

CURRENT TOPICS.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

The arbitration commissioners assembled for their first joint business meeting at the parliament buildings in Quebec, Can., on the 25th. The meeting was absolutely private.

ADMIRAL MILLER, who was sent to Hawaii to raise the American flag, notified the navy department, on the 23d, that the ceremony occurred on the 12th, and was both imposing and beautiful.

George Engelke and Peter Edmiston, who left Riverside, Cal., via San Diego, over a year ago, to prospect on the Colorado desert, have not since been heard from. The belief is general that both men have perished.

The president, on the 22d, answered the aspersions cast upon Capt. Sigabee of the ill-fated Maine by Capt. More of the late Spanish cruiser Cristobal Colon by advancing Capt. Sigabee three numbers for "extraordinary heroism."

SPANISH will be added to the list of studies taught in the Chicago public schools if Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews, the new superintendent, has his way. Chicago's new educational chief also favors the annexation of the Philippines.

A TRIENNIAL convention of weather bureau meteorologists will be held at Omaha in the middle of October. The convention will be opened by Prof. Willis L. Moore, chief of the bureau. Secretary of Agriculture Wilson may attend.

Dr. W. D. Carmichael, in charge of the Cleveland (O.) marine hospital, has been appointed superintendent of the marine hospital service of the Hawaiian islands. He will be stationed at Honolulu, and from that point will direct the work.

The navy department has ordered the cruisers St. Louis and St. Paul to the League Island navy yard, Philadelphia, where they will be restored to their condition as liners and returned to the American line, from which they were chartered.

HAVANA papers express considerable doubt, based upon a re-reading of President McKinley's message to congress last April in the light of recent events, whether the United States government has definitely pledged itself to declare Cuba's independence.

All the principal officers of the Burlington's Missouri lines have been presented with gold-mounted canes and umbrellas by the members of the Missouri Press association, who were given an excursion to the Omaha exposition a few weeks ago.

ACCORDING to unofficial returns the Choctaws have, by their vote, ratified the agreement made between the Choctaw and Dawes commissioners. The negro freedmen were allowed to cast their vote and no disturbances took place, as was at first expected.

ADMIRAL SCHLEY is confined to his summer home in Westport, Conn., by illness, and no one except his attendants are allowed to see him or have any conversation with him. The illness is pronounced a fever, the character of which is not yet known.

The secretary of state has appointed Henry Turner Bailey, of Massachusetts, and Thomas H. Wood, of New York, delegates on the part of the United States to the international congress of public art, which is to meet at Brussels from September 24 to 28.

ALL the newspapers in London are publishing and commenting on an apparently authoritative article to the effect that the vice royalty of Ireland is likely, next year, to be made a non-political and permanent office, and to be conferred upon the queen's third son, the duke of Connaught.

CAPT. ROBLEY D. EVANS of the battleship Iowa was taken ill, on the 22d, just after seeing his vessel safely to her dock, and was removed to Roosevelt hospital, New York city. The gallant captain had not been feeling well for a week, but didn't give up until he was compelled to.

GEN. N. CURZON will start from London for Calcutta, with Mrs. Curzon, in December, to relieve Lord Elgin, the returning viceroy, at the beginning of next year. In the meantime Mr. Curzon will recuperate his health, now somewhat delicate, a fact that was regarded as the chief drawback to his appointment.

The cabinet, on the 26th, discussed various questions concerning Porto Rico, Cuba and the Philippines. It was decided to admit butter and butterine to Porto Rico and Cuba, when stamped as such, at two cents a pound. This is a material reduction, the Spanish rate having been six cents on butter, while butterine was not admitted.

SIR JOHN BRANSTON, former assistant under secretary of state for the colonies, and at one time attorney general for Queensland, and Admiral Sir James Elphinstone Erskine, commander-in-chief of the British squadrons on the North American and West Indian stations, have been appointed commissioners to investigate the French treaty rights in Newfoundland.

On the 25th the pension office granted a pension to Ah Chan, a Chinese subject and widow of Pascal Martin, a sailor of the United States navy, to whom she was married in Shanghai in 1895. Three children were born to the couple. The widow will receive \$8 per month and the children \$2 a month each. Almost every other country furnishes one or more pensioners for Uncle Sam, but until now China was without a representative.

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The captains-general of Cuba and the Philippines have been ordered to act in accord with the Americans, but if the Americans should prove unable to make the insurgents respect the armistice, the instructions were to repel an attack upon the Spaniards.

A COMPANY headed by Henry A. Everett, a well-known capitalist of Cleveland, O., has been organized and incorporated to cover Ohio with a cheap-rate long-distance telephone system. It will be known as the Union Suburban Telephone and Telegraph Co.

HON. MOODY CURRIER, former governor of New Hampshire, died at his residence in Manchester, N. H., on the 23d.

A. G. MENOCAL, civil engineer in the navy, who was court-martialed some months ago and sentenced to suspension from duty on furlough pay for three years for neglect of duty in connection with the construction of the Brooklyn dry dock, has been pardoned by the president, which restores him to his former status in the navy. He will retire from active service on September 1.

ALL the Madrid papers announce the reassembling of the cortes between the 6th and 10th of September.

ILLNESS among the American troops at Ponce, Porto Rico, is on the increase, and there are now nearly a thousand cases of malaria and dysentery, with a few of typhoid fever. There is absolutely no recuperating property in the climate, and Surgeon-General Greenleaf has urgently recommended that the sick be sent north as rapidly as possible.

A DISPATCH from Copenhagen, Denmark, says: "A terrible storm swept the whole Jutland peninsula on the 23d. Many outbuildings were struck by lightning and six persons were killed and 39 farm buildings and 13 houses were burned."

On the 23d Dr. Cleon M. Hibbard, house physician at the Planters' hotel in St. Louis, fell through the passenger elevator shaft from the seventh floor of the hotel, a distance of 80 feet, to the granite pavement, and was instantly killed.

ADMIRAL SAMPSON will probably leave for Cuba about September 1.

ADMIRAL SAMPSON left Washington, on the 23d, for New York, to join his flagship, the New York, which is in dry dock for repairs.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY MEIKELJOHN, of the war department, is contemplating the establishment of a line of transports from New York to Havana, Santiago, Ponce and return. It is expected that the line will be ready for operation next week. Havana will not be on the route at present, but as soon as that port is open the war department's line of transports will touch there.

The postal system now in operation in the Hawaiian islands will be retained pending the recommendations of the Hawaiian commission, which has already begun its labors there.

THE statement of the condition of the treasury, issued on the 23d, showed: Available cash balance, \$277,568,851; gold reserve, \$205,439,254.

At the Spanish cabinet council held on the night of the 23d, Gen. Correa, minister of war, read a telegram from Capt. Gen. Blanco, in which he informed the government that the Cuban insurgents continued attacking the Spanish everywhere. In consequence of this report, the council instructed Gen. Blanco to resume an offensive attitude toward the insurgents only.

THE second day's session of the twenty-fourth annual convention of the American Bankers' Association at Denver, Col., on the 24th, was called to order by President Hendrix with practically a full attendance of delegates. The day's session was devoted to the discussion of practical banking questions.

DR. EDMUND J. JAMES, professor of political science in the University of Chicago, has been appointed dean of the new teachers' college, organized by the university on the foundation created by Mrs. Emmons Blaine.

LIEUT. WM. H. OSBORN, of the First cavalry, died at Montauk Point, L. I., on the 24th, of yellow fever. This officer had been selected for assignment to duty at the military academy.

THE tugboat Marian, of the Pennsylvania railroad, sunk at South Amboy, N. J., on the 24th. All the crew escaped except the pilot, James Hennessey, who was drowned.

THE statement of the condition of the treasury, issued on the 24th, showed: Available cash balance, \$280,638,814; gold reserve, \$206,375,049.

The queen regent of Spain has signed the royal decree convening the cortes for September 5.

REAR-ADMIRAL SCHLEY, completely recovered from his late illness, rejoined his flagship, the Brooklyn, at New York on the 25th.

THE gross earnings from operation of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad for the month of July, 1898, were \$2,305,991, an increase of \$60,499.

The statement of the condition of the treasury, issued on the 25th, showed: Available cash balance, \$284,230,896; gold reserve, \$208,006,063.

THE four big monitors, Terror, Puritan, Miantonomah and Amphitrite, and the cruiser Montgomery, have been ordered by the navy department to Newport, R. I. It had been thought the monitors would be used in the large ports of Cuba and Porto Rico, but it has now been decided to hold them north.

A Madrid dispatch says: "Everyone is now anxious that a peace treaty be signed at once, and there is some apprehension lest the government hamper the peace commissioners with ridiculous instructions. Referring to the proposal that the government demand compensation for the piers and public buildings in Cuba, El Nacional says: 'We might as well claim the roads, mountains and barren fields.'

At a meeting of the Woman's National War Relief association at the Windsor hotel, in New York, on the 23d, it was announced that Miss Helen M. Gould had given \$25,000 to purchase food and delicacies for the ill and wounded soldiers at Camp Wilcox.

One of the results of the sojourn of the Spanish officers, prisoners of war, at Annapolis, Md., will be a double wedding. Lieut. Enrique Lacerda will wed Miss Clara W. Duff, of Baltimore, and Lieut. Juan Cavanilles will lead Miss Mamie Hayes, of Annapolis, to the altar.

Ex-Secretary John Sherman is quoted as saying: "Gen. Miles is a soldier, and like soldiers, is a straightforward, truthful man. He is no more afraid of an issue than he is of an Indian, and when he comes back to Washington and tells what he knows an investigation of the war department will be inevitable."

The president is seriously thinking of asking the senior Massachusetts senator, George F. Hoar, to take the place which will soon be vacated by Ambassador Hay, and he is restrained only by his reluctance to remove Senator Hoar from the position he now holds.

The authorities of Dover, Del., believe they have wound a web around Mrs. Ada Botkin, charged with having sent the poisoned candy, from which she can not disentangle herself. They are now patiently awaiting her arrival from San Francisco.

Rev. Thompson Rowland, a Baptist preacher for 30 years, died at his home near Eddyville, Ky., on the 25th, of hydrocephalus. He was almost chewed to death by a mad dog several weeks ago. The victim died in great agony. He was 75 years of age.

A statement prepared by direction of the commissioner of internal revenue shows that for July the average daily shipment of internal revenue stamps aggregated, in numbers, 22,775,527.

Counting 27 days to the month, the total is shown to have been 614,939,129.

Japan wants to buy the Ladron islands from the United States or Spain, and is willing to pay a good price for them, according to late Japanese papers received. Japan wants to extend her "fishing" industry in that direction.

The San Francisco Merchants' exchange received news, on the 26th, from Unalaska confirming the report of the wreck of the bark Guardian.

The captain and crew landed at Unalaska. The Guardian was bound for Kotzebue Sound for Seattle and ran aground during a fog on Tegaldo island.

Mrs. Ada Botkin, under arrest in San Francisco on the charge of sending the box of poisoned candy which caused the death of Mrs. J. P. Dunning and her sister, Mrs. J. R. Deane, of Dover, Del., lived in Kansas City, Mo., 12 or 15 years ago. The family was prominent in social and financial circles there for a number of years.

The Spanish transports San Francisco, San Augustin and Colon left Santiago, in the 25th, for Spain, with 4,568 Spaniards, including 15 officers and their families and four priests. Eight men died on the way to the ships.

Their corpses were "checked off" as passengers.

An order has been issued by the war department extending the furlough of volunteers on leave of absence from 30 days to 60 days.

The United Typothete of America will hold its next annual convention at New Haven, Conn.

LATE NEWS ITEMS.

News has been received of the big party of Germans who made a spectacular departure from New York last winter for Alaska. Peter Schramm, one of the party who was recently at Juneau, reports that the party did not go to Dawson, but drifted down to Lake Atlin, opposite Pine creek, where they found gold in paying quantities, and all had staked out claims.

The success of the Transmississippi exposition, at Omaha, Neb., is meeting the highest expectations of stockholders and managers. Total attendance for the week ended on the 27th, was 115,840, or 12,000 increase over the week previous. The managers have reduced the price of admission to 25 cents for Sundays, and also for Monday and Thursday evenings.

Preparations making at Kansas City, Mo., for a peace jubilee this fall promise to evolve the greatest demonstration that city has ever seen. The movement is already under way, and a universal desire is shown to express in a fitting manner the satisfaction felt over the achievements of the army and navy and the culmination of peace.

The torpedo boat Davis, which is being constructed at the Wolff & Sewicker iron works, at Portland, Ore., was given a preliminary trial on the Willamette river on the 27th. No effort was made to force the craft up to the required speed, 22½ knots, but it is announced that the trial was satisfactory in every respect.

The statement of the associated banks of New York city for the week ended on the 27th showed the following changes: Surplus reserve, decrease, \$7,495,950; loans, increase, \$5,348,400; specie, decrease, \$8,604,500; legal tenders, decrease, \$8,300; deposits, decrease, \$4,779,400; circulation, decrease, \$78,700.

Minister Angell, at Constantinople, has informed the state department that a note from the ports announces that, on account of local needs, the exportation of wheat from the province of Scutari, in Albania, European Turkey, is forbidden until further notice.

Gen. Merritt sailed from Manila on the steamship China, on the 30th, on his way to Paris to attend the sessions of the peace conference.

No agreement has yet been reached with Aguinaldo upon any subject, although circumstantial rumors are current that everything has been settled to the mutual satisfaction of those concerned.

Oil goes up.

Hartford City, Ind., Aug. 26.—An ad-

WITHIN OUR LIMITS.

News by Telegraph from Various Towns in Indiana.

FOR BENEFIT OF HEROES.

Ekhart, Ind., Aug. 26.—Under the auspices of the Soldiers' Aid society of this city a doll carnival will be held in connection with the tri-state fair which opens Monday, September 25. All funds derived from the exhibition and sale of the contributions will be used in relieving the suffering soldiers and sailors. The officers of the fair association have tendered the use of a booth to the aid society. A large sum is expected to be secured for it from the proceeds of the carnival.

HOBSON FOR PRESIDENT.

New Albany, Ind., Aug. 26.—The populists of Floyd county held a mass convention in this city to nominate a county ticket, but before they finished they launched a boom of Lieut. Richmond Pearson Hobson, the hero of the Merrimac, for president in 1900. Resolutions were adopted describing Hobson as a hero and Americanism, and endorsing him as a candidate for the chief executive of the nation.

LOPES WITH A CHILD.

Logansport, Ind., Aug. 26.—Miles Wilson and Lula Hancock eloped from Monon and were married at St. Joseph, Mich. Wilson is 50 years old, and the girl 13. A warrant was out for Wilson's arrest on the charge of decoying the girl from home, and they were arrested here. Wilson is the father of four children, one almost as old as the Hancock girl, who comes from an excellent family.

NEW ORPHANS' HOME.

Laporte, Ind., Aug. 26.—The contract for the erection of the buildings for the new Northern Indiana Orphans' home at Plymouth has been let. The building will be a commodious structure with modern conveniences and will comfortably accommodate 100 children. The structure will be ready to be occupied January 1.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

Redkey, Ind., Aug. 26.—Nancy Ridgeway, an old pioneer of Jay county, celebrated her 97th birthday at Bowen's grove, in the north part of Redkey, with a big dinner, in which 84 of her relatives took part. There were four sons, two daughters, 16 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren among the number.

FARS RETURN OF EPIDEMIC.

Clinton, Ind., Aug. 26.—Diphtheria has broken out in this city and there are grave fears of an epidemic similar to the one of a year ago. There are now several cases, two of the victims being in a critical condition. The physicians are cooperating with the health board in an effort to prevent an epidemic.

STREET CAR BLOWN UP.

Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 26.—Some person unknown placed a stick of dynamite on the curve in the tracks of the College avenue line, and it exploded under a car carrying 60 passengers. A wheel of the car was torn off and a part of the floor blown up to the roof. No one was seriously hurt.

KILLED HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW.

Sullivan, Ind., Aug. 26.—Alonzo Mattox, better known as "Cooney" Mattox, a saloon keeper of New Pittsburgh, fatally stabbed his brother-in-law, Ted Britton, a coal miner, at New Pittsburgh. Britton and Mattox married sisters, and their relations had never been congenial.

DIED AWAY FROM HOME.

Kokomo, Ind., Aug. 26.—Word was received here of the sudden death of Frederick Leeds at Kansas City. Mr. Leeds, who is a prominent pioneer, was for many years agent for the Lake Erie & Western railway here. The remains were brought here for interment.

NAMED FOR CONGRESS.

Indianapolis, Ind., Aug.