# ABILENE REFLECTOR

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## CURRENT COMMENT.

PLEURO-PNEUMONIA is reported among cattle at Maple Creek, M. T.

THE New York Metal Exchange was a scene of wild excitement on the 1st, the price of tin leading the way in a disastrous depreciation.

A LIFE size marble bust of Garibaldi, presented by the Washington Garibaldi Association, has been placed in the upper lobby of the Senate.

A LADY named Miklucho Maclay, aunt of the New Guinea explorer, Maclay, has been murdered in St. Petersburg by robbers, who secured fifteen thousand roubles from her apartments.

THE Progressive Labor party, formed at New York in opposition to the Henry George party, has been dissolved by its general committee on resolutions declaring that it had accomplished its object.

NINETEEN cartridges and a new Lebel rifle have been stolen from the factory at Douai, France. Officials were inquiring into the theft, as it was suspected that they were taken at the instance of a foreign power.

THE number of applicants for employment, in any capacity on the elevated roads and horse car lines of New York and Brooklyn has been greater this year than any previous year. Among them are many men who have seen better days.

THE directory of the Paris Comptoir Descompte has failed to negotiate a loan of 500,000,000 roubles with the Russian Government, the latter indignantly refusing to grant the demand for a *gage special*, which has hitherto only been demanded from Turkey.

A LETTER has been published at St. Paul in which Hon. Edmund Rice, present Representative in Congress from the Fourth Minnesota district, declines renomination on the ground that at seventy years he can not do justice to so large and important a constituency.

IMMIGRATION to the Argentine Republic is greater than to any other country in the New World excepting the United States. The Immigration Bureau of Argentine, in the official report for the last year, has placed the number of immigrants arrived in that republic for the period at 120,842.

THE Governors of the thirteen original States met in Philadelphia recently and adopted resolutions calling upon the Federal Government and the various States and Territories to contribute to the erection of a monument in that city, commemorative of the framing and adoption of the Constitution of the United States.

THE death is announced in England of Sir Charles Tileston Bright, one of the projectors of the Transatlantic cable, who was the engineer-in-chief of the expedition which carried out that project and who has since been prominently identified with the extension of submarine telegraphs throughout the world. He was in his fifty-seventh year.

THE heaviest sentences for burglary pronounced in several years were passed at New York recently by Judge Martin upon two comparatively young men, Michael Feehan, aged nineteen, and Michael O'Donnell, aged twenty-one. O'Donnell was convicted and Feehan pleaded guilty. They were each sentenced to hard labor at Sing Sing for thirty years.

A FEW days since a young son of Adam Young, living in the eastern part of Wabash, Ind., met with a very peculiar accident which caused his death. The boy was watching some men who were exhuming a body in the old cemetery, when the heavy marble headstone fell on him and produced fatal internal injuries. The boy was buried on the exact spot where the accident took place.

ADVICES have been received at Zanzibar from Emin Bey, dated November 2, stating that he had been reconnoitering for Stanley but had heard nothing of him up to that time. Emin himself was well and his relations with the chiefs and the people in the vicinity of his station was satisfactory. Stanley's relief stores had reached Usambiero. His mails were at Uganda, where the Arabs were hostile and treacherous.

MR. CHARLES LYMAN, for many years at the head of the Dead Letter Office of the Post-office Department, died at Washington recently in the eightieth year of his age. Mr. Lyman went to Washington about twenty-seven years ago and was put in charge of the Dead Letter Office at a time when its business was all transacted by himself and one clerk. Under his direction the office grew to its present proportions.

THE British gunboat Falcon has returned to Gibraltar from Cape Juby, whither she was sent to investigate the reported attack upon the depot of the Northwest African Company at that place. The Captain of the Falcon reports that Mr. Morris, manager of the British African Company at Cape Juby, attempted to photograph a camp of Moorish soldiers and while doing so the soldiers killed him and drove his companions into a fort near by.

IN an interview with a French journalist recently, General Gourko, Governor of Warsaw, denied that Russia was desirous of war, but said it was impossible to predict events. He hoped that, should an outbreak of hostilities occur, France would not remain neutral. He hinted that in such case France would have to deal with England as Italy's ally. Nobody could count on England's neutrality, and this, he said, was a matter for serious reflection.

## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

### Gleaned by Telegraph and Mail.

#### CONGRESSIONAL.

AMONG the bills reported to the Senate on the 30th was one increasing the salary of United States district judges to $5,000. The Land Forfeiture bill was briefly discussed and a bill passed authorizing the sale of a tract of land in the Leavenworth military reservation to the water works company. The International Copyright bill was then debated until adjournment.... Immediately upon assembling the House resumed consideration of the Tariff bill and debate continued during the entire day.

IN the Senate on May 1, at the conclusion of the morning business, Senator Stewart's Silver Coinage resolution was adopted, and the bill passed appropriating $100,000 for a public building at Emporia, Kan. According to previous notice, Senator Ingalls then addressed the Senate in reply to the speech of Senator Voorhees delivered some days previous. Senator Eustice spoke briefly in reply to charges made by Ingalls against the South. Adjourned.... In the House the Senate bill passed granting right of way through the Indian Territory to the Kansas City & Pacific Railroad. Debate on the Tariff bill was then resumed and continued until adjournment.

AFTER routine business on the 2d the Senate went into executive session. When the doors were opened the bill passed appropriating $100,000 for a public building at Atchison, Kan. After further debate on the Land Forfeiture bill it went over. The Senate then passed 104 pension bills in forty-six minutes. The bill to amend the Inter-State Commerce law was reported from committee. The bill passed authorizing the sale of the Fort Sedgwick military reservation in Colorado and Nebraska to actual settlers.... The Tariff debate took up the whole day in the House.

IN the Senate on the 3d among the bills reported by committees was the bill to place General Pleasanton on the retired list with the rank of Colonel. Mr. Stewart introduced a bill to execute the stipulations of the new Chinese treaty. The Senate then resumed consideration of the Land Grant Forfeiture bill, which, after debate, was laid aside and the Animal Industry Bureau bill taken up. Senators Vest and Plumb, in discussing the bill, took opportunity to scorch the cattle pool of Chicago which they characterized as arbitrary in fixing prices of cattle that were ruinous to cattle raisers of the West. Adjourned until Monday.... After adopting the conference report on the joint resolution accepting the invitation by the United States to take part in the French exhibition at Paris in 1889, the House took up the Tariff bill and debate continued until adjournment.

THE Senate was not in session on the 4th. .... In the House the Committee on Elections reported in the California election contest of Lynch vs. Vandever, unanimously confirming Vandever in his seat. After disposing of private business debate on the Tariff bill was resumed and continued until recess. At the evening session twenty-seven pension bills passed.

#### PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

THE Senate bill granting right of way through the Indian Territory to the Kan. City & Pacific railway has been passed by the House.

THE Wisconsin Democratic State convention was held at Madison on the 1st. The platform strongly indorsed the Administration of President Cleveland.

THE Sultan of Morocco has refused to submit his differences with the United States to arbitration and the dispute has been reopened.

THE Prime Minister of Japan has resigned and has been succeeded by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

PROF. GOLDWIN SMITH, writing in regard to the rebuke given him by Chauncey M. Depew for talking politics at a public dinner, says that "the Presidential fever is burning in Depew's veins," that Depew's protest was a distinct bid for the Irish vote, and that Depew recently sat through a banquet at which Irish politics were freely talked, without making any protest.

THE second National Republican anti-saloon convention was held in the hall of the Cooper Institute, New York, on the 2d, delegates from all the States being in attendance.

THE Iowa Democratic State convention was held at Dubuque on the 2d. The delegation was solid for Cleveland.

NEBRASKA Democrats held their State convention at Omaha on the 2d. Delegates were instructed for Cleveland.

CONNECTICUT Democrats met at Hartford on the 2d. The platform reaffirmed the National platform of 1884 and indorsed the Administration.

PENNSYLVANIA Prohibitionists met at Harrisburg on the 2d.

THE Illinois Republican convention, which met at Springfield on the 2d, indorsed Judge Gresham for the Presidency.

CARL SCHURZ had an interview with Prince Bismarck at Berlin the other day.

NEWS has been received in London from Albert Nyanza, Africa, to the effect that Bishop Parker and Rev. Mr. Blackburn recently died of fever at the Unyiro mission.

REV. CHARLES H. SPURGEON, who is visiting Bournemouth for the benefit of his health, has written a letter in which he says he is ill and worn out, and that he is hardly able to keep on at all.

IT is reported that an outbreak has occurred in Macedonia. The Servian and Greek portions of the population are said to have united to oppose the authority of Turkey.

THEODORE F. DWIGHT, Librarian of the State Department, has tendered his resignation, to take effect June 1, and it has been accepted.

INDIANA Republicans met at Indianapolis on the 2d and nominated delegates to the National convention instructed to vote for Ben Harrison for President.

THE Illinois Republican convention nominated Joseph W. Fifer for Governor, Lyman B. Ray for Lieutenant-Governor, T. N. Pearson for Secretary of State, C. W. Pavey for Auditor, Charles Becker for Treasurer, and George R. Davis, Senator Farwell, W. F. L. Hadley and Horace S. Clark delegates at large to the National convention.

THE Washington Woman's Suffrage Association has passed a resolution for women to withdraw from churches where the pastors uphold the decision of the Methodist General Conference at New York, which recently refused to admit woman delegates.

THE New York *Sun* of the 3d had a sensational dispatch from Berlin stating that Germany was on the verge of a Socialist revolution.

THE Fisheries treaty has been ratified by Canada.

DR. D. W. BLISS, of Washington, who was physician-in-chief to President Garfield from the time he was shot by Guiteau until his death, was reported seriously ill on the 4th.

THE Emperor of Germany was so much improved on the 4th that his physicians announced that no more bulletins would be issued unless he took a relapse.

ROBERT BLAINE, brother of James G., has been removed from his position as curator of the Museum of the Agricultural Bureau. The position is under the Civil-Service rules.

THE Philadelphia *Times* of the 5th published a letter from New York stating that arrangements were consummated by which Hon. James G. Blaine would be a candidate for the Republican nomination to the Presidency.

JUDGE ARNOLD KREKEL, United States Judge for the Western district of Missouri, has decided to retire from the bench. Judge Krekel has been for some time in poor health.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

ALEXANDER SULLIVAN, counsel for the striking Burlington engineers and firemen, says that the report circulated that the "Q" strike had been declared off, was without foundation. "There will be no such action taken," he said, "until after the investigation by the Inter-State Commission is concluded."

THE decrease in the public debt during the month of April was $9,300,000.

THE independent German riflemen of New York have sent the Empress of Germany 1,000 marks for the relief of the flood victims.

THE business portion of Keithsburg, Ill., was destroyed by fire recently. Loss, heavy.

OVER ten million feet of lumber was destroyed in the yard of the Chippewa Lumber Company at Big Rapids, Mich., by fire on the 3d. Loss $120,000.

BURGLARS entered "Mark Twain's" house at Hartford, Conn., the other night and stole his shoes, two overcoats, some napkins rings and other small articles.

THE reported robbery of the mails near Baltimore is denied by the postal authorities.

WHITE CAPS gave W. H. Toney a terrible beating at English, Crawford County, Ind., recently. His recovery was doubtful. He was a prominent and wealthy citizen, but was accused of abusing his family.

EDITOR O'BRIEN was again convicted under the Crimes act at Loughrea, Ireland, on the 3d and sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

A CONCERTED attempt was made to wreck a "Q" train at Chicago on the night of the 3d. A switch was thrown and fifteen cars derailed and set on fire. The conductor was found shortly afterwards bruised and insensible by the side of the track, and he reported that three men had beaten him and wrecked the train.

LATER advices concerning the attack by natives on the expedition of the German explorers Kund and Tappenbeck, in the interior of the Cameroons country, show that seven members of the expedition were killed and thirty wounded. The explorers lost all their journals and collections.

GENERAL MARTIN BEEM shot himself dead at Stanton, Neb., recently. His married life was unhappy and this was assigned as the cause of the suicide. Beem was a well-known Chicago lawyer and distinguished himself in the late war by striking acts of gallantry.

THE Argentine Minister at Vienna declares that the reports of failures in Buenos Ayres are greatly exaggerated; that they are only small local failures in the capital and the provinces.

Two men, while jumping from an eastbound train at Benicia, Cal., the other night, fell overboard from the pier in the darkness and were drowned. The body of one recovered proved to be that of Fred Shaw, of Eureka Springs, Ark.

A REPORT is current in Vienna that the Austrian Government is about to ask the delegations to grant an extra credit of $16,000,000.

THE London and Liverpool branches of the National League have declared their confidence in Mr. Parnell, and say they will disregard the Papal rescript.

THE Supreme Court of Massachusetts has confirmed the sentence of Mrs. Robinson, the wholesale poisoner.

CHIEF JUSTICE GALT, at Toronto, Ont., recently, in granting the application for a writ of habeas corpus in the case of Morse, wanted in Rochester, N. Y., for attempted murder, expressed the opinion that a telegram from an American officer was not sufficient authority upon which to arrest a criminal under the Extradition act.

MAJOR POPOFF, who was convicted of embezzling funds belonging to the Bulgarian War Office, has been sentenced to four years' penal servitude. M. Boneff and the other prisoners implicated in the defalcation were each sentenced to terms of imprisonment varying from five to twelve months.

BUSINESS failures (Dun's report) for the seven days ended May 3 numbered for the United States, 209; Canada, 25; total, 234; compared with 223 the previous week and 182 the corresponding week of last year.

A HORRIBLE and mysterious affair was reported from Arlington, Neb., on the 4th. A barn on the Freese farm was destroyed by fire, and in the ruins were found the bodies of seven persons. The hired man was missing and a suspicion existed that he had committed a terrible crime.

A CROWD of excited Southerners burned Senator Ingalls in effigy at Lebanon, Tenn., recently.

AN explosion of gas occurred recently in a tunnel in course of construction near Messina, Sicily. Six workmen were killed and many more fatally injured, several of whom were rescued in a dying condition. At the time of the accident 250 workmen were in the tunnel.

A STORM blew down several houses in the new town of Berring, Iowa, on the Santa Fe railroad. James Myers, of Memphis, Mo., was killed in a falling building.

A BAD condition of affairs exists in Lowndes County, Ala., growing out of the recent lynching of a negro murderer by a white mob. The negroes had been threatening vengeance and on the 4th the sheriff arrested fifteen of them. On the way back to Hayneville, the county seat, a conflict ensued and two white men were wounded and several negroes killed. Further trouble was feared.

THE cracker factory at Los Angeles, Cal., and H. Webber's residence were destroyed by fire the other night. One man perished. Loss, $65,000; insurance small.

BY a collision near Sorento, Ill., recently between a passenger and a freight train, two men were killed and several badly injured.

### ADDITIONAL DISPATCHES.

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## KANSAS STATE NEWS.

WHILE recently boring for coal at Newton, the Newton Mining Company struck a very strong flow of natural gas at a depth of 430 feet.

SOME time ago the twelve-year-old son of Fred Herron, of Leavenworth, swallowed a large pin, and for two weeks suffered great agony. Local physicians failed to extract it and the little sufferer was taken to New York, where the best surgical skill was to be employed.

THE fourteen-year-old son of John Weiseman, of Leavenworth, was fatally injured the other day while trying to climb on a moving freight train.

COLONEL N. S. GOSS, of Topeka, was recently in Washington on business in connection with his scientific researches. He is now directing special attention to the Mexican and Central American birds, and is adding largely to the information of the scientists concerning the natural history of those regions.

FIVE of the Blalock gang had been convicted of burglary and robbery at Columbus up to the 30th and more were to follow.

AT the late annual meeting of the State Dental Association at Topeka the following officers were elected: President, R. E. Nickles, Salina; first vice-president, H. W. Parsons, Wamego; second vice-president, S. P. Huntington, Eureka; secretary, C. B. Gunn, Leavenworth; treasurer, F. O. Hettrick, Ottawa.

THE Republican convention of the Fifth district recently met at Junction City and re-nominated Hon. John A. Anderson for Congress by acclamation.

AT the Republican convention of the Seventh Congressional district, held at Garden City May 1, Hon. S. R. Peters was unanimously nominated for re-election to Congress.

ON the night of April 29 Deputy Sheriffs G. H. Campbell and F. H. Homenback killed John P. Reardon at the Round Prairie school house, about thirteen miles north of Olathe, while attempting his arrest. Reardon was a stranger, was dressed as a cowboy, heavily armed, and had been staying in the school house of nights for about a week. The officers had a warrant for the arrest of a man named Rodgers, and it was supposed that Reardon was the man wanted. When they went to the school house and ordered him to surrender he showed resistance and was shot dead.

THE Farmers' Trust Convention recently in session at Topeka finally adopted a substitute for the original resolutions offered in effect that in view of the great importance of the matters for which the convention was called to consider it is wise to give them careful consideration; that farther consideration of the pending rules be postponed to an adjourned meeting to be held at Topeka on Wednesday of the third week in November, when the Farmers' National Convention will be in session, and only farmers and those working with them be admitted to such meeting.

THE monthly report of the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture estimates the condition of winter wheat at 96 per cent.; acreage of spring wheat, as compared with last year, 90 per cent.; condition, 96 per cent. Acreage of corn 110 per cent.; condition, 100 per cent.; Oats, acreage 105 per cent.; condition, 96 per cent. Condition of tame grass, 100 per cent. During the month of April, with but few exceptions, rains have been abundant in the Eastern half of the State, also in the Southwestern portion. In West Central and North Central Kansas and generally throughout the Northwest, the rain fall was light and crops have suffered somewhat.

THE State Central Committee of the United Labor party met at Topeka on May 1 and resolved to send delegates to the Cincinnati convention and that the chairman be empowered to appoint such delegates and that said delegates be instructed to oppose the nomination of a Presidential candidate. Chairman Gaskill appointed the following delegates: R. R. Gaskill, Topeka; F. M. P. Donnelly, Kansas City; C. A. Henrie, Topeka; William McMillan, Osage City; W. M. Goodner, Larned; C. D. Allen, Atchison; E. Z. Butcher, Solomon City; J. M. Zimm, Hutchinson. Each delegate was authorized to exercise the prerogative of furnishing a substitute with the proper credentials to admit him to a seat in said conference in case the appointee is unable to attend in person.

THE other day William Herman, a well-known Leavenworth milkman, returned to his home, after having attended the funeral of a member of his family, and while removing the harness from one of his team of mules, the animal suddenly turned and planted both feet with terrific force in Herman's stomach. After getting in the house he began to suffer terrible pains and died in a few hours.

REV. A. KUHLS celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his priesthood at Wyandotte on May 2. He received a large number of presents. Father Kuhls took charge of the Catholic Church at Wyandotte in 1863.

WILLIAM HOHL, a stonemason of Winfield, in a fit of despondency, blew his brains out the other day with a revolver. He was a widower and quite old.

THE Sixth district Republican convention at Russell renominated Congressman Turner for re-election.

JONATHAN and William Blalock were permitted to plead guilty of murder in the second degree at Columbus when arraigned for the murder of Constable Gordon. Mrs. Blalock was found guilty of receiving stolen property. The trial of the Frys and the "pretty, young school teacher" will round up the Blalock-Fry gang.

AS AN outgrowth of the Farmers' Trust movement articles of incorporation were recently filed with the Secretary of State of the "Farmers' Federation of the Mississippi Valley," and the incorporators are citizens of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, Colorado, Arkansas, Texas Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, West Virginia, New Mexico, Wyoming and Dakota—fourteen States and three Territories. The places of business are to be established at Topeka, Kan.; Kansas City, Mo.; Chicago, Ill.; St. Paul, Minn.; Omaha, Neb.; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Milwaukee, Wis.; St. Louis, Mo.; Louisville, Ky.; Cincinnati, O., and such other places as may be deemed advisable, as the business grows. The officers are: President and general manager, Waller N. Allen; vice-president, P. N. Gich; treasurer, J. R. Mulvane; secretary, J. P. Limeberner.

FINE rains of late.

PATENTS issued to Kansas inventors for the week ended April 27: Vehicle axle, John F. Dixon, of Clay Center; sad iron, William H. Mull, of Lawrence; provision safe, Harriet Randall, of Pottersburg; pump, William W. Cully, of Wilson; envelope holder, Smith & Culver, of Kiowa; barrel truck, Ernest J. S. Davis, of Great Bend; fender for cultivators, John W. Kennedy, of Miltonvale.

THE people of Abilene at a recent mass meeting passed resolutions severely condemning the agent of the Associated Press for suppressing the report of the late Capital Removal convention held in that city.

TREASURER GRAVAT, of Scott County, is reported to be over $9,000 short in his accounts.

CARL BURGEN, minor child of Dr. Burgen, of Topeka, has brought suit against the city for $10,000 damages for injuries received by the city "hoodlum wagon" running into and demolishing a buggy in which he and his mother were riding. Mrs. Burgen also sues the city for $10,000 damages and Dr. Burgen also sues for $300 damages done to the horse and buggy.

WENZEL ROHAN, while recently attending court at Oberlin, committed suicide by shooting himself. He had been worried for some time on account of financial troubles, and became excited over a suit in court which it was thought brought on a derangement of his brain.

THE Santa Fe depot at Halstead was consumed by fire the other night.

## IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT.

### A Car Load of Dynamite Explodes Near Shamokin With Terrible Effect.

### Seventeen Houses Wrecked on the Sleeping Inmates—Eight Killed and Thirty Injured.

### Circus Train Wrecked—Great Loss of Life by Hail Storms in India—Drownings on Lake Erie.

SHAMOKIN, Pa., May 7.—A freight train on the Philadelphia & Reading railroad was passing through Locust Gap, six miles from this place, at eleven o'clock Saturday night, when a car loaded with powder exploded, killing eight people, wounding thirty, some seriously, burning eight houses, leveling four blocks to the ground and destroying twelve loaded cars.

The freight train, consisting of seventy-five cars bound for Williamsport, had become disconnected by the breaking of a coupling and the engine and three cars had run half a mile before the crew discovered that the train was divided. The first section then awaited the arrival of the second at the foot of a heavy grade. The two brakemen lost control of the second section and it dashed into the first section, causing an explosion in the third car, which was loaded with powder.

At the scene of the accident the railroad runs along a steep hill, at the bottom of which stood two rows of houses occupied by the Philadelphia & Reading Coal and Iron Company's employes. On the hillside stood a little cottage occupied by John Quinn and his family of four children, two boys and two girls. The force of the explosion wrecked the buildings, seventeen in all, and the stoves set fire to the ruins, and Quinn and his two little girls were burned to death. The two boys escaped with burns.

Simon Kerwick's family consisted of Mary and Willie Cavanaugh, adopted children aged respectively eight and fourteen years, Daniel Kerwick aged eight, Alice Kerwick aged five, and his wife and a new born babe. Kerwick carried his wife from the burning building, but the children were burned to death.

Thirty persons were injured, the most serious being Mrs. Miles Dougherty, leg broken, bruised and cut; her mother, Mrs. Matthews, bruised and internally injured; Mary, daughter of Mrs. Miles, neck cut and bruised; Andrew McElwee, right eye destroyed and neck cut; John Donlan, left hand amputated and cut about the limbs; Mrs. Patrick McManus, injured by missiles; Mrs. Simon Kerwick, suffering from shock, condition serious. Several of the injured were sent to the miners' hospital.

In all twelve cars were destroyed and seventeen houses with their furniture. All the windows in the Locust Gap churches and schools were broken and the doors blown off. In Mt. Carmel large store windows were broken. The total loss is estimated at $75,000.

The force of the explosion shook the ground for twenty miles around, wrecking many houses in Mt. Carmel and the neighborhood.

None of the train hands were injured, although one is said to have been blown a considerable distance. The engineer of the locomotive which was very close at the time of the explosion was stunned, but soon recovered.

The sufferers were soon supplied with all the help that willing hands could give, and shortly after the explosion large numbers of people were on the scene. Yesterday all the roads leading to the horrible wreck were lined with vehicles going and returning. Locust Gap is a town of about 2,000 inhabitants.

#### FATAL LANDSLIDE.

STEUBENVILLE, O., May 7.—At one o'clock yesterday afternoon, about three miles above this city, at Mikanna station, as the train of the Miller & Freeman circus was passing through a deep cut known as the "Backbone" it met a landslide which threw the engine and five cars from the track, piling them up in a confused and broken mass. The cars were badly broken and were burned, while the engine was turned over directly across the track. A. B. Stillwell, of Wellsville, O., the engineer, was terribly scalded and it is feared received internal injuries. Elmer Ellsworth, of Columbus, O., the colored cook, was killed outright.

#### CLOUD BURST.

WICHITA, Kan., May 7.—Yesterday morning about six o'clock a cloud burst is reported to have occurred in the vicinity of Maize, a town about fifteen miles west of this city. The territory drenched was about two hundred yards wide and a mile long. For about twenty minutes the water poured down, as expressed by an eye-witness, "as if the entire heavens were a tank of water and a hole had been punched into it, the size of the parallelogram receiving it." The noise was terrible, the down-pour sounding much louder than the falls of Niagara. It did not look as though one could see ten feet into the pouring water. In fact it came straight down. The cloud did not seem to move. The clouds were as black as night, but to the east was clear sky, just a small strip of it above the horizon giving a little light. Had it not been for this it would have been perfectly dark. Most of the territory covered by the storm was a corn field and it is thought there was not a stalk of corn left.

#### THE ARLINGTON, NEB., HOLOCAUST.

OMAHA, Neb., May 7.—The circumstances attending the burning of the widow Freese and her family in the barn near Arlington Friday are still a mystery, but further investigation tends to remove the suspicion that murder was one of the features of the horrible affair. The fire, with the exception of a few smoldering heaps, had gone out, and another thorough search resulted in the discovery of the eighth victim of the holocaust—Lewis Grotzen, the hired man—near the east end of the barn among the remains of the horses.

#### TWO PLEASURE SEEKERS DROWNED.

ERIE, Pa., May 7.—A sail boat in which were a party of Germans capsized on Lake Erie near Westfield yesterday, and William Bann and August Piercher were drowned. The other two, G. Bader and George Smith, were picked insensible by a passing vessel. They will recover.

—A special dispatch from Nashville, Tenn., dated April 25, says: Miss Mollie Green is a heroine in Perry County tonight. She is but eighteen years old, and teaches school on Cypress creek in Perry County, though her father, Robert Green, lives across the Tennessee river in Hickman County. The little log schoolhouse was quiet and the little children busy with their lessons, when a dog, foaming at the mouth, snapping and biting, dashed in at the door and sprang towards one of the children. The brave teacher thought only of the children in her care, and sprang between them and the intruder. She told them it was a mad dog, and kicked at it, her skirts protecting her, and by the aid of a heavy ruler she kept it at bay until all the children had fled. The infuriated animal repeatedly sprang at her throat, but she was two agile to be caught and resolutely held her ground. When all the little ones were gone she desperately fought off the dog until she reached the door, which she pulled to after her and fell fainting outside. The children had in the meantime run to the nearest house, an eighth of a mile distant, and given the alarm. Two men came up, and after reviving the teacher with water, killed the dog. The dog had been in the neighborhood for a few days. The grateful parents of the children took up a subscription and propose to give the young lady a fine saddle horse. Her clothes were literally torn off during the struggle with the dog.

## FARMERS' TRUST.

### Meeting of Delegates at Topeka—Another Convention Called For November 3.

TOPEKA, Kan., May 2.—Representatives Hall was fairly filled with delegates from Kansas and the several adjacent States at the opening of the Farmers' Trust convention yesterday afternoon, and great interest was manifested by all present.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. Atkinson, of Ottawa, and was followed by an address of welcome by Judge Peffer, of the *Kansas Farmer*. Colonel William Crum, president of the Indiana State Board of Agriculture, was chosen temporary chairman, and J. B. Ferguson, of Meriden, Kan., secretary, and the following committee on permanent organization was appointed: Robert Atkinson, William Sims, W. W. Jones, G. R. Roberts and O. Chacy.

The committee reported the following officers: President, ex-Governor David E. Butler, of Nebraska; vice-president, Cleveland F. Moulton, of Missouri; secretary, J. B. Ferguson, of Kansas. Governor Butler upon taking the chair said: "We have several great organizations to-day, each established for the purpose of creating a higher standard for its members. There is no one so insane as to believe that the Grange, the Farmers' Alliance, the Knights of Labor, and the kindred orders were organized for other than salutary purposes. If I had the power I would enact a penal statute prohibiting any farmer from working more than eight hours a day. If farmers would use their brains more and their muscles less it would be far better for them. They would certainly have more time to become acquainted with their families."

The speaker dwelt at length upon the great wrong done the farmers, which arose from the unholy legislation enacted at Washington whereby the coffers of "those Shylocks, the railroad magnates of the country," were filled, and one man alone was permitted to own a three-hundredth part of the wealth of the whole country.

Ex-Governor George W. Glick was called for, and made a speech which excited Hon. W. M. Allen and caused some uproar. Quiet was restored by the president.

The committee on resolutions reported as follows:

WHEREAS, Agriculture being a pursuit in which the prosperity of the individual following it must conduce to the welfare of the community at large, it should be regarded as of an importance and dignity beyond all others.

WHEREAS, In our ostensibly free country, a large amount of land occupied by the working farmer is falling under the control of capitalists, not from any want of industry on the part of the occupant of the soil, but for the want of a fair remuneration for the product of his labor, and,

WHEREAS, The low price at which he is obliged to furnish his products is attended with no corresponding benefit to the consumer, nor based on an excessive production of the wants of all the community, but is the result of a depression produced artificially by combinations of capitalists having no regard to the law of supply and demand, and

WHEREAS, We can not with safety longer evade the vital importance involved in the question of protection to this great interest, nor longer remain submissive to the encroachments of powerful combinations formed to control our products and to hold us in the defenceless position we now occupy; and,

WHEREAS, Legislation has furnished no adequate remedy for these evils. Be it

*Resolved*, That such measures be taken as shall establish a lawful and just organization that shall have the power to adjust the prices of farm products in harmony with the supply and demand, remunerative to the farmer and reasonable to the consumer.

*Resolved*, That we proceed at once to a permanent organization, to which we invite the earnest, hearty and practical co-operation of every producer and consumer in the land, having for its object the protection of the farmers, stock growers and feeders' interests; the object of which shall be the controlling of shipments of the agricultural products by a system of central and shipping agencies, to be appointed by the president of this association; and that this convention at once proceed to elect the president, vice-president and treasurer, who are hereby instructed to secure a charter, including a charter member from each State and Territory of the Mississippi valley, with adequate and ample capital.

*Resolved*, That this convention extend to Walter N. Allen our thanks, and that we unanimously ask him to accept the presidency and general management of the proposed organization.

Considerable feeling against the adoption of the resolutions was expressed and a lengthy discussion followed. It was the sentiment of a large percentage of the delegates that more time should be taken to consider so important a measure, and resulted in the adjournment of the convention until evening.

At the evening session speeches were made by Judge Bailey, of Garden City, S. T. K. Price, of Illinois, and Job Mulvane and Judge Peffer of Topeka, Judge Bailey arguing for the immediate adoption of the resolutions received at the afternoon session, and the others advocating the postponement of further action for several months so that the movement might be carefully considered. Judge Moulton, of Bates County, Missouri, said he had been deeply impressed with the arguments used against hasty action, and he believed they were right. His remarks carried more conviction with them and the result was that the convention unanimously indorsed the resolutions in the main offered in the afternoon, which embodied the scheme of the Farmers' Trust movement, and resolved that the whole matter should be referred to a committee consisting of one member from each of the States represented, except Kansas, which should be represented by two members.

The members appointed were: For Kansas, Walter N. Allen and W. A. Peffer; Illinois, S. T. K. Prime; Nebraska, David Butler; Missouri, Cleveland F. Moulton; Indiana, William Crim; Iowa, Henry Wallace. The meeting of the committee will be held July 5 in Topeka to formulate a constitution and by-laws of the Farmers' Trust, which is to report at a general meeting of the farmers of the Mississippi Valley States to be held at Topeka, Tuesday, November 3.

The committee was also instructed to extend an invitation to every agricultural organization within the Northwestern States and Territories to send one delegate to the meeting in November, and a resolution was adopted requesting the Governors of the States and Territories named to appoint five delegates, who should be farmers, to attend and take part in the November meeting.

—The use of the mosquito has been at last discovered. Prof. Webster says that "injurious organic matter in the water, instead of decomposing and poisoning people, is changed into 'wiggle tails,' which in due time become mosquitoes, and the winged matter flies away, leaving the water purified to the extent of their ability to remove the impurities. If fish are kept in the water they eat the 'wiggle-tails,' and grow large enough to serve as food for man. Thus the poisonous ingredient of impure water becomes healthful food. Without mosquitoes most marshy or swampy land would be dangerously insalubrious."

—Yuet Sing, a New York Chinaman, engaged in the importation of tea, recently received a consignment of a few pounds of the very best, which cost him about six dollars an ounce.

—A person was drowning in East river, New York, last Saturday and an eye-witness hastily threw off his overcoat and plunged in to save him. The "meanest man living" happened to be there and stole the coat.

## THE WESTERN UNION.

### Dr. Norvin Green Gives the House Committee His Ideas as to the Difference Between the Powers and the Rights of the Government.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—Dr. Norvin Green, president of the Western Union Telegraph Company, appeared before the House Committee on Post-offices to present some facts upon the subject of the telegraph system of the country. He first addressed himself to the Hopkins bill to establish a postal telegraph. Such an enactment, he said, would be a monstrous wrong. The rights of property were entirely ignored. The act of 1866, to aid in the construction and maintenance of telegraphs, provided that, if the Government should establish a postal telegraph system, it would take the property of the companies accepting the provisions of the act at a valuation to be ascertained by five persons. Under the provisions of that act four-fifths of the telegraph properties of the country had been created and established believing and relying on the good faith of the Government. Having accepted the act the telegraph companies had performed their part of the compact faithfully, and that performance had saved the Government more than a million dollars. The business of the Government had been about $200,000 a year, and the rates established by the Postmaster-General had been about half the usual rates of commercial messages. The Government business required instant transmission at the busiest hour of the day to the detriment of the commercial business. Therefore the most exacting service the Western Union was called upon to perform was done at a loss. If the Government had a right to establish a telegraph, if it had a right to maintain a commercial telegraph business among the States, it certainly had the right, not by the power of eminent domain but by agreement, to take the property. In all fairness if the Government contemplated a telegraph business the only proper way to do so was to take the existing property and pay for it.

A vindictive impulse, Dr. Green declared, was about the last thing which should govern a deliberative body, yet the bill under consideration had the appearance of being dictated by a vindictive impulse. The power of the Government and the right of the Government were not the same. The Government might have the power to build telegraphs and to declare that any person doing a telegraph business would be a violator of the law, but it had a right to do only what was right. He asked if it was right to confiscate all existing properties which had been built up under the provisions of the act of 1866. The Government did not need a telegraph. It would not benefit the Government. His remarks were not made with a view to selling the Western Union to the Government, as the Western Union did not want to sell, but its purchase was the only proper basis on which the Government could go into the telegraph business.

Dr. Green next turned his attention to the pending Inter-State telegraph bills, and reiterated the same criticisms upon them which he had made before the Senate committee. He was particularly bitter in his reference to the dragnet subpœnas which had compelled the production of great files of messages. He referred to the action of the United States Senate Committee investigating the Hayes-Tilden election, and declared that he hoped never to see such another outrage. He thought that Congress should pass a law on the subject.

## AN OLD MURDER.

### Discovery of the Murder of Chinese Commited in Idaho Over a Year Ago.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 2.—Mail advices to-day brought the first authentic details of a wholesale murder of Chinese miners in the Snake River country, Idaho, nearly one year ago. At that time the deserted camp was found on the river bank and the blood-stained condition of the huts and pieces of clothing found led to the supposition that a terrible crime had been committed. The bodies of several Chinamen who were known to have