

TORNADO KILLS THIRTY-SEVEN PEOPLE.

TERRIBLE DESTRUCTION WROUGHT IN TWO NORTHERN MISSOURI TOWNS.

PERHAPS A HUNDRED DEAD AND A THOUSAND INJURED

The towns of Kirksville and Newtown, Mo., are reported to have been visited by a terrible tornado last evening.

In Iowa, on Wednesday night, three people were killed, several fatally injured, and much damage was done to farming property by a tornado.

AWFUL HAVOC IN KIRKSVILLE.

DEATH LIST PROBABLY BETWEEN FIFTY AND SIXTY—NEARLY A THOUSAND INJURED.

St. Louis, April 27.—A dispatch to "The Globe-Democrat" from Kirksville, Mo., says:

"A gathering storm that had been threatening all the afternoon broke upon Kirksville at 6:20 o'clock to-night in all the fury of a cyclone.

"In the heavy rain that followed the people who had escaped turned out to rescue the injured. For two hours not much was accomplished, as all was confusion, but by 8 o'clock twenty-five dead bodies had been taken from the ruins.

"The eastern part of the city was leveled by the tornado, and the estimate of dead is now placed at forty. Number injured not known.

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DESTRUCTION AT NEWTOWN.

THIRTY-SEVEN PEOPLE REPORTED KILLED BY THE TORNADO.

Kansas City, Mo., April 27.—"The Journal" has received a bulletin reporting the killing of thirty-seven persons in a tornado at Newtown, Sullivan County.

Newtown is forty miles northwest of Kirksville, Mo.

A dispatch to "The Journal" from Chillicothe, Mo., says:

A tornado, probably the same one that swept over Kirksville, struck Newtown, a small town in Sullivan County, to-night, and caused terrible destruction.

It is reported that fifteen people were killed in the city and that many others were killed in the country near there.

A great number of buildings were blown down. Heavy rain followed the tornado, adding greatly to the damage.

A Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad bridge is said to have been washed out.

Only a partial list of the casualties can be obtained. The station agent of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad at Newtown reports the killed and wounded as follows:

KILLED.

REAPER, Sherman, wife and three children.

EVANS, Labon, and two daughters.

HAYS, William, wife and children.

SEVERELY INJURED.

THREE boys children.

EVANS, E. J., wife and two children.

SLIGHTLY INJURED.

GREGORY, Mrs. Mary, and daughter.

PIERCE, Mrs. A., and sister.

FLAGG, Mrs. W.

BERMAN, Mrs. Wilson.

LIMBURY, Mrs. E.

SANFORD, David, wife and three children.

MCQUINN, Mr., and wife.

MCQUINN, Mrs. M., and wife.

JOHNSON, Mrs. John.

Kirksville is the county-seat of Adair County, Mo., on the St. Louis, Kansas City and Northern Railroad.

It has a population of 10,000. It contains a State Normal school, two newspaper offices, a courthouse, two banks, eight churches and several mills.

The population, according to the census of 1890, was 3,500.

Newtown is a post village of Sullivan County, Mo., on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad.

It has two churches, a tavern, a newspaper office, several stores, a sawmill and a hayrack factory.

Its population in 1890 was 303.

IOWA FARMERS SUFFER SEVERELY.

THREE PEOPLE KILLED, SEVERAL INJURED, AND GREAT DAMAGE DONE TO PROPERTY.

Onawa, Iowa, April 27.—A tornado swept the farming country twenty miles east of here last night.

Only meagre details have been received. Three persons are reported to have been killed and great damage done to property.

The killed are said to be Hans Severson, a farmer; a boy named Ferrin, and an unknown man.

John Amerston had an arm broken and his scalp cut. He was carried half a mile and dropped into the river.

A number of others are reported hurt, but their names have not yet been learned.

The houses of Peter Peterson, John Amerston and Hans Severson were blown to pieces, as were also the other buildings on their farms.

It is reported that the house of George Ferrin, living three miles southeast of Ute, was demolished.

A boy ten years old was killed, and Mr. and Mrs. Ferrin and five daughters were fatally injured.

The storm broke about 10 o'clock last night. Great damage was done to property, but it is not known whether any more lives were lost.

Details are impossible to obtain.

PRESIDENT TO BE HERE TO-DAY.

HE AND HIS PARTY TO BE AT THE MANHATTAN OVER SUNDAY AT LEAST.

President McKinley and Mrs. McKinley and their party will leave Philadelphia to-day and come to this city.

With the President and Mrs. McKinley will be Secretary Long of the Navy and Mrs. Long, Mr. Cortelyou, the Assistant Secretary to the President, and Dr. Rixey.

The Presidential party will this morning attend a function forming part of the ceremonies in connection with the selling of the Grant monument in Philadelphia, after which they will start for New-York, probably arriving here about 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

They will go to the Hotel Manhattan, and occupy the McKinley suite on the second floor, which was fitted up for President McKinley last August.

Mrs. McKinley has been wanting to come to New-York to do some shopping, and visiting for some time, and yesterday the President telegraphed his brother, Abner McKinley, who is staying at the Manhattan, that he had decided to come himself and enjoy a couple of days' rest.

The President is expected to remain in the city over Sunday, at least. Abner McKinley said last night that the President had promised him several times in the last winter to pay him a visit. He said his brother's health was excellent, but that he felt that a little rest was needed.

JURY CONSIDERING MRS. GEORGE'S CASE.

Canton, Ohio, April 27.—The fate of Mrs. George is now in the hands of the jury. The twelve men who are to determine whether she is guilty or not of the murder of George D. Saxton were locked up for murder in the first degree and were for acquittal in the earlier ballots. Judge Taylor went to the hotel just across the street this evening, leaving instructions with the bailiff that he would be in readiness to be called up at midnight, and would come to the courtroom to receive a verdict at any time during the night of early in the morning.

Meanwhile Mrs. George was in her cell in the jail, ready to come into the courtroom and hear her fate. Relatives and friends were excluded, and her appearance and manner indeed were virulent smallpox in Germany.

AMERICAN RULE IN CUBA.

CHANGES IN THE ISLAND'S LEGAL AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS.

REFORMS IN MARRIAGE CONTRACTS—MR. CURTIS'S RETURN FROM PORTO RICO—ARRIVAL OF GOLD SHIPMENTS.

[BY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Havana, April 27.—Scarcely had Governor-General Brooke's mortgage-extension decree reached the public yesterday when it was suddenly recalled by orders from Vedado. In explanation it was said that some modifications had been made necessary by fresh instructions received from Washington.

Following up its energetic demands for sweeping reforms in the Spanish civil and criminal practice, "La Lucha" has begun an agitation for the introduction into Cuba of the American system of marriage and divorce under the Spanish law.

Eccelesiastical marriage is the only form of union recognized by the State, and no dissolution of the religious contract is possible.

"La Lucha" advocates the total separation of Church and State, and the civil function as the essential one in marriage, the contract being adjudged exclusively a civil and legal one.

Its termination by the courts is also sought to be conceded in any logical revision of existing marriage and inheritance laws.

The task of modernizing and liberalizing the Spanish legal code is one that seems to grow with every attempt to lop off here and there its more glaring excrescences.

MR. CURTIS VISITS GENERAL BROOKE.

H. G. Curtis, one of the members of the War Department's Colonial Commission, made a call on General Brooke to-day. He is returning from Porto Rico, where the Commission has spent two months investigating the civil and political state of that island.

The other Commissioners, General Robert P. Kennedy and C. W. Watkins, have already returned to the United States. As the Colonial Board received orders to postpone for the present any investigations in Cuba, Mr. Curtis's visit was, therefore, an unofficial one, and he frankly admits that by next fall, when the Commission is expected to return, it will find practically no work to do.

Mr. Curtis reports the conditions in Porto Rico as far more satisfactory than they have been reforms remain to be accomplished before the Porto Ricans can settle down comfortably in their changed political relations and adapt themselves to a semi-American territorial life.

Mr. Curtis said this afternoon for New-York.

General Haabrouck, the former commander of the Department of Pinar del Rio, has also started for the United States. Generals Bates and Sanper, relieved in the new Matanzas-Santa Clara Department, will probably take passage tomorrow next week. The Resolute, Admiral Cronin's flagship, is preparing to leave the harbor for a cruise to New-York, so the depletion of the American forces of occupation is becoming daily more marked.

GOMEZ EXPLAINS HIS ACTION.

General Gomez's recent letter to a Cuban friend in America, Dr. Abriquet, has attracted a little attention, because it allows the general to disclaim some extreme interpretations put upon his attitude both here and in the United States.

As General Gomez says, he has never announced himself in favor of an American protectorate. Nor could he do so prudently whether he really favored one or not.

He had merely said that for perhaps a year it will not be worth while to try to set up an independent government under native auspices, but Cuban independence is, of course, as always, his ultimate political program.

Next Sunday will see an important change begun in Havana life, the experiment of general shop-closing going into effect on that date.

All the shops, except those of florists and butchers, will close at 10 a. m. and the merchants here, show a marked disposition to forward the movement toward American business customs.

Most of them have agreed voluntarily to close their stores at 6 o'clock, and to employ the summer season, so that the clerks will have much more tolerable working hours.

Many employes are now on duty from fifteen to sixteen hours a day.

The City of Washington brought to-day from New-York \$194,000 in French and \$301,000 in American gold, a sensible addition to the island's stock of non-fluctuating currency.

DECREE OF MORTGAGE EXTENSION.

Havana, April 27.—The mortgage extension decree has finally been issued, after information from Washington clearing up several points in dispute.

The phraseology of the original decree has been slightly modified, but there has been no change in the main lines of the arrangement. Debtors will complain of the shortness of the period, averring that it will not enable them to get a good start and to make combinations. Creditors, on the other hand, are rather cheerful, as interest is to be paid on landed security, which is consequently improved.

Politicians regard the decree as a virtual declaration of President McKinley's intention to occupy the island for two years at least.

The decree as originally submitted to Washington excluded debtors who were bankrupt before General Weyler's decree from the benefits of the extension. As modified, the decree embraces all debtors. At least \$90,000,000 is involved, and the question has been the cause of unending discussion, which has added materially to the unrest of the four months of the American occupation.

Numerous private agreements regarding debts will now go into effect, and a large amount of new sugar machinery will be purchased.

Major-General Leonard Wood is not willing to have the judgments of the Santiago Supreme Court annulled or suspended in consequence of the creation of the new Supreme Court for the island. He believes he was authorized by orders from the War Department to establish a court if he thought it necessary, but the article in the Peace Treaty bearing on the subject stipulates as headquarters here reads it, that there should be no change in the courts until the ratifications of the treaty had been exchanged.

Major-General Lee, Señor Lanuza, Secretary of Justice, and Señor Dolz, Civil Governor of the Province of Pinar del Rio, called to-day upon General Brooke to explain the need of more than 125 rural guards for that province. They say that the smallest force required will be 400 infantry and 100 mounted men. General Brooke will probably agree to this estimate, and Señor Dolz will return to Pinar del Rio to-morrow.

Major-General Wilson, Military Governor of the consolidated Matanzas-Santa Clara Department, will start to-morrow with General Santer and General Pedro Bétancourt upon a tour of those provinces.

All the island papers say that General Brooke's meat-tax decree is an excellent measure, but not productive of good to consumers. Meat is still 40 cents a pound, and importers are making an additional profit.

Felipe Herrero, a Spaniard, of this city, has applied for a concession to connect the seven suburbs of Havana by electric railways.

Quantities of counterfeit money, principally Spanish gold, are in circulation in different parts of the island.

STEAMSHIP REPORTED LOST.

Newport News, Va., April 27 (Special).—The steamship Kanawha, formerly in the Chesapeake and Ohio service, which left port on March 31 for Bermuda, to load hides and plants, is reported here as lost. She carried coal and lumber for St. George.

REMOVAL OF AN IMPORTANT OFFICE.

May 1st the ticket office of the New York Central, now at 94 Broadway, will be removed to Light Street, corner 30th Street.—Adv.

GRACE CHURCH OFFERED.

DR. HUNTINGTON WOULD HAVE DR. BRIGGS ORDAINED THERE.

A PRESENT TO DR. CLENDENIN—GENERAL BELIEF THAT DR. BRIGGS WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE PRIESTHOOD, BUT NOT IN ST. PETER'S, WEST CHESTER.

The Rev. Dr. F. M. Clendenin's letter to Bishop Potter, which was published in yesterday's Tribune, protesting against the proposed ordination to the Episcopal priesthood of the Rev. Dr. Charles A. Briggs in St. Peter's Church, West Chester, of which Dr. Clendenin is rector, seems likely to precipitate a similar controversy, though perhaps not so marked, in the Protestant Episcopal Church, as did Dr. Briggs's teachings in the Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Clendenin's letter was read with the liveliest interest by clergymen and laymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and although none of the several ministers who were seen yesterday had apparently read the book referred to, and for that reason declined to commit themselves to any expression of opinion, it was clear, although it was not conveyed to so many words in the reports, that their feeling was that Dr. Briggs should not be admitted to the priesthood, if it should be shown that this last book, to which attention is drawn, was published after he had been made a deacon, following his examination by the Bishop's chaplains and by the Standing Committee of the diocese of New-York.

DR. HUNTINGTON'S VIEWS.

The Rev. Dr. William Reed Huntington, rector of Grace Church, and one of the most influential clergymen in the diocese of New-York, yesterday sent to The Tribune the following letter:—"To the Editor of The Tribune:

"Sir: I have read with surprise and pain the column in this morning's Tribune relating to the ordination of Dr. Briggs. I desire no controversy with the rector of St. Peter's Church, West Chester, who may be well within his rights when protesting against the use of his parish church for a purpose of which he, personally, disapproves; but when he characterizes the teachings of a brother clergyman in terms likely to mislead the casual reader a word of counter-assertion may not be out of place. The best general reply to Dr. Clendenin's bitter denunciation of Dr. Briggs as a depraver of the Word of God will be to quote the opening paragraph of the first chapter of the learned work which has provoked this assault. It reads as follows:

"Biblical study is the most important of all studies, for it is the study of the Word of God, which contains a divine revelation of redemption to the world. Nowhere else can such a redemption be found, save where it has been derived from the fountain source or from those sacred persons, institutions and events presented to us in the Bible. The Bible is the chief source of the Christian religion, Christian theology and Christian life. While other Christian and subsidiary sources may be used to advantage in connection with this principal source, they cannot dispense with it. For the Bible contains the revelation of redemption; the Messiah and His kingdom are the central theme of its varying contents; lead by myriads of paths in converging lines to the throne of the God of Grace. The Bible is the sure way of life, wisdom and blessedness." (Briggs, "The Study of Holy Scripture," p. 1.)

"It is in the light of this general statement that the whole contents of Dr. Briggs's 'Study of Holy Scripture' should be interpreted. Dr. Clendenin is described in your column as 'a staunch and moderate High Church man.' I marvel that in that capacity he should censure so severely a divine who is the valued friend, the recognized peer and the trusted collaborer of such distinguished Anglicans as the Rev. Dr. Driver, regius professor of Hebrew at Oxford; the Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick, regius professor of Hebrew at Cambridge; and the Rev. Dr. Sanday, Lady Margaret professor of divinity at Oxford. These men represent the very best scholarship of the Church of England to-day, and are recognized as leaders in religion as well as in theology. Doubtless Dr. Clendenin himself is a diligent and admiring reader of their works.

"It is no part of my purpose to apologize for Dr. Briggs. He is a scholar whom any community in Christendom might be proud to number among its clergy. Among distinguished Americans there is probably not one more widely misunderstood. Detraction has followed him so relentlessly that in some parts of the country he stands, in the popular mind, as a sort of ordained Ingersoll. Injustice could no further go.

"It is an interesting fact that the doctrine set forth by Dr. Briggs in his now famous inaugural address, with reference to the threefold basis of authority in religion, a doctrine which brought him into disfavor with a powerful section of the Presbyterian clergy, is substantially identical with what the standard divines of the Church of England have been teaching ever since the Reformation. One might have expected that a 'staunch High Church man' would recognize and appreciate this point.

"I need only add that immediately upon reading the protest of the rector of St. Peter's, West Chester, whose motives, let me say again, I have no disposition to impugn, I wrote to Bishop Potter offering him the use of Grace Church for the ordination. If my offer is accepted and acted upon, I shall feel that our parish church has been indeed honored by the event.

"WILLIAM R. HUNTINGTON, Rector of Grace Church."

One clergyman who was seen yesterday, and who desired that his name should not be made use of, said to a Tribune reporter:

"One of the questions which the Bishop must put to a candidate for ordination is whether he believes that the Holy Scriptures contain all the doctrine necessary for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, and whether having that belief he will teach nothing but what may be approved by the Holy Scriptures. The candidate is required to say that he is so determined, if one can form an opinion upon the extracts contained in Dr. Clendenin's letter it seems to me that the doubts which Dr. Briggs possesses would not permit him to answer affirmatively the canon of the Church I have just alluded to. Our Church bases its belief on eternal salvation upon the Scriptures, and its faith in the one is dependent upon its faith in the infallibility of the other. That being so, if Dr. Clendenin has correctly interpreted the spirit of Dr. Briggs's views, I cannot quite see how he can consistently become a disciple of our faith. However, that is a merely hypothetical opinion. I could form no definite judgment until I have carefully studied Dr. Briggs's writings."

THE BISHOP THE ARBITER.

It was not possible to ascertain yesterday if any action on the part of the authorities of the Church is likely to follow Dr. Clendenin's objection, or whether he will be taken of his objection to having Dr. Briggs ordained in the West Chester church. The Rev. Dr. Morgan Dix, chairman of the Standing Committee, informed a Tribune reporter yesterday that the whole matter rested with Bishop Potter.

"The Bishop's fitness or unfitness for ordination. The Standing Committee has nothing to do with the matter unless its advice is asked for. The protest made by Dr. Clendenin is merely the protest of an individual. The Bishop is not necessarily bound to take official cognizance of it. The canonical regulations insist that he must take action in such a matter upon the receipt of a presentation signed by five ministers. Then if he desires the Bishop may call upon the Standing Committee to consult with him. That committee is not an initiatory body, and does not volunteer its advice to the Bishop.

"I don't know if anything may come of this protest," Dr. Dix said in reply to another inquiry. "I have no comment to make upon the merits of the matter, for the reason that I have

Continued on seventh page.

REBEL TROOPS PUT TO FLIGHT.

MACARTHUR CROSSES RIO GRANDE AND ROUTS THE FLOWER OF INSURGENT ARMY.

AMERICAN LOSSES SLIGHT—LAWTON'S SOLDIERS REST.

General MacArthur's division crossed the Rio Grande and administered a severe defeat to the insurgent troops yesterday, advancing on Apalit and completely routing the rebel forces.

Two towns were burned, several prisoners taken and a number of Filipinos killed. A large quantity of ammunition was captured by the United States troops. The American losses were one killed and nine wounded, including three officers.

General Lawton's column is resting at Norzagaray, after a march through a difficult part of the country.

Manila, April 27.—General MacArthur's division crossed the Rio Grande to-day, and advanced on Apalit, completely routing the flower of the rebel army.

Most of the rebels fled to Apalit Station, where two trains were waiting for them. They left the place hurriedly, presumably for San Fernando.

The towns of San Vincente and Apalit were simultaneously burned and evacuated by the natives. Twenty prisoners were captured, including a Spaniard.

The American troops also captured a brass cannon and a quantity of arms and ammunition, and the same evening they captured a Maxim gun on the railroad.

The fighting lasted from noon until 4 o'clock. The American losses are one man of the Montana regiment killed, and three officers and six men wounded.

CROSSING THE RIO GRANDE.

The enemy were strongly entrenched on the river bank, near both sides of the railroad bridge. General Wheaton sent Colonel Funston across, with two companies of the 20th Kansas, a couple of privates swimming the swift stream

offered after the lengths to which the war had been carried, they could assure the rebels that they would be treated according to the American traditions of leniency to the conquered, and that there would be no punishments or confiscations of property if they laid down their arms.

ATTEMPT TO TREAT WITH REBELS.

The leaders of the committee told United States Consul Williams that they would go if he would accompany them, believing the rebels trusted Mr. Williams. The latter, however, refused the offer, having no authority in the matter. He said:

"I do not believe the Filipinos would harm me, but they might detain me for months."

The American Commission is hampered in its work of enlisting the support of friendly Filipinos by the fear expressed by many of them that the anti-expansion adherents may obtain control of the American Government and cause the withdrawal of the American troops from the Philippine Islands, thus, they say, leaving the natives