SCORES PERISHED.

SHAWNEETOWN, ILL., FLOOD AS BAD AS WAS FEARED.

MANY HUNDREDS HOMELESS.

TOWN WAS ALMOST WIPED OUT OF EXISTENCE.

RELIEF WORK WELL ORGANIZED

HELP COMING IN ABUNDANCE FROM OTHER TOWNS.

Flood Burst Upon the Village Without Warning—Nearly Two Score Bodies Have Been Recovered—Thrilling Incidents of the Disaster.

Ridgway, Ill., April 4.—Shawneetown, flood-swept last night, is threatened with total destruction to-night. Innumerable more lives may be lost before another day has passed.

Hundreds of people have not yet been rescued from the houses in which they were imprisoned, others are still in the treetops and still others are afloat on the waste of the torrent. Late reports say the entire levee will be destroyed by morning and every frame house in town is certain to be dashed to pieces. The wind is blowing thirty-five miles an hour with rain that cuts like glass. Great fear is expressed for the rescue force now in Shawneetown, as nothing can resist the power of the waves dashing ten feet under the impetus of the gale. If the storm does not cease, the entire town is doomed, as well as most of the people who have not yet reached the hilltops. This information comes by telephone from the temporary station on the hillside at Shawneetown.

Ridgway, Ill., April 4.—To-night almost two score bodies of victims of the Shawneetown flood have been recovered, and hundreds of homeless people are dependent upon charity for food and shelter. The death list is likely to be largely increased when definite information from the negro quarter, which suffered most, is secured. The flood burst upon these people without warning, and, owing to the weak construction of the shanties, they toppled over in the rush water, leaving their inmates no means of getting out of danger. Hundreds of people who live farther from the river front sought safety on roofs and in upper stories, or made a retreat to the hills at the west.

These are being removed as rapidly as possible to places where they can be given proper care. No offers have yet been made to search for bodies, the attention of the relief parties being directed almost entirely to the distribution of supplies and making the homeless as comfortable as possible. The relief work is well organized. Tents and blankets sent by the governor to-day will be promptly distributed. Those who escaped lost everything and their homes are in ruins.

J. T. Hogan, of Omaha, Ill., left the scene of the flood half an hour before the dike broke. His brother-in-law, Sheriff Galloway, of Gallatin county, whose home was in Shawneetown, had the same good fortune. The sheriff's wife and two daughters were swept away and their bodies have not yet been recovered. Hogan's story of the flood shows that the townspeople had absolutely no warning of the disaster.

About 5 o'clock last evening, he said, the levee on the north side of the town gave way at the north end of Market street near the court house. An opening ten feet wide was at first made, but it quickly spread to twenty, and a wall of water ten or fifteen feet high poured through the main street, sweeping everything before it. About fifty small frame houses along the line of the levee to the south were crushed like toys and none of the occupants, most of whom were poor colored folks, escaped.

Those living in the more substantial houses managed to climb to second and third stories where they clung for hours through the chilly night. Houses in the western part of the town did not at once feel the effect of the flood, and residents made hardy steps for safety, most of them fleeing to the top of the levee on the south side of the town. A large number also reached the little hills which are a mile from the town, and from there saw their property crumble in the muddy waters. When daylight came this morning the streets were full of water to a depth of ten or twelve feet. Only the most substantial buildings in the central business district remain standing. Water is everywhere and the relief work is being carried out under great difficulties.

Ridgeway, a town twelve miles from Shawneetown, was made the basis of relief work. All rail communication being cut off four miles out, boats were constructed and a committee started to the scene. They reached Cypress Junction, half way to Shawneetown, and found dry land extending toward the river. Following this, they arrived within two miles of the flooded town. More boats were secured, and the rescuers crossed to Shawneetown. They found a sad condition existing in the ill-fated town. Hundreds of those who escaped the rush of water were perched on roofs, trees and along the top of the levee. They were taken from their dangerous positions as rapidly as possible. Owing to the scarcity of boats, the work was very slow, but over 200 persons, including many women and children, were taken to the roadway, two miles from Shawneetown, to Cypress Junction. Here the greater part of them are camped to-night, with very little to eat and exposed to the driving rain and piercing wind.

Cypress Junction is almost surrounded by water which has overflowed the banks of the Wabash and is covering the entire country. The overflow from the broken dike at Shawneetown has backed two miles inland, but is to-night slowly receding. It will be impossible to recover any bodies until the waters recede very materially. In fact, the rescuers are making very little effort in that direction, but are working to save those who escaped alive.

The Riverside hotel and court house and the Ridgeway bank are intact, and were found to have been used by the fleeing inhabitants for shelter. The upper stories were crowded.

Several hundred people were promenading on the top of the levee Sunday afternoon. Sunday school had just closed and the children trooped merrily along the smooth walk, enjoying the bright sunshine. This proved a blessing to them. A large crowd had just passed Market street, where the break occurred. Luckily, no one was passing there just at that moment.

The railroad station at Ridgway has been crowded all day, and despite the steady downpour of rain, the people cluster about the place, each anxiously inquiring for some new tidings from the flood disaster at Shawneetown.

Mrs. Harriet Dumont was one of the arrivals to-night from the flooded district. Mrs. Dumont, in company with a friend, was walking along the levee at the time of the break. She said:

"It was about 4:25 in the afternoon when we were suddenly startled by hearing the bells of the different churches throughout the city clanging. People began running in all directions and somebody shouted that the levee had broken. We ran three blocks to my friend's house and went upstairs. Within ten minutes, the water came pouring down the street and within twenty minutes more it had risen almost to the second floor of our house. My friend's husband soon came to us with a skiff and took us to the Riverside hotel. The first alarm was given by Father Beuckman, who began ringing the bell of the church of the Immaculate Conception."

The lower portion of Carmi, Ill., on the Wabash river, is entirely flooded. The water reaches half way to the second stories of the houses. The water is level with the floor of the iron road bridge, but the railroad bridge is still two feet above; at one point on the Big Four, a mile north of Carmi, the track is but one foot abve water for a quarter of a mile.

Governor Tanner this afternoon started from Springfield 100 tents, blankets enough for 500 people and a sufficient amount of prepared food for the immediate relief of 1,200 people. He also wired Attorney W. S. Phillips, president of the Gallatin County bank here, to draw upon him for $3,000 as an immediate relief fund. Governor Tanner has issued a proclamation to the public to send in relief in care of Mr. W. S. Phillips, at this place. The Odd Fellows and Masonic lodges are supervising the distribution of supplies. A. F. Crawford, of this city, has spent the day in distributing supplies. As fast as they are received they are taken by special train to the water's edge, ferried across in skiffs to Cypress Junction, and from there taken by wagon to within two miles of Shawneetown.

All the carpenters in Ridgway fell to making flatboats this morning for transportation of supplies across the inundated territory, and an impromptu ferry has been established. The water is a mile wide at the crossing point and is backwater, the river being seven miles away. The Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern tracks are under five feet of water for five miles north of Cypress Junction.

The following is a partial list that has been gathered up to midnight of those who are missing and possibly dead:

Colonel Callicot.
Wash Callicot.
Mrs. Callicot.
Mrs. Galloway.
Dora Galloway.
Mary Galloway.
Mrs. Holly.
Mrs. Greer.
Mrs. Ed Flinte.
Charles Clayton, wife and four children.
Annie Rhineholt.
Clarence Rhineholt.
Mrs Paul Knalen and three children.
Mrs. McClain.
Florence Evans.
Ellen McAllister (colored).
Mary McAllister (colored).
R. B. Hooker, telegraph operator of Louisville & Nashville.
Noah Walsh and family.
Mrs. Seachmeier.
Paul McAllister.
William M. Thompson, wife and three children.
M. J. Hartnett.
Mr. Holly.
Charles Catton and son.
Henry King and four children, colored.
Miss Cora Sherwood.
Frank Morrison.
Mrs. A. A. Hathaway.

Late to-night it is estimated that the loss of life in the negro quarter may reach fifty, besides those accounted for.

Mr. Flinte, whose wife was drowned, came to Cypress Junction to-day and said that there were fifteen people in his house when the flood struck the building. Only himself and one other succeeded in escaping before the building toppled over. Mr. Flinte was hysterical from grief, and could not give the names of the thirteen who were lost.

Marsh Callicot, the son of Wash Callicot, and wife, who perished, made a heroic effort to save his parents. He secured a rowboat and got within forty feet of where his mother and father were imprisoned. The swift current prevented him from getting nearer. The parents stood in the yard in water to their waists awaiting the arrival of the boat. Suddenly a wave swept them into the current and they were drowned before their son's eyes. George Harrelson, a merchant, seized his little granddaughter when the water struck his store, and holding her above his head, waded, armpit deep, toward higher ground. A boat picked them both out of the water.

David Rockendoffer and wife were in their home, directly in the path of the huge wave that swept through the broken dike. Their little son in the yard saw the wave coming and hurriedly climbed a tree.

The father and mother had time to rush upstairs when the house was swept from its foundations. They climbed on the roof as the house floated off and heard their little son in the tree say: "Good-by, papa and mamma." The agonized parents were powerless to go to his assistance and in a few moments the house had been carried beyond the reach of the boy's voice. They floated from the north levee to the south levee, a distance of a mile, and were taken off in safety. The little son was subsequently rescued in the treetop by a boat and the family reunited. Mr. Rockendoffer said that as he floated down the current on the housetop he saw people drowning on all sides.

The colored quarter of the city, known as "Negro Flats," was completely inundated by the rush of water. It is believed that a large number of colored people perished, as the ground was flooded in a twinkling, and to-night the water stands twenty-five feet deep in that locality.

Every means of assistance is used to provide food and shelter to the hundreds of homeless refugees. Last night the Catholic academy, the school house, city hall and the Riverside hotel, all situated on high ground above the water, were crowded with homeless people. Hundreds are to-night sleeping on the water banks under such rude shelter as they can construct from the floating debris. Absolutely nothing has been saved in the city. The stores and other business houses are flooded to the second floors. All the streets are under water from ten to thirty feet. Provisions are constantly arriving from all the neighboring towns. A relief train arrived here to-night, but owing to the high winds and roughness of the water at the ferry crossing, all attempts to transfer the provisions across have been abandoned. They have been taken to the water's edge and at the break of day will be ferried across. The inhabitants of Ridgway have organized into a relief committee with Dent Reid, J. O. Brooks and G. M. Kimb at its head.

Houses have been thrown open and as soon as a refugee reaches here he is promptly taken care of and everything possible is done for their comfort. By order of Governor Tanner, a state relief committee has been formed of the following citizens: G. F. Baxter, George Laud, George Brooks, Dent Reid and Ed Rice. The heavy rain still continues, and at 9 o'clock a high, cold wind sprung up, adding to the misery of the sufferers in the stricken town. At 11 o'clock to-night a telephone message was received from Shawneetown, saying that the south levee was cracking and threatening to go at any minute. It is about sure that it will break before morning. This will not add to the depth of the water in the town, but will create a current through the streets that will prove dangerous to rescuers in skiffs.

Two hundred residences on Locust street were swept away. Seventy-five colored people were found in a school house and are being cared for. The Louisville & Nashville, through Superintendent W. S. Martin, donated $500. Eight hundred people are being cared for at the Riverside hotel.

Three boats will leave Shawneetown Tuesday morning for Evansville, taking with them 400 people. Mayor Carney, of Shawneetown, telegraphed to Governor Tanner to-night for 100 tents and 100 coffins. The tents arrived this evening, but could not be gotten across the backwaters of the Wabash from Cypress Junction. The relief train sent out of Springfield this afternoon by Governor Tanner has gone by way of Evansville and from there the supplies will be taken to Shawneetown by boat, reaching their destination to-morrow. At midnight another boxcar loaded with supplies from the towns along the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern arrived here but will lay till morning.

MISSOURI CROP REPORT.

Condition of Wheat Placed at 80—Little Old Wheat or Corn on Hand.

Columbia, Mo., April 4.—(Special.) J. R. Rippey, secretary of the Missouri state boar of agriculture, issued the first crop bulletin of this season to-day. The bulletin shows an improvement of 4 per cent in the condition of wheat, which is now rated at 80, against 76 last month, and 65 for the same date last season; 8 per cent will be plowed up this year, against 27 per cent for 1897. It is estimated that 13 per cent of last year's crop is yet in the hands of the producer, largely intended, no doubt, for home consumption.

Corn of last year's crop on hand is estimated at 25 per cent. This is the amount in the hands of the farmers, and will generally be consumed in maturing the stock now in the feed pens.

The acreage of oats compared with last season is placed at 96 per cent. In the few localities where conditions are favorable for seeding, the acreage has been increased and with a cessation of rainfall and an opportunity to prepare a seedbed within the next few days, the output will probably be about what it was last season.

Eighty-nine per cent of the apple buds are alive, 77 per cent of the peach buds, 68 per cent of the small fruit buds, and 81 per cent of the strawberry buds. The severe freeze in the latter part of March did much damage in some localities. In some instances correspondents report Ben Davis apples, strawberries and peaches are all killed, while other correspondents report that the buds were only slightly injured, as they were not very far advanced. There are sufficient buds alive, however, to insure a good crop.

Cholera and other diseases have caused some fatalities to hogs, but from 94 to 96 per cent will be raised.

WRECK OF THE BOTHNIA.

Steamer Le Bretagne Reaches New York With Details of the Disaster.

New York, April 4.—The steamer La Bretagne has arrived from Havre with eleven survivors of the crew of the British bark Bothnia, wrecked off the Irish coast on March 23.

The Bothnia sailed from Lobos De Afuera, off the coast of Peru, on November 5. When fifty miles off the Irish coast, on March 23, a squall struck the bark. Four men—George Herbert Jackson, Robert Hodgeson Arnol, James Plummer and John Osmanson—were sent up to stow the foretopgallant sail. They had gathered in the canvas, secured the gaskets and turned the quit rope, when the foretopmast snapped off above the cap.

Down it crashed with the four men, one dropping into the sea, two dead and the fourth wounded. Arnol fell overboard, Jackson and Plummer had their skulls crushed in. They were lifeless after striking the deck. Osmanson fell athwart a stay, striking on his stomach. The breath was knocked out of his body, but he contrived to grab the backstay, down which he lowered himself to the deck.

The Bothnia drifted helplessly until March 27, when the crew were taken off by the Bretagne's lifeboats. The Bretagne liberated carrier pigeons, through which news of the wreck was sent.

OMAHA'S RELIEF TRAIN.

World-Herald Has Collected $10,258 and Eighteen Carloads of Supplies for Cuba.

Omaha, Neb., April 4.—The World-Herald is getting ready to make the banner shipment from the West for the relief of Cuba. For about three weeks this paper has been gathering together subscriptions of cash, provisions, clothing, medicines and other supplies, until to-day it has $10,258 in cash and eighteen carloads of supplies of all sors. About $6,000 will be spent in buying four carloads of supplies here, and the remainder of the sum will be remitted in cash to the Cuban relief commission at New York. On Thursday a train of twenty-two cars will pull out of Omaha over the Missouri Pacific, the greatest relief train that ever started. It will ru through solid to New York. It is not known yet what route will be followed from St. Louis. There are over 7,000 contributors to the fund, scattered all over Western Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska and Northern Kansas. The sums of cash given range from 5 cents to $100.

DEFUNCT BANK DIVIDENDS.

Creditors of Three Kansas Institutions Get Another Installment on Their Claims.

Washington, April 4.—The comptroller of the currency has declared dividends in favor of the creditors of insolvent national banks as follows:

A second dividend, 15 per cent, in favor of the creditors of the First National bank, of Wellington, Kas., making in all 33 per cent on claims proved amounting to $41,724.64.

A third dividend of 20 per cent in favor of the creditors of the Sumner National bank, of Wellington, Kas., making in all 55 per cent on claims proved amounting to $61,-303.83.

A fourth dividend of 15 per cent in favor of the creditors of the First National bank, of Garnett, Kas., making in all 100 per cent on claims proved amounting to $41,-509.59.

WHALERS ARE SAFE.

Word From the Fleet That Is Caught in the Ice Near Point Barrow.

Nanaimo, B. C., April 4.—Captain W. F. Tilton, of the steamship Belvidere, one of the whalers imprisoned in the ice in Point Barrow, Alaska, arrived here to-day on the steamer Albion. Captain Tilton left the fleet about six months ago and come out overland to Copper river where he took passage on the Albion. Captain Tilton reports that the whalers were safe and that they were waiting for the ice to break up.

Funeral of Mrs. Brewer.

Washington, April 4.—(Special.) The arrangements for the funeral of Mrs. Justice Brewer, who died at midnight last night, were completed to-day. It was stated that the body of Mrs. Brewer would be taken to Leavenworth, Kas., and placed next to that of the daughter, who is buried there. It will be taken there Wednesday. The services at the house in Washington will be brief.

Vote for Jones and good government.

BRIEF BITS OF NEWS.

At Hobart, Tasmania, Mrs. Clover, while insane, cut the throats of her six children and then committed suicide.

The steamer Miowera has arrived at Victoria, B. C., from Honolulu and Australia, bringing 120 passengers bound for the Klondike.

The United States ship Baltimore left Honolulu March 25 for Hong Kong. Before she left, the admiral's flag was transferred to the Bennington.

Judge Philips opened the district and circuit United States court in Springfield, Mo., yesterday. There are only a small number of cases to be tried this term.

John P. Montgomery, an old man, was run into by a Santa Fe switch engine at Lawrence, Kas., yesterday morning and instantly killed. He leaves a large family.

By the overflowing of the Nunanu, a stream which runs through the most populous portion of Honolulu, much propery was damaged and one life, that of a Japanese, was lost.

Sagasta and Yostista, two Japanese murderers, were hanged at Honolulu March 25. Sagasta killed his wife and child and Yostista murdered the wife of a friend on the island of Maui last summer.

A WHACK AT FUSION.

BARNEY SHERIDAN MAKES A PLEA FOR PURE DEMOCRACY.

KANSAS BOURBON BLUNDERS.

WHY DEMOCRATS SHOULD NOT TRAIN WITH POPULISTS.

Incidentally Mr. Sheridan Rips an Esteemed Contemporary Up the Back for Accusing Him of a Crime He Has Confessed.

Topeka, Kas., April 4.—(Special.) Barney Sheridan, of the Paola Spirit, in taking up the fight for a straight Democratic state ticket in Kansas this year, occasionally finds it necessary to do some skinning. His latest job is in dishing up the outfit that runs the Paola Times, a Pop organ. Because Barney dared to advocate straight Democracy, the Times called him a "political prostitute." Barney took exceptions to this.

"I am a little grayer than I used to be," says he, "but I can hit as hard as ever, and my head is clearer. I never was licked by one man at a time but once, and that was when I was so full I took a redheaded clerk for a locomotive headlight and tried to get aboard. So the owners and editors of the Times can each take day about off from their jobs in the state house, the penitentiary, the asylum and in Paola, and sail in. I will be on hand and help to give the revival of hostilities an air of 'old time religion.' For every attack there will be return shots, scattering hair in the wind, from Garnett defalcations to the 'commerce' of the board of pardons, from Ypsilante to Yubadam.

"And as to the time-servers who publish as 'political prostitutes' the men who believe in and demand straight Democratic tickets, I confidently look forward to the day when they shall eat their own words, though they 'Be as the carcass of Jezebel, dung upon the face of the field.'"

Then Editor Sheridan gives some additional reasons why the Democrats should do business on their own account this year instead of in their wives' names.

"The Democratic party is against trusts," says he, "while the Populist party is in favor of pooling all trusts into one mighty trust of government and municipal ownership and operation of all public utilities. Democracy stands for personal rights and individual liberty as the ark of the covenant of a government by a free people, while Populism stands for the surrender of these rights and liberties into the keeping of a gigantic social federation of all the resources and powers of the people. One would quarantine against and cure the disease that incorporated wealth communicates to our system of government, the other would spread the disease to the end that the present system should be destroyed and a new system reared, a system begotten of a new order of things under which every individual becomes a ward of the nation—a government with at least two millions of office-holders, supported by taxation.

"Then, there is another irreconcilable difference between the Democrats and Populists of Kansas as to personal and party rights. Democrats deny the right of Populists to demand that the Democratic party shall help to elect a Populist state ticket the third time when the Populist party has not yet helped the Democratic party to elect the Democratic state ticket the first time.

"I am sorry now that a straight Democratic ticket was not run in 1896 as in 1891, 1893, 1894 and 1895. Every time a man submits to a thing against his conscience and his judgment, he rues it ever afterwards.

"In an evil hour the Kansas Democracy listened to the voice of 'expediency' and 'anything to beat the Republicans.' The political Philistines confused our counsel and we set up false gods and worshiped them, till to-day we are weak when we should be strong. Only time and right doing will restore the Democrats to their inheritance. Delays may interfere but the time is coming."

BAKER ON THE COBURN BOOM.

Writes a Personal Friend That He Thinks It a Pretty Good Thing to Tie To.

Topeka, Kas., April 4.—(Special.) In a letter to a warm personal friend here, Senator Lucien Baker says that, while he will take no hand in the selection of nominees at the Republican state convention, yet he believes, from the sound he has heard from Kansas, by putting his ear to the ground in Washington, that the Coburn boom is a pretty good thing to tie to. Senator Baker has always insisted that he will not attempt to dictate at the convention, but some of the politicians asserted that he would lend his support to John E. Hessin, of Manhattan, at the proper time, despite his declarations. They based their belief on the fact that United States Marshal Sterne and some other of Baker's appointees were pushing Hessin's boom along. Baker's remarks about Coburn's candidacy, therefore, will surprise those who have been charging that he was for Hessin. The senator does not say that he will lend Coburn any help; on the other hand, he again declares that he will keep out of the fight. But the very fact that he mentions Coburn's name in the manner which he does shows that Coburn's nomination would be highly satisfactory to him.

GLICK IS FOR FUSION.

Says He Is Particularly Interested in the Re-election of Boyle and Leedy.

Topeka, Kas. April 4.—(Special.) Ex-Governor George W. Glick, who has been appointed a member of the Kansas commission to the Omaha exposition, by Governor Leedy, is in favor of fusion this year, even if the Democrats don't get a thing out of the deal.

"I am especially interested in Boyle and Leedy," said Mr. Glick, "and I believe they will be re-elected, and the remainder of the ticket will doubtless go with them. If there is any disposition to divide some of the remaining offices I have no objections, because I do not care so much about them, but I want to say here and now that Leedy and Boyle should be retained without fail.

"I also think," continued Mr. Glick, "that Judge Allen should be renominated. I have known him for twelve or fifteen years and I know that he is one of the most upright and conscientious men in the state of Kansas. He is an able lawyer and an estimable gentleman. It is to the best interests of the people of the whole state to retain such men as Judge Allen on the supreme bench. I think he will be re-elected, as he ought to be."

ATCHISON IS FOR SMITH.

Kansas City, Kas., Candidate for Associate Justice Finds Many Loyal Friends There.

Attorney William R. Smith, of Kansas City, Kas., who is a candidate for the Republican nomination for associate justice of Kansas, returned yesterday from Atchison, where he has been attending court. Mr. Smith is popular in Atchison and while there he received much encouragement. His candidacy is rapidly spreading over the state and he and his friends are feeling elated over the outlook for his nomination.

Mr. Smith said yesterday that, while he knew that he had a number of very warm friends in Atchison, yet the treatment extended him on his last visit convinced him that his friends in that county are more numerous than he had thought and very loyal. At the Atchison county convention resolutions were unanimously adopted in behalf of Mr. Smith. The Kansas City, Kas., candidate is not making any campaign, but his friends are pushing his candidacy.

Twenty Delegations Elected.

Topeka, Kas., April 4.—(Special.) Counting Brown county, which held its convention to-day, just twenty counties have elected delegates to the Republican state convention. These twenty have 268 delegates. Conventions will be held this week in Leavenworth, Marion, Morris and Riley counties. Next week, Edwards, Gray, McPherson, Miami, Osborn and Republic will elect delegates.

A TOPEKA GIRL'S PLUCK.

A "Short Change" Man Buncoed Her, but She Made Him Disgorge.

Topeka, Kas., April 4.—(Special.) Miss Herron, stamp clerk at the Topeka postoffice, showed her pluck to-day by nabbing a "short change" shark on the public street here and compelling him to disgorge a $10 bill which he had beaten her out of. The man bought a few stamps and tendered a $20 bill. She gave him the change and he started out of the office. Miss Herron discovered that she had been buncoed before the man had got out the door. He had given her a $10 bill. She dropped her work and hurriedly wended her way out of the office to the street. The "slicker" was moving up the street at a fairly good gait. She struck out after him and overtook him about a block from the office. She grabbed hold of his overcoat, swung him around and demanded $10. The man became indignant, but the woman told him to disgorge or she would have him arrested. He gave her a $10 bill and she let him go.

KANSAS AT OMAHA.

Exposition Commission Holds a Meeting at Topeka and Outlines a Plan of Work.

Topeka, Kas., April 4.—(Special.) The members of the commission appointed to raise funds and arrange a suitable Kansas display at Omaha exposition met to-night and elected these officers: President, G. W. Glick, Atchison; vice president, J. E. Frost, Topeka; secretary, A. H. Greef, Pittsburg. Governor Leedy to-night prepared an address to the people of Kansas, asking them to lend their financial support to the enterprise. He states in the address that $15,000 has been pledged to the fund already by the railroads. The commission will also issue an address to-morrow outlining the plan of work and calling for support. It is proposed to build a club house as a resting place for sightseers, and then divide up the state's exhibits and arrange them in departments in the main buildings.

HIS PATRIOTISM LIMITED.

Kansas County Clerk Wants to Fight but Won't Abandon His Office to Do It.

Topeka, Kas., April 4.—(Special.) Assistant Attorney General Snelling to-day rendered an opinion that county officers forfeit their jobs as soon as they enlist for war. The opinion was called forth by a letter received from D. K. Swearingen, county clerk of Coffey county. Swearingen professed that he wanted to enlist to whip Cuba and wanted to know if he could hold his office at the same time, providing his bondsmen consented to let his wife run the office during his absence. Snelling replied that he could not be county clerk and a warrior at the same time. Swearingen will probably be barred from participating in the threatened war for he would not give up the office to enlist even if the Spaniards were to invade Coffey county with their torpedo flotilla.

BRODERICK WON'T ATTEND.

Will Not Leave His Congressional Duties to Work for Renomination.

Washington, April 4.—(Special.) Judge Broderick, of the First Kansas district, stated to-day that he would not be in attendance at the district convention which will be held at Horton, Brown county, on April 12. He said that for twenty-five years past no member of the First district had left his seat when congress was in session to attend a district convention. The rule had not been broken in twenty-five years, and he would not break it now. Another reason advanced by Judge Broderick was that the relations between this country and Spain had reached a critical stage and that, as we are on the verge of war, it was imperative that every Republican member should stay in his seat until peace was assured or until preparations had been made to conduct that war to a successful conclusion.

Broderick Is Second Choice.

Hiawatha, Kas. April 4.—(Special.) Brown county Republicans elected ten delegates to the congressional convention at Horton and instructed them to secure Bailey's nomination if possible. Broderick is the second choice of the delegation. Resolutions were passed complimenting President McKinley, Senator Baker and Representatives Broderick and Curtis.

Says It Looks Like Buchan.

Topeka, Kas., April 4.—(Special.) Judge J. G. Johnson, of Garnett, ex-member of the appellate court, and a strong supporter of Jack Harris for congress in the Second district, stated to-night that it looked to him as though the cards were stacked in that district in favor of Buchan, of Wyandotte.

Prudential Quits Kansas.

Topeka, Kas., April 4.—(Special.) The Prudential Life, of Newark, N. J., served formal notice on Insurance Superintendent McNall to-day of its withdrawal from Kansas. This company leaves the state rather than give information concerning the salaries it pays its executive officers.

Social Democrats to Meet.

Topeka, Kas., April 4.—(Special.) The social Democrats of Kansas, headed by G. C. Clemens, will hold a state convention in Topeka in June. It is barely possible that they will put up a state ticket. The matter is giving the Pops around the state house considerable uneasiness.

Buchan Working in Bourbon.

Fort Scott, Kas., April 4.—(Special.) Billy Buchan, of Wyandotte county, is here today, working hard, trying to break through Ed Gates' congressional delegation trocha, but is not making much headway.

Reappointed Prison Director.

Topeka, Kas., April 4.—(Special.) Charles E. Allison, of Erie, was reappointed director of the state penitentiary to-day by Governer Leedy. His commission is for three years.

FOR A MYSTERIOUS MURDER.

William McNew and William Carr Arrested in New Mexico for a Double Killing.

Las Cruces, N. M., April 4.—William McNew and William Carr have been arrested upon bench warrants issued by the district judge based upon a complaint charging them with the murder of Albert J. Fountain, on February 1, 1896. Warrants are also out for two other men. Colonel Fountain and his 9-year-old son were intercepted and murdered while crossing the plains, en route to Las Cruces, about forty-five miles from town. The crime created much excitement on account of the prominence of the murdered man, and the mystery surrounding the disposition of the bodies and the identity of the murderers. It is not known that the bodies have ever been discovered, but it is understood that convicting evidence is in possession of the authorities.

A GANG OF YOUNG OUTLAWS.

Four Sons of Prominent Payne County, O. T., Farmers in Jail at Stillwater.

Guthrie, O. T., April 4.—(Special.) Russell Shannon, Luther Holstein, Douglass Burke and Fred Nail, all sons of prominent Payne county farmers, are in jail at Stillwater, charged with burglary and robbery. By evidence secured by the officers and the confession of one of the boys, it is learned that they had banded themselves together to plunder and rob and become outlaws. They recently committed the wholesale burglary at Perkins, and have also raided stores at Cimarron, Clarkson, Clifton and Chandler, and several large caves have been found where they made their headquarters, each being filled with plunder from these stores and other places. A number of other arrests will be made by the officers, some very sensational.

FOR STEALING LETTERS.

Chicago Postoffice Clerk Who Could Not Live on His Salary Gets Into Trouble.

Chicago, April 4.—John D. Host, a clerk in the general delivery division of the postoffice, was arrested to-day by Inspector Gould for stealing letters. He was caught with a stolen package. Host confessed his crime and said he could not support his wife and two children on his salary of $12 a week and had been pilfering the mails for three months. It is estimated by the departmen that Host has stolen at least 5,000 letters addressed to the leading business houses in Chicago during the past few months.

Henry F. Grimme, a sergeant in the Seventh regiment and clerk in the postoffice, was arrested late to-night. He is said to be an accomplice of Host. The postoffice officials regard these arrests as the most important made in Chicago in twenty years.

Mother and Child Die by Fire.

Sistersville, W. Va., April 4.—The residence of James Michaels, two miles from here, was discovered on fire to-day. An entrance was forced by neighbors and Mrs. Michaels and her 2-year-old daughter were found dead on the floor, almost burned to a crisp. Foul play is suspected. Michaels cannot be found.

Eighty-five Men Ask Pardons.

Topeka, Kas., April 4.—(Special.) The state board of pardons opened its quarterly session here to-day. Eighty-five applications for pardons are pending before it this time. Several of them are from convicts who have grown so patriotic since they got into the penitentiary that they want to be pardoned so they can whip Spain.

Strawberry Carnival at Sarcoxie.

Sarcoxie, Mo., April 4.—(Special.) This city is to enjoy a strawberry carnival from May 19 to 21 inclusive. It will be the first of the kind ever held in this country. Nearly all the fruit growers in the country will aid in making it a grand affair. All the spring fruits known in this country will be on display and the strawberry will be the queen of the occasion.

New Packing Plant Opened.

St. Joseph, Mo., April 4.—(Special.) Nelson Morris & Co., of Chicago, opened their packing plant to-day, slaughtering 400 cattle and 2,000 hogs. This makes five packing plants in operation at this point.

YOUNG BROTHER CAUSED A SENSATION.

From the New York World.

Mrs. Everett Culver appeared at an amateur vaudeville entertainment given at her residence, in a Navarro apartment, in West Fifty-ninth street, as Carmencita, and pinned to her gown was a banner on which were the words "To hell with Spain!"

The programmes of the entertainment were all emblazoned with the same legend in red ink.

Her audience rose at her entrance, and there was a general show of patriotic ardor. The "Star Spangled Banner" was played, and the entire company of fashionables, led by Mrs. Culver in her Spanish costume, united in singing the national anthem. Small silken editions of the Stars and Stripes were produced and waved amid much cheering and more singing.

It has since been learned that Mrs. Culver was not aware of the legend on the programme or that pinned to her gown, which was that of a Spanish dancing girl. As soon as she discovered the latter it was torn away. It was the work of a mischievous and patriotic younger brother, but it caught the fancy and spirit of the audience. It has been the talk of drawingrooms and clubs ever since, and Mrs. Culver has received no end of congratulations.

She is one of the daughters of W. A. Clark, who, it will be remembered, recently purchased for $42,000 Fortuny's celebrated picture "The Choice of a Model." The Culver apartment is one of the most artistic in the city, and it was there that the famous masquerade Twelfth Night party was held last winter.

A WONDERFUL BLIND GIRL.

SHE HAS GIFT OF SECOND SIGHT AND SEES FUTURE IN HER DREAMS.

Wise Are Puzzled; the Ignorant Fear, but Nobody Knows the Secret of Her Powers, Which Are Much Talked About.

From the New York World.

People who believe in the significance of dreams and in the power of "second sight" may find strength for their opinion in the case of little Lucy Starling, the blind girl of Oldtown, Me., whose wonderful gifts astonish all who know her.

Four years ago little Lucy began to conjure up, with startling accuracy, dream pictures of past, present and future events, and since then her fame as a prophetess has spread and brought many curious persons to see the wonderful child. All who know her or hear about her agree that she is inspired, and the simple folk among whom she lives believe that heaven has given her this gift of second sight to compensate for the loss of her own precious eyesight.

Lucy was born in Oldtown, Me., on January 3, 1884, so that she is now just 14 years old. She is the only daughter of poor laboring folks; her father being a retired seaman. From her birth Lucy has been a delicate child, and, as they watched the development of their daughter, the anxious parents feared that the spark of like which flickered in Lucy would soon go out altogether. When she was 10 years old Lucy suddenly became totally blind. The cause of her affliction was an enigma to the doctors, but they all agreed that she would go blind to the end of her days. The sorrowing parents thought this new grief would kill the girl, but she appeared to be resigned to her lot and soon began to show signs of the marvelous power with which she is gifted.

On the night of November 19, 1893, Lucy dreamed three times of a ship in distress going down into the slough of the waters with all hands on board. The dream left vivid effects upon the child's mind and frightened her so much that she called her father to her bedside. The man tried to soothe her, but in vain. She described what she had seen down to the minutest detail, and insisted that she had recognized her absent brother's face among the drowning sailors.

Her father asked her if she could discern the name of the ship, and learned to his surprise that it was the "Princess." Although she had never seen the Princess she described the vessel so accurately that her father was filled with wonder. A short time afterward the newspapers reported the loss of the Princess, of Sunderland, England, on the night of November 19, 1893, off Flamborough Head. Lucy's brother, John Starling, had left home some years before to serve before the mast, and nothing had been heard of him. It was ascertained, upon inquiry, that he was among the crew of the ill-fated Princess, and thus the child was found to be correct in every particular.

Not only does Lucy dream of the present, but of the past and future. Her parents say that she prophesied the devastation of St. Louis by the tornado of a year ago a month before it occurred. Although she could not name the locality she described the city of her dream so exactly that her parents, who knew St. Louis well, were not surprised to hear, some time after, of the havoc the tornado played with that city.

The blind girl has given many evidences of her strange gift, and she is said to have foretold the death by burning of a neighbor, describing the accident exactly as it afterward occurred.

These revelations invariably come to her in the form of dreams or visions, and when she awakes she remembers what she has dreamt to the smallest detail.

Lucy is a beautiful child, with blue eyes and long golden hair. In spite of her affliction she attends the village school, and is said to be advanced in her studies. She is of a cheerful disposition, and is able to do lots of things that other blind people cannot do.

SPANIARDS AMBUSCADED.

Thirteen of a Party of Twenty-five Killed and Six Others Wounded.

Havana, April 4.—A Spanish report says that a party of 200 insurgents, at the plantation of El Desquie, Puerto Principe, recently surprised twenty-five Spanish soldiers by ambuscade, killing one officer and twelve soldiers and wounding six soldiers. It is added that a detachment of 100 Spanish troops went to the assistance of the surviving Spaniards, who were surrounded, and dispersed the insurgents, inflicting considerable loss upon the enemy.

PENSIONS.

Washington, April 4.—The following pensions have been granted:

MISSOURI.

Original—Henry G. Thomas, Peru, $8; Charles Geldmacher, dead, St. Louis, $12; James A. Burton, Radical, $6.

Additional—William Shellmeyer, St. Louis, $6 to $8; Warren P. Pierson, Novinger, $8 to $10.

Restoration and increase—William H. Burgolty, dead, Salem, $12 to $17.

Increase—Darwin L. Skidmore, St. Louis, $6 to $10; Peter Birdsong, California, $8 to $12; George Silvers, dead, Higginsville, $16 to $17; Martin Schultz, Kansas City, $10 to $12.

Reissue—Charles H. Weston, Kansas City, $8; Theodore R. Brent, Kansas City, $10.

Original, widows, etc.—Winnifred Carver, Bonne Terre, $12; Penelope McClung, St. Louis, $8; Mary Purdy, St. Louis, $8; Martha A. Purgaity, Salem, $8; Johanna Geldmacher, St. Louis, $8.

KANSAS.

Original—John J. Markham, Partridge, $6; Samuel Hudspeth, Cheney, $6; Samuel B. Hotshkin, Winfield, $6; Thomas Hull, Galena, $6; Joseph H. Shaver, Overbrook, $10; Melvin Lee, National Military home, Leavenworth, $10.

Additional—George C. Kent, Fort Scott, $4 to $8.

Restoration and reissue—Samuel McKinsey, dead, Columbus, $2.

Increase—Henry D. Reece, Thayer, $12 to $17; John Allen, Clifton, $6 to $12; Erastus S. McMullen, Topeka, $17 to $24.

Reissue