

CURRENT COMMENT

DR. TANNER, member for Mid-Cork, is going to publish a novel called "Gerald Grantley's Revenge."

It has been some time since the American public has heard anything about Louise Michel, the famous Parisian agitator. It seems she has been devoting herself to literary work and will soon publish a volume of poems entitled "Les Oceaniennes."

GOV. AMES of Massachusetts gives evidence of the fact the heated term has arrived. He recently said in a public address, "The man who has wine regularly upon his table is justly the subject of widespread remark, and is not held in the highest estimation by his fellow-men."

ACCORDING to the Berlin Tageblatt Bjornsterne Bjornson has renounced the annual allowance paid him by the Norwegian Government because the Storting disregarded his intercession in favor of a similar grant to the writer Alexander Kjelland. In his letter to the Storting Bjornson said that the reasons for disallowing Kjelland's claim held good in his own case also.

J. R. HUNTINGTON of Amesbury, Mass., has decided to erect on the public square of that town a heroic statue of his maternal ancestor, Dr. Josiah Bartlett, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. A portrait of Dr. Bartlett by Trumbull will furnish the sculptor, Karl Gerhardt, his inspiration. Dr. Bartlett was the first Governor of New Hampshire after it became a State.

A WRITER in the New York Tribune says: "In Ecclesiastes, Chap. ii. Verse 8, Solomon says: 'I got me men singers, and women singers, and musical instruments of all sorts; and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit.' From this it is evident that Solomon 'came to grief' trying to run a national opera company. He could manage 300 wives, 700 concubines, and the Queen of Sheba, but the opera was too much for him."

JOHN BROWN JR., son of the Harper's Ferry raider, is now 66 years old, and is engaged in grape-growing on Put-in-Bay Island, in Lake Erie. He is a Justice of the Peace of Put-in-Bay Township, consisting of eight inhabited islands in that part of the lake. He has for many years given much attention to geology, particularly to the evidences of glacial action as shown on islands of Lake Erie and vicinity.

RABBI HIRSCH HARRIS died last week in Brooklyn, aged 109 years. He was born near Warsaw, Poland, and was one of twenty-one children. When Napoleon was on the march to Moscow in 1812 eight of his brothers were conscripted, but Hirsch was warned while returning from work and hid himself, his wife, and child, and escaped. He saw Napoleon ride through the village, however, and up till a year ago was in the habit of describing his appearance; then his memory failed.

In connection with the plan to form a Walt Whitman Society in Boston the Traveller of that city says: "Boston prohibits the sale of Walt Whitman's books. Even their circulation from the public library is forbidden, and his volumes appear there with the ominous three stars that tell the tale to the initiated. The idea of establishing a society for the promotion of ideas which the statutes of the city forbid to circulate is simply delicious. Boston is nothing if not consistent."

MRS. JAMES P. SCOTT, of Philadelphia, whose recent death in London has caused such widespread regret, had many peculiar accomplishments. She had a knowledge of the technicalities of architecture, and the finest residence in the Quaker city bears witness to her taste and ability in this direction. She was a thorough and practical house-keeper, and was also an adept in the dressmaker's art. Besides all this, she danced well, rode magnificently, painted skillfully in water colors and was an accomplished musician.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

Domestic News

The annual meeting of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of the United States was held at Philadelphia on the 3rd and 4th. The treasurer's report showed a balance on hand of \$608.43. A committee of one from each subordinate union was chosen to attend Pope Leo's golden jubilee celebration. Bishop Keane, of Richmond, delivered an eloquent address and received a vote of thanks from the convention. The report of the committee on resolutions, as adopted, is quite lengthy. Special reference is made to Ireland, and the work done by her sons in the cause of temperance is commended. The organization of a cadet temperance corps is recommended, and the celebration in 1888 of the semi-centennial anniversary of the signing of Father Mathew's pledge is specially urged. The election of officers resulted in the following: President, Rev. Thomas J. Conaly, of Worcester, Mass.; vice-president, Rev. Thomas E. Walsh, of Notre Dame college, Ind.; treasurer, Rev. Philip J. Corrigan, of Fitchburg, Mass.; secretary, Philip A. Nolan, of Philadelphia. Rev. M. E. Murphy, of Stillwater, Minn., was elected provincial vice-president of the Milwaukee district. The next meeting will be held in Boston in August, 1888.

A synopsis of business transacted in the general land office at Washington during the week ending July 30 showed the total number of acres of state and territorial grants still pending to be 6,345,918 and 306 private claims are still undisposed of. Applications for public lands within supposed railroad grants, 8,605; railroad selections pending involving 21,077,878 acres; wagon road selections pending involving 239,344 acres; number of land grant railroads, 49, involving 148,024,840 acres; land grant wagon roads 7, involving 3,276,583 acres; acres patented to July 30, 1,783,380; acres separate cases pending by actual count, 68,006,405. Contested cases were disposed of during the week ending July 30, leaving 13,696 cases undisposed of. Final homestead entries pending July 30, leaving 13,696 cases undisposed of. Final homestead entries pending 10,579; cash entries, 24,648; fraudulent entries cases pending 3,830. Of the several appropriations made for the public land service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1888, some \$45,000 are available.

Dairymen at Elgin, Ill., have been forced to succumb for the season. There has been very little rain there since the 1st of May. Pastures since then have been shriveling, until now only the raw, coarse slough grass affords a bite. The young trees are stripped of leaves, and many farmers are dependent entirely upon feeding from the rack. The supply of milk shows an average decrease of 60 per cent. This is below the winter rate of supply, as the heat acts injuriously upon cattle. One farmer offers to furnish his farm, one of the best in the valley, stock, etc., and \$1,000 cash, to some responsible man to run it and pay expenses till March, 1888.

A special from Paducah, Ky., says that just preceding the earthquake Monday night, a farm of 300 acres, planted in corn and tobacco, sank from four to six feet, and that the basin began at once to fill with water. There were two colored families living on the place who did not feel the settling of the earth, but were awakened by water pouring in on the floor of their cabins. They got on to high ground, one of the best in the valley, stock, etc., and \$1,000 cash, to some responsible man to run it and pay expenses till March, 1888.

Late dispatches from British Columbia state that news from the northern salmon fisheries is encouraging. The Skeena river pack will be the heaviest known. Fifty-two thousand cases are already packed. The Alert bay pack is good. Reports from Astoria, Ore., state that this season there is a shortage of between 75,000 and 85,000 cases. The pack this year is estimated at 300,000, and possibly 400,000. Last season a number of vessels were loaded with salmon. Only one has received a cargo so far this season.

Anvil firing and fire works were indulged at Fort Worth, Texas, Saturday evening over the anti-prohibition victory. A keg of powder had been secured and one of the boys was seated thereon, when some one from the other side of the square fired a rocket which struck the keg of powder, causing a terrific explosion. The boy was blown several feet in the air. He was burned on every part of his body, and expired Sunday morning. A boy of 6 years was burned so badly that he died Sunday afternoon. Three other boys were terribly burned.

Comptroller of the Currency Trenholm has called upon the National banks for a report of their condition at the close of business Aug. 1. The information embodied in the report just called for is expected to be particularly valuable as showing how the banks are prepared to meet the approaching demands for funds to move the crops. All banks that failed to send in reports under the last call within the time specified by law were fined, and the fines have been collected and paid into the treasury.

Additional advices from the town of Millbrook, Kan., which was struck by a cyclone last Thursday evening, are to the effect that the place was practically demolished, 79 buildings, including hotels, school houses, churches, stores and residences being wholly or nearly destroyed. The losses foot up \$68,000. The people are in great distress and a relief committee has been organized to solicit aid for the families whose homes were swept away.

Lieb Bros. & Co., of San Francisco, complain to the interstate commission that the Texas & Pacific and the Southern Pacific railroad companies charge \$2.27 per hundred upon freight to Houston or Galveston, Tex., while to other points in Texas much nearer to San Francisco they charge \$4. Complainants are consequently compelled to ship to Houston or Galveston, there to be shipped back to destination. They ask an investigation and relief.

The demand for freight cars has increased so rapidly within the past week that the railroads centering in Pittsburgh, Pa., are taxed beyond their capacity. The Pennsylvania company has requisitions for 1,000 more cars west of Pittsburgh than they can furnish; now that the coke strike is practically settled this demand will be largely increased. The same difficulty is experienced along the line of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad and its branches.

The historic Lutheran church, the corner stone of which was laid in 1743, and standing a mile from Stroucburg, Berks Co., Pa., was struck by lightning Aug. 2, and burned. The edifice with organ and B. S. library was worth \$20,000. It was a landmark among the Lutheran churches in America and among the very first erected in this country.

San Francisco, California, has been indulging in the eastern luxury of a wheat corner, and a close estimate as to losses inflicted on the bull wheat clique by the

collapse of the corner make them between \$5,000,000 and \$6,000,000, in addition to which the clique is still holding and paying storage on enormous quantities of wheat.

A statement prepared at the treasury department shows that during the month of July there was a net decrease of \$6,688,748 in the cash in the treasury and a net increase of \$4,047,133 in the circulation. The decrease in the cash was mainly in gold certificates. The decrease in the national bank notes amounted to \$3,543,081.

The imports of dry goods at the port of New York last week amounted to \$2,598,389, of which \$1,852,818 were entered for consumption and \$745,496 were warehoused. The amount withdrawn from warehouses for the week was \$624,167, making the total amount thrown on the market \$2,480,010.

A Kalamazoo, Mich., dispatch says: Not since 1853 has this section suffered so terribly from drouth as this season. Corn and potatoes are practically ruined. Many farmers are cutting up the former, and fires have commenced their devastating work.

There were several fatal cases of sun stroke at New York City, July 31, among them, that of Oscar S. Sawyer, the well known newspaper correspondent. Nineteen persons died without attendance, the largest number in one days record.

Secretary Fairchild has directed the anticipation of the interest on the public debt due on Sept. 1 and Jan. 1 with 2 per cent rebate, and invited proposals for the sale of 4 1/2 per cent bonds for the sinking fund.

Dr. D. E. Salton, chief of the bureau of animal industry, has left Washington for Delaware and Ulster counties, New York, to personally investigate the outbreak of contagious pleuro-pneumonia.

August 1st free postal delivery began at Stillwater, Minn., Okloosa, Iowa, and Huron, Dakota.

The steamer Star of Scotia was wrecked off the Falkland islands and eight lives lost.

There were eight deaths from sun-stroke at Philadelphia, Sunday, July 31.

On Monday, at the navy department, bids were opened for the construction of three steel cruisers of about 4,000 tons displacement, and two steel gunboats of about 1,700 tons displacement.

The coinage of the mints during July was \$1,960,000, of which \$900,000 was in standard silver dollars.

A white frost was reported at Wellsville, N. Y., on the 7th, the thermometer registering 40.

Upon the 8th, the majority against prohibition in Texas had crept up to 78,000.

Nashville, St. Louis and Evansville report slight shocks of earthquake.

The public debt reduction for July was \$4,844,864.

Crimes

Dr. St. John and Dr. Dell have been arrested at Chicago for assisting ex-Warden McGarigle to escape.

Ed McDonald, convicted at Chicago with McGarigle was on Monday sentenced to 3 years in the penitentiary.

At Portsmouth, Ohio, A. C. McCoy was found guilty of murder in the second degree, for the killing of Dr. Northrup, a noted prohibitionist, in May last.

Six men were killed at a fight at the polls at the election at Manchester, Clay Co., Ky., a mountain precinct. There were 20 men or more engaged in the fight.

At Homer, Mich., on the 2nd, Geo. Burton, farmer, aged 81, shot his wife wounded his mother-in-law and killed himself. The wife had begun proceedings for divorce.

The trial at Chicago, of the commissioners of Cook county and other officials, eleven in all, under an omnibus indictment for conspiracy to defraud the county resulted on Friday in the conviction of all the defendants and the jury fixed the penalty for seven of them at two years in the penitentiary and a fine of \$1,000 each, for the others.

Charles McCard and Michael O'Hara, farmers, living near Grand Rapids, Mich., have quarrelled for over a year about the possession of a piece of land. McCard was at his father's house, when O'Hara came along with a shot gun on his shoulder, which he has habitually carried since the trouble. William McCard got a gun from the house and Charles ordered him to the roadside and shot O'Hara, killing him instantly. The two McCards went to Grand Rapids, Sunday, and gave themselves up.

About six weeks ago, Mrs. Beall, a farmer's wife, was found dead at her home near Eaton, Ohio, by her husband, upon his return from town, having been shot twice and her head nearly cut off. Mrs. Beall was left at home that morning with her son John, aged 13, who reported 3 tramps had visited the house, and while he was asleep committed the terrible crime. The boy has now confessed that he killed his mother, being angry at favoritism shown his sister, who was taken to town by the father, he being obliged to remain at home.

Fires and Casualties

Clarksburg, W. Va., had a 25,000 fire on the 4th.

Two hotels were burned, by incendiary fire at Dunkirk, N. Y., on the 5th; loss \$75,000, insurance very small.

A passenger train was wrecked Thursday afternoon near Greenwood Va., and the baggage master killed and a dozen passengers injured.

At Nashville, Tenn., the New Era flouring mills were totally destroyed by fire on the 4th, the fire originating from a hot box; loss \$60,000, insurance \$63,000.

Twenty-two buildings, embracing two squares of the village of Bowling Green, Wood county, Ohio, were destroyed by fire, on the 4th, which broke out in a bake

The Port Huron, Mich., ferry steamer burned at her dock in Black river on the 4th, and set fire to the Willman grist mill; which also burned; loss on steamer \$10,000; mill \$7,000, partial insurance.

The coroner's jury investigating the recent railway accident at St. Thomas, Ont., have returned a verdict that the accident was due to the carelessness of the officials and employees of the Grand Trunk Railway company. Conductor Spettegus was committed on a charge of manslaughter.

Thursday morning fire broke out in a cracker bakery at Baltimore, Md., and be-

fore its progress was stayed, a candy factory, two agricultural warehouses, two grain commission houses and a book store were burned. Two firemen lost their lives. The loss on property destroyed exceeds \$500,000.

An incendiary fire at Evansville, Ind., on the 3rd destroyed 7,000,000 feet of lumber, in 3 lumber yards, a large warehouse containing grain, general merchandise and tobacco, two dwellings, several stables and 15 cars of grain on the Peoria, Decatur & Evansville R. R. Loss \$500,000, insurance nearly \$100,000.

Friday night Franklin, Pa., was visited with a cyclone and the western part of the city was inundated. A fifteen thousand barrel tank of oil was struck by lightning and set on fire, but fortunately controlled or the largest oil works in the world would have been destroyed. The damage by fire amounted to \$20,000.

On Saturday, while Mrs. Owen Hale, living near Etna, Pa., was gone to carry her husband's supper to a furnace where he worked, one of her children poured some coal oil into the stove, the can exploding and burning the four children so seriously that one died shortly after and the others are not expected to recover.

Cincinnati, Ohio, had a cyclone touch Friday afternoon, blowing down a barn and house on Vine St. hill. In the latter, eight men were at work, 6 carpenters and 2 masons; the house was literally broken to pieces and thrown down the hill in a heap; the carpenters were only slightly hurt, but the two masons were mortally wounded.

At Tuscola, Ill., the wife of James Haynes was trampled to death by a mad bull, while attempting to drive the bull out of the front door yard. She fought the animal as long as her strength held out, and as no one came to her assistance her life was trampled and gored out before the eyes of her two little children. She was shockingly mangled.

During the 5th, fifty tons of rock fell in the eastern end of the Cascade tunnel, in Oregon, now building by the Northern Pacific railroad, killing four men and wounding several others. It is thought none of the wounded will die. The men claim that the contractors were careless and did not timber the tunnel fast enough to keep up with the boring.

Mrs. W. H. Lisle of Lansingburg, N. Y., took the cars for Glens Fall, Tuesday afternoon. When the train was slowing up at Ft. Edward, she became suddenly excited and threw one of her children off the train and with another one in her arms jumped off, only to be crushed to death with her child, under the wheels. The other child was pulled from the track in time to save its life.

At East Saginaw, Mich., at half past five Wednesday evening fire started in the sawmill of Jno. G. Owen, of that city, and everything being inflammable, owing to the continued drouth, the flames spread like a flash. The sawmill and salt block with 8,000 barrels of salt, the drill houses and 3,500,000 feet of lumber, blacksmith shop and three salt drill houses were destroyed involving a loss of \$187,000, with insurance of \$68,000.

Millbrook, Graham county, Kansas, 20 miles from Kansas City, was almost destroyed about sundown Friday by a straight wind and coming from slightly west of north. The place contains about 500 inhabitants. Only one house or residence escaped serious damage. One person, a boy about 3 years old, was killed, and about 25 were injured. Some sustained broken limbs, but only one of the injured is likely to die. This is W. B. Keithfield, a furniture dealer of Wakeny.

Political and Personal

Rev. Wm. Hague, D. D., aged 79, dropped dead in front of Tremont Temple, Boston Aug 1.

It is now said that Hon. J. G. Blaine will remain in Europe during the coming winter.

August 1st, was celebrated by the colored people throughout the country as Emancipation day.

Augusta, Ga., New Orleans and Knoxville Tenn., have sent invitations to the President and his wife to make them a visit.

Attorney General Garland has gone to Arkansas with his son and daughter. He will return to Washington in about six weeks.

The Chinese minister to the United States, Spain and Peru, Chang Ta Jen, has arrived at London on his way to Washington.

Senator John Sherman has been appointed a member of the Washington Monument association in place of Gen. W. A. McKee Dunn, deceased.

The Texas election upon Prohibition transpired on the 4th; the Prohibitionists admit defeat by 15,000, and the anti-Prohibitionists claim 50,000 majority.

At Syracuse, N. Y., Mrs. John Greenway, widow of the wealthy brewer, has been adjudged an habitual drunkard by a sheriff's jury and as unable to take care of her property.

The wife of President Cleveland with her mother and an aunt, left Washington very quietly Monday afternoon for Massachusetts, and expect to be absent at New England resorts for some weeks.

Miss Josie Holmes, a former clerk in the Fidelity Bank at Cincinnati, who has been held in custody nearly a month under a demand for \$10,000 bail, has now been released upon her own recognisance.

The Maryland Prohibitionists have put the following State ticket in nomination: For governor, Sumnerfield Baldwin, of Baltimore; for attorney general, James Pollard, of Baltimore; for comptroller, Thomas E. Wright, of Cambridge

The Department of State at Washington, received August 1, from Tokio, the sad intelligence of the death of Mrs. Hubbard, wife of the United States minister to Japan. Mrs. Hubbard had been in ill health for many months.

United States Consul Allen Francis, aged 73, residing at St. Thomas, Ont., who was injured in the recent railroad accident at that place died suddenly August 4, from the effects of his injuries, the immediate cause of death being paralysis of the heart. He had been in the diplomatic service twenty years.

In the Utah election on the 2nd, out of 12 members of the council branch of the legislature the Gentiles elected two and perhaps three, and out of 24 members of the lower house they elected four. The returns are not all in. This is more than they have ever done before, and they are well pleased, but the Mormons are equally pleased to find

that, after all the schemes and efforts of their enemies, so meagre results have been achieved.

Mrs. Logan has returned to Washington and it was found necessary for her to endure surgical operations for her dislocated shoulder and elbow joints, they being among the injuries she received from her Illinois accident. Dr. Hamilton performed the operations which Mrs. Logan endured very well, though enfeebled by former suffering.

Miss Henrietta Hill, a well known mission worker of Brooklyn, N. Y., has been married to Rev. Jos. M. Singleton, the Chinese evangelist, whose real name is Ju Bing, and who is at the head of a large mission devoted to the Christianizing of the Chinese in that city. Miss Hill was prominent in social circles and the marriage causes something of a sensation.

The Democrats of Virginia held a state convention Roanoke, on the 4th, the chief object of which was to give an authoritative party expression upon the debt question, regarding which the following resolution was adopted: Fourth—We approve the action of the last general assembly at its extra session in 1887, in refusing to accept the terms proposed by the bond-holders, in connection with a settlement of the public debt. The Democratic party will never support or sanction any adjustment of the debt which shall impose larger liability upon the commonwealth than that recognized and provided for by the Riddiberger bill; and we pledge the party to enact all laws necessary to render such a settlement effective, final and decisive. The administration of President Cleveland was cordially endorsed in the resolutions and speeches. National aid to education and liberal pensions were also approved.

The Twelve Apostles, will for the present direct the Mormon church, Wilford Woodruff being President thereof. It has been thought by some that either George Q. Cannon or Joseph F. Smith, nephew of the original Joseph, would assume the leadership. Woodruff is in the regular line of succession, and his address assuming control would indicate that there was to be no departure from the order. Woodruff is eighty years old, and a man of mediocre ability. He has been hiding for two years, and is still out of sight save to the faithful. His presidency will not be as vigorous or popular as would have been Cannon's or Smith's. As a matter of course, the Mormons will accept him. It is not probable a formal election will take place before next April, if then. The apostles, with Taylor at the head, ruled three years after Brigham Young's death before Taylor was chosen president.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

A severe earthquake shock throughout the island of Cyprus was felt Sunday.

The town of Sassari, Galicia, has been destroyed by fire. Thirty-five lives were lost.

It is officially announced that the King of Italy will not accept the resignation of the ministry.

The women employed in the Imperial tobacco factory at Stein, Austria, have gone out on a strike.

Baron von Schloezer, the Prussian envoy to the Vatican, has gone to Varzin, to visit Prince Bismarck.

Cases of cholera are reported at Palermo, Messina and Resinau. There were a number of cases and several deaths in Malta.

Count de Juigne has decided to break up his magnificent stud farm at Bois Ronand. He will keep only a few steppelashers.

The Standard invites the Unionists to frankly inform the government as to their views with respect to future legislation.

It is rumored that Prince Ferdinand started for Bulgaria Monday with the intention of formally abdicating the Bulgarian throne.

An American picture dealer at Paris has recently expended 2,000,000 francs for modern French pictures. The proceeds from the July sale of French pictures for America amounted to 5,000,000 francs.

Alfred Krupp, the German gun maker bequeathed \$250,000 for the benefit of employes. His son, Frederick, has added \$125,000 to the amount for the people of Essen. The town council of Essen has voted \$15,000 for a statue of Krupp.

MINNESOTA.

At Stillwater, Minn., there were 22 deaths during July.

The Stevens county fair will be held at Morris, Sept. 6 and 7.

Three hundred burial permits were issued at St. Paul, during July.

4 During July there were 209 deaths at Minneapolis, and of these 104 were from cholera infantum. The marriages were 190, the births 208.

Peter Beckman, a middle-aged farmer, living near Dassel, committed suicide by cutting his throat. He was unable to get his grain cut and became insane. Beckman leaves a small family.

At Fridley, Wednesday night, during a thunder storm lightning struck a barn on Maj. Fridley's farm destroying it and fifty tons of hay, 300 bushels of oats, two lumber wagons and some farming utensils. Loss, \$1,500; insurance \$500.

The examination at Mankato shows that Louis C. Scherer, of New Ulm, is entitled to the West Point cadetship and the judges have named H. E. Smith as alternate. The former is nineteen years old and the latter seventeen. Mr. Scherer was alternate two years ago.

It appears to be determined beyond any peradventure that natural gas exists in large quantities at Albert Lea; some 10,000 acres have been leased upon which to sink gas wells and a company formed, equipped financially and scientifically, to thoroughly test and develop the resources of the deposit.

The annual reunion of the soldiers, sailors and marines of Fillmore county will be held at Spring Valley, Minn., on Sept. 8 and 9. Neighboring counties are expected and the G. A. R. posts of Grand Meadow and LeRoy have signified their intention to be present. A sham battle is announced for the evening of the 9th.

Three rather peculiar accidents occurred at Faribault on Saturday; Rev. F. D. Hoskins, warden at Seabury Divinity school, while sitting at and conversing on the veranda of that institution attempted to move his chair and in doing so fell and broke both bones of his left arm. Mrs. F. A. Nawacone, wife of the proprietor of the