

A GREAT FLOOD.

Stony Creek, in Somerset County, Swollen to a Torrent—Great Damage Done.

JOHNSTOWN, June 7th.—The heavy rains in Somerset County since Sunday raised Stony Creek to flood height this morning, and great damage has resulted.

The Somerset and Cambria Railroad, running from the city to Rockwood, was tied up, and on both sides of the stream for many miles everything was overflowed.

Stony Creek had risen here this afternoon to fifteen feet. The streets for long distances were like rivers. Houses, stables and out-buildings were brought down from up the country in great numbers.

A lumber boom South of town was broken, and several hundred city families had to move to places of safety. Storekeepers and others will be heavy losers.

The rolling mills were flooded and work had to be suspended. The rain was all from the South, the Conemaugh River coming from the East.

On Clinton Street where the Halbert House is located and near to the Merchants' Hotel, several boats were floated.

The town of Bethel, 200 inhabitants, thirteen miles south of here, is reported completely swept away.

The great flood at Johnstown, Pennsylvania, and places in the vicinity, on the 7th, was caused by a water spout west of Hooversville, in Somerset county.

It is estimated that 200 people were temporarily made homeless and dependent for shelter on their more fortunate neighbors.

The other day our Newfoundland dog was playing on the porch with our little girl, 4 years old, when she opened the gate and went out.

"Where is Nellie?" The dog looked as if he knew and wagged his tail furiously. "Go this instant," said the mother, and find Nellie and bring her home.

Out over the gate flew the dog and started down the street to a neighbor's house not far off. Nellie was playing there, inside the house, and saw the dog come and scratch at a veranda window.

"I know what he wants," said the little girl, "he wants me to go home, but I'm not going to do it!"

The dog was not admitted, but he lingered near, like Mary's little lamb, and when two ladies called presently he brushed in past them through the door.

"Now, see here, Mac, I want you to show me the path across this meadow. Go right ahead of me, do you hear, and show me the path—show me the path!"

The dog obeyed the letter. With his nose to the ground he followed the path faithfully, with his master at his heels, clear across the meadow, until he had approached to within two or three rods of the limits of the field.

He began to waver from side to side as if vainly looking for the path, and showed great confusion and even shame. Next day the gentleman went over the ground by daylight, and discovered that at the point where the dog began to waver the path was entirely lost in the thick grass.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In Cincinnati on the 6th, Frederick Bauer shot Pauline Bogenschueer, then shot a Mrs. Zell, and then killed himself. Mrs. Zell is not severely wounded, but Mrs. Bogenschueer's wound is considered dangerous.

The boiler of a locomotive on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad burst on the morning of the 7th, in front of the passenger station at Chester, Penna.

On the evening of the 5th, Garner had been too intimate with Farley's wife. Near Helena, Kentucky, on the morning of the 5th, John H. Field shot his wife and two sons and then cut his own throat.

On the evening of the 1st, about fifty men left Anville for Lebanon, Penna., to lynch William Showers, in jail there for the murder of his two grand-children.

The house of G. W. Johnson, at Vincennes, Indiana, was struck by lightning on the 1st. All the family were knocked senseless and two children were dangerously injured.

An express train on the Pittsburg and Western Railroad ran into a lumber body, fatally wounding him. After the shooting Nelson returned home and blew out his own brains.

Benjamin Courtright, 30 years of age, accidentally shot himself dead while examining a shot gun at his house in Scranton, Penna., on the 2d.

Mob Meadows, an old citizen of Christian county, Missouri, was shot dead by an assassin while walking along the road with his wife on the 7th.

Charles Spencer, "one of the best known men in Dakota," was indicted at Pierre, in that Territory, on the 8th, for stealing cattle.

An accommodation train on the St. Louis and Hannibal Railroad was thrown from the track near Frankfort, Missouri, on the evening of the 7th.

Thomas Lamb, Judge of Maverick county, Texas, on the 6th murdered his brother Joseph on Mexican soil in a quarrel about the division of some property.

Frederick Hermann, who murdered his child, attempted to kill his wife and cut his own throat, in Pittsburg, on the 6th.

Five boys—three sons of John Beck and two of Paul Hindel—whose ages range from nine to sixteen years, were drowned while bathing near Maquoketa, Iowa, on the 6th.

Lightning struck a house near Brownsville, Texas, on the morning of the 5th, killing Manuel Portales and his wife and stunning four others.

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The former was killed and the latter mortally wounded. Four other men were dangerously burned by the explosion. The wholesale drug store of Charles Pleasants, on Wooster street, New York, was damaged on the afternoon of the 9th, by a mysterious explosion, to the extent of \$20,000.

The body of a man found shot dead at Andover, Massachusetts, on the 8th, has been identified as that of Cornelius McClusky, a seaman in the navy, who was home on furlough.

A terrific rain storm visited the Wyoming Valley on the afternoon of the 9th. At Nanticoke there was a "cloud-burst" which deluged streets to a depth of from two to four feet.

The annual regatta of the New York Yacht Club took place on the 9th. The Atlantic took the lead early in the race and maintained it to the end.

It is reported from Kansas City, Missouri, that the cable railroad company there has discovered a conspiracy among its conductors to embezzle fares.

The steamship Acaia, for New Orleans, is ashore near Big Lake Bay, Nova Scotia. It was quite clear when she went ashore, "and her officers can only account for her present position by her compasses being astray."

The First National Bank building in Pittsburg was damaged by fire on the morning of the 10th to the extent of \$55,000, of which \$25,000 falls on the Western Union Telegraph Company.

A sleeping car of the Buffalo express train on the Hudson River Railroad, jumped a switch at Spuyten Duyvil on the morning of the 10th, and was upset and wrecked.

Two boys, aged seven and ten years, sons of Addison Smith and Timothy Lacy, were drowned while bathing near Knoxbury, New York, on the 10th.

A telegram from Wilmington, Delaware, says the rosebud pest, which has infested the vineyards and truck patches of Kent county, for the last two weeks, has reached its height.

The coroner's jury investigating the boiler explosion at Chester, Penna., on the 10th, decided that the explosion "arose from faults originating in the manufacture of the boiler plate."

Setting out on thy soul's pilgrimage, unite to thyself what hearts thine canst. Know well that a hundred holy temples of Mecca have not the value of a heart.

THE MARKETS

PROVISIONS—Beef city fam bl. 10 50

Hams 12 00

Port Meats 15 00

Prime Mutton 15 00

Sides smoked 24 00

Shoulders smoked 18 00

do in salt 15 00

Smoked Beef 15 00

Lard Western 7 25

Lard loose 8 75

Flour—Pa. Family 3 50

Pa. Family 3 75

Min. Clear 4 00

Pa. Flour 3 25

Wheat No. 1 red 99 00

do 98 00

do 97 00

do 96 00

do 95 00

THE VAST SUM NECESSARY TO COVER THE EXPENDITURES OF THE NATION.

A statement has been made up showing the amounts appropriated by Congress at its late session for the support of the Government for the year which will end June 30, 1888.

The total sum is about two hundred forty-eight and a half million of dollars. There were two appropriation bills that failed to become law—the River and Harbor bill which the President neither approved nor vetoed, and the Deficiency bill, which was passed by both branches of Congress, but could not be prepared for the President's signature before the time of adjournment.

If we add the fourteen million dollars appropriated by these two bills, and the forty-eight millions required to pay the interest on the public debt to the sum above mentioned, we have three hundred and ten million dollars as the amount deemed by Congress necessary to meet the current annual expenses of Government.

The corresponding expenditures during Washington's administration averaged less than six million dollars a year. The population is fifteen times as great as it was then; the expenditure is fifty times as great. Yet this is not an evidence of extravagance, because the Government does for the people vastly more than it did in the time of Washington.

The largest single item of appropriation is that for pensions. No less a sum than eighty-three million dollars is granted for this purpose for the fiscal year. This sum alone would have paid all the ordinary expenses of the Government, except interest, for the first eighteen years under the Constitution, or until 1808.

Next comes the post office, taking fifty-five and a half millions, but of this amount more than fifty millions will be derived from postage and other revenues of the department. The charge of the army is a little less than twenty-four millions.

The appropriation for the navy is larger than usual, almost twenty-five millions, because some new ships are to be built. Most of the salaries paid to officers of the United States, and to Congress, are provided for in the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriations act. This act covers a sum of twenty and a half millions more than it was twelve years ago, when the population was much smaller than it is now.

A great variety of matters are provided for under the bill known as the Sundry Civil Appropriations act—the mint; construct, repairing and warming and lightning public buildings; collecting the revenue; paying back duties wrongly assessed; and a great many others. This act appropriated twenty-two millions, this year, about the usual amount.

We have thus accounted for all but about seventeen million dollars of the appropriations, which are disposed of thus: Indians, five millions; District of Columbia, four millions; Ministers and Consuls, abroad, one million and a half; Agricultural Department, one million; Military Academy, half a million; and the rest for miscellaneous small purposes.

Although there are some abuses in the Government, the public service is, on the whole, conducted in a manner that will compare creditably, for economy and efficiency, with that of any other country in the world. For example, the British civil service, which is so much praised, costs nearly thirteen million dollars, or twice as much as the corresponding service in this country, although the population of the United Kingdom by twenty-five millions.

It is quite beyond the bounds of human possibility to expend the three hundred millions and more which the Government pays out every year without some of it going to waste, by being paid to people who are not entitled to it; but we succeed as well as any other country in limiting these abuses. This success, however, should not have the effect of leading the people to cease their efforts still to improve the service. We must also remember that an increasing population must mean an increase of expenditures; and that the march of civilization itself is constantly adding to the requirements which the people make of their Government, while every new function of Government adds to the cost of maintaining it.

A Small but Historic Island.

The island of Malta, which has had such an eventful history from remotest ages, is one of the smallest in the Mediterranean, being but eighteen miles in length and six or seven miles in width, with an area of about 100 square miles. It has an uneven surface, with gently undulating hills, but has no mountains, forests or streams of water. This island will have a most barren appearance were it not for the few orange, fig and olive trees that are scattered here and there among the little villages and hamlets. The island itself is one vast, yellow sandstone rock, which crops out in the shallow soil in big patches in all directions, leaving but a small portion of its surface fit for cultivation. What could have been the great charm that made the island so attractive to the ancients and to those who have since the Christian era battled for its possession is a mystery to all strangers who visit its shores at the present day. During the summer months the heat is almost unendurable day and night, while in the autumn the unhealthy sirocco winds blow over from Africa, and in the winter it is swept by heavy gales that combine all the terrors of cyclones and levanters.

Valetta, its principal, and, in fact, its only city, has a population of sixty odd thousand, about half that the island contains. Immense lines of fortresses, probably the largest and most impregnable in the world, that were built by the Knights of Malta, encircle the city and defy its capture by other nations.

Keep your conduct abreast of your conscience.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

A law taxing cats at ten cents per capita is proposed by a legislator in Georgia.

Augusta, Wisconsin, reports the fall of a yellowish snow there a day or two ago.

The last census of Berlin places the number of Americans residing there at 979.

A 25-foot shark is reported to have been taken in Monterey, California, bay a week ago.

The remains of a mastodon of the largest size have been discovered near Atlanta, Georgia.

Emil Mancke, a famous German wrestler, weighs 441 pounds, and is 5 feet 11 inches tall.

Prohibition is expected to carry all the counties in Dakota outside of the Black Hills next fall.

"Jubilee" Juggins is the name by which the present "plunger" on the English turf is known.

A projected underground railway is to use cables as a means of propulsion and be lighted by electricity.

During the reign of Augustus Caesar, Rome, it is calculated, had a population of about 2,500,000.

Monterey is said to remain more characteristically Mexican than any other city or town in California.

A famous deer forest, Applecross, in West Ross-shire, is soon to be sold. It extends to about 70,000 acres.

A 6-month-old child, weighing only two and one-half pounds, is a subject of curiosity near Capax, Mich.

The Hot Springs, near Carson, Nevada, have suddenly fallen fifteen inches, although the flow of water has not diminished.

A snail's pace, according to the Terre Haute Express, has been ascertained by experiment to be a mile in fourteen days.

Sealing off Cape Flattery is improving. The arrivals are reported in myriads, and coming closer to the cape than ever before.

Nine negro chieftains, with unpronounceable names, but who are said to talk English well, have been among the late "lions" in Paris.

A pisciculturist of Vienna, N. J., is said to have 50,000 carp, the product of five young German carp received by him in the spring of 1882.

A Pittsburg drummer is testing the right of Helena, Montana Territory, to collect a license from him under the recent Supreme Court decision.

The Colonial Exhibition in England netted a profit of £35,235. Of this £25,000 were presented by the trustee to the Imperial Institute fund.

Jacob Welch, of Ritchie county, West Virginia, cut down a hollow maple tree the other day, from which ran twenty-seven full grown squirrels.

The widow of George A. Conly, the well-known basso of Philadelphia, who was drowned some five years ago, died in New York recently, of consumption.

The highest spot inhabited by human beings is said to be the Buddhist cloister of Hante, Tibet, where 21 priests live at an altitude of 16,000 feet.

About 70 per cent. of the jurors drawn in New York city are of foreign birth, and many of them have slight knowledge of our laws or of the English language.

Starvation, as found by coroner's juries, caused the deaths of forty persons, in London, during the year 1886, as shown by an official report to the House of Commons.

Mary Queen of Scots was 45 years of age when executed in Frothingay Castle. Queen Elizabeth, who signed her death warrant, was at that time (1587) 54 years old.

A meteor that didn't "shoot," but which glowed for a quarter of an hour, according to the statement of a Quebec correspondent, lighted up that city and vicinity vividly a few nights ago.

A young girl attacked a sneak thief in Newark, New Jersey, the other day, threw him on his back and held him there until assistance arrived. She had seen him steal a hat from a hat store.

It is reported that a man in Pennsylvania has a hen which recently laid an egg measuring six and a half by eight and a half inches. The hen is a black Brahma, and is old enough to be on the retired list.

Olive Oil, said to be of the finest quality, is being made this season in Sonoma, California, and the production of olives is confidently expected to become one of the most important industries of the place.

The Plainfield (New Jersey) Electric Light Company offer to contract with householders for one incandescent lamp at \$8 a year; two, \$7 each; three, \$6; seven, at \$2 each, and \$2 for each additional lamp.

A steam omnibus, which is intended to run regularly over country roads, is said to be running now in Dresden, Saxony. It is managed by two men, and carries forty-six passengers, with considerable freight.

Lucinda Easter, a colored resident of Newberry, South Carolina, is said to be 109 years of age. According to newspaper accounts her mother died at the advanced age of 110, and she, like her daughter, had 23 children.