

CURRENT COMMENT.

The Rothschild banking family are said to control \$1,600,000,000.

At the end of the fiscal year there were reported to be 138,000,000 gallons of whisky in bond.

SAN FRANCISCO and Santa Cruz, Cal., will soon be connected by a bicycle railroad.

The fire loss in the United States for seven months of 1895 was \$75,582,500, against \$77,920,200 in 1894 and \$98,101,500 in 1893.

A new locomotive near Washington made 35 miles in thirty-three minutes, and for a part of the distance ran at a rate of 102 miles an hour.

In a mound near San Juan, Mex., there has just been unearthed the skeleton of a giant man, who evidently belonged to a prehistoric race. The length of the skeleton is 12 feet 7 inches.

At Dr. A. B. Simpson's Christian Alliance meeting on the 11th, at Old Orchard, Me., \$65,000 were pledged for missionary work. This was the largest collection ever taken in the world in a single day for missionary purposes.

A leading electrician says that electric locomotives will be cheaper and swifter than steam locomotives, and that if tracks are even and straight and roadbeds good, a speed of 300 miles an hour is within the range of possibility.

The Chicago Inter Ocean says that it is easy to trace the general demand in a dozen and more states "for better roads" directly to the riders of the bicycle. It is one of the reforms that the new innovation is going to bring about.

ABOUT September 1 the largest powder blast ever exploded in southern California will be touched off at the Otay dam, in San Diego county. This powder charge of over 24,000 pounds, it is expected, will dislodge at least 150,000 tons of rock. The dam, of which this rock will form a part, will impound 21,000,000 gallons of water. It is a part of the great irrigation system of the Mount Tecate Water Co.

LOUIS GRIMM, the crack long distance bicycle rider of Cleveland, O., who started recently at the Cleveland driving park to beat the twenty-four hour record, has smashed the American record. Grimm made 458 miles and 1,700 yards, and during the last 16 miles ran away from the pacemakers. The American long distance championship was previously held by W. B. Twyman, of Chicago, with a record of 407 miles and 74 yards.

CONNECTICUT is trying a new thing in the way of legislation against the sale of liquor on Sunday. Hitherto the penalties have always been inflicted solely upon the seller. A law which went into effect at the beginning of August subjects the buyer also to punishment. The result is that, when the police make a raid upon a saloon that is breaking the Sunday law, they take into custody not only the barkeeper, but also the patrons whom he is serving. This is a novel experiment, and its workings will be watched with interest.

The typesetting machine invented by Father Calendoli, a Sicilian monk, is an advance on all other similar machines in speed and ease of manipulation. It is said to set in an hour an amount representing the work for an equal period of twenty compositors or of seven of the machines in common use. Its cardinal principles of difference from other machines is in the use of the octave and chord system of the piano, whereby by a single movement of the hand an entire word may be put in type in the time formerly used for setting a single letter.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat says: The recent victories of the insurgents give the Cuban situation a new interest to the people of the United States. There is no longer any doubt that the insurgent cause is steadily growing stronger. It is easy to discern that the Spaniards are losing ground and losing heart. If Cuba is to cut loose from Spain it must be annexed to the United States. That is the feeling of this country. A few more successes by the insurgents will make Cuban recognition, and ultimately Cuban annexation, practical questions in the United States.

A SAN FRANCISCO local paper recently said that a number of eastern capitalists were at work on a scheme to reclaim the Colorado desert by turning the waters of the Colorado river over the vast territory. The company also has a grant of 1,500,000 acres in Mexico that it will irrigate. As outlined, the plan comprehends the development of the greatest irrigating system in the western hemisphere. Work will be begun soon and water will be running in the trenches before the end of the next year. The company expects to have 300,000 farmers on its land within a few years.

The trunk lines, it is said, are quietly preparing to oppose the efforts on foot to obtain an extension of the time within which all freight cars are to be equipped with air brakes and automatic couplers. According to law these improvements must be made by January 1, 1898, on all lines in the United States. There are at present 1,350,000 freight cars of all kinds in service in the United States and 35,000 locomotives. The introduction of the required appliances will cost the railroad companies of this country about \$2,500,000 within the next two years and a half.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Gleaned By Telegraph and Mail.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

SENATOR PEPPER has written a letter to J. D. Holden, of Emporia, Kan., in which he comes out strongly in favor of currency based upon land values alone. He has discarded silver and the sub-treasury plan and wrote that he believed the chief trouble with the country was interest and its twin evil rent.

The executive committee of the National Republican league met at Chicago on the 14th and discussed plans for the fall campaign. Much dissatisfaction with Chicago as league headquarters was expressed, but the matter was left over until the regular October session. The meeting was presided over by Gen. McAlpin, of New York, the newly-elected league president.

LEADING democrats in favor of the free coinage of silver met at Washington on the 14th to exchange views on the best policy to be pursued to attain their ends. Representatives from twenty-two states were present, including fourteen delegates from Missouri. The committee on resolutions was appointed but had not reported. The address will be brief and declare unequivocally in favor of free coinage at the ratio of 16 to 1.

At Asbury Park, N. J., on the 15th, James J. Corbett, the pugilist, was married to Miss Jessie Taylor, of Omaha, Neb. The bride was known by the name of Vera Stanwood and was named as co-respondent in the recent divorce case of Mrs. Corbett against her husband.

A LETTER has been received at the state department at Washington from Ambassador Eustis to the effect that the French government still refused to allow him to see John L. Waller, or to give him a copy of the evidence upon which Waller was convicted.

CHIEF MOORE, of the weather bureau at Washington, has issued instructions calling for reports on the conditions and qualification of all subordinate employes, and stating that in order to improve the present standard of the service rigid inspection as to morals as well as the official character of employes is imperative.

The queen's speech was read to the lords and commons on the 15th by the lord chancellor. It was very brief and said that no international complications threatened the peace of Europe; that representations had been made to the Chinese government concerning the recent massacre of missionaries in that country and the perpetrators would be punished; that the atrocities committed in Armenia had been viewed with horror and certain reforms had been suggested to the sultan and were being considered.

The Maryland republican state convention assembled at Cambridge on the 15th and nominated Lloyd Lowndes for governor, Harry M. Claiborne for attorney-general and L. E. P. Dennis for comptroller. The platform has twelve planks, the two principal ones favoring a protective tariff and opposing any legislation to create a different standard than that of the gold dollar. The other planks were on state issues.

The international conference on peace arbitration at Brussels on the 16th adopted a resolution declaring that when a state had proclaimed permanent neutrality such neutrality should be recognized by the powers. The conference also adopted a resolution authorizing the president of the conference to ascertain whether two or more governments were prepared to take the initiative in the establishment of an international court for the settlement of disputes by pacific methods. The conference then adjourned to meet next year at Buda Pesth.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CLEANING house returns for the principal cities in the United States for the week ended August 16 show an average increase as compared with the corresponding week last year of 13.9; in New York the increase was 21.8; outside New York, 3.3.

The impression prevailed in both the state and navy departments at Washington that the revolution in Ecuador would be quite a serious affair before the international troubles there were settled.

A MEETING of the members of the British parliament favorable to currency reform was held in the house of commons on the 16th. It was resolved to form a parliamentary committee, its members being pledged to promote an international conference for the purpose of considering what measures can be taken "to remove or mitigate the evils resulting from the fluctuations growing out of the divergence in the relative value of gold and silver."

ADVICES from Vladivostok showed that the outbreak of cholera in China, Corea and Formosa was becoming serious.

IS the presence of 5,000 persons at Dublin, Ireland, Peter Maher, the Irish champion, knocked out Johnson, of London, in a half minute and the London Sporting Life said that Maher deserved to go in the first rank of boxers.

THE Oklahoma Press association convened at El Reno on the 16th. A banquet was held at night.

TWENTY persons were poisoned at a dance at Horsford park, near Crown Point, Ind., by drinking water from a pail in which arsenic or strychnine had been placed. Four will probably die.

SAMUEL VINSON and his son Charles were taken out of the county jail at Ellensburg, Wash., on the 14th by a mob and hanged to a tree. The two men became involved in a saloon row and murdered Michael Kohloph and Joseph N. Bergman.

At Pierre, S. D., ex-Treasurer W. W. Taylor, who stole \$354,000 from the state, was arraigned by Judge Gaffney in court on the 14th. He had pleaded guilty and the judge gave him "the limit of the law, five years at hard labor in the penitentiary."

J. C. THOMPSON, the fugitive cashier of the defunct First national bank of Sedalia, Mo., has taken out naturalization papers and has become a citizen of the republic of Mexico.

GREAT excitement prevailed at Lexington, Ky., on the 16th and a lynching was highly probable. Mrs. Mary Hudson, wife of a prominent farmer, was assaulted by a negro named Henry Smith, who was captured and placed in jail. A large mob of angry people surrounded the jail and it was said hundreds of others were on the way there to do violence to the negro.

A DISPATCH from Clearfield, Pa., on the 16th said that eight men were killed and ten seriously hurt by the premature explosion of a blast near Methaph on the Pittsburgh & Eastern railway.

The failures in the United States for the week ended the 16th (Dun's report) were 196, against 229 last year.

The schooner Ellen, a British vessel, was recently fired upon by a Venezuelan gunboat in the Caribbean sea and, although the captain sent the British flag to his mizzenmast head, the gunboat ignored it and continued firing until the schooner hove to and the Venezuelans searched the vessel and then allowed her to continue her voyage. The matter has been reported to London.

JAPAN was visited by terrible storms recently, inundations adding their devastating effects to the havoc wrought by the wind! It was calculated that over 1,000 people lost their lives, many being drowned.

At Spring Valley Sheriff Clarke, of Princeton, arrested over thirty of the men who ran the negroes out of Location. He was assisted in the work by fifteen armed deputies.

REPRESENTATIVE wire workers of the country met at Cleveland, O., and organized the Federated Association of Wire Workers of America, independent of the American Federation of Labor.

GEN. S. B. MAXEY, a noted ex-confederate general, died at Eureka Springs, Ark., on the 16th. He was a resident of Paris, Tex., and at the breaking out of the war raised the Ninth Texas infantry for service in the confederate army.

FIRE in the lumber mills at Fairfield, Me., on the 14th destroyed property to the amount of \$100,000.

A BENZINE tank exploded at the Peerless foundry at Findley, O., on the 15th and in an instant the building was wrapped in flames. Two men, William Adams and William Bemis, were probably fatally burned. Ten oil stills caught fire and one after the other exploded. Next two tanks of crude containing 12,000 gallons took fire, sending up red columns of flame 200 feet into the air. A mammoth tank of 30,000 barrels was fired into with a cannon, letting the oil run out.

ONE person was killed and a score of others injured in a rear end collision at Camden, N. J., on the 15th. An accommodation train crashed into an excursion train carrying a lot of colored Sunday school children, and the latter train caught fire and a young colored boy was burned to death.

UNDER the name of Ida Gleichrist, Mrs. Johnson, who is as black as coal and lived in a shanty at Cleveland, O., advertised in a matrimonial paper for a husband, saying that she was possessed of a fortune. She received proposals of marriage from all parts of the country and she told them that she could not get hold of her money and asked for a loan. It was said that she received money from many of her distant admirers. Her husband was also implicated in the swindle. They were arrested on the charge of fraudulently using the mails.

ADDITIONAL DISPATCHES.

At Algonquin, a small village near Elgin, Ill., fire destroyed Frank Kazer's house. Kazer managed to get his wife and two children out safely, but before he could rescue another daughter the roof fell in, carrying the child down. Crazed with grief Kazer resisted the efforts of neighbors to drag him from the burning structure and his life was lost with that of his daughter.

The eighth biennial session of the supreme lodge of the colored Knights of Pythias of North America, South America, Europe, Asia and Africa convened in Chicago on the 19th and will continue in session four days. Aside from the regular routine business there was the important question of unification of the various branches of the order among colored men to be considered.

The Gurney hotel at Denver, Col., was blown to pieces by an explosion early on the morning of the 19th, and it was feared that from forty to sixty people had lost their lives. It was supposed that the battery of boilers had exploded in the basement. Fire added to the horror of the situation, the firemen having to abandon several victims to their fate just as they had been almost rescued.

PRESIDENT W. W. KENT, of the Western Baseball association, has transferred the Jacksonville franchise to Springfield, Ill. Poor patronage at Jacksonville was the reason given for the transfer.

To AVOID further complications over the Mexican mission, Minister Ransom is to be reappointed.

The interior department has as yet taken no steps to secure punishment of the murderers of the Bannock Indians.

The wife and little son of Arthur Frances, of Englewood, Ill., were accidentally drowned in Spring lake, Michigan. The child was in bathing and got beyond his depth, when the mother went to his rescue and both were drowned.

By the overloading of a small pleasure boat near Oceanside, Md., on the 18th seven persons were drowned.

A GANG of Creek Indians and negroes, with several white outlaws, raided Samuel Norford's store, near Arbeca, I. T., and, after gutting the place, assaulted and otherwise mistreated five women in the neighborhood, several of whom were likely to die.

DEATH LIST GREAT.

Awful Disaster Wrought by a Denver Hotel Explosion.

Forty People Killed and the Death Rate May Reach Seventy-Five—Only Fifteen of the Inmates Are Accounted For.

DENVER, Col., Aug. 19.—The Gurney hotel, 1735 to 1733 Lawrence street, was wrecked by a terrific explosion at 12:10 this morning, the rear half of the building, a five-story brick and stone structure, going down with a crash. The hotel was crowded with guests and many of them must have been killed, as well as the entire force of hotel employes, who were sleeping in the portion of the building at the time. On both sides of Lawrence from Seventeenth to Eighteenth streets, and on Larimer, directly back of the Gurney, the plate glass windows of the business houses were blown in and a number of pedestrians were injured by falling glass. The fronts of many buildings in the vicinity were badly wrecked.

At 12:35 o'clock five injured persons had been taken out. They were all inmates of the upper story and sank down with the floors, escaping more fortunately than those below, who are still buried in the ruins. By some estimates forty people were in the portion of the hotel destroyed, nearly all of whom must be dead. The cause of the explosion is uncertain, but it is supposed that the battery of boilers in the hotel basement must have exploded.

Two injured women had been almost extracted from the ruins when the flames approached so close that the rescuers had to abandon them for their own safety. Both voices have now been silenced, fire completing the work commenced by the explosion. The bodies of three women are to be seen in the back part of the building, but cannot be reached.

At 1:30 o'clock the flames were still keeping the firemen back from the work of rescue, except just at the line of the alley wall. Thus far six persons have been taken from the ruins, all badly injured. In addition four were severely cut by glass falling into the street. Among the dead are Peter Gurney and R. G. Grenier, the proprietor of the hotel, the day clerk and the night clerk, none of whom have been found.

The force of the explosion carried away a large portion of the rear of the building adjoining the hotel and occupied by A. Lillyblade, wholesale and retail furniture. The walls of the Gurney on the side toward Eighteenth street crushed a stable and a small frame house, but no one was injured.

No meals were served in the hotel and every guest entered on the register occupied a room in the hotel last night. Twenty-two people registered yesterday, most of them late at night, the list being as follows: Mrs. O. H. Knight, Lake City; Mrs. Knight's sons; J. L. Kirk, Omaha; J. C. Brown, Omaha; Bud Baren, Colorado Springs; J. W. Roberts and wife, Colorado Springs; Miss Jennie Howard, Boston; Mrs. C. W. Williams, Boulder; Miss Hattie H. Williams, Boulder; W. C. McClain, Huron, Kan.; Mrs. McClain and child, Huron, Kan.; Henry Sloan, Huron, Kan.; George Earle, Colorado Springs, Col.; E. T. McCloskey, Cripple Creek, Col.; F. French, Central City, Col.; B. L. Rusk, Central City, Col.; M. E. Letson, Denver; W. J. Corson, Pueblo, Col. Thus far only fifteen people who are known to have been in the building at the time of the explosion are accounted for. This leaves sixty supposed to be dead.

DIED WITH HIS CHILD.

A FRANTIC father, unable to rescue his girl from fire, died with her. ELGIN, Ill., Aug. 19.—Frank Kazer and his 4-year-old daughter Sylvia were burned to death in a fire which destroyed their residence and several other buildings at Algonquin, a small village near here, early yesterday morning. The fire started in Kazer's house. When aroused Kazer managed to get his wife and two children out safely, but before he could reach Sylvia, a portion of the floor fell in, carrying the child down. Kazer was crazed with grief and resisted the efforts of neighbors to drag him from the burning structure, clinging to the door frame until the roof fell in, burying him in the blazing mass. The pecuniary loss aggregates a few thousand dollars.

No Verdict for Duestrow.

UNION, Mo., Aug. 19.—Saturday evening the jury in the case of Arthur Duestrow, the St. Louis millionaire who killed his wife and child, were called into court and stated that it was unable to agree. They stood seven for conviction and five for acquittal on the ground of insanity.

Mother and Child Drowned.

GRAND HAVEN, Mich., Aug. 19.—The wife and little son of Arthur Frances of Englewood, Ill., were accidentally drowned in Spring lake Saturday. The child was in bathing and got beyond his depth when the mother went to his rescue and both were drowned. The bodies were recovered.

Coxey Indorsed for President.

GUTHRIE, Ok., Aug. 19.—At the populist rally here Saturday, after J. S. Coxey, of commonwealth army fame, had spoken to hundreds of people, resolutions were adopted suggesting his nomination for president.

Threatened by Tramps.

GRAND FORKS, N. D., Aug. 19.—There is grave apprehension here over the fact that hundreds of tramps who have come to this part of the state, ostensibly looking for work in the harvest fields, have for some days been collecting all the revolvers and guns that they could lay their hands upon. There are now no less than 200 armed men inside of the city limits. For the most part they are homeless vagabonds who are ready for anything from burning a barn to wrecking a railroad train.

Active work has begun on the new M. K. & T. depot at Parsons, Kan.

SEVEN PERSONS DROWNED.

A Small Pleasure Boat Overturned by Frightened Women.

OCEANSIDE, Md., Aug. 19.—By the overloading of a small pleasure boat yesterday an entire family was drowned and two other families are mourning. A party of farmers from the neighborhood of Frankford and Selbyville, Del., had a fish fry on Gray's creek, a branch of the Isle of Wight bay, with bathing, fishing and other amusements. William Hudson carried a party of nine out sailing and as the boat was about to come back the women of the party jumped screaming on the high side, capsizing the little craft, which was hardly large enough to carry five persons.

The dead are: William Storr, his wife and two daughters, Myrtle Stevens and Lina and Lulu Hall.

The capsizing occurred within 200 yards of the shore and in water 7 feet deep. Mr. Storr had only one hand and was blind in one eye, but was an expert swimmer. He succeeded in getting his two daughters on the bottom of the boat and was getting his wife, when the girls became scared and slipped off of the boat and went to their parents, and together the four perished. Hudson, who was sailing the boat, got the two Hall girls on the boat and was trying to save Miss Stevens, when they slipped off and were drowned before he could get to them. Two other young women who were in the boat were rescued by a fisherman, who put off from the shore as the boat capsized.

NATIONAL BANK STATEMENT.

Interesting Statistics from the Last Report of the Currency Comptroller.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—The comptroller of the currency has compiled an aggregate statement of the condition of the 3,715 national banks in the United States as a result of replies made to his call for a statement of conditions of the banks on the 11th day of July last. The statement issued shows more than anything else midsummer inactivity. There is less money out of the banks and more money lying idle in their coffers. The individual deposits on hand amount to \$100,000,000 more than was shown by the statement of May 7. It is interesting to note also that the gold coin on hand in July was only \$117,300,000, as against \$123,000,000 in May. This shows that some of the national bank gold has gone abroad and some has probably gone to the bond syndicate to replenish the treasury gold reserve. As many of the leading national banks throughout the country are members of the bond syndicate the fact that these banks still have \$117,300,000 gold on hand is in a small way indicative of the ability of the syndicate to obtain gold. As is usually the case the silver stock on hand is absolutely immovable. Nobody wants it, nobody will take it and banks keep it stored away. In May the amount of silver in the banks was \$12,000,000, and it was still \$12,000,000 in July.

THE HEARNE'S INDICTED.

Grand Jury at Hannibal Says They Are the Murderers of Millionaire Stillwell.

HANNIBAL, Mo., Aug. 19.—When the Marion county grand jury made its final report Saturday it returned an indictment marked private and it was not known until after 4 o'clock what it was. Then Sheriff Pratt, armed with the proper papers, went to the home of W. T. Perkins, where Dr. Joseph C. Hearne and his wife, formerly Mrs. Amos J. Stillwell, have been staying, and placed the two under arrest for the murder of the millionaire packer, Amos J. Stillwell, December 28, 1888. Dr. Hearne was cool and collected, but Mrs. Hearne was very nervous when the sheriff appeared. The news spread over the city like wild fire and the grand jurors were soon being complimented on every hand. The prisoners were immediately taken to jail, where they will be held without bail until their trial in September. They were placed in separate cells and they will be so kept, the sheriff announcing they will be treated exactly as other prisoners.

AWFUL DEATH LIST.

Bulgarians Burn and Pillage the Mohammedan Town of Dospal.

LONDON, Aug. 19.—The Times prints a dispatch from Sofia confirming the report of the attack by 500 Bulgarians on the Mohammedan village of Dospal, across the Turkish frontier. The later reports received show that 300 houses were burned and 1,400 persons killed. A dynamite bomb was thrown from a mosque into a crowd of refugees. The village lies in the widest recesses of the Rhodope mountains, southeast of Batak. It is inhabited by Mohammedan Bulgarians, brave and warlike fanatics, who hate the Christian Bulgarians more than the Turks, and are therefore likely to take a terrible revenge. It is believed that the attack was arranged by the Macedonian committee in order to provoke fresh atrocities and thus incense Europe against Turkey.

A Verdict of Murder Against Holmes.

TORONTO, Ont., Aug. 19.—The inquest on the body of Nellie, the youngest of the two Pitzel children whom H. H. Holmes is suspected of murdering, was resumed last night, when the jury, after having the evidence tendered at the inquest on Alice, the eldest girl, read to them, returned a verdict of murder against Holmes.

Holmes' Castle Burned.

CHICAGO, Aug. 19.—H. H. Holmes' castle at Sixty-third and Wallace streets, which is said to have been the scene of numerous murders by the owner, was discovered to be on fire at 12:30 o'clock this (Monday) morning. It was believed it would be entirely consumed, and adjacent property was in great danger.

A Chicago newspaper publishes interviews with national committee members of both the republican and democratic parties, which indicate that each is in favor of a short presidential campaign in 1896.

Imparting Knowledge.
It is hard to tell just how much knowledge remains in a child's mind, since sometimes, after the most careful instruction, they do not seem to have any clearer idea of a matter than they might have managed to obtain themselves without any teaching at all. A teacher in one of the public schools was giving her pupils a lecture concerning the various kinds of spices imported from foreign countries. She gave careful descriptions of the plants from which each species was obtained, and exact explanations of the manner of preparing mace, nutmegs, cloves, black and white pepper, etc. Pleased at the interested looks of her scholars, and rather pluming herself upon her little lecture, she ended by asking: "Now, can any of you children tell me what makes the difference between black and white pepper?" One little girl held up her hand. "Well, Laura, you may tell us the difference between black and white pepper. Attention, children!" Laura drew up her small figure with an imposing air, and began, solemnly: "The difference between black and white pepper is—is—is that one is stronger than the other."—Harper's Bazar.

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