

A RED-HOT FIGHT.

Politics at Fever Heat at Minneapolis.

A BITTER FEELING EXISTING.

Blaine's Resignation Falls Like a Bombshell.

HARRISON'S FORCES INDIGNANT.

Loud in Their Denunciation of the Ex-Secretary's Action.

WILL USE EVERY MEANS TO DEFEAT HIS NOMINATION.

Leaders of Both Men Claim to Have Enough Votes to Secure the Nomination of Their Favorite on the First Ballot, While Among the Conservatives the Names of McKinley, Sherman, Alger and Rusk Find Frequent Mention as Dark Horses.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

MINNEAPOLIS (Minn.), June 5.—The sanctity of the American Sabbath was sacred to no man to-day. In the mad whirlpool of political affairs men forgot their Christian faith and remembered only their political creed. They forgot their Savior and worshipped at the shrine of political idols. While ministers in neighboring churches were leading in prayer, the corridors of the hotels were filled with a seething mass of excited humanity, cheering and counter-cheering for Harrison and Blaine. The excitement continued all day, and the political enthusiasm hourly increased. It has been a day of kaleidoscopic changes, and it is difficult indeed to measure the true political sentiment. Of the two great nations into which the party is divided, the Administration element is strongest in leadership. The full force of sentiment in connection with Blaine's resignation has been expended, and to a close observer it is apparent that the Harrison forces are as strong as they were twenty-four hours ago. The Blaine people say that when the decisive battle comes Blaine enthusiasm will carry everything before it, and will nominate the distinguished son of Maine on the first ballot. Men who have attended all the Republican conventions for the past twenty-five years, and observed the political atmosphere, and have become political pilots, say to-night that the convention of 1892 is unique in the discrepancy which it presents between the claims of the contesting candidates. The Harrison managers officially announced to-night that their candidate will receive five hundred and fifty votes, while the Blaine leaders maintain with lofty confidence that their candidate will receive three-fifths of the votes of the convention, and will be nominated by acclamation. To the casual observer it is plain that a bitter feeling is being engendered every hour, and that with Blaine and Harrison in the field the result of the convention will leave behind it regrets, disappointments and hostility toward the successful candidate. This feeling gives rise to rumors of dark horses and compromise candidates. The name most frequently mentioned among the list of dark horses is McKinley. The special endorsement which has been given the McKinley bid makes another peculiarly fitting candidate. Alger's name is still the watchword of the Michigan delegation, and will certainly be presented to the convention. Certain Iowa delegates are looking longingly for an occasion which will justify the presentation of the name of Senator Allison. Senator Cullom of Illinois, Jeremiah Rusk of Wisconsin and Whitlaw Reid of New York are also freely discussed.

would withdraw from the race to-morrow, but was pronounced a canard by Blaine's friends. The South Dakota delegation arrived to-day and stands four for Blaine and two for Harrison, but Senator Pettigrew hopes to swing them in solid for Blaine. Ex-Archbishop-General Mitchem of Indiana says: "The reaction to-day has been distinctly in favor of the President. He says he can name four men in one State who were claimed for Blaine that have been brought to the support of Harrison. This is only an incident of many similar changes constituting an almost general movement."

CROWDED CITY.

Delegates and Visitors Arriving in Large Numbers.

MINNEAPOLIS, June 5.—The city is becoming well crowded to-night and there is considerable difficulty in obtaining suitable accommodations. The delegates, however, are provided for. Mrs. C. C. Carlton, one of the women delegates from Wyoming, was the recipient of numerous calls to-day from party leaders, and received numerous congratulations on the triumph of her sex in obtaining political recognition in the West. A large number of delegates arrived during the day from all parts of the Union. One train brought the Indiana, Alabama and Louisiana delegations, the first sleeper having in strong letters the legend: "Evansville, Indiana, sold for Harrison." They were met at the St. Paul depot by representatives of the Minneapolis Flambeau Club, in full marching regalia, and escorted with a brass band to Minneapolis.

In the matter of sentiment of the State delegations there are many conflicting opinions. The Michigan people are undecided as to whether Alger will come before the convention. As to Ohio, Foraker claims only a bare majority of the delegation for Blaine. It is asserted on the other side that Blaine will not to exceed sixteen votes of the Ohio delegation. According to figures of ex-Senator Platt, New York has fifty-six delegates for Blaine. The Harrison managers claim a majority of this delegation. The poll of the Ohio delegation shows all but three for Harrison.

HARRISON CONTINGENT.

One great event of the day was the arrival of the banner Harrison enforcement, the Columbia Club of Indianapolis. They came up the street with hands playing and a jaunty confidence that was better than barrels of tonics for the Harrison legions already on the ground. They marched into the rotunda of the West Hotel and took possession of everything in sight. A hurrahing match in the hotel was started by the Columbians for Harrison, and, striving to be outdone by the friends of Blaine, continued throughout the afternoon.

PENNSYLVANIA DELEGATION.

The most enthusiastic delegation arrived this afternoon. They were stalwart Blaine men from Pennsylvania. The citizens of Minneapolis were not long in discovering the political complexion of the delegation as they heard the original refrain by the enthusiastic Blaine men in the party beginning: "We are for the man from Maine. He will get there just the same. Pennsylvania is here to stay. And stands by Matthew Quay, Jerry Rusk for second place. He will help us win the race. Won't they make a dandy pair for the President?"

DELEGATES IN CAUCUS.

The New York delegation held a caucus this afternoon, the most notable outgrowth of which was the talk as to the organization of a general caucus before the convention, the talk being that the delegates on each side should meet and agree upon a plan of action.

THE INDIANA DELEGATION.

The Indiana delegation also held a caucus and General Lew Wallace of the delegation decided to stand by Harrison to the end.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM ALGER.

A telegram was received from Alger to-night in which he stated that he did not desire to be considered in antagonistic candidacy to Blaine.

CONVENTION HALL.

Decorations Completed—Dignified and Becoming. MINNEAPOLIS, June 5.—The adornment of Convention Hall was completed to-day. The decorations, in their perfect ensemble, display all the genius of Worth. They are in no sense elaborate, but are dignified and becoming. The dome of the hall is supported by a series of columns around which has been gathered chocolate-colored drapery intertwined with sheafs of Minnesota wheat. The quadrilateral in which the delegates will sit is immediately in front of the Chairman's platform. Between the central columns on either side has been festooned national colors, folds of flags divided and held in the talons of the American eagle. In the rear of the platform the same decoration prevails, and on either side the column has been surrounded with old gold, displaying sheaves of wheat on which is perched an eagle, appearing on the eve of flight. Suspended from the pillars skirting the seats assigned to delegates are shields and banners of States.

As the Chairman faces the audience the arms of the State of New York will be on the right, and next to the Empire State is the right, and next to the Empire State is the Pennsylvania motto. Then follow to the right, the arms of Vermont, Alabama, South Dakota, Missouri, Massachusetts, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, California, Virginia, Maryland, Georgia, Maine, Indiana and Ohio. In the rear of the above the arms of the other States are exhibited. The Delegates-at-Large, National Committee men and Alternates will be readily recognizable. The arrangement of the seats assigned to the spectators will surpass those of any other convention.

It is thought that the audience which will attend Monday's concert will be the most interesting congregation of persons ever assembled in this country. The convention building will be equipped with a restaurant and divers commercial facilities for the comfort of the delegates and newspaper men in the rapid transmission of news.

BLAINE GAINING ADHERENTS.

Ex-Senator Warner Miller Declares for Him. MINNEAPOLIS, June 5.—Ex-Senator Warner Miller of New York made a statement at midnight declaring that a large majority of the New York delegation was decidedly in favor of Blaine, and said he would support him. This is the first official announcement from Miller since the opening of the campaign, and is regarded of great significance, and

likely to influence the action of the convention. It is said it gives Blaine forty-six votes from New York, leaving not more than twenty-six for Harrison.

Michigan of Indiana said to-night that Chauncey M. Depew will present the President's name to the convention. At the Maine headquarters it was stated that no one had been selected to present Blaine's name, and it is not known whether he would be formally placed in nomination or not.

The Texas delegation, which has been for Harrison, has split up and ten gone to Blaine.

BLAINE REFUTES A RUMOR.

WASHINGTON, June 5.—Blaine spent the day quietly at home. He received a few calls from personal friends, but admittance was refused all others. Efforts to interview him were equally unsuccessful. Blaine has, however, sent to the Associated Press an autographic denial of a reported interview with the Hon. Mrs. Blaine, sent out by the United Press last night, saying: "There is not the slightest foundation in truth. It is forgery from the first word to the last. I warn my friends that similar falsehoods may be expected."

ADMIRE THE PLUMED KNIGHT.

Senator Pettigrew Confident of the Ex-Secretary's Success.

MINNEAPOLIS, June 5.—Senator Pettigrew of South Dakota arrived from Washington, and is an enthusiastic admirer of Blaine. His utterances to-day created little short of a sensation. "I am not surprised," said he, "at the resignation of Blaine. The only thing singular is that a man of Blaine's disposition should have so long remained in intimate association with such men as Tracy, Miller and Wanamaker. Harrison and his advisers strove to ferment discord with insinuations that Blaine who bows the insults and slanders of his associates and their tools, because he declined to lend himself to the jingo efforts for the renomination of his chief. "As you remember, Blaine was reported sick during the pending of the Behring Sea negotiations. I am advised that Blaine was never in better health than during that incident, but the President, with small exception of the same great Secretary, took the nomination into his hands, where they legitimately belonged. The Secretary turned the entire matter over to his excellency, and the report was given out that the Secretary was sick. He was only sick of being insulted by the chief and kitchen Cabinet. Whatever excellence there has been in Harrison's administration is traceable to Blaine and his associates. The mistakes and weaknesses that beset the political earthquake of 1890 belong to Blaine and his errand boys. He is the most signal example in history of class President. I have no doubt as to the result. The Minneapolis Convention will honor itself by calling Blaine to lead the Republican hosts in a campaign of victory."

PICTURESQUE SIGHT.

Meeting of Chauncey M. Depew and Emmons Blaine.

MINNEAPOLIS, June 5.—The meeting of Chauncey M. Depew and Emmons Blaine to-day in the field of battle was a picturesque sight. It occurred in the dining-room of the West Hotel, and was witnessed by hundreds of less distinguished guests. Depew could scarcely have been more embarrassed if some sensational move had really been made. The famous after-dinner orator actually stammered and reddened as he awkwardly extended his hand to young Blaine, and inquired for the President's name. Mr. Platt seemed to greatly enjoy the dirty figure of the usually polished railway magnate. After passing a few hasty and irrelevant commonplace remarks, Depew excused himself and dropped into a vacant chair beside Murat Halstead, and out of sight of hundreds of curious eyes leveled from all parts of the room.

BLAINE RESIGNS.

He Will No Longer Act as Secretary of State.

WASHINGTON, June 5.—The political world was thrown into considerable commotion yesterday afternoon by the announcement that President Harrison had accepted the resignation of James G. Blaine as Secretary of State. The correspondence was as follows: DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, June 5, 1892. To the President: I respectfully beg to submit my resignation of the office of Secretary of State of the United States, which was appointed by you on the 5th of March, 1892. The condition of public business in this department of State justifies me in requesting that my resignation may be accepted having the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant, JAMES G. BLAINE.

THE RESIGNATION ACCEPTED.

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 desire to resign are such as to leave me no choice but to accede to your wishes at once. You are, respectively, yours, BENJAMIN HARRISON. To Hon. James G. Blaine: Blaine's resignation was taken to the White House by the President's secretary who placed it in the hands of the President about 1 o'clock. Soon after reading it the President descended to the East Room and held the resignation in a noon public reception. Two hundred people were present, none of whom as they shake the President's hand could have told from the cool collected manner that anything unusual had happened. Indeed, the President seemed in better spirits than usual, and his felicitous remarks to the greetings of his visitors.

After the reception the President returned to the library, addressed a letter to Blaine, and the latter immediately went to the White House and placed it in the hands of the President's secretary. Blaine took it to his house and placed it in his hands. This was the whole transaction.

WHY HE RESIGNED.

The Reasons Stated to be Personal Rather Than Political.

WASHINGTON, June 5.—The President had hardly finished luncheon when he was visited by Secretary Elkins, Rusk, Noble, Foster and Attorney-General Miller, all anxious to know the facts about Blaine's resignation. During the informal conference that followed the President told the Cabinet what had happened and suggested, in the interest of harmony and good taste, that they make no public comments on the situation. During the afternoon the President sent word to the State Department that he desired to see Assistant Secretary Wharton. The latter immediately went to the White House and the President advised him of Blaine's resignation and his desire that Wharton should act as Secretary of State for the present. For some time there have been various facts known to close observers in Washington which warranted the belief that the resignation, though undoubtedly precipitated by recent occurrences, had its

origin a long time ago in causes essentially of a personal nature. The causes may be briefly summarized as incompatibilities of temperament; disagreements over public questions, such as the Chilean navy; invidious comparisons and comment on the part of injudicious friends concerning the credit due either for the enactment and execution of the reciprocity project, and the general conduct of foreign affairs, including the management of the Behring Sea controversy, and a lack of cordial relations between the respective physical and mental condition.

These causes undoubtedly created a feeling of constraint between the President and Secretary months before Blaine wrote the letter declaring that he was not a candidate, and it was increased by the recently authorized publication by members of the President's family and close friends of the correspondence between the physical and mental condition.

A sudden termination of the conference between himself and the President was abruptly terminated by Blaine's statement that it was useless to continue the negotiations, as he was about to sever his official relations with the Government. The Canadian Commissioners left on the afternoon train for Ottawa in an unpleasant frame of mind and quite forgetting that they were not fairly treated by the Administration. Subsequently it was learned that there were no sensational disclosures at the session, and that the conference closed with a friendly spirit on both sides.

The Secretary remained at the State Department until 1:15 P. M., arranging his private papers. While he was doing this, an official document was laid before him, and he was about to severly resign to take it away, saying, "I am no longer Secretary of State." It is said that this was the first intimation of his resignation to his official associates.

BITTER FEELING EXISTING.

Harrison's Supporters Determined to Defeat Blaine.

MINNEAPOLIS, June 5.—Loud and deep were the curses of the supporters of the Administration when they heard of the resignation, and they thronged the corridors in overwhelming numbers in their haste and anxiety to let everybody know that they intended in cold blood and without remorse to assassinate Blaine politically.

They were frenzied, foaming at the mouth, mad. They are still in the same condition to-night, but a little less determined to stop and reflect a moment. They confess that the tables have been turned and they are now making an upward fight with the chances all against them.

Suggestions of combinations are not so much scorned. At an animated though noisy meeting held last night, yesterday afternoon it was seriously proposed to throw Harrison's strength to McKinley or Sherman, whichever could produce the most strength, on short notice.

At one time, indeed, it was rumored that Harrison men would determine to ask the President to withdraw his name at once, but no one could be found to give the word to do so. If this should prove true, however, Sherman will not be the man decided on for the combination, as he would be fought bitterly in the general election.

It must not be understood that the close Harrison men have given up the fight. They are too mad to do that. They will fight to the end, and they are still in the words of one of them, who said: "We may not nominate Harrison, but, by the eternal, we will defeat that traitor," meaning Blaine.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

New York, June 5.—The Tribune, in an editorial to-morrow, will say that many friends within the past fortnight Blaine had said he did not want the nomination at Minneapolis. We have no warrant for the assumption that he does not want the nomination, but we do not see how he could have said so, in his withdrawal of 1888. We therefore see no reason to change the opinion previously expressed that the possibilities point to the renomination and election of President Harrison.

CYCLONE IN NEBRASKA.

Houses Demolished and a Number of People Injured.

OMAHA, June 5.—A special to the Omaha Bee from McCook, Neb., says that place was visited by a terrible cyclone yesterday afternoon. About 1 o'clock, while the streets were crowded, a huge funnel-shaped cloud dropped to the ground, first striking the building of W. H. Cole and carrying off the roof. It then moved on to the depot, where it struck with terrible force in almost its former position upon the heads of the cigar-makers who were at work. One man was killed and several others injured. The storm center seemed to rise up into the air and again drop to the ground about three blocks away, striking the depot and carrying off the roof. It is impossible to give an estimate of the number of lives lost. For miles around the creek on both sides everything is in ruins, and hundreds of families rendered homeless. Very little, if any, property was saved, and the sky for five miles around is still black with smoke from the burning dwellings and oil tanks.

When the explosions occurred people were knocked down by the force of the shock, and every window within a radius of two squares were broken. The panic during the height of the excitement was something fearful, and it is remarkable that none were killed by horses and the wild, frantic mob. The water in Oil Creek is falling slowly now, and there is hope that the worst is over. In the upper part of town about a hundred dwellings were destroyed by fire, and owing to the debris of water part of the city is blockaded with lumber-sheds and the roofs of houses which were blown down.

The sight from the hill-tops above the town is awful and beyond description. The loss to property is placed at from three-quarters to a million dollars. Up to last accounts from fifteen to twenty bodies have been recovered and identified. The Third Ward is as level as a field.

Following is the list of dead as far as identified: William Shafer, John Reinbold, Charles Miller, Miss Minnie Russell, Daniel Sullivan, James Holmes, Mrs. Wm. Briggs and three daughters, William Morgan, Oil City; Ed. Keating, Mr. Terwilliger, Mr. Baker, Sheridan Wick, John Rouch and son, Mr. Eakin and two sons, Mr. and Mrs. Hawks and daughter, Matthew Lyons, wife and two children, John O'Leary and mother, Frank Plank, James Haskins, William White, John Steek, John Rambo, Humphrey Stewart, William Stewart, Harry Holmes, William Malone, Frank Watson, W. L. Daughart.

There are fifteen bodies at the undertaking rooms of Britling, McCracken & Co., twenty-five at the City Hall and a number taken to their homes. Still a number are missing.

Two sons of Dr. Hasenfritz were seriously injured. Louis Hasenfritz was badly burned and cannot live. Nine tanks of the Imperial Refinery Company, on Oil Creek, are now burning.

It is reported that Sam Yeager of Rousseau saved about twenty-five people located down the creek. He used a boat during the high flood, and great praise is due him. It was at 2 A. M. that the horrors of fire

SWEEP BY FLOODS AND FIRE.

An Awful Disaster in the Oil Regions of Pennsylvania.

FIRE FOLLOWS AN ALMOST RESIST-LESS FLOW OF WATERS.

Terrible Destruction at Oil City and Titusville—The River and Town Covered With a Seething Mass of Burning Oil—Men, Women and Children Overtaken While Endeavoring to Escape From Their Flooded Homes and Either Burned to Death or Drowned.

SPECIAL TO THE RECORD-UNION.

PITTSBURGH, June 5.—The oil regions of Pennsylvania were visited to-day by a disaster of fire and water only eclipsed by the memorable flood of Johnstown. It is impossible at this hour (midnight) to give anything like an accurate idea of the loss of life and property, as chaos reigns throughout the devastated region and a terrible conflagration still rages in Oil City. It is safe to say that not less than 150 lives were lost, as nearly 100 bodies have already been recovered and many are still missing. The property loss will reach into the millions. At Titusville it is estimated at \$1,500,000. Oil City, the same; Corry, \$600,000; Meadville, \$150,000, and the surrounding country is probably damaged to the extent of a million more.

A dispatch from Oil City says the loss of life will probably reach 200. Emlenton, another oil town between Oil City and Titusville, is also reported to have suffered greatly from the flood.

AT OIL CITY.

Awful Destruction to Life and Property.

OIL CITY (Pa.), June 5.—Never before in the history of Oil City and the oil country has such disaster, excitement and turmoil been seen as the city is now witnessing. At 1:15 this morning the streets and country for miles around were started by two explosions, occurring almost simultaneously.

Oil Creek was a raging torrent, and fully a thousand people were watching the waters. At 1:30 a green fluid was noticed on the water. This increased in quantity and finally covered almost the entire waters of the creek. The smell of gas and oil was perceptible and the danger of fire commented upon, and the words were hastily uttered when for two hundred yards on the stream a mass of flame shot heavenward.

The people stampeded like cattle and started for the hills. Hardly had they started when the explosions rent the air, and the entire creek for hundreds of feet seemed a seething mass of flame and smoke. The panic-stricken crowd shrieked madly in their efforts to escape.

Women and children were trampled under foot and some severely injured. The engine on the Western New York and Pennsylvania Railroad passed a tank of gasoline standing on a siding. The tank was leaking, and as the engine passed a mass of flame shot into the air, and the earth seemed to shake with an awful tremor. It is supposed the engineer and fireman were killed by the force of the explosion.

In an instant the flames swept madly over the entire upper part of the city, which was flooded by the oily waters of the creek, and men, women and children who were moving from their homes were caught by the deadly flames, and if not burned to death outright were drowned in the raging flood.

At this writing seven ghastly bodies have been taken from the flood, and are lying on the railroad track unrecognized. It is impossible to give an estimate of the number of lives lost. For miles around the creek on both sides everything is in ruins, and hundreds of families rendered homeless. Very little, if any, property was saved, and the sky for five miles around is still black with smoke from the burning dwellings and oil tanks.

When the explosions occurred people were knocked down by the force of the shock, and every window within a radius of two squares were broken. The panic during the height of the excitement was something fearful, and it is remarkable that none were killed by horses and the wild, frantic mob. The water in Oil Creek is falling slowly now, and there is hope that the worst is over. In the upper part of town about a hundred dwellings were destroyed by fire, and owing to the debris of water part of the city is blockaded with lumber-sheds and the roofs of houses which were blown down.

The sight from the hill-tops above the town is awful and beyond description. The loss to property is placed at from three-quarters to a million dollars. Up to last accounts from fifteen to twenty bodies have been recovered and identified. The Third Ward is as level as a field.

Following is the list of dead as far as identified: William Shafer, John Reinbold, Charles Miller, Miss Minnie Russell, Daniel Sullivan, James Holmes, Mrs. Wm. Briggs and three daughters, William Morgan, Oil City; Ed. Keating, Mr. Terwilliger, Mr. Baker, Sheridan Wick, John Rouch and son, Mr. Eakin and two sons, Mr. and Mrs. Hawks and daughter, Matthew Lyons, wife and two children, John O'Leary and mother, Frank Plank, James Haskins, William White, John Steek, John Rambo, Humphrey Stewart, William Stewart, Harry Holmes, William Malone, Frank Watson, W. L. Daughart.

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added to the misery of the people. A dull explosion was heard at that hour, and a flame fully two hundred feet high pierced the inky blackness and threw a glaring light over a vast expanse of angry waters. It was the Crescent Oil Refinery on fire, and never before did a fire seem to spread with such lightning-like rapidity. Pandemonium broke loose among the people and panic reigned supreme. Thousands of people rushed pell-mell through the streets, tumbling and knocking each other in an aimless endeavor to escape from what they imagined the crack of doom. The fierce light thrown on the surroundings revealed an appalling sight. On the roofs and in the windows of upper stories of houses in the flooded district appeared men, women and children, scantily clad, and all pitifully appealing for aid and succor. Clinging to driftwood timber as they were borne onward were scores of human beings, white and terror-stricken faces in a desperate struggle, and plaintive cries of aid, commingled with the roar of the water, creating impressions never to be forgotten or effaced from the memory of the beholders.

The story of destruction by flames has been already told. To-night the undertaking establishments of the city are turned into temporary morgues, and with the exception of seven Hebrews and two children, all the bodies recovered have been taken there.

June 5.—At 2 A. M. Forty-six bodies had been recovered in Oil City, but it is impossible to give an accurate estimate of the total loss of life. There has been no communication between this city and Titusville since 6 o'clock last evening. The loss of life there, it is said, will exceed 100. A tank owned by the Pennsylvania Refining Company, up Seneca street, is in danger of exploding at this writing. It contains 25,000 barrels of oil, and if it catches fire will wipe out the entire upper end of town.

AT TITUSVILLE.

Scores of Dwellings Swept Away, and Many Lives Lost.

TITUSVILLE (Pa.), June 5.—The city of Titusville was visited during the past twenty-four hours by one of the most disastrous fires in the history of the city. In all the history of this region, Oil Creek overflowed its banks, and for hours swept through the city in the proportions of an almost resistless flood. The city was without fuel or lights, and the water works surrounded by water. The Perry street and Franklin-street bridge was swept away. Scores of cheap dwellings in the lower part of the city were destroyed, and a large number of lives lost. Some were burned, but a majority drowned. An estimated loss of \$100,000. The loss throughout the country cannot be estimated. Bridges were washed away, and scarcely a passable road left in the country. The damage to growing crops is heavy. No casualties are reported in the city.

AT MEADVILLE.

The Entire Section Swept by Floods, Demolishing Buildings.

MEADVILLE (Pa.), June 5.—This entire section was swept by the worst floods in history last night. In this city the mill run overflowed the banks, and swept the business portion of the city, demolishing a dozen or more buildings and entailing an estimated loss of \$100,000. The loss throughout the country cannot be estimated. Bridges were washed away, and scarcely a passable road left in the country. The damage to growing crops is heavy. No casualties are reported in the city.

SAMUEL M. WILSON.

Death of One of the Most Prominent Lawyers of the State.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 5.—Samuel M. Wilson, one of the foremost lawyers of the State, died at his home on Pine street yesterday morning shortly after 3 o'clock.

Although Mr. Wilson had been ailing for some time, his death was a surprise to his family and friends, for he remained in his office busily engaged until 4 o'clock Friday afternoon.

On Friday Mr. Wilson saw quite a number of clients at his office, and it was not until late in the evening that he went to his home. He seemed pale and exhausted, and his condition excited the anxiety of his clerks. They, however, on account of his not having been in robust health, did not think anything of it, and supposed that he was merely worried by his late hours of the day.

He walked only a short distance, however, when he became too weak to proceed further, and went into a store on Montgomery street to rest. But after a few moments it was found that his strength had not returned, and a carriage was summoned to carry him to his home.

Mr. Wilson's death was a great loss to the legal profession, and he was a man of high character and ability. He was born in 1823 at Steubenville, O., and received his education at an academy of that town. He studied law under Mr. Wood, and was admitted to the bar in 1847. He practiced in his native place for a while he went to Galena, Ill., and became associated with Colonel Hoge. In 1850 he returned to San Francisco, and at once built up an extensive and lucrative practice. Five years before he had married the daughter of John Scott, a Congressman from Missouri, and in 1851 the firm was dissolved and Mr. Wilson formed a partnership with his brother, David S. Wilson, who, however, soon retired from the firm, and Mr. Wilson associated himself with A. P. Crittenden and the firm of Wilson & Crittenden lasted until the junior member was shot by Laura B. Fair in 1857. He was then associated with his father, and ever since the firm has been Wilson & Wilson.

Mr. Wilson was not only a successful politician, but had several times been a member of local conventions. Governor Haigh once attended a meeting of the Supreme Court, and wrote him a letter, earnestly pressing him to don the ermine, but he declined. With his old partner, Colonel Hoge, he was one of the members of the Fifteen Freedholders of San Francisco, who prepared the defeated charter of 1850, and also of the State Constitutional Convention of 1858. Of the latter body Colonel Hoge was President and Mr. Wilson was Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. He refused to sign the new Constitution.

He rarely addressed the people. Among the few occasions when he has done so may be mentioned his Fourth of July oration at Sacramento, and his address at the laying of the corner-stone of the State Capitol. The production outside of his profession, which was the best of his, was his elegy upon Senator Benches, who was a member of the State Democratic Club at San Francisco shortly after that statesman's death in 1888.

The news of the death of Mr. Wilson was heard with expressions of sincere regret by all citizens who had known him during his long and distinguished career in this city. Not alone from members of his own profession came such expressions of regard and regret, but from mechanics, from railway men, brokers and others whose business at some time had brought them in contact with the deceased.

A sensation was created at Stockton Saturday afternoon by the alarm of the creditors of J. F. Mossey, County Recorder, and the subsequent discovery that he is missing and cannot be found. When last heard from he was in San Francisco on Wednesday morning, and left his hotel to go to Dixon, but inquiries show that he did not go there. He owes in Stockton about \$50,000, for which no security has been given, and the note-holders are wild.

Many bodies of the dead bear evidence of meeting death from burning oil. Some were burned beyond recognition, and several in such a horrible manner as to leave them without the least semblance of human form.

The loss of the county by the washout of bridges is enormous. As there is no county or township bridge for miles that has not gone, the roads in every direction are impassable. The Western New York and Pennsylvania, Union and Titusville and Dunkirk and Allegheny Valleys suffer great loss.

The almost constant rains the last month caused the earth to be so thoroughly soaked that it could hold no more, and the heavy downpour Saturday and Sunday night caused the small streams to overflow their banks. About midnight Oil Creek began to rise rapidly and flood in before the residents were aware of their danger, and not more than half of them managed to reach high ground. The suddenness of the rise of the water is explained by the intelligence that the mill dam at Spartansburg burst.

AT CORREY.

The Business Portion of the Town Under Water.

CORREY (Pa.), June 5.—The most destructive rainstorm which ever visited this locality began yesterday, and by 9 o'clock the business part of the eastern portion of the town was under water, and by 11 o'clock Center street was a roaring torrent. Many people were rescued from their homes in the best way possible. There was no loss of life and few injured. Sidewalks were carried away and roads rutted from four to six feet deep. Nearly every basement in the city is flooded, and many stores. The loss throughout the city is estimated at \$50,000. The storm was general through this locality, and the loss can hardly be estimated. The roads are impassable, and everything in the path of the flood swept away. Bridges and culverts on all the railroads entering here were carried away and many trains stalled.