The Weather Today.
Generally fair.
Probably thunderstorms in evening.
Southerly winds.

The MORNING Times

312,537 was the TIMES' circulation for last week.
The STAR'S circulation for last week was . . . 179,946

VOL. III. NO. 803. WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 28, 1896. ONE CENT.

TIMES PROVES HIS ALIBI

Innocence of Easton in the Buxton Assault Mystery.

CITIZENS ARE INSISTENT

In a Telegram to The Times They Declare Their Ability to Fasten the Guilt—Interviews With Wounded People Develop Nothing of Importance—Conflict of Authorities.

The murderous assault upon the Buxton family in Gaithersburg, Md., is yet a mystery. The county people are bent upon placing the crime on Randolph and Neal and have been following the various clues to the end.

They say they will at the preliminary hearing prove the guilt of the negro Randolph; the Washington detectives say there is little doubt as to his innocence.

The residents of Gaithersburg and the Washington authorities have followed different clues, different theories and divergent ideas. Neither seem to have hit the mark.

Acting upon the opinion of the Washington sleuths that Mrs. Buxton's brother had not sufficiently explained his absence and that certain clews pointed toward him The Times began an investigation yesterday afternoon which ended last night in the establishment of a complete alibi for Mr. C. M. Easton, Mr. Buxton's brother-in-law.

WHO IS THE MAN?

This makes the case no nearer solution than the first day of the crime. The fact that Mrs. Buxton's brother was absent from home the night before and the morning of the assault cast a shadow of doubt as to his actions. He made a brief statement that he had been to see a party on the road to Latonsville and was brought into Gaithersburg that morning by a milkman named Walker. There are several Walkers and there are two roads to Latonsville.

An investigation said to have been made by detectives at Mr. J. K. Walker's showed that Mr. Easton had not been seen by him for a month, and thereby could not have brought him in in his wagon the morning of the fiendish assault.

TIMES PROVES INNOCENCE.

The Times went further, however, in its investigation than the above.

Early yesterday afternoon a Times man saw Mr. Easton while the latter was at Garfield Hospital endeavoring to see Mr. Buxton. Permission was refused him because it was feared he might excite the wounded man.

Turning to The Times representative he began to talk about the crime of the other morning. Easton was angry that any reflection had been cast upon his statement of the affair. He was positive that the right men are in custody.

"Who do you really believe did the deed?" was asked.

"Oh, I have no doubt that Randolph and Neal are the men," he said. "I am sure of it. Everyone believes it, but, of course, I only know from what has been told me. As far as I am concerned, though, they are the men."

NO USE FOR KILGOUR.

During the interview Mr. Easton scored State's Attorney Kilgour. "He does not know enough to come out of the wet," said the excited man.

That there might be no doubt regarding Mr. Easton's whereabouts a thorough investigation of his statement was made by The Times. Of the two roads to Latonsville one is a carriage road and the other is a private road which is only used for walking. The investigation began on the first and ended on the second road.

It took only two hours to determine positively that at the time of the assault Mr. Easton was asleep with Mr. James Reed, in the latter's house, three miles from Gaithersburg.

Out the main Latonsville road, on the right hand side, resides Mr. J. K. Walker. He stated that her had not seen Mr. Easton for about a month and positively did not take him into Gaithersburg. He was the nearest milkman to Gaithersburg, but had a brother living a short distance away on the opposite side of the road.

STRUCK A LEAD.

A visit to the brother revealed the fact that he also had not driven Mr. Easton in. But, not content with a partial investigation, The Times man drove two miles further out the road and through a lane in the woods for half a mile to the house of Mr. James Reed, whose father resided on an adjoining farm. The old man was seen first. He said Mr. Easton came to his son's house Sunday afternoon, and he had been told by them that he had passed the evening and night there.

Miss Becky Reed and her sister were were at the home of their brother, for whom they kept house. Mr. Easton's visit was to one of the young ladies. They both stated that he arrived there about 2:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon, stayed to supper, remained over night, eating breakfast there the next morning. They said they arose a little later than usual that morning, and as near as they could recollect, had breakfast about 6 o'clock. It was fully half an hour later when Mr. Easton left there. He did not take the main road to Gaithersburg, but walked across a short cut, which would bring him out on the road which runs past Mr. George Walker's home.

SLEPT WITH EASTON.

Mr. James Reed added his statement to that of his sisters. He said that "Zed" Easton, as he was known, slept with him Sunday night, occupying the same bed. They arose together and he believed it was about half past 5 or 6 o'clock. Of one thing he was certain, that when they arose the sun was just up. Easton did not wait long after breakfast, but left, saying he was going to Gaithersburg. He corroborated every statement of his sisters.

The reporter returned to Gaithersburg and went to the residence of Mr. George Walker, who said that it was about 7 o'clock or after when Mr. Easton came along the road and asked him for a ride into town. The two rode into Gaithersburg, and when near the drug store someone asked him if he had been home that morning, and when he replied that he had not Easton was told that something awful had happened there. He left Mr. Walker at the drug store and hurried down the street in the direction of the Buxton house. These statements clearly proved an alibi for the third man upon whom suspicion had fallen, as it turns out most unjustly.

The residents of Gaithersburg were indignant last night that any reflection had

Continued on Fourth Page.

SURE OF THEIR MAN

Gaithersburg Citizens Ask the Public, Through The Times, to Await the Hearing.

The following self-explanatory telegram was received by The Times last night:

Gaithersburg, Md., May 27.—Ed. Times.—Please say to your readers for the people of Gaithersburg that we have the party who attempted the lives of the Buxtons.

Let those who are incredulous from any cause wait until the hearing.

J. A. BELT and Other Citizens.

RECEPTION BY THE CZAR

Foreign Representatives Were Received With Gorgeous Ceremony.

Christian Clergy Also Honored the Emperor in the Throne-Room of the Kremlin.

Moscow, May 27.—Today Emperor Nicholas II, and his consort received the congratulations of foreign representatives, the Christian clergy, the ministers of state, the council of the empire, the senate, the representatives of the nobility, the secretaries of state, the representatives of the Duchy of Finland, committees of the bourse and chamber of commerce, and municipal and provincial delegates.

The reception took place in the hall of St. Andrew in the palace of the Kremlin, which is also known as the throne room. This room, which had been renovated for the coronation fetes, presented a brilliant appearance.

Its walls were hung with light blue silk, while numerous gold plates, offerings from various cities in Russia to previous emperors, adorned them.

At about 10:30 this morning, the various halls and rooms of the palace were thronged with those who had come to render homage to the newly crowned czar, as well as representatives of foreign missions, who were charged with the congratulations of their sovereigns.

Masters of ceremonies with their aides were busily employed in stationing and instructing the different delegations and hurrying hither and thither to greet new arrivals.

By 11:30 o'clock the St. Andrew's Hall itself was crowded with deputations, arranged in regular order, and in a few moments the gilded doors swung open and the emperor and empress appeared with their suite and took their positions, standing in front of the throne.

The emperor was dressed in a general's uniform, the empress in Russian gala costume. At their right were the regalia on a table, and the imperial standard, guarded by two grenadiers. Their suite stood at their left, flanked by a company of grenadiers of the palace on guard. Immediately the long line of deputies, two by two, came filing up, attended by masters of ceremonies, who introduced each deputation.

On one of the other days set apart for receiving congratulations the czar will receive deputations from the Orthodox Church and the various sects in Russia.

SLAP AT CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

Methodist Conference Wants the Epworth League and Nothing Else.

Cleveland, O., May 27.—A paper signed by T. B. Neeley of Philadelphia and seventy others was ordered spread on the journal. It protested against the action of the conference of Tuesday in admitting lay delegates to foreign annual conferences.

It was decided that the question of location of the next general conference be left to the book committee.

The Christian Endeavor Society was given a final slap by the adoption of a report deprecating the organization of any societies of Christian Endeavor in the Methodist Church. The report says that the great Methodist Church cannot afford to and will not have any societies in its church known as Epworth Leagues of Christian Endeavor.

"We must cling to our own particular forms," says the report, "for we believe it to be for the best interest of our church and young people."

The conference debated the question of having an assistant secretary for the Epworth League, to work among the colored people of the South. It was decided to have one.

MURDERED FOR ROBBERY.

Wealthy Texas Cattleman Killed in the Home of a Congressman.

Houston, Texas, May 27.—I. H. Baker, a wealthy and influential cattleman of this city, was today found murdered in the residence of Congressman J. C. Hutcheson, where he had been living.

Amelia Peterson, a servant girl, made the discovery. The dead man's face was horribly mutilated. The motive for the murder was apparently robbery, as one room had been ransacked and two bundles of silverware were found tied up near an open window.

Mrs. Fleming on Trial.

New York, May 27.—The trial of Mary Alice Almont Livingston Fleming, who is accused of poisoning her mother, Evalina M. Bliss, was continued in general sessions this morning. Dr. Bullman resumed his place on the stand. Mrs. Bliss told witness she had eaten clam chowder, and that she was poisoned and was going to die. After the defense had objected to a number of questions the witness was permitted to say that he diagnosed Mrs. Bliss' case as one of acute gastritis. She vomited at least ten times. He gave Mrs. Bliss hypodermic injections of whisky and atropine, and filled out a prescription for her.

Ex-Congressman Sessions Dead.

Jamestown, N. Y., May 27.—Hon. Walter Sessions fell dead on the street at Lakewood this afternoon, aged seventy-two years. He had been prominent in the Republican politics of Western New York for the past fifty years and served in Congress between 1870 and 1880 and again between 1880 and 1890. He was a member of the New York World's Fair Commission.

West Point Monument Dedication.

West Point, N. Y., May 27.—Prof. Charles W. Larned, president of the board of trustees, said today that the dedication of the Battle Monument would not take place before the middle of October next.

Suicide's Property Goes to U. of P.

Pittsburg, Pa., May 27.—The entire estate of Dr. W. R. McGowan, who committed suicide at Ligonier last Friday, was left to the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia. The estimate value is $100,000.

Wife-Killer Acquitted.

Greensboro, Pa., May 27.—The jury in the case of Jacob Mayers, whoon February 1 shot and killed his wife while returning from a dance at Blue Rock, near Ligonier, at noon, returned a verdict of acquital.

Larned Tennis Champion of Ireland.

Dublin, May 27.—In the tennis match for the championship of Ireland today, W. A. Larned, the American champion, beat C. B. Martin of Chiswick by scores of 6-2, 6-3 and 6-1.

Ivy Institute Business College, 8th and G. Our unexcelled summer course, $5.

NO SILVER FOR VERMONT

Democratic Convention Hissed Resolution Favoring Free Coinage.

Dr. J. Henry Jackson Nominated for Governor—Delegates Are Uninstructed.

Montpelier, Vt., May 27.—The Democratic state convention was called to order at 10:45 o'clock this forenoon, in the Blanchard Opera House, by H. F. Brigham, of Bakersfield, chairman of the State committee.

Felix W. McGettrick of St. Albans was announced as temporary chairman. Frank E. Howe of Montpelier was chosen secretary, and E. J. McGettrick of St. Albans and C. W. Witcher of Newbury as assistants. Mr. McGettrick upon taking the chair said:

"While by no means designing or attempting to anticipate or forestall any declaration of principles that this convention may have under consideration, I believe that we are here to voice the protest of an honest, patriotic constituency against McKinley taxation and free silver coinage, and to demand a continuation of such a public service as we have enjoyed under two administrations under Grover Cleveland.

"We are not here to advocate a third term for that great statesman and loyal American, nor yet to declare for his former secretary of the navy—that other clean, brainy, brilliant son of the Empire State, William C. Whitney, as our choice for the Presidency; nor even as New Englanders, are we here for the sole purpose of advancing the candidacy of Massachusetts' favorite son and ideal governor, William E. Russell.

Mr. McGettrick's references to Cleveland and Russell were loudly applauded. The demonstration when the latter's name was mentioned, lasted several minutes. The temporary organization was made permanent. Committee on resolutions was then appointed, and it was voted that all resolutions be referred to the committee without debate.

Mayor J. W. Gordon nominated Dr. J. Henry Jackson of Barre as the candidate for governor, and referred to him as the bearer of a good old Democratic name. The nomination was unanimously made.

Delegates at large chosen were: Thomas W. Brown, Rutland; Willis Valentine, Bennington; S. C. Shurtleff, Montpelier; P. J. Farrell, Newport. The delegates were not instructed.

Thomas Maloney of Rutland, delegate to Chicago, addressed the State convention when it reconvened at 2:40 p. m. C. H. Davenport of Brattleboro read the platform. J. J. Monahan of Underhill moved to substitute a free coinage plank for the gold plank in the platform. He was hissed but was allowed to continue. This was the resolution:

"Resolved, That the Democrats of Vermont, in convention assembled, demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold into money of redemption at the ratio of 16 to 1 without waiting for the approval of any other government."

The resolution was voted down, only about half a dozen delegates recording themselves in its favor. The platform was then adopted.

GILMAN WILL NOT TALK.

Johns Hopkins' President Silent on the Question of Resignation.

Baltimore, May 27.—A friend who is very close to President D. C. Gilman, of Johns Hopkins University, is responsible for the statement that the distinguished educator will remain at the head of the Baltimore institution.

President Gilman himself, however, declined to answer directly whether he would consider an offer from the New York board of education. He said that the action of the business and professional men of the city, supplementing that of the university trustees and the Alumni Association, made it clear to him that he would not be permitted to leave Baltimore.

In answer to a request for a direct reply as to what he would do in case an offer were made to him by the New York board of education, Prof. Gilman said: "How is it possible for me to say I will decline a thing that has never been offered to me? I have really stated all that it is possible for me to say on the subject at this time. I have no word of any kind from New York."

The efforts of the alumni and friends of the university to raise $250,000, with which to place the institution on a firm financial basis, will doubtless prove successful. Already nearly $200,000 have been subscribed and a committee of business and professional men expect to secure the balance within a day or two.

M'ENERY FOR SENATOR.

Nominated at Midnight by Withdrawal of Senator Blanchard.

Baton Rouge, La., May 28.—Justice S. D. McEnery was nominated by the Democratic caucus at midnight for United States Senator, receiving 68 votes.

The fight will be very close in joint assembly today between Justice McEnery and Mr. Walter D. Denegre, the combination candidate.

Senator Blanchard, Congressman Price and Judge Blackman withdrew in favor of McEnery tonight.

KILLED BY AN EXPLOSION.

Saw Mill Boiler Burst With Fatal Results.

Clay City, Ill., May 27.—Frank Evans, aged twenty years, was instantly killed and five other men seriously injured by a boiler explosion in Scudder's saw mill this morning.

Evans' body was blown a distance of 200 feet. The injured are: J. H. Scudder, leg badly crushed; Otis Scudder, son of above, hip broken, probably die; William Evans, arm and shoulder crushed; John and William Wilson, brothers, badly injured by flying debris.

WOULD-BE ASSASSIN DEAD.

Joseph Ganz, Who Wanted to Shoot Cleveland, Kills Himself.

Norristown, Pa., May 27.—Joseph Gantz, aged thirty-five years, a resident of Philadelphia, and a patient at the Norristown Hospital for the Insane, committed suicide by hanging himself last night.

Gantz went to Washington several months ago for the purpose of killing President Cleveland because he vetoed a pension bill in which his father was interested.

Gantz was arrested and declared insane.

Twelve-Year-Old Boy a Suicide.

Flemington, N. J., May 27.—Harry Rittenhouse, the twelve-year-old son of Hiram Rittenhouse, a farmer living in Barbertown, Hunterdon county, committed suicide yesterday morning by hanging himself to a rafter in his father's barn. He became displeased in the morning because his parents told him to go to school, and soon after left the house. As he was not seen during the day his parents concluded he was at school, but when his father went to the barn at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon he found his son hanging from a rafter. It is thought that when the youth left the house he went directly to the barn and hanged himself.

MORE THAN 100 DROWNED

Increasing Death Roll of the Victoria Bridge Disaster.

MANY BODIES YET MISSING

Two Hundred People Were Carried Down in the Awful Plunge of the Electric Car and Less Than One-Half of These Survive—Heartrending Scenes at the Time of Rescue.

Victoria, B. C., May 27.—Throughout the sorrowful and sultry night and far into the morning thousands of anxious watchers surged about the approaches to Point Ellice bridge, the scene of yesterday's disaster.

As body after body was brought to land and tenderly laid upon an improvised bier, the eager crowd would crush about the remains, hoping, yet fearing, until a shriek or sob would announce that a dear one had been recognized, and the name of another identified victim was placed upon the bulletin board and flashed by wire to sorrowing friends.

When the sixty-first corpse had been brought to the surface the rescuers announced that they could find no more bodies under the wreckage. Still nearly thirty people are missing whose fate may not be known for days. It is possible that many bodies were carried out by the strong tide.

The arm of the bay spanned by the broken bridge will be carefully dragged today, and by evening the full extent of the disaster may be known. It is now conjectured that nearly 200 people were carried down with the defective structure and that less than half of them survive.

VIEWED THE BODIES.

The jury empanelled last night, viewed in all forty-seven bodies and then adjourned until this morning so that the work of recovery could be completed.

One of the first to hurry to the rescue was Capt. H. R. Foote, who happened to be looking out of his window, on the bank of the Arm. Rushing down to the scene he got a skiff, nearly and pulled to the struggling mass of people, who were fighting for life amid the wreckage.

Lillie Acton Preston was the first person saved. She had been in the car with her step-father, Mr. Leveridge, who was drowned.

The number of rescuers increased rapidly and soon the scene was alive with all kinds of small craft, many from the sealing schooners moored close by. The Misses Drake, daughters of Justice Drake, saw the accident, and at once put out in a skiff and succeeded in saving the lives of seven persons.

William Burners pulled five persons into his boat and many other lives were saved by the swarm of boats which came to the spot. Rev. Canon Paddon, a passenger on the ill-fated car, was among the first rescued. He had received terrible injuries about the head and was placed in the house of Capt. Grant, close by.

In another room of the same house was James Jackson, who, with his young daughter, had been inside the car. The father will live, but the daughter is beyond recovery.

Down stairs in the drawing room of the Grant house was an old lady, Mrs. Bowness, who had been rescued and who begged some one to tell her of the fate of her two daughters, one of whom was lying dead outside at that moment, and the other at the bottom of the Arm.

ALL THE DOCTORS CALLED.

A few feet away were Dr. J. Hall and a number of ladies who were trying ineffectually to bring back to life Miss Sophie Smith, while beside her, utterly unmindful of her suffering, was her sister, who fortunately escaped unhurt.

All the doctors in the city hastened to the scene of the accident as fast as possible, and did noble service to the cause of humanity. A half hour after the accident the lawns of Capt. Grant's residence presented a fearful change from their generally trim appearance.

Here and there groups of people were gathered around a body trying to resuscitate the unfortunate. The doctors directed the operations, while the agonized relatives wandered tearfully from one body to another, trying to find out if some of their dear ones were among the dead.

The uncertainty was something frightful, so many people had intended to go to the sham battle by the tramway that none knew but that the next body brought ashore might be one of their own family.

A wonderful escape was that of a party consisting of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Jordan, of Vancouver, and Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Potts. They were driving in a buggy on the bridge at the time of the accident. Potts drew up to allow the first tram car to pass and then followed it.

The tram car behind came along and when just opposite, the bridge gave away. Down went the buggy into the water with the other wreckage. Potts managed to drag his wife to the top of the submerged car. Jordan rescued his wife in the same way and then they were picked up by a boat and carried ashore. The horse was drowned and the buggy tangled up with the submerged car.

RUMORED GHASTLY FIND.

Report That Three Dead Infants Have Been Found Near Bladensburg.

It was reported late last night that the bodies of three white infants had been found by an old colored man in a box in the rear of the public school building at Bladensburg, Md.

It was said that the bodies had been brought to this city and turned over to the police. Nothing of the case was known last night at police headquarters, however, and Coroner Hammett had not been notified at a late hour. It was stated at the Sixth precinct station that there was no one in the morgue and the police of the outlying eastern stations had not heard of the matter.

A gentleman who lives on the Bladensburg road near the Maryland town reported the finding of the bodies last night. Nothing could be learned of the matter in the city, but as Bladensburg is in Maryland the authorities of that State have probably been notified.

ANOTHER GAMBLING RAID.

William C. Watson and His Friends Interrupted by the Bluecoats.

William C. Watson was arrested last night by Detective Sutton on a charge of permitting gambling in his rooms in the building at the corner of Tenth and D streets northwest. At 9 o'clock last night Sergts. Acton and Moore and a detail from the First precinct raided the rooms occupied by Watson.

They found several men playing a game of cards and chips and money scattered about over the tables. The party was placed under arrest and taken to the station where they left collateral for their appearance in court this morning.

Light on the Venezuela Boundary.

London, May 27.—The Daily Chronicle will publish tomorrow a dispatch from its correspondent in Rome saying that the Venezuelan commissary, Senor Uriarte, has discovered in the Vatican archives bills and other documents regarding the frontier dioceses of Venezuela. These documents assign to Venezuela certain territory that is now claimed by Great Britain. These documents, the dispatch adds, have been examined by Hon. Wayne MacVeagh, United States ambassador to Italy, who is deeply impressed with their contents.

Heavy Storms in Virginia.

(Special to The Times.)

Richmond, Va., May 27.—Extremely heavy storms are reported along the Rappahannock last night. At Port Royal, in Louisa county, both the white and colored churches of the village were blown down and much other damage to buildings was done. The warehouse of the steamboat wharf at Port Conway was blown into the river.

Wefers May Be Protested.

New York, May 27.—There is a rumor to the effect that Bernard J. Wefers, the holder of the world's record, in the 100-, 220- and 300-yard dashes, who is entered from Georgetown University, in the inter-collegiate track and field championships, on Friday and Saturday, has been protested as not having been in residence the length of time required by the rules.

OVER 500 ARE DEAD BY WIND AND FIRE

Cyclone Sweeps Over St. Louis, East St. Louis and Many Other Towns.

PEOPLE KILLED BY WHOLESALE

Buildings Blown to Tinderwood and Trains Thrown Off the Rails by the Fearful Winds.

BOATS OVERTURNED AND PASSENGERS DROWNED

Gas and Electric Plants Are Demolished and the Stricken City Is Plunged Into Darkness—Telephones Are Down and Not Even An Approximate Idea of the Loss of Life and Property Can Be Made—Two Hundred Girls Said to Be Buried in a Cigarette Factory—Excursion Steamers Laden With People Reported Foundered—Fire Is Spreading In East St. Louis and Threatening the Destruction of Millions of Dollars' Worth of Property.

Indianapolis, Ind., May 27.—Estimates made by railroad officials at St. Louis show the total killed at not less than 1,000.

At 2 o'clock the storm was reported east as far as the Ohio River into Indiana.

Numerous towns were devastated and great loss of life is reported in its track.

St. Louis, Mo., May 27.—Death and destruction marks the pathway of a tornado which passed over this city shortly after 5 o'clock this afternoon.

The list of the dead in St. Louis cannot be estimated until alarming reports of loss of life in collapsed buildings can be confirmed.

At least forty lifeless bodies have been found up to 10 o'clock. If the reports are true, that 200 girls are in the ruins of a cigarette factory and that many were killed in East St. Louis, the list will reach nearly 300. The city is in a state of panic. Nearly all electric wires are down and the city is in darkness.

FLOODS FOLLOWED THE WIND.

To add to the confusion the tornado was followed by a deluge of rain, accompanied by vivid flashes of lightning which still continues. Telephone wires are useless and liverymen refuse requests for conveyances on account of prostrate electric wires.

The scene in East St. Louis is appalling. The tornado struck that city with terrible effect and it is now estimated that three hundred persons are dead in that place alone as a result of the wind, flood, and flames.

FIRES BROKE OUT.

The tornado was followed by an outbreak of fire, caused by lightning, and before the flames could be gotten under control, property to the value of nearly $3,000,000 was destroyed. The tornado passed in an easterly direction and it is reported that Vandalia and Caseyville, in Illinois, suffered severely. One report states that the railroad depot in Vandalia was blown away and thirty people were killed.

St. Louis, Mo., May 27.—St. Louis was struck by a cyclone of fearful fury at a late hour this afternoon. Hundreds of people were killed and the property loss is beyond estimate.

At 5:20 p. m. the clouds that had covered the city since noon, broke into a furious storm. Within ten minutes the wind reached a velocity of eighty miles an hour, sweeping with it dense waves of rain. The highest speed previously recorded here was seventy-two miles an hour, in August, 1878.

The screeching of the wind through electric wires, the crash of debris that swept in every direction, the electric flashes from tangled wires and crashing thunder made a scene indescribable. The loss of life is appalling.

At 7 p. m. the lowest estimate of fatalities in East St. Louis and this city is placed at 300.

STEAMER TURNED OVER.

East St. Louis suffered probably the greatest. Messengers came at 7 p. m. from there asking for physicians and nurses.

The steamer D. H. Pike, with thirty passengers on board, bound for Peoria, was blown bottom side up in the middle of the river and a number of persons drowned.

The steamer Delaphin, with a crew of six and twenty lady passengers on board, was blown against a bridge pier and broken in two. The ladies and two of the crew clung to the bridge stone work and were rescued.

The steamer Libbie Conger, with only Capt. Seaman, his wife and three of a crew aboard, went adrift. The wreck of a boat opposite Carondelet is supposed to be the steamer Conger.

FOURTEEN FIRE ALARMS.

Ottened's furniture store, at Broadway and Soiard, was demolished and six men are reported killed. A saloon at No. 6064 South Seventh fell with nine men in the ruins.

St. Patrick's Church, at Sixth and Biddle streets, fell and the debris fills the streets. The electric railway line is burned out as well as the electric plant.

Fourteen fire alarms were sounded within an hour, and three alarms were sent in from the poor house, which building has 1,200 inmates. The roof of the poor house was blown off and the fatalities are great.

ARMORY FOR A HOSPITAL.

During the last race at the fair grounds the roof was blown off the grand stand. The crowd had gone to the open field for safety and but four men were killed.

The armory, at Seventeenth and Pine streets, is being used as a temporary hospital. At 7:30 p. m. the rain, which had ceased for a time, began afresh and fell in torrents.

At 8 o'clock the eastern sky was aflame with the light of fires in East St. Louis. The metal roof of the Merchants' Exchange was rolled up like a scroll and fell into the street.

The Louisville and Nashville east-bound local passenger train had just reached East St. Louis when the storm struck that city.

TRAINS OVERTURNED.

The train was overturned, but miraculously only a few passengers were injured. They were taken from the cars by railroad yardmen.

The Chicago and Alton eastbound local passenger train, which left St. Louis at 5 o'clock, was on the east span of the bridge when the wind picked the cars up and turned them over on their sides. The iron spans and trusses held the cars from toppling into the river, 100 feet below.

EAST BRIDGE SPAN WRECKED.

The passengers were thrown into a confused mass. The net-work of wires made rescue difficult and dangerous, but it is thought all will be got out uninjured.

The east span of the east bridge is so badly wrecked that it will take three days to allow trains to pass.

The reports of fatalities in East St. Louis is hourly increasing. It is impossible to cross the bridge or river to get particulars.

TWO CYCLONES MEET.

There were really two cyclones. One came from the northwest and the other from the direct east. Both met on the Illinois shore of the Mississippi river and joined in a whirling cloud of death and destruction. The list of dead in St. Louis is beyond present computation.

A startling report has just reached police headquarters that two hundred girls are in the ruins of Liggitt & Meyers' cigarette factory at Tower Grove Park. Alarming reports of great loss of life in the southern portion of St. Louis from the railroad tracks to Carondelet.

The wind swept away the roof of the exposition building and that structure is badly damaged by the flood of water. The greatest anxiety is felt for the safety of passengers on the different excursion boats which were on the river when the storm broke.

The steamer City of Florence, with an excursion party, is reported lost below Carondelet. The steamer St. Paul, with thirty passengers, left for Alton at 4 o'clock and is believed to be wrecked. The levee is packed with people, groping through the darkness and eagerly imploring information from loved ones on the river.

LOSS ESTIMATES IMPOSSIBLE.

The destruction to property in this city will not be learned until daylight. The Annunciation Church, at Sixth and LaSalle streets, was totally destroyed. Father Head, the pastor, was fatally injured.

The middle span of the roadway above the railroad tracks on the Eads bridge was blown completely away. It is not known whether any persons lost their lives while crossing the bridge.

The Plant flour mills, and the works of the St. Louis Iron and Steel Company were destroyed and the big Cupples' block of buildings was partly demolished.

The dead and injured are being taken from the ruins of the various buildings and manufactories. The Waters-Pierce oil works were destroyed by fire and buildings in several parts of the city have been burning all night.

H. C. Rice, the manager of the Western Union at the relay depot on the east side, reports a wreck of terrible proportions. He said the National Hotel, Tremont House, Martell House, DeWolfe's cafe, Hael Milling Company's mill, Horn's cooper shop and a large number of dwellings east of that section were swept into wreckage.

STEAMERS REPORTED LOST.

The Baltimore and Ohio and Vandalia roundhouses, the Standard oil works, East St. Louis and Crescent elevators and a dozen freight houses were caught in the vortex of the cyclone and reduced to debris.

It is reported that the Grand Republic and several other excursion steamers with all the passengers and crews have gone down.

A cyclone destructive of life and much property visited East St. Louis in June, 1872. The principal destruction was along the water front and in the railroad yards. Between sixty and seventy lives were lost, boats were blown from their moorings and sunk with all on board, persons were picked up on the levee and hurled to their death, buildings were scattered to the four winds.

The cyclone happened the same time of the day as today's awful second visitation as well as nearly the same time of year.

LIGHTS TURNED OFF.

The difficulty in obtaining information from outlying districts is increased by an order from Mayor Walbridge, ordering all electric light circuits turned off. This is to prevent death to the persons coming in contact with broken electric light wires.

Later reports from the city hospitals states that only two were killed and six injured as a result of the roof of that institution being blown off. From Soulard street southward as far as Carondelet, the wind played havoc with the residence and business houses in that territory.

The streets are filled with the wreckage of demolished houses over an area of fifteen blocks. The number of bodies already found indicates that the loss of life in that section will reach at least thirty.

CHURCHES DEMOLISHED.

St. Paul's German Evangelical Church on Ninth street and Lafayette avenue, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, on Eighth street and Lafayette avenue, and St. Bugo's Catholic Church, on Kansas avenue, were demolished. Epstein & Bernstein's wholesale liquor store, at 229 South Broadway, collapsed from the force of the wind. Julius Marano was killed and three others seriously injured.

The power house of the Sculling Line, at Jefferson and Geyer avenue, was totally destroyed, and a dozen employes received serious injuries.

The Gem Theater building, on Walnut street, was badly wrecked by the wind.

Des Moines, Iowa, May 27.—Reports of serious storms this afternoon and much damage throughout Iowa are received here, but wires are down and there will be delay about getting information.

In this section there was heavy rain and wind. Reports of a cyclone at Fort Dodge are denied. Its reported much damage was done at Boone.

Kansas City, Mo., May 27.—Rennick, Ransloph county, Mo., was blown away this afternoon and several persons were killed. Labaddie, Mo., was also destroyed. Ten persons were killed at the latter place.

REPORT FROM CHICAGO.

Death List Estimated at 700 and Is Continually Growing.

Chicago, May 28.—From reports received by the United Press up to 1 o'clock this morning from Missouri, Indiana and Illinois cities, the destruction and extent of the appalling cyclone are shown.

The storm began its work of devastation and death near Moberly, in Randolph county, in the northeastern part of Missouri. It then passed southeast into Audrian county, where the school house at Rush Hill and its occupants were victims.

The cyclone moved slightly North, into Pike county, Mo., and then jumped the Mississippi River into Southern Illinois. The Ladies' Seminary, at Drake, in Green county, Ill., was stricken by the tornado, which then passed south and east, following the Illinois River until it joined the Mississippi, the greatest point of destruction being reached at St. Louis, East St. Louis and East Caronedelet.

The direction of the wind storm from that cluster of stricken cities then appears to have been in a southeasterly line through Illinois, but no news of destruction has been received from Illinois towns east of the big river.

The cyclone reached the Ohio river and struck Evansville in the southwestern corner of Indiana. Later news indicates that the great storm is tearing a path through the heart of Indiana in a southeasterly direction.

The latest reports compiled from the scene of destruction in the three States point to the loss of over 700 human lives and the probabilities are that later reports will swell the total death list to enormous proportions. According to places, the death roll is divided as follows:

In St. Louis, 300; East St. Louis, 300; Drake, Ill., 80; Rush Hill, Mo., 10; Renick, Mo., 5; Labaddie, Mo., 10.

The number of injured is estimated to be in the hundreds.

CONFIRMED FROM OUTSIDE.

Springfield Reports That the Loss of Life Is Fearful.

Springfield, Ill., May 27.—News from East St. Louis is to the effect that the storm burst at 5:20 o'clock and did its terrible work in a briefer space of time almost than it takes to tell it.

Every report that comes here brings new tales of disaster. The relay depot at East St. Louis was completely destroyed. The roundhouses and freight sheds of the Wabash and Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroads were crushed to splinters.

Both the great bridges leading into St. Louis to the east side were badly wrecked, the east approach to the Eads bridge being swept away, and a span taken bodily from the Merchants' bridge.

Every steamer in the river in front of St. Louis is reported sunk and the loss of life must be enormous. No reliable estimate can be obtained, but it is believed that hundreds, perhaps thousands, have perished.

EIGHTY CHILDREN KILLED.

Schoolhouse Reported Demolished in a Small Illinois Town.

Roadhouse, Ill., May 27.—It is reported that eighty children were killed in a schoolhouse at Drake, near this city, by the cyclone.

Colonial Beach, special election Thursday, May 28. Steamer John Sylvester leaves 9 a. m. Long day at the Beach. Fare, 50 cents. 11-em

Congress Heights lots, $10 cash; $5 per month. Money advanced to build when lots are paid. Office 631 Pa. ave. nw. my21-till jul