Disasters, Accidents and Fatalities.

A collision between the steamer Mackinac and the tug Washburn occurred in the Detroit river, nearly sinking the latter and causing the drowning of John Hurley, owner of the tug, and Chief Engineer Robinson, of the steam barge Majestic, who was on the Washburn at the time.

Emma Blum, at Muscoutah, Ill., suffered blood poisoning after being pecked by a hen and came near dying.

Two earthquake shocks, just heavy enough to stop clocks, were felt in California.

The Mississippi floods have wiped several villages off the face of the earth.

A Red Wing, Minn., three young men were drowned in the river there. They are Gustaf Halgren, Swan Soderlind and John A. Benson. In company with Sam Johnson they went out in a small boat. The cable ferry was crossing and in attempting to cross over the cable the boat was upset. Johnson clung to the upturned boat and was saved, but the others all drowned.

A most disastrous wreck occurred on the Deadwood Central Railways near Deadwood S. D., which resulted in the killing of James Scott and the probable fatal injury of William Thomas. The accident was occasioned by a frosty track, which caused the train to slide.

The heaviest rainfall in years visited Nevada, Mo., Monday night. The river and creeks are swollen out of thei banks. Two men were killed by lightning.

A cyclone swept through Betchville, Tex., wiping out 20 houses. Several people were killed and many were injured. The property loss is upwards of $30,000.

Polly Macdonald, an actress in Lester & Williams' Company was fatally burned in her room at Providence, R. I., a lighted match falling on her clothing and igniting it.

There has been a serious wreck on the Deleware & Hudson Canal railway near Hydeville, Vt. Conductor Wood was fatally hurt and about 20 others injured.

A passenger train on the Delaware and Hudson Canal railroad was wrecked near Hydeville, Vt. Conductor E. S. Wood was killed and several passengers in jured.

Capital, Labor and Industrial.

Miners of the Pennsylvania Schuykill coal regions are jubilant over an increase of 1 per cent. in the rate of wages. This is due to the advance in the market price of coal, and a further increase is expected in the near future.

The big strike on Laughead, Modisette & Company Uniontown, Pa., is ended, not, however in the way anticipated by the Trades council. The strikers of all the unions except the carpenters went back to work, and the company secured carpenters to take the place of the strikers. There were 200 men out, 30 of whom were carpenters. This action dissolves the Trades Council, where the trouble originated, and workmen and contractors are alike happy. No further trouble is anticipated.

Two thousand workmen employed in the Valladolid shops of the Northern Railway, at Madrid, Spain, have struck for a reduction of the hours of labor and are coercing other workmen to join the strike.

One hundred stone cutters employed on the locks at Sault Ste. Marie struck for $4 a day of nine hour's work. The contractors refuse to grant the demand.

All the employes of the New England granite works, 400 in number, went out on a strike Tuesday night for the same reasons as the other workers.

Louisville marble cutters have struck for nine hours a day with ten hours' pay.

Toronto brickmakers have been starved back to work after a two months' strike.

The brickmakers and teamsters of Decatur, Ill., struck for more pay. The manufacturers have closed all their yards and announced that they will go out of the business.

New England granite manufacturers, not being able to settle with the unions, have decided to open yards to individual applicants for work.

Washington News.

A resolution has been reported in the House extending an invitation to the King and Queen of Spain and to the decendants of Columbus to participate in the World's Columbian Exposition.

The public debt statement is as follows: Interest-bearing debt, $585,029,230; non-interest-bearing debt, $969,359,253; aggregate cash in the treasury, $795,300,590; aggregate demand liabilities, $795,300,590; cash balance in the treasury April 30, $131,518,160; cash balance in the treasury May 31, $126,005,885; decrease during the mon th, $5,512,275.

Joint resolutions passed authorizing and directing the president to proclaim a general holiday commemorating the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America on the 12th of October, 1892.

A statement prepared at the treasury department shows that there was a net increase of $6,437,985 in circulation during the month of May and a net increase of $7,910,008 in money and bullion in the treasury during the same period.

Religious.

The general conference of the Methodist Protestant church has stricken the word, "obey" from the marriage service, The vote was 55 o 26 in favor of striking out the word. The women delegates voted for it.

At the sixty-sixth anniversary meeting of the American Baptist Publication Society at Philadelphia, the Board of Managers reported that the final revision of the American Bible Union version of the English New Testament by the committee, Drs. Henry G. Weston, John A. Broadus and Alvan Hovey, is completed and printed. Samuel A. Cruser, of Pennsylvania, was elected President of the society. At the meeting of the Young People's Baptist Union resolutions denouncing the liquor traffic and all license of it were adopted, after which the Conference adjourned. With the adjournment of the two above societies the Baptist anniversaries that have been commemorated at Philadelphia for the past two weeks came to an end.

Sixty-two business houses of Mason City, Iowa, were closed on Wednesday on account of a religious awakening sweeping over that city. During the past eight days there have been 250 conversions.

Fires

In Marsberg, Westphalia, forty-six houses, twenty-four stables and eighteen warehouses were burned. About sixty head of cattle perished in the flames. More than 250 persons are homeless.

The D. S. Ransom carriage factory at Brooklyn, N. Y., was burned. Loss from $50,000 to $75,000; insurance, unknown.

At San Francisco, the Fulton iron works and the Manhattan food factory were burned. The entire northwestern half of the block bounded by Fremont, Beals, Howard and Folsom streets was swept clean except a small saloon in the corner. Firemen had hard work saving the remainder of the block because of the scarcity of water. Total loss, $400,000, of which the iron works lose $300,000. The fire broke out in the coke oven of the iron works.

At Trinity, Texas, the business houses on north side of Main street were burned. Loss, $30,000.

At Colquitt City, Ore., Three-fourth of the business section was destroyed by fire. Loss, $100,000: partly insured.

At Ullanow, Galicia, two hundred houses were consumed and two persons were burned to death.

At Louisville, Ky., the New Albany cotton batting mills. Loss, $35,000; insurance, $18,000. The fire was caused by friction.

Crops.

The fruit crops in the South of England have been greatly damaged, if not destroyed, by a terrific storm.

Cuban planters complain of drouth.

Kansas crop reports say the rains have done great damage. In the Western half of the State, which is usually parched by drouth, the farmers are enthusiastic over the best prospects ever known.

Hailstorms in the Province of Alessandria, Italy, have destroyed the crops in 80 communes.

ALTON, ILL.—The damage by the floods in the river bottoms is being duplicated on the prairies by the long continued rains and cold. Wheat is rusting so badly that the harvest will certainly be short. No corn has yet been planted, owing to the wet ground, and hardly a bushel can be bought from the farmers at any price. The fruit prospects are faring as badly, the apple and berry crops being short fully 50 per cent. The prospects of still higher water, and the consequent necessity of supporting the homeless flood suffers for 12 months is having a most discouraging effect on all branches of trade and business is paactically at a standstill.

Political.

At the local option election in Toronto, O., the "wets" won by 25 majority in a total of 508.

The anti-Hill, anti-"snap" convention met at Syracuse, N. Y., on Tuesday. The platform adopted indorses Cleveland. Supplementary to the platform the following was adopted: "Resolved, That this convention approve, indorse and point with pride to the administration of Grover Cleveland, and we recommend him to the Chicago Convention for nomination, and to the Democratic party and the patriotic people of the country for election again to the Presidency." Delegates to Chicago were appointed and instructed to demand recognition there.

The Crops.

The following crop bulletin was issued by the weather bureau: Pennsylvania; cold wet weather, injurious to corn and much of it needs replanting; grass and small grain generally in good condition; season in northern counties two weeks late. tobacco planting begun; ground very wet and farm work delayed.

The *Kansas Farmer* publishes crop reports from its correspondents throughout the State. They indicate a wheat acreage about equal to that of last year. Very few counties report insects of any kind. In some counties the wheat on bottom lands has suffered from washing out by floods, but in general the damage to this crop by the excessive rains has been less than was to be expected. The harvest will be later than usual. The acreage of oats is rather lighter than heretofore, on account of the lateness of the season and excessive rains. This crop is later than usual, but otherwise in good condition. Corn is very backward on account of cool, wet weather. The acreage will be larger than usual. The several crops are below the average.

Crime and Penalties.

Miss Lillie Norfolk, aged 30, well-known in society and amateur theatrical circles, committed suicide at Brooklyn by choking herself to death. She knelt beside a wash basin and held her throat against the marble until she was suffocated. Cause: crossed in love.

At Atoka, Ky., Moses Bottom's 6-year-old daughter killed her 18-months-old sister. She beat out the child's brains and broke its neck with a piece of stove wood. The child seemed to bear some hatred to her baby sister.

At Annona, Texas, Charles Lytle and Ben Yelly became involved in a quarrel, and Lytle shot and killed Yelly. The latter's son then shot and killed his father's slayer. The boy is under arrest. The crimes were committed while the party were drinking.

Miscellaneous.

The phenomenal Jersey cow, Signal's "Lilly Flag," at Huntsville, Ala., has broken the record, having made 1,029 pounds 13 ounces of butter, with four days more to end her year test. She is now the Jersey queen of the world.

The loss caused by the floods of the Missippi and its tributaries is estimated at $50,000,000 and the rivers are again rising.

Owing to the floods there are 300 destitute families in Alexander county, Ill. Box cars are used as houses and the people are living on fish.

Jeff Davis' birthday was celebrated as a legal holiday for the first time in Florida and Mississippi Friday.

Mortuary.

General Ralph Buckland died at Fremont, Ohio. He was born in 1812, and was conspicuous in the late civil war.

General Turner C. Moorehead, a veteran of the Mexican and Civil wars, died at Asbury Park, N. J., aged 80.

General R. D. Mussey died in Washington, after a brief illness. He participated in the Civil War throughout and before the war was Adjutant General of the State of Ohio.

Financial and Commercial.

The Bank of Pueblo (Col.) assigned. The cause is due to extreme dull times and inability to make collections on overdue accounts.

Personal.

Secretary's Foster's wife and daughter, Secretarv's Rusk's daughter and Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stanford sailed for Europe on the City of Paris on Thursday.

Legislative.

Governor Peck of Wisconsin, issued a proclamation calling a special session of the Legislature June 28 to reapportion the State into Senate and Assembly districts, a move made necessary by the declaration of the Supreme Court that the apportionment by the Legislature of 1889 was inconsistent.

BEYOND OUR BORDERS.

Werper & Co., Antwerp, have failed with liabilities of $1,250,000. Attributed to the decline in the rates of Brazilian exchange.

The Durham miners issued a manifesto, which is a complete defiance to the owners.

Six brigands, who have been terrorizing Turkish Epirus, were killed in an attempt to kidnap a Greek Bishop.

Seventeen Arrab slave traders have been sentenced to be hanged for holding a slave market in German territory in East Africa.

The Melbourne authorities have decided that all the statements, letters to the press and other documents written by Deeming shall be destroyed.

Since May 7 there have been 2,450 deaths from cholera at Serinagur in the Vale of Cashmere.

BUENOS AYERS—Doctors estimate that there are 10,000 cases of influenza in that city.

Thus far there have been over 3,000 deaths in Calcutta.

BLAINE QUITS THE CABINET.

His Resignation Tendered and Accepted. No Reasons Given.

WASHINGTON, June 6.—Secretary of State James G. Blaine severed his connection with the Administration Saturday by resigning

JAMES G. BLAINE.

from the Cabinet. His resignation was accepted at once by President Harrison. The correspondence was as follows:

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, June 4, 1892.

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

Your letter of this date, tendering your resignation of the office of Secretary of State of the United States, has been received. The terms in which you state your desires are such as to leave me no choice but to accede to your wishes at once. Your resignation is therefore accepted.

Very respectfully, yours,
BENJ. HARRISON.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
WASHINGTON, June 4, 1892, 12:45 P.M.

TO THE PRESIDENT:

I respectfully beg leave to submit my resignation of the office of Secretary of State of the United States, to which I was appointed by you on the 5th of March, 1892.

The condition of public business in the Department of State justifies me in requesting that my resignation may be accepted immediately.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAMES G. BLAINE.

WASHINGTON, June 6.—Mr. Blaine spent Sunday quietly at home, except that toward evening he took a drive into the country with Mrs. Blaine. He received a few calls from personal friends, but admittance was refused to all other persons. All efforts to interview him were equally unsuccessful, the ex-Secretary of State adhering to the determination which he announced immediately after his resignation, that he would let the published correspondence speak for itself without a word of explanation from him.

Mr. Blaine has, however, sent to the Associated Press this evening for publication the following autographic communication:

A CARD.

17 MADISON PLACE,
WASHINGTON, June 5, 1892.

The United Press yesterday sent out an alleged interview with me, and also with Mrs. Blaine, for which there was not the slightest foundation for truth. It was a forgery from the first word to the last. I warn my friends that similar falsehoods may be expected. JAMES G. BLAINE.

The League Record.

The following table shows the standing of the various base ball clubs:

	Won.	Lost.	Postponed.	Per Cent.
Boston	29	11	4	.725
Brooklyn	24	14	6	.632
Cincinnati	25	16	5	.610
Chicago	23	16	4	.590
Philadelphia	21	19	3	.525
Pittsburgh	22	20	3	.524
Cleveland	20	20	8	.500
New York	19	50	4	.487
Louisville	17	22	5	.436
Washington	15	23	5	.395
St. Louis	14	27	4	.341
Baltimore	9	30	7	.231

WHIRLPOOL OF DEATH

TITUSVILLE AND OIL CITY DEVASTATED

By Water, Burning Oil and Fearful Gases.

CLOUD-BURST AT HEAD OF OIL CREEK.

Hundreds Perish, and Many Hundreds More Missing.

OIL CITY, PA., June 6.—The most appalling disaster in the history of this unfortunate city fell upon it Sunday like a thunderbolt, resulting in the destruction of life and property, which, as yet, can only be approximated, so great and widespread has been the ruin.

At 11:30 o'clock Sunday morning a large proportion of the population was enjoying the beautiful Sunday morning along the banks and bridges of the Allegheny river and Oil Creek, which empties into that stream. The cause of this unusual outpouring of the population was a curiosity to see the rapid rise in both the creek and the river.

Word had reached here early in the morning that a heavy clond-burst had occurred at Spartansburg, above Titusville, and that a great flood, sweeping down upon that city, had drowned many. But few details had been heard here at the time mentioned—11:30—yet hundreds lined the banks of the two streams, just where the two streams joined.

Suddenly the older heads in the crowds noticed a thin covering of oil floating on the surface of the water, while at the same time an ominous wave of gas, arizing from the crude, refined and distilled benzine floating down, swept up from the flood, and began to permeate the whole valley.

"Stand back, stand back!" shouted a commanding voice, and the people slowly and unwillingly began to retreat from bridge and bank. They were very slow—too slow—for the volume of oil began swelling and rolling, while waves of the subtle gas began coming, almost strangling those near by.

Just then a man on horseback pushed his way through the crowds, waving his hands and repeating in a voice of thunder, "Stand back." It was known that the refineries lining the banks for miles had been wrecked, and with a presentiment of evil, with one accord there was a dash for safety.

Presently, far up the stream came one dull, sullen report, and immediately after two more. Instantly the great crowds realized that the oil had taken fire, but they were an eternity gaining this knowledge, as compared to the lightning speed of fire. What followed is indelibly imprinted upon the minds of every panic-stricken spectator, but no human tongue can picture the transcending horror of the scene.

At the upper end of the city, a tiny tongue of flame rushed from a hovel fire on the banks and shot across the creek like a streak of lightning. A dull, booming explosion followed, and immediately the flame flew up and down the creek. The surcharged air was cleared of gas in an instant, only to be filled with an element far more fatal and horryfying.

It seemed as if the very heavens had burst into flame after the first explosion, which then became a solid mass of flame along creek and river for two miles up and down—a fire that rolled and beat against bank and buildings and towered high up until the very hills were lost to sight in the hell of flame.

Oil City is hemmed in on all sides by steep hills, and it seemed as if none could escape the furious element, which began catching up buildings along the creek like so many wisps of straw. Thousands poured out of their homes at the sound of the first explosion, and had hardly gained the street when the second and third reports were heard.

The entire valley was like one vast gas reservoir. People were hurled about and thrown down or tossed from side to side by the force of the explosions. Windows crashed and buildings swayed as if upheaved by an earthquake while more terrifying than all was the midnight darkness that covered the city like a funeral pall.

This intense blackness lasted but a few seconds, when it was replaced by a glaring light and the hea of the burning gas and oil, when again a lowering cloud settled over the valley from the black waves of smoke. These terryfying transitions from light to darkness and intense heat occurred in scarcely a moment of time, but it seemed an eternity to the people, who believed that their last day had come. Thousands prostrated themselves or were hurled to the ground, while thousands struggled bravely against the elements towards home and kindred, that they might die together.

The next instant they were prostrated by a second explosion, only to rise to their feet again and face what all considered their doom. Huge waves of flame rolled up the river banks and began licking up one house after another. The flames began lapping from one roof to another, then from scores to hundreds, until within three minutes almost the entire portion of the Third ward was in flames.

Fully 3,000 people lived in that ward, or were lining the banks of the river and creek at the time, and after the first dull stupor, a scene of madness followed. Men forgot who and what they were and fought down the weaker like demons in their mad rush for safety. Women and children were swept to the ground and trampled under foot by horses and men.

"To the hills, to the hills!" was the cry. The insane wave of shrieking humanity started up Center street, leaving the moaning, mangled forms of many of the weaker were they had been trampled in the dirt. Behind them came the flames in great waves that overtook many faltering footsteps, while the blistering heat grew fiercer every moment with the added fuel of hundreds of houses.

Then behind this maddened crowd came a few brave men, who tenderly picked up those trampled under foot, or assisted sick and helpless to higher ground, once that was reached in safety, came anxiety for friends and relatives who had been along the river banks watching the flood when the mass of fire and smoke fell upon the city.

THE DEAD AND MISSING.

At 11 o'clock to-night the list of those known to be dead or missing is as follows: John O'Leary, express messenger, and mother, burned; Willis Stewart, burned; E. V. R. Plank, burned; Matt Lyon, employe of railroad shops, wife, daughter aged 20, and boy aged 12, burned; Sherd Wick, lumber merchant, missing; H. W. Shafer, of Franklin, postal telegraph operator; J. B. Reilbold, member of Select Council and proprietor Bellevue Hotel, burned; James Rogers, laborer, drowned; James Holmes, of Jamestown, barber, burned; Frank Goodrich, electrician, burned; William Eakin, carpenter, and two grown sons, Frank and Edward, burned; Charles Miller, machinist, burned; Daniel Sullivan, burned; Ed. Keating, burned; William Moran, employe electric light company, drowned; Samuel Richardson, machinist, and four children, burned; James Burns, laborer, missing; Frank Watson, 14 years old, burned; Frank Hassenfritz, 18 years old, burned; J. L. Dorworth, prominent lawyer, burned; J. H. Dougherty, oil man of large property, burned; George Hawks, burned; William White, foreman of Continental refinery, burned; William Terwilliger and brother John, burned; wife of unknown Pole; six children who have not been identified; Ed Mills and four children, drowned; Mrs. John Roach and child, burned; Charles Fisher, burned; Mr. and Mrs. Copeland and baby six days old, burned; Mrs. Levi Fetters, missing; Miss Emma Briggs, missing; John Ulander, Sr., missing; John Gillespie, burned. The list of the dead and missing at this hour is 58, but conservative estimates of many prominent citizens places the number at 100 or more. There are, undoubtedly, numbers of bodies buried under the ruins in the burned district, and many bodies have floated down the Allegheny river. It is very probable that some bodies will never be recovered, and many that have are so burned and charred as to be beyond recognition.

THE INJURED.

The names of the injured, so far as ascertained, follow: Eugene Fritz, badly burned; Samuel Streck, badly burned; Mrs. George Hawks and daughter, burned probably fatally; Nat Simon, laborer, badly cut and burned; Mrs. Briggs, mother of Emma Briggs, seriously burned. Many others whose names are not known are injured.

THE TITUSVILLE HORROR.

Nearly Half a Hundred Dead and Several Hundred Unaccounted For.

TITUSVILLE, PA., June 6—Titusville was visited on Sunday by one of the most appalling fires and overwhelming floods in the history of this country. A conservative estimate places the number of lives lost at fully 45 from fire and drowning.

The list now actually found and known to be dead is as follows: William Cuppey, Fred Reide, Mr. Mary Haehn, Mamie Haehn, Gertie Haehn, Clara Haehn, Peter Haehn, Mrs. Fred Campbell and two children, Oliver Edgar, Joseph Spiegles and two children visiting here from Warren, Frank Wialon, wife and child, F. Lemeres, Nellie Quinn, Mrs. Furman and daughter (colored), Mrs. A. Jacobs, Delila Rice, Mrs. Englisky and child, Mrs. Jacobs and child, A picture-frame peddler name unknown, Goldie Hohn 11 years old, Mrs. Jacob Bingenheimer and seven children, Mrs. C. P. Casperson, Mrs. P. Quinn, Mamie Quinn; John McFadden.

As near as can be gathered from the reports as they come in the loss by destruction of property will aggregate fully $1,500,000. All this loss is in this city, with the surrounding country yet to be heard from.

A large number of the most extensive and prosperous manufacturing establishments now lay in ashes, and hundreds of homes and business places are utterly wiped out, while the streets are filled with a hungry, homeless, weeping and distracted people, morning the loss of loved ones who have perished in the rush of waters or the firey billows of flame which engulfed them in the twinkling of an eye as they were struggling it the vain endeavor to save their homes.

The scenes of the day completely beggar description. Parents and children stood by, without power to aid, and witnessed each other struggle in the clutches of the flood until eventually they went down to rise no more. As sad and thrilling scenes as ever took place in the valley of the Conemaugh three years ago have been repeated here today, while thousands of people looked on without the least chance to avert them.

People do not as yet realize the enormity of the great catastrophe that has befallen them. It is too full of horror for them to grasp in a moment. Fully 200 people are as yet unaccounted for but in the crush, hurry and confusion it is impossible to give actual figures.

Five men were seen to perish together. The sight was witnessed by fully 2,000 people, all powerless to render aid. The men had hold of a piece of timber and were struggling to make the shore. Just as it looked as though they would reach it a neighboring tank of oil exploded, and the burning oil quickly enveloped the doomed men, death came almost instantly. Scores of cases of a like fearful nature are reported.

HOW IT STARTED.

About midnight Saturday historical old Oil creek began suddenly to rise. Heavy and almost incessant rains have been prevalent throughout this entire section for the past six weeks. This, however, does not seem to have been the cause of the sudden rise in Oil creek, although at first it was thought to be the case. Late reports say that the huge mill dam, owned by Thomson & Eldred, and located at the little town of Spartansburg, seven miles above this city, suddenly burst. This body of artificial water was one and one-half miles in length and one-fourth of a mile wide and quite deep. That great body of water, thus suddenly let loose, made of this valley, in the course of a few moments, a regular inland sea. The avalanche of water descending when most of the inhabitants were sleeping, completely and at once shut them off from the higher portions of the city. Notwithstanding this state of affairs the danger of the city was underrated, no one having the slightest idea that the flood, dangerous as it was, was to be soon augmented by fire. This, however, was true, for at 2 o'clock Sunday morning, immediately following three terrific explosions which shook the city to its center, a great light went up from the direction of the Crescent refinery, located on the north side of the creek in the East End, and owned by John Schwartz & Co.

A second look showed the entire plant to be one vast sheet of solid flame, the light from which illuminated a full half mile of surrounding blackness and showed to the assembled and horrified spectators the full extent of the great calamity that had befallen their city. The tongues of flame shooting 200 feet and more straight into the heavens; the shrieks and agonizing cries of the helpless human beings caged in their dwellings like rats in a trap, in the middle of that rushing and mighty water and within the very shadow of death from burning oil, benzine and naphtha that threatened at any time to engulf them.

Oil creek, now swollen to 500 times its natural size and reaching from one hillside to the other, presented an appalling picture. Floating swiftly by on its bosom were all sorts, manners and kinds of animate and inanimate objects—tanks, stills with the steam in them and blowing off; houses, barns, horses, cows, chickens, everything almost being borne onward with a rush. Clinging to various objects, such as driftwood, pieces of boards, timbers and any other object they could lay hands on, were scores of human beings, their white and terror-strick countenances, desperate struggles and plaintive, soul-piercing cries all combining to create impressions in the minds of the beholders never to be effaced or forgotten.

About one hour from the time the Crescent works caught another alarm was sounded, and it was found that oil discharged from an overturned tank further up the creek had scattered itself over a broad enough expanse of water to reach the Crescent fire, where it at once ignited, and in a moment a large acreage of the creek was one vast sea of fire. This blaze soon spread to the International Oil Works owned by J. P. Thomas & Co., and they were soon in a blaze. Then came the large refining plant and soap factory of Rice & Robinson, which the flames in a short time reached and consumed. The wind was in the right quater and on sped the fire, arriving in due time at the Oil Creek refinery and wax plant.

The fire destroyed the large furniture factory, store and store room of Casperson & Rowe, located on South Franklin street; the Dullen Hotel, opposite the Western New York and Pennsylvania passenger depot; the Western New York and Pennsylvania freight depot, and about 75 private dwellings.

Figuring the loss on Wood's plant, the total in the city will probably approach close to $1,500,000. It is partly covered by insurance.

The loss in the county by washouts and loss of bridges will be enormous. There is not a county or township bridge for many miles that is not washed away, and the roads in every direction are nearly impassable.

The Western New York and Pennsylvania and the Union and Titusville roads have not attempted to run trains and will be obliged to spend an enormous amount of money before traffic can be run in any direction.

FIFTY-SECOND CONGRESS.

TUESDAY—Nothing of importance was accomplished in the Senate, and after routine business the Senate adjourned.

The House started out with good intentions this morning to do something with the Postoffice appropriation bill, but struck a snag in the clause providing for free delivery. Mr. Caldwell (Ohio) moved to increase the appropriation from $10,450,000 to $10,745,000, and when a vote was taken he made the point of no quorum. A call of the House ensued, a resolution was passed revoking leaves of absence, except for sickness, and the House adjourned until to-morrow without accomplishing anything.

WEDNESDAY—In the Senate General Eppa Hunton, appointed Senator from Virgina, to succeed the late Senator Barbour, was sworn in. The free silver coinage bill was then taken up and debated until adjournment.

Another day was devoted by the House to the discussion of the free postal delivery system, and no progress was made with the Postoffice Appropriation bill, except the adoption of an amendment providing that no part of the $10,450,000 appropriated for free delivery should be disbursed so as to establish additional free delivery officers in any Congressional district where there may be one or more free delivery offices already, nor shall free delivery facilities be increased in said offices until every Congressional district in which they may be placed possessing the necessary qualifications shall have been supplied with at least one free delivery office. Representative Hall, of Minnesota, introduced in the House a bill placing coal bituminous and shale upon the free list. Almost the whole day was consumed in discussion of points of order, and little business of any importance was transacted.

THURSDAY.—In the Senate the resolution offered yesterday by Mr. Turpie, calling for the correspondence with Haiti, Colombia, and Venezuela in regard to reciprocity, was taken up, and Mr. Turpie addressed the Senate upon it. At the close of Mr. Turpie's speech, the resolution was adopted. At 2 o'clock the bill to provide for the free coinage of gold and silver was laid before the Senate, and Mr. Stewart resumed his argument in support of it. At the close of Mr. Stewart's speech the silver bill went over without action. The resolution reported from the Finance Committee for a committee of five Senators to inquire whether the law relative to National banks furnishes sufficient protection to depositors and other creditors, and to investigate recent failures of National banks, and any other violation of law or irregularities was agreed to. The Senate then proceeded to executive business, and at 4 o'clock adjourned till Monday next.

The House went into committee of the whole, Mr. Buchanan, of Virginia, in the chair, on the postoffice appropriation bill. Mr. Blount, of Georgia, offered an amendment reducing by $2,349,000 the appropriation for inland transportation by railroad routes, and authorizing the Postmaster General to readjust the compensation to be paid after July 1, 1893, for the transportation of mails on railroad routes by reducing the compensation to railroad companies for the transportation of mails 10 per cent from the rates based on the weight fixed and allowed by the act of June 17, 1878. Pending action the committee rose: The House then adjourned.

FRIDAY—The Senate was not in session.

After some morning business the House went into committee of the whole on the postoffice appropriation bill, Mr. Buchanan of Virginia in the chair. Mr. Scott of Illinois offered an amendment providing that no part of the appropriation for stamped envelopes shall be used to pay for or furnish stamped envelopes having the names of any business firm, corporation or advertising device printed thereon, and making it unlawful for the postmaster general to have requests for the return of letters printed on any envelope sold by the postoffice department, provided, however, that the department may continue to furnish stamped envelopes containing the words, "if not delivered within 10 days, return to—." Agreed to.

SATURDAY—Senate not in session.

In the House several bills were called up, but had to be postponed owing to the point of no quorum, raised by Mr. Bailey of Texas. The House went into committee of the whole on the postoffice appropriation bill. On motion of Mr. Newberry, of Illinois, an amendment was adopted appropriating $52,000 for the establishment of a branch postoffice on the grounds of the World's Fair. The committee then rose and reported the bill to the House, and it was passed. Then came the sensation of the day, and indeed of many days and weeks. This was the information given by the Associated Press of the resignation of James G. Blaine as Secretary of State. Filibustering tactics consumed the remainder of the day, and the House adjourned.

1,200 KILLED, 4,000 INJURED,

By the Hurricane in the Island of Mauritius.

MARSEILLES, June 1.—The mails which have just arrived from Mauritius confirm the statement that 1,200 persons were killed and 4,000 injured in the recent hurricane. The hurricane was preceded by a violent magnetic disturbance. The sea rose nine feet, the highest level since the cyclone of 1818. Scarcely a house in the colony escaped damage. Many churches and public buildings were destroyed. The fine Church of the Immaculate Conception is in ruins. The Cathedral, however, by a strange chance escaped. The dead include a large number of the leading inhabitants. Fearful sights were witnessed on the streets. One factory on the Martin estate collapsed, killing 200 Indians. One-half of the sugar crop was destroyed. The planters' losses are incalculable.

AIDS TO AGRICULTURE.

Features of a Bill Reported to the House.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 4.—A feature of the bill making appropriations for the support of the agricultural report for the fiscal year 1893 reported by Chairman Hatch to the House, is that section providing that the monthly crop report issued on the 10th of each month shall be confined strictly to a statement of the percentage totals, without comment or argument, and that it shall be submitted to the secretary of agriculture, who shall officially approve the report before it is issued or published. Another feature transfers from the secretary of the treasury to the secretary of agriculture the supervision of the admission of animals for breeding purposes; such animals as the secretary of agriculture deems worthy of introduction into the United States for breeding purposes shall be admitted free of duty.

Plenty of Snow in Wyoming.

CHYEENNE, WYO., June 6.—A blinding snow storm raged here yesterday and the snow is eight inches deep on a level. The storm is general throughout the State, the crops are all practically destroyed and it is feared there will be loss of life in the mountains.