

THE WIND'S WORK.

A TALE OF THE WRECK AND RUIN.

A Tornado Cuts a Path Through an Ohio Town.

A cyclone struck Cedar Valley, Wilson county, Kas., at 4 p. m. Friday. Joseph Wilsey's house was demolished, his youngest son killed and two other children injured.

A destructive tornado swept over Akron, O., Saturday night, destroying and wrecking scores of houses and seriously injuring about 50 people.

Several violent storms in the form of tornadoes have occurred in different parts of North Missouri, and a large amount of property has been destroyed and several persons killed.

A tornado swept through the southwest portion of Venango county, Pennsylvania, destroying everything in its path.

SCARED INTO HER SENSES.

Effect of the Poor House Fire on One Inmate.

The number of bodies found in the ruins of the poor house in Preston, Chenango county, N. Y., is now 13. The impression is growing that the loss of life far exceeds the first estimate.

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OVER ONE HUNDRED MISSING.

The Quebec Government Will Rebuild the Burned Insane Asylum.

The Quebec Government has decided to rebuild the provincial insane asylum, which was destroyed by fire, and work will be commenced at once.

EIGHTEEN HOUSES BURNED.

A Destructive Fire in Scranton—The Loss Will Reach \$100,000.

Fire broke out in the works of the Bloom Carriage Manufacturing Company on Eighth street, Scranton, Pa. The flames spread rapidly to adjoining property and destroyed 18 private dwellings, the pattern shop and boiler works of Finch's foundry and the engine works of Block & Ross.

TWELVE MINUTES AHEAD.

City of Rome Defeats the Aurania in a Race Across the Ocean.

The City of Rome, of the Anchor Line, has defeated the Aurania, of the White Star Line, in one of the closest ocean races ever known, and a vast amount of money changed hands.

The Aurania left New York on Saturday, April 30, at 4 p. m., and the City of Rome an hour later. The vessels kept each other in sight all the way across, the Aurania being always about five knots astern.

As the steamers approached the Mersey, the City of Rome was 14 minutes ahead, and arrived at Liverpool 12 minutes ahead of her rival.

LATE NEWS CONDENSED.

The New York carpenters' strike has ended—only about thirty men are reported out of work.

Dr. Joseph R. Cummings, President of the Northwestern University at Evanston, died suddenly at his home in Evanston. Fatty degeneration of the heart was the cause.

The formal transfer of \$1,000,000 has been made by Mr. Carnegie to the treasurer of the board of trustees of the Pittsburgh Carnegie library.

Mr. Boutelle, of Maine, proposes to nullify the effect of the Supreme Court decision on the delivery and sale of liquor in original packages, by the following amendment to the Inter-State Commerce law.

James Dolan has been sent to the Boston penitentiary for 23 years under the habitual criminal act. He is the man who, by eating soap, feigned consumption and was pardoned by Governor Butler some years ago.

Convicts Martin Burke, Snell, Cavanaugh and Myers of the Joliet, Ill. prison have been placed in solitary confinement for violating prison rules in having found upon them forbidden articles. It is believed escape was planned.

The drought in Cuba is causing great mortality among cattle and heavy losses by fire on plantations.

Richard Croker's New York friends do not believe he is dying in Wiesbaden, and dispatches from that place say he is rapidly recovering.

Mrs. Vandegrift has been found guilty at Bordentown, N. J., of giving cotton oil to her son to kill him and thereby get his life insurance.

The Washington shoe company of New Jersey is bankrupt. Debts, \$750,000.

Eric canal tonnage the first week of navigation, 1899, is 232,455, against 190,233 in 1898.

Meunier's paint works and Atlantic starch mills in Brooklyn, N. Y., are burned. Loss, \$300,000.

An electric railroad to cost \$600,000 is to be built between Newark and Granville by the Cleveland Construction company.

Pope, the absconding bank teller from Louisville, was captured near Duluth while on his way to Canada.

Thefts of bombs and shells from the magazines at Sebastopol have been going on. Numerous employees have been arrested.

Della Ward asks \$10,000 damages for breach of promise, from Captain Nelson S. Whipple, a Detroit boat owner. He says it is blackmail.

Two and a half inches of rain fell at Chicago Saturday, flooding the lowlands in the outlying districts.

The twelve contract laborers (carpenters) who arrived at New York a few days ago from Europe will be returned whence they came.

The Emery Candle Works, a small plant, have been sold to an English syndicate for \$9,000, and a new company organized with a capital of \$125,000.

A man known as Thomas E. Brundis, who died at the infirmary in Cleveland, O., in February, and whose body was given to doctors for dissection, is believed to have been Hubert von Bawden, of Holland, who, by the death of a brother, became heir to \$990,000 marks.

The village of Ellipticville, twelve miles north of Salamanca, N. Y., was visited by a disastrous fire which destroyed one-half of the business places on the north side of Main street.

A statement prepared by Treasury officials for the information of Congress, shows that the United States has paid to the state of Pennsylvania for moneys expended by the state for the suppression of the rebellion, the sum of \$3,517,000.

Notwithstanding this large payment the state still has a large claim against the Government growing out of the war, but this amount is far less than caused by rebel raids. The total amount involved is \$3,450,565 45.

INSANE FROM SUNSTROKE

A Peculiar Phase of Dementia—The Victim Thinks Himself Christ.

"I am the Christ." That is the wild and almost perpetual outcry Jas. L. Anderson, of Springfield, Ohio, has raised during the sad few last months of his dementia. "I am the Christ, mother, and if you are the Virgin Mary why do you not acknowledge me?" This is the constant wail with which he addresses his mother, and when the poor woman pitiably attempts to reassure him he threatens to kill her.

ONE KILLED, TEN HURT.

Collision of Passenger Trains at a Crossing in Allentown.

At 6:45 o'clock Wednesday morning a New Jersey Central express train ran into a Lehigh Valley passenger train at the grade crossing of Union street, Allentown, Pa. Two of the Lehigh Valley passenger cars and the engine of the New Jersey Central train were thrown on their sides.

IT MAY BE A BEST CASE.

Lawyers Will Try to Prove the Ohio Local Option Law Unconstitutional.

John McSweeney and A. D. Metz, attorneys of Wooster, asked leave of the supreme court to file a petition in error to the circuit court of that county in the case of Peter Rowle, a Wooster saloonkeeper, who has been convicted under the local option law. They will try to have the law declared unconstitutional on the ground that section 4 of the law does not provide when a saloon is, by reason of the vote in any township cast in favor of local option, compelled to discontinue his business, how or by whom or from what fund a reliable proportion of the tax paid in by the dealer for the unexpired portion of the year shall be returned.

COMMERCIAL.

A GLOOMY PROSPECT FOR WHEAT.

Official Report on Condition of Wheat in Illinois.

The Illinois Agricultural Department's report on the condition of winter wheat in the State, upon data collected up to May 1, was issued Thursday evening.

The reports from the most important wheat growing counties confirm the accuracy of the estimates made by this department on March 2, and indicate even a downward average of the plant.

The area winter killed or destroyed by flood and fly will reach 38 per cent. of the area seeded last fall, and the condition of that left standing for harvest is not encouraging for more than 75 per cent. of an average yield an acre. The condition of the wheat crop, therefore, is nearly 55 per cent. short of an average for May 1.

The Minneapolis elevator lines in Minnesota and Dakota report a reduction of 800,000 bu. wheat in country houses during the past week.

The amount of wheat in store in this country and Canada, east of the Rocky mountains, on the 3d inst. was 25,407,371 bu. against 25,775,268 bu. the corresponding time last year, 21,328,829 bu. in 1888 and 45,085,710 bu. in 1896.

C. A. Pillsbury is out in another interview in which he prophesies that the Minneapolis mills will grind more wheat during the next four years on a basis above \$1 than below. He calls attention to the increasing consumption of wheat. He makes light of Argentine competition, thinks Russia may greatly increase her production, and declares that the Northwest can as easily as not double her present production.

Sugar-crop advances generally prove more encouraging, Cuba promising a large output. M. Licht made his latest estimate of the current beet-crop product of the world 2,630,000 tons, against on the preceding crop a total of 2,783,644 tons. The world's visible supply of sugar is placed at 1,356,229 tons, a year ago 834,850 tons.

Within the next week or two new crop Southern potatoes, cabbage etc., will no doubt be coming forward much more freely, and with the prices for the same reduced, there will be a largely increased consumption. The South is giving more attention to the growing of vegetables every year, having discovered that it pays better than tobacco, cotton, etc.

The more favorable reports in regard to the growing wheat crop in Russia, had considerable to do with weakening wheat both at Chicago and New York. While there have been several frosts of late, it is said that it has done the wheat crop but little damage.

Out of 10 active stocks on the New York list, 32 marked their lowest prices this year in February, 28 in January, 24 in March and 17 in April. The lowest point of the depression was reached from the 19th to the 25th of February. From the lowest prices made at various times in the first four months there has now been an average recovery of about 40 per cent. On the 25 most active stocks, such an average advance of 8 points from their lowest prices made in the first four months, but it has been very unevenly distributed.

SIGNED THE TREATY.

The Action of the Berlin Conference Ratified at Samoa.

The steamer Zealand, from New Zealand, brings from Samoa particulars of the signing of the treaty by King Malietoa and the American, British and German consuls on the 19th of last month. Great interest was manifested in the event, and a large number of the natives and all the white population of Apia assembled around the house where the treaty was ratified. The King and the three consuls gathered around the table in the King's house, on which a copy of the treaty was placed. A certificate was read and translated and then handed to Malietoa, who signed it. The three consuls then attached their signatures. Several days before the treaty was ratified the three consuls sent a letter to Malietoa enclosing a copy of the treaty as adopted by the Berlin conference, and giving the following explanation: "This treaty will allow the people of Samoa to form a Government under their own native King, strong enough to prevent further civil war, and to keep peace and good order in Samoa; thus offering every security for the future welfare of its people. The carrying out of the Provision bill, it is true, cause considerable expense, but it is not on the shoulders of the people of Samoa, but is on those of the foreign residents of the islands that the heavier part of the new charges are laid. It will therefore be for the best interest of the Samoan people that the general act be as a whole assented to and accepted by the Government of Samoa."

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The cause of the wreck was the failure of the air brakes on the New Jersey Central train to work. The train shot past the depot and crashed into the Lehigh Valley train. A dozen passengers were in one car of the Lehigh Valley train.

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FOREIGN NEWS.

The question of taking the control of charitable institutions from the priests and placing it in the hands of the civil power, is arousing bitter controversy in the Italian Parliament. The Government does not find unanimity for the measure of its own supporters, and the clergy are straining every influence they possess to secure its defeat. The bill, however, will probably pass.

More Strikes in Germany.

Strikes continue to be sporadic throughout the empire. The various branches of the building trades of Saxony, Pomerania, the dyers of Mecon Saxony, and the weavers of Gollitz, Silesia, are all reported out on strike for increased wages.

Strikers Attack Factories.

The strikers in the Iser Valley, Bohemia, have resorted to violence in their efforts to force the masters to accede to their demands. They attacked a number of factories in the valley, and forcing an entrance, damaged the machinery and compelled the weavers who were still at work to quit.

His African Highness Becomes Frantic Over His Defeat.

The latest advices from Africa represent the King of Dahomey as very tired of his war against the French. He had expected to overwhelm the small French garrison on the coast at one blow, and either capture or drive them into the sea, and when his troops returned discomfited from the defense of Kotonou he was so enraged that he promptly beheaded the General in command, and followed up the act with a slaughter of several more of his officers next day. This severity however, had a contrary effect to what he expected, and many of his troops deserted, some seeking refuge within the French lines. The bombardment of Whydah had added to the disgust of the Dahomians, who had been accustomed to regard their monarch as invincible and almost divine, and the King is said to be in some fear of an outbreak among his subjects.

Bombarded by German Gunboats.

The expedition under command of Major Wissmann, which recently left for Kilwa to make an attack on that place, has been successful. The place was occupied on May 4, Major Wissmann's force meeting with no opposition. Previous to his occupation by the expedition the town was bombarded by the German gunboats forming part of the German fleet, and the natives were paralyzed with fear by the fire from the vessels. The British subjects who were held in the town by the natives were not injured.

THE LOSS \$2,000,000.

Damage by the Fire at the Singer Sewing Machine Works.

The entire western front of the Singer Sewing Machine Factory, on First street, Elizabeth, N. J., was gutted by fire. The fire started in the high clock tower of the main building a few minutes past 11 o'clock. The blaze was first discovered by one of the watchmen, but he lost his presence of mind and there was a good deal of delay in sending out an alarm. Explosions of benzine followed one another rapidly, throwing the flames great distances.

KILLED AND EATEN.

A White Man and Twenty Natives Devoured by Cannibals.

Four white men and 20 natives, who were going as laborers to Australia, were lost by the wreck of a schooner on the New Hebrides. The only survivor, a boy, says that about 20 natives, and one white man reached shore, but the islanders, after inviting them to a feast, tomahawked and ate the whole crew except the boy, who escaped.

A STRANGE VERDICT.

Veccular Finding of a Southern Jury in the Leaphart Murder Case.

At Columbia, S. C., the coroner's jury rendered a verdict that "Willie Leaphart came to his death by gunshot wounds at the hands of persons unknown." When it is considered that during the inquest F. C. Coughman, A. Marks, Pearce Taylor, Thomas Swan, George Kuyser and James Oglesby were positively identified as having participated in the shooting of Leaphart is a remarkable one. The shooting of the colored boy could easily be prevented, it is alleged, as the Sheriff was notified Monday evening the jail would be attacked, but he took no precautions to protect his prisoner.

A YACHT DISASTER.

Several Persons Drowned in the Ohio at Wheeling.

While the naphtha yacht Gertrude was crossing the Ohio river from Wheeling Island with 14 male and 2 female passengers returning from the base ball park, the dress of Mrs. John Mendel jammed the tiller rope in a brass block and the yacht became unmanageable. It struck the upper end of a barge moored at the wharf and capsized, throwing all the occupants into the river. The two ladies and ten of the men were rescued promptly, as they were not carried under the barge by the current, Mrs. Hornbrook, however, having a very narrow escape.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

T. P. Cook has been confirmed as Collector of Customs at Sandusky, O.

Edwin Stevens, of Pennsylvania, has been confirmed as United States Consul at Pernambuco, Brazil.

Namuro Proctor has made a second allowance of \$50,000 for the relief of the Massachusetts flood sufferers.

Arrangements have about been completed for the fast railway mail service between Chicago and New Orleans. A faster mail service from Kansas City west has also been provided.

The Army Appropriation bill was passed in the Senate Saturday with Mr. Hale's amendment prohibiting the sale of alcoholic liquors, wine or beer to enlisted men on military reservations.

A remonstrance from the five Indian Nations was presented in the Senate by Mr. Dawes, Saturday, remonstrating against the numerous railroad grants through the Indian Territory. The Indian delegations say many of the grants are merely for speculative purposes.

A white teacher in the Educational Home at Philadelphia has just married one of her pupils, a handsome, full-blooded Indian, chief of the Mohawk tribe, twenty-seven years old. The teacher is Miss Sausbaum. The couple have gone to housekeeping.

THE LABOR MARKET.

An Epidemic of Strikes Now Raging—Successes Scored.

From a compilation in Bradstreet it appears that there have been 145 strikes in the month taken part in by 33,370 workmen. The first great battle in the short-day movement, the carpenters' strike, has resulted, very generally in the success of the strikers. At two large centers, New York and Brooklyn, the men gained an eight-hour day with a nine-hour's pay practically without striking the employers in nearly all instances giving the men what they asked for. Of ten thousand carpenters in the two cities only about five hundred were at any time on a strike. The framers and housemitis also gained their demands without striking. Late advices from Chicago are that two-thirds of the original number of strikers are at work at the wages and hours asked for. The remaining employers are expected to give way, but the large number of idle men attracted to the city by the strike will strengthen the hands of resisting employers. At Philadelphia all but about 800 of the 3000 striking carpenters have been granted an advance. At Boston the situation favors the employers, while at Detroit the carpenter trade is at a standstill pending the settlement of the strike. At San Francisco the outlook for striking employes is not favorable.

INCREASE OF STRIKES.

The wave of strikes which first showed itself in April has risen still higher during the present month, and the number of strikes during May promises to exceed even the unprecedented total for April. As regards the number of strikers involved in the total for the month of May is also likely to be very large. During the first eight days of the month the total number of strikes reported is 124, involving 45,000 men. The total number of strikes on May 1 was probably in all 65, making the total that day something notable. The past week has been prolific in strikes in various lines. Planing-mill hands at Chicago struck on Friday last, but this may be said to have been a distinct failure, as the men returned to work without gaining the eight-hour day. Molders and other employes at iron works to the number of 1300 also struck and still remain out. Other classes of building employes have participated in the strike movement at many points. Cigar-makers, all at New York city, tanners, coal-miners, brick-makers, furniture-workers, fishermen in Florida and in Oregon, and railroad men in Oregon, all have struck for varying causes.

THE COAL-MINERS.

In Northern Illinois 13,000 coal-miners have been idle since the close of April, pending settlements of disagreements as to the scale. Late advices are that an amicable settlement has been reached, and that the men will get an increase. In the Pennsylvania coal regions the situation is less satisfactory. The soft-coal miners of that and adjoining States, it is said, have decided to demand an eight-hour day on May 15. In all about 75,000 employes will be involved. The American Federation of Labor has announced that an eight-hour day will next be demanded for the coal-miners. At Philadelphia journeymen carpenters and other workmen in kindred trades contemplate coming out on strike in doing work. At Toledo bakers and brewers have had their working time reduced from 16 hours to 10 hours per day. Postal clerks are agitating for an eight-hour day. At Birmingham a strike of 10,000 rolling-mill hands has ended, after lasting three months. Coke workers in Pennsylvania are threatening a strike. Among the results of the Chicago building strike is the reported intention of the window-glass manufacturers to shut down on June 1, one month earlier than usual, owing to a lack demand, growing out of the suspension of building operations at that city.

ANOTHER ELECTION BILL.

Rowell Comes to the Fore with a Measure.

The Rowell bill providing for Federal supervision of Congressional elections reported to the House Friday. This bill, which the Republicans will press at the session of Congress. This bill meets with favor from the Democrats, and it is not likely that the latter will be produced as a party measure. On this understanding the Republican members from Maryland and Ohio will make their canvasses in their respective districts. The Rowell bill is expected to secure honest returns from the South, and if this is accomplished it is not unusual that the delegations from Maryland and Ohio stand in the next Congress.

Mr. Rowell's bill does not propose Federal election law but amends the present system of Federal supervision of elections as provided for in the Supreme Court decision of 1871. Mr. Rowell took the bill on a basis, but he makes the provisions of his bill more radical. The bill changes the present method of appointing Federal supervisors of elections. By the bill there are to be appointed and commissioned during the number of supervisors required, each to have a sufficient number of supervisors ready for duty in case their services are required. The number of supervisors serving at such election is increased from two to three.

Under the present law, it is claimed, supervisors of election have little if any power in the country districts, while in the cities have power to count the ballots and make any investigation and inspection that they may see fit. Mr. Rowell's bill makes the power possessed by supervisors in city and county districts equal.

In addition to this, a returning board provided for the bill is required to make certificates from the supervisors returned to and furnish them to the Clerk of the House of Representatives. Should the certificates show that one candidate is elected, and the Federal board that another candidate is elected, neither name is to be placed on the roll of the House until the House has decided which is entitled to the seat.

The bill also makes provision for holding elections in precincts where the local officers fail to hold elections and against the shifting of ballot boxes, where two names are used so as to deceive voters. In States where registration is required, the bill provides that supervision of registration shall be enforced. Penalties are prescribed for bribery, ballot box stuffing, etc.

The chief supervisors (one for each congressional district) are to be appointed by the United States Circuit Judge for the circuit in which the congressional district is situated. On the recommendation of the chief supervisors, the circuit judges are to be required to appoint the supervisors of the elections for each district, double the number required being selected and these the chief supervisory may call upon as he needs them. The Federal supervision is to be extended to districts where 100 citizens petition for supervisors, and to precincts where 50 citizens make petition.

THE U. P. ASSEMBLY.

Use of Tobacco and Qualifications for the Ministry.

The thirty-second General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church will meet in the First Church, Buffalo, N. Y., on May 28. The session promises to be one of unusual interest and large attendance. The most important topics that will be discussed are the overtures sent down to the Presbyteries by the General Assembly last year. The tobacco question will be settled before the Assembly adjourns. The amendments of the Book of Government in reference to the question, which have been voted upon, are: "That no student who is addicted to the use of tobacco in any form shall be admitted to license," and that "no one shall be eligible to office of Ruling Elder who is addicted to the use of tobacco in any form." As near as can be ascertained 221 Presbyteries have voted in favor of refusing license to students of theology who use tobacco, and 257 have voted against making abstinence from its use a condition of license. There has been a tie vote on the question in five of the Presbyteries.

There is a disposition on the part of the Presbyteries to make a distinction in favor of the eldership and permit the officers to use tobacco if they choose. The vote on the question has been 166 in favor of the change and 33 opposed.

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FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

In the Senate Friday Mr. Sherman's resolution offered increasing the number of Pension Agents by two, led to a lively debate on the pension list now amounting to about \$100,000,000 a year, and would be increased to double that, if pending legislation was enacted, economy in the administration of the Pension Office should be practiced. In the interest of the soldiers, Congress might bankrupt the Government and probably would, for in 15 years the amount spent for pensions would be more than it cost the Government to put down the rebellion. He thought the Senator from Ohio should hesitate about getting useless offices—making places for forty men and party-making. Mr. Sherman and others defended the resolution, which was agreed to.

The Senate Thursday took up the House bill providing for the classification of worsted class, and debated it at length. At 2 o'clock the Senate agreed, by unanimous consent, to consider the worsted bill to a conclusion, to take up the appropriation bills when the worsted bill is out of the way, and to finish the Silver bill the unfinished business for Monday next at 2 o'clock. The tariff debate was resumed in the House to empty seats.

In the Senate, Wednesday, Mr. Jones Silver bill was called up. An effort was made to postpone the measure on account of the absence of Mr. Jones. After a prolonged discussion the Senate went into Executive session and the bill went over.

When the House convened in Committee of the Whole, Mr. McKinley took the floor in support of his bill. He was in good mood and his speech was frequently interrupted by applause.

Mr. Mills, of Texas, followed. He declared this was the first bill that had been before the American people with its name torn off. After the reading of the Journal Monday the House went into Committee of the Whole on the tariff bill, agreeing to a resolution offered by Mr. McKinley that the tariff debate be limited to one minute. Mr. Mills availed himself of the one minute, and the Clerk proceeded to read the bill by paragraphs for amendments. A routine business in the Senate. The bill was taken up, and Mr. Jones, who the Senate in its support. He had a tentative audience, many Senators as Democratic side of the chamber talking near by and paying close attention to his remarks.

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