Mexican government denies that any concessions will be made to Mormons immigrating to that country, and hints that they will not be allowed to settle in the Territory. A number of people of Valencia are being inoculated with cholera virus, which produces tremor and prostration for twenty-four hours. The end of forty-eight hours the patient is well.

The Panellites are engaged in the preparation of a plan for work in the coming election campaign. They seek to retain fifty of their seats in parliament by the election of new candidates.

Lieut. Col. Van Straubenzel, serving with the Middle East Expedition, is an officer of the same name in the British Indian Army and in China under the same name. The Russian minister of war has ordered the Mountain artillery corps of the Turkestan Army to be mobilized immediately. A number of Cossack regiments have been ordered to march to the front.

The British war ship Garnet, whose movements in connection with the Russian steamship Strelak have attracted much attention, arrived at New York from Port-au-Prince, St. Pierre, and Miquelon, on the 21st of March. The ship was carrying a large amount of supplies for the Russian forces in the Far East.

There was a roar of cannon in the lower bay of New York as the British war ship Garnet saluted the American ensign with twenty-one guns. Then the forts at the Narrows returned the salute with a salvo of three guns.

Joseph Harper of Wolin, N. Y., hid \$500 in his potato bin, and made a nest of it. Joseph Harper's \$500 judgment against the estate of a deceased man was paid to him by the executor of the estate.

The Ohio legislature recently passed a law abolishing local boards of underwriters in the state. The law also provides for the regulation of insurance rates.

There is much complaint in Massachusetts over the staying qualities of the state legislature. The legislature has been adjourned for several weeks.

THE CASUALTY RECORD.

The Livingston and Revore Hotels at Livingston, Minn., were burned. The business portion of Grand Junction, Mich., was destroyed by fire. Loss, \$20,000, including a large stock of goods.

Fire at La Crosse destroyed S. B. Pierce's furniture, a large building and contents. Loss over \$100,000. At Carrington, D. K., the postoffice, E. Foley's saloon and two buildings belonging to William Lloyd, Jr., were burned, the fire originating in the saloon.

The property of the Spring Beach company and "Bliss" was destroyed by fire at Spring Beach, Wis., on the 12th inst. The loss was estimated at \$100,000.

The residences owned by Charles I. Minard, Sr., St. Charles, Ill., burned recently. The house was a large brick building, and the loss was estimated at \$15,000.

A fire in the yard of Heron & Wadleigh, Severn Point, Wis., destroyed upwards of 4,000,000 feet of lumber and shingles, belonging to that firm, and 600,000 feet of lumber belonging to Thomas Marx. The latter was insured in the Home, of New York, for \$35,000.

One of the most terrific hailstorms that has ever been witnessed in Virginia passed over the counties below Petersburg, Va., recently. It covered an area of nearly 100 square miles, and was very destructive to crops and property.

There was a \$50,000 fire at Billings, Montana, recently. The parties burned out are: First National bank; Tully & Freese, hardware; printing office including the outfit of the Heron & Wadleigh firm; and the residence of the Farmers' hotel; O. W. Lind, dry goods; M. Suman, general store; W. H. Finch, photographer; Mrs. Forth, restaurant.

Fire was discovered in Mrs. Hillier's millinery shop at Cabery, Ill., a village of 800 population, twenty-five miles from Kankakee, and there being no fire department there, the fire was not extinguished until it had burned to the ground twenty-four business houses and fourteen residences. The total loss is estimated at \$100,000.

PERSONAL MENTION. Dr. William Cline, one of the oldest and best known physicians of Cincinnati, died of pneumonia.

Lieutenant Groely is said to be haunted day and night by visions of his long period of starvation in the Arctic regions, and his physicians assert that the only way he can preserve his sanity is to mingle freely with others.

Rev. Dr. D. Burchard of the Third P. A. has preached his farewell sermon as pastor of the Murray Hill, New York, Presbyterian church. The subject of his discourse was the doctrine of universal sinfulness and justification by faith. A man, he said, was condemned for one sin, and no future works of supererogation could atone for past transgressions.

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The Marivan cemetery on Staten Island, Mrs. Vanderbil was about forty-three years old. Her maiden name was Crawford, and she was born in the south. Her marriage with Commodore Vanderbilt was a union of convenience, and she was a devoted wife and mother.

J. Earnest Meiere of Ledville, Cal., was appointed consul at Nagasaki, Japan, vice A. C. Jones of West Virginia. Mr. Meiere was a member of the marine corps, and was a distinguished officer in the confederate army. He was appointed consul by President Hayes.

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Fred Bill, living four miles north of Summit, Iowa, in a fit of jealousy shot Gottfried Hausermann in the head with a revolver and then ran him over with a horse. The shooting was a tragic event, and the death of Hausermann was a great loss.

Howard F. Lovejoy, the receiver of public money who absconded from Niobrara, Neb., two years ago because of embezzlement, has been arrested in Chicago. Lovejoy had been hiding out in various places, but was eventually caught.

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WAS CLOUD DISPENSING.

At the Emperor of Germany is the Anglo-Russian Dispute to be struffed for resolution. Mr. Gladstone stated in the house of commons recently, that no communication had as yet passed between England and Russia in regard to the proposed occupation of Persia by England. It was reported that the Emperor of Germany, Mr. Gladstone said, had no impediments in the way of a friendly disposition towards the English position on the Afghan question between Russia and England appeared to be improved. The Emperor's government was now ready to refer to the sovereignty of any friendly state any difficulties which may be found to exist in regard to the settlement of the matter in a more consistent manner than the Emperor's government.

Mr. Gladstone said the negotiations with Russia would be much facilitated by the Emperor's government. He stated that the Emperor's government was now ready to refer to the sovereignty of any friendly state any difficulties which may be found to exist in regard to the settlement of the matter in a more consistent manner than the Emperor's government.

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ENGLAND AND RUSSIAN WAR ON THE CASPIAN.

A gentleman now in Washington, who was formerly an officer of the United States navy, and subsequently served in the Confederate navy, expressed a belief that should war occur between Russia and England it will be a great naval conflict. "Just now," says this officer, "Russia is in a position to build a fleet of iron-clad ships, and England is actively engaged in France and Italy. The Russian fleet is in the track of an iron-clad vessel, and if the Russian fleet is to be sent to sea, it will be a great naval conflict. The Russian fleet is in the track of an iron-clad vessel, and if the Russian fleet is to be sent to sea, it will be a great naval conflict.

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