

MIXING THE BLAME.

Work By the Coroner's Jury on the Ford's Theatre Disaster.

Ainsworth, Dante, Sasse et. al. May Be Tried for Manslaughter.

WASHINGTON, June 19.—It was decided by Coroner Patterson today that A. H. C. Ainsworth should not be summoned to appear as a witness before the coroner's jury in investigating the cause of the Ford's theatre disaster. This decision was precipitated by E. H. Warner, one of the jurors, who stated that several of the jurors would like the coroner to issue a subpoena for Col. Ainsworth to give testimony at the inquest, not merely in regard to his own connection with the accident, but with reference to other parties concerned.

"I see no reason," said Mr. Warner, why he should be treated differently from other witnesses. Four of the jurors having him before us; the other two are indifferent. Inasmuch as statements that this jury is prejudiced against him have been made in the public press and elsewhere we think he should be made to appear."

Coroner Patterson said he did not believe that the presence of Col. Ainsworth would in any way assist in determining how Fred K. Loftus (over whose body the inquest is being held) came to his death. Nothing could be gained in summoning him in his official capacity, and Col. Ainsworth was not willing to appear as an ordinary citizen. He thought nothing could be gained by calling him. Warner stated that he wished to say for the jury in reference to the statements of prejudice in the minds of several of its members, that up to the time the inquest proceedings began, the jury had the highest regard for Col. Ainsworth, but he had interjected himself upon them as a defendant when he was not accused.

The testimony this morning was principally in reference to the character of the material used by Contractor Dante in doing the work beneath the old theatre building. Wm. Comstock, a dealer in cement, testified that he had sold Dante the cement used by him in the job. It was the best quality in the market and witness had had it under cover for nearly a year.

The witness admitted that he delivered the cement at Ford's theatre. He was shown some of the sandy substance used as mortar in the underpinning piers beneath the old building, and gave it as his opinion that it did not contain the kind of cement he sold Dante; it was very poor mortar, he said. A builder named Robt. Clarkson testified that the building as it now stands is in a dangerous condition. The interest in the efforts of the jury to determine where the responsibility for the collapse rested was intensified when Capt. Thorpe, chief of the supply division of the war department, was called to the stand. From the questions asked last week by members of the jury, it was apparent that they had an idea that Capt. Thorpe was in some way responsible for the work beneath the building. He was questioned as to the bond given by Dante. The testimony created a sensation.

"There was no bond," said Capt. Thorpe. "One had been drawn up but Dante had come to him and said the man who was going on his bond was the brick contractor and thought he ought not to go on. Witness had consulted with Col. Ainsworth, and Dante had been told to go on without the bond. Warner asked a series of questions in regard to Covert's duties, and the witness said he should certainly consider that as a superior intention. Covert should have reported any danger in connection with the building. He should have reported to Col. Ainsworth."

Did not know what Covert's specific duties were, Col. Ainsworth said the witness was in charge of the building and responsible for it. Frank E. Hopkins, a sand contractor, testified that he sold Dante sand for use in mixing mortar at the theatre building. Dante asked for the best quality and it was given him. Shown some of the mortar taken from the ruin, Hopkins said it did not contain the sand furnished by him. Nothing sensational was developed after this. Five witnesses testified, the last being Butler Pritch, an elderly white haired clerk of the record and pension commission, who said he came to the conclusion that the old theatre building was unsafe while the excavation work was going on and therefore on the day before the catastrophe asked and obtained five days leave.

When he concluded his testimony the jury rested to consider its verdict. After being out two hours the jury returned a verdict setting forth that Frederick B. Loftus came to his death by the disaster at Ford's theatre building on June 9, 1893. They recite the fact that G. W. Dante was a contractor under the government for the work in progress which caused the disaster and all the circumstances connected with the accident, and find that Frederick C. Ainsworth, in charge of the building, W. G. Covert, superintendent, Francis Sasse, engineer, and G. W. Dante, contractor, are responsible for the killing of Loftus.

The jurors further find that the failure of the government of the United States to provide for skilled superintendence of the work of repair and alteration of its buildings in charge of the war department is most unbusinesslike and reprehensible, and are of the opinion that if such superintendence had been provided in the case of the work on Ford's theatre building, the awful tragedy might have been avoided. Coroner Patterson decided not to issue warrants for the commitment of Col. Ainsworth, Dante, Covert and Sasse until tomorrow morning in order to give them an opportunity of obtaining bail. Col. Ainsworth has already secured bondsman. Contractor Dante is very ill at his residence.

EPISCOPAL CONVOCAION.

A Large and Representative Attendance at the Butte Meeting.

BUTTE, June 19.—The thirteenth annual convocation of the Episcopal church of Montana was assembled here yesterday and will continue in session until Wednesday evening. There is an encouraging attendance of clergymen from different parts of the state. The following reverend gentlemen are now here: Bishop Brewer, Harris, and Webb of Helena; Dickey of Kalispell; Hooker of Dillon; Prout of Deer Lodge; Lewis of Bozeman; Pritchard of Miles City; Reinsberg of White Sulphur Springs; Wasson of Great Falls, and Jones of Virginia City. There is also a large attendance of lay delegates.

The following are now in attendance: Messrs. Cheesman, Cory, Palmer, Young and Little, the deaconess and Mrs. Green of Helena; Buford and Moss from Missoula; Avery from Miles City; Switzer of Madison Valley; King and J. H. Dutton from Anaconda; Raynor from Noyahart; Dr. Whitefoot from Ezzan; Hollingshead from Great Falls; and Mrs. Conger and Mrs. Chapman from Dillon. The lay delegates to the convocation from Butte are E. B. Haddock, O. Hight, D. W. Tilton, Dr. Hammond and K. H. Paxson.

Business meetings were held today, commencing with prayers at 9:30 o'clock. In the evening a missionary meeting was held.

On Tuesday morning there will be a business meeting, and the afternoon will be devoted to the reading of papers on live subjects and discussions. In the evening a meeting will be held in the interest of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. Wednesday will be "woman's day," when papers relative to woman's work in the church will be read by Mrs. A. C. Newell, Miss Sue Baldwin, and Mrs. Clarence Campbell, of Butte, and several delegates from a distance. The ladies of the church are also making arrangements to serve luncheon on one day during the assembly. The meetings are held in St. John's Episcopal church and the public is cordially invited to any or all of them.

GOVERNMENT CROP REPORT.

The Prospects Seem to Be Favorable Throughout the Country.

WASHINGTON, June 20.—The weather crop reports indicate that the western portion of the cotton region, extending from Alabama to Texas, has been favored with fine weather and crops in this region have improved, although in eastern Texas cotton has been injured by wet weather. Sugar and rice plantations in some portions of eastern Louisiana are being flooded owing to recent breaks in the levees. Generally the weather has been more favorable throughout the south, where crop conditions have improved. The harvesting of wheat is progressing as far north as central Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, and Ohio, and the recent warm weather has produced a normal season throughout the central valleys; but the season is retarded by from ten to twenty days in the northwest and on the Pacific coast.

Minnesota—Some barley and timothy heading; wheat and oats doing fairly well; fruit prospects below the average.

North Dakota—Copious showers the latter part of the week revived all grain which is now in fine condition.

South Dakota—No serious damage is reported from any part of the state as a result of drought, but small grains are suffering; corn doing well.

Montana—Crops doing well; prospects for hay good.

ANOTHER TRUMP CARD.

Now the Great Northern Shows its Hand, Which is "Four Aces."

CHICAGO, June 20.—The Great Northern put a knife into transcontinental rates again today by announcing a rate of \$51 first class and \$33 second class from St. Paul to San Francisco. This includes berth and meals on the steamer from Seattle to San Francisco. This move on the part of the Great Northern will drag the Union Pacific into the light without delay unless that road is prepared to sacrifice its Portland business, which of course it will not do without a fight.

A Manufacturing Firm Goes Under.

BUFFALO, June 19.—J. N. Adam was appointed temporary receiver of the Geo. L. Squire Manufacturing company by Justice Lambert in a special term of the Supreme court today and his bond was fixed at \$5000. The appointment was made on application of the company. The chief cause of present financial embarrassment of the company is due to stringency of the money market and its inability to realize readily on work done. Liabilities about \$200,000, assets \$115,000.

ARMY BILL COMPROMISE.

BERLIN, June 19.—Herr Liebknecht, the well-known social democrat leader, in an interview today upon the army bill and other matters pertaining to Thursday's election, admitted that the government would get a majority of the members of the reichstag to vote for the army bill, by effecting a compromise with certain members of the political factions. This compromise, he declared, would consist of increasing the numerical strength of the army by 60,000 and reducing the period of service to two years.

The Great Actor's Will.

NEW YORK, June 20.—The will of Edwin Booth was filed today. Booth leaves the bulk of his property to his daughter. The value of the personal estate is estimated as worth \$65,000.

Lampighter Won It.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY, June 20.—Lampighter wins Suburban; Mars second and Idd-sleigh third.

DARK CONSPIRACY.

How Uncle Sam Has Been Fleeced by Some of His Employees.

They Sneaked Chinese and Opium Over the Border for Lucre—Their Punishment.

WASHINGTON, June 20.—The official heads of Patrick H. Winston, U. S. attorney, Thomas R. Brown, U. S. marshal, Andrew Wasson, U. S. collector at Port Townsend; C. J. Mullery, United States special agent, and six special inspectors of customs in the Puget sound district, all in the state of Washington, have fallen into the official hopper as a result of reports made to Secretary Carlisle by Special Treasury Agents Wood and Lewis. These reports are numerous and circumstantial as to detail, and tell a story of one of the most extensive and successful conspiracies ever formed to smuggle Chinese and opium into the United States across the northwestern boundary.

There has been hardly a day for the past two months that reports or telegrams have not been received at the treasury department from Agents Wood and Lewis, and on these reports the officials have been summarily dismissed.

The last batch of dismissals of customs inspectors was made on Saturday, but Secretary Carlisle thinks the ends of justice may be defeated by making public their names. These officials, it is charged by reports received, have been doing a wholesale business for several years in connection with private persons in Victoria, B. C., in smuggling in Chinese by means of fraudulent certificates, in permitting opium smuggling either by connivance or otherwise. Scandals for the last twelve or fifteen years have attached more or less to officials in the Puget sound district whose duty it was to guard against violations of the law as to the illicit business of Chinese and opium smuggling. Politics never entered into it, but the immense profits in the business seem to have corrupted many officials. More than two months ago Agents Wood and Lewis, new men from the east, were detailed to secretly investigate those alleged frauds, with the result as stated.

Influenced by local surroundings or affiliations, they went to work and unearthed what is regarded here as one of the greatest conspiracies in which government officials were ever implicated. Not to defeat a continuance of the investigation all prominent government officials named were removed by the president and their successors appointed without the usual announcements being made. The purpose was to keep the public in ignorance that other implicated persons might be caught. The new men appointed in place of those removed were James L. Saunders, collector at Port Townsend, Jas. C. Drake, U. S. marshal, W. H. Brinker, C. S. attorney. Other removals are yet to come and the matter in the course of time will find its way into court.

Elks in Session.

DETROIT, Mich., June 21.—The secret meeting of the Elks' grand lodge was resumed at 10 o'clock this morning and was occupied chiefly with routine business, the most interesting thing being the settlement of the long standing grievance of Richard R. Stierly, of Hoboken. Stierly was one of the founders of the Elks order and a member of the original Convivial club.

The grand lodge voted to issue charters to twenty of the twenty-three lodges instituted during the past year. The new lodge at Fargo, N. D., having been burned out, it was voted to donate it a complete set of new lodge paraphernalia, and also to give the brothers a year in which to pay for their charters. The incoming exalted ruler was instructed to put a stop to the use of Elk insignia for advertising or business purposes. The committee report on revision of the ritual was received and an exemplification of the work in accordance with the proposed ritual was set for this afternoon's session. There will be an election of officers either today or tomorrow, and the only fight of any consequence will be over the position held by Grand Secretary Myers of Cincinnati. The candidate most prominently mentioned with the present incumbent is Peter Rush of Detroit.

Los Angeles Banks Close.

LOS ANGELES, June 21.—Three banks closed their doors here today. They were the First National of Southern California, the Broadway bank, and the East Side bank. A large crowd assembled at the corner of First and Spring streets early in the forenoon. At 10 o'clock a notice was placed on the doors of the Southern California to the effect that the bank would not open today.

A Cut in Freight Rates.

CHICAGO, June 21.—The Great Northern has announced that, beginning on Saturday, June 21, it will put into effect a new freight schedule from Chicago, St. Paul, and St. Louis to Spokane and Montana, Idaho and Washington points. The new rates are on all commodities and are from 10 to 15 per cent less than the tariff now in force over the lines of the Western Freight association. The latter lines will soon hold a meeting to decide upon a course of action relative to the Great Northern rates.

A Big Failure.

PITTSBURG, June 19.—The Oil Well Supply company, one of the most extensive corporations in Pennsylvania, and the largest concern of its kind in the world, went into the hands of a receiver today. The corporation is capitalized at \$1,500,000 and its assets aggregate \$2,500,000. The total indebtedness is placed at \$1,100,000.

LELAND STANFORD DEAD.

A Great Money Maker and Philanthropist Joins the Majority.

MENLO PARK, Cal., June 21.—United States Senator Leland Stanford died at 12 o'clock last night. He passed away peacefully at his residence in Palo Alto.

Leland Stanford was born in Water-violet, Albany county, N. Y., March 9, 1824. His ancestors settled in the valley of the Mohawk river, N. Y., about 1720. He was brought up on a farm, and when 20 years old began the study of law. He was admitted to the bar in 1849, and the same year began to practice at Port Washington, Wis. In 1852, having lost his law library and other property by fire, he removed to California and began mining for gold at Michigan bluff, Placer county, subsequently becoming associated in business with his three brothers who had preceded him to the Pacific coast. In 1853 he removed to San Francisco and engaged in mercantile pursuits on a large scale, laying the foundation of a fortune that has recently been estimated at more than \$50,000,000. In 1859 Mr. Stanford made his entrance into public life as a delegate to the Chicago convention that nominated Abraham Lincoln to the presidency. He was an earnest advocate of a Pacific railroad, and was elected president of the Central Pacific company when it was organized in 1861. The same year he was elected governor of California, and served from December, 1861, till December, 1863. As president of the Pacific road he supervised its construction over the mountains, building 730 miles in 253 days and on May 10, 1863, drove the last spike at Promontory point, Utah. He also became interested in other roads on the Pacific slope, and in the development of the agriculture and manufactures of California. In 1885 he was elected to the United States senate for the full term of six years from March 3, 1885. In memory of his only son, Mr. Stanford has given the state of California \$2,000,000 to be used in founding at Palo Alto a university whose curriculum does not only include the usual collegiate studies, but comprises instruction in telegraphy, type setting, typewriting, journalism, book-keeping, farming, civil engineering, and other practical branches of education. The corner stone was laid on May 11, 1887, and it was completed January, 1889. Included in the trust fund for the maintenance of the university is Mr. Stanford's estate at Vina, Tehama county, Cal., which is said to be the largest vineyard in the world. It comprises 20,000 acres, 3,500 of which are planted with bearing vines. It is divided into 500 acre tracts, and most of the labor is performed by Chinamen.

White City Items.

CHICAGO, June 19.—The council of the administration decided today to keep the world's fair open every night until 11 o'clock. Heretofore the gates have been opened to visitors only on Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday nights, which have been known as special nights at the fair. Some special feature being prepared for each evening. There has been such a clamor, especially among Chicago people, that the council of the administration, responding to the force brought to bear, held a special session to consider this matter. It was the general sense of the council that this concession be made to the public and a resolution to this effect was adopted. Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday nights, however, will continue to be known as special nights and entertaining features will be devised for the crowds who attend on these evenings. The people of Chicago naturally expect to profit most by this new departure as aside from Sunday and the nights on which the fair has heretofore been open, business men, clerks and working people in general have had no opportunity of seeing the sights at Jackson park.

Railroads, car lines and boat lines will make a special effort to get the people to and from the fair in the shortest possible time and to make the trip as easy and pleasant as possible. The committee on ceremonies has prepared a program for the observation of the fourth of July at the white city. The military and civic organizations of the city will be invited to parade through the grounds, and take part in the ceremonies. Gen. Nelson Miles will be requested to furnish a battery of artillery to fire salutes at sunrise. At ten o'clock in the forenoon there will be an international parade in which all foreign nations having exhibits at the fair will be requested to participate. Denizens of Midway pleasure will also be in line. The declaration of independence will be read at 2 o'clock in the afternoon at half a dozen different places on the grounds. In the evening there will be a grand electric display and the grandest display of fireworks the fair has yet had. During the day chimes of bells in the tower of Machinery hall and in the German Government building will be wrung at frequent intervals. August St. Gauden's statue of Columbus is now in place under the balcony at the east front of the Administration building. All that remains to be done is to patch a few breaks in the plaster that were made in transportation.

Miles' Nerve & Liver Pills.

Act on a new principle—regulating the liver, stomach and bowels through the nerves. A new discovery. Dr. Miles' pills speedily cure biliousness, bad taste, torpid liver, piles, constipation. Unequalled for men, women and children. Smallest, mildest, surest! 50 doses, 25 cents. Samples free at Driver-Bradley Drug Co.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is famous as a Cure for severe colds. Famous as a Preventive of pneumonia. Famous as a Preventive and cure for croup. Famous for the relief it affords in case of Whooping cough. Famous as a safe and pleasant Medicine for children. Try it. 50 cent bottles for sale by Lapeyre Bros., Druggists.

"NOT GUILTY."

Such Was the Verdict Rendered in the Famous Lizzie Borden Murder Trial.

A Scene of Wild Confusion in the Courtroom When the Verdict Was Announced.

New Bedford, June 20.—The jury has acquitted Lizzie Borden of the murder of her father and stepmother, with which she had been accused.

The court came in promptly at 1:45, every seat in the room being occupied as usual. The chief justice then addressed Miss Borden by name, telling her that she now had a voice and could say to the jury what she chose to say. She arose somewhat agitated and said to the jury: "I am innocent, but I will leave my case in your hands and in the hands of my counsel." Judge Dewey then charged the jury. He read his charge rapidly and among other things embodied therein was the caution to make their decision only upon the law and evidence given. The court defined the degrees of murder, and said the degree is to be defined by the jury. The jury was allowed to retire and counsel agreed upon what exhibits were to be put into the case after which they were brought in again, the oath administered by the clerk of the court and the jury took the case. It was just 1:50 o'clock when the spectators who had kept their seats patiently during the retirement of the jury noticed a movement indicating their return. A moment later the twelve men filed into their seats and were polled. Miss Borden was asked to stand up and the foreman was asked to return the verdict, when he announced "Not guilty." Then all the dignity and decorum of the courtroom vanished. A cheer went up which might have been heard half a mile away through the open windows and there was an attempt to check it. The justices looked straight ahead at the bare walls during the tremendous excitement which lasted fully a minute. Miss Borden's head went down upon the rail in front of her and tears came where they had refused to come for many a long day as she heard the sweetest words ever poured into her willing ears. Jennings was almost crying, and his voice broke as he put his hand out to Adams, who sat next to him, and said, "Thank God!" while Adams returned the pressure of the hand and seemed incapable of speech. Gov. Robinson turned to the rapidly dissolving jury as they filed out of their seats and gleamed on them with a fatherly interest in his kindly eye, and stood up as Knowlton and Moody came over to shake hands with the counsel for the defense. As soon as possible the room was cleared, although it was a hard task, since everybody wanted to shake hands with Miss Borden. When the spectators had finally gone she was taken to the room of the justices and allowed to recover her composure with only the eyes of friends upon her and the caress of devoted admirers. At the expiration of half an hour she was placed in a carriage and driven to Fall River station.

HUNGRY FLAMES.

A Town of Two Thousand Nearly Wiped Out of Existence.

ST. PAUL, Minn., June 19.—A Pioneer Press Virginia (Minn.) special says: The gross loss from the fire here yesterday is not less than \$1,000,000, and the insurance is estimated at \$300,000. There is no positive evidence that any person perished in the flames, but the bones found today in the ruins are thought by several people to be those of a woman. All the leading business houses were located on Chestnut street, and today not one of them remains. Further north is the residence portion, and not a building was left. Only twenty buildings are left standing. Of forty-two saloons only three remain and these were closed to-day by order of the mayor. Two or three floors were caught kindling fires in several of the houses. In the confusion all escaped. The capture would have been followed by lynching. The engine houses and offices were burned at Ohio, Mesaba, Mountain, Commodore and Franklin mines, and Burke's camp and boarding house at New England mine were destroyed. Yesterday Virginia had not less than 2,000 inhabitants; all are practically homeless, some provisions and tents have arrived, but all is barely adequate for today and must necessarily be followed by further aid. Another fire this afternoon was soon extinguished. It is stated that two thirds of the town of Merrill has been burned. At Mountain Iron the leading hotel, postoffice, bank, and a large boarding house were saved. At Biswabik the only building burned is the Iron Range depot.

KILLED BY LIGHTNING.

A Circus Tent Struck in Wisconsin and Eight Persons Killed.

MINNEAPOLIS, June 21.—A Tribune special from River Falls, Wis., says: At 4 o'clock this afternoon the large circus tent of Ringling Bros. was struck by lightning while crowded with people, instantly killing eight and injuring more than seventy persons. The killed are: C. Mabes, Eugene Reynolds, J. A. Glendinning, town clerk Oak Grove, and son; O. A. Deans, O. R. Wiggins 14 years old son, Curt Aldredge, 12 years old, and an unknown boy. The names of the injured cannot be ascertained as they were taken away by their friends. The performance was not quite over, but a terrible storm caused the immense throng to crowd out of the tent, and while the people were passing out the tent was struck twice by lightning, with the above result. A fire started but was extinguished.

We are selling lumber and all kinds of building material at lowest prices. Call and see us. The Goodrich Lumber Co., Ninth avenue north and Ninth street.

GRINDING THEM DOWN.

Labor Troubles at the Kansas Coal Mines Seem Hard to Settle.

PITTSBURG, Kan., June 21.—A final attempt is being made this evening to settle the miners' strike. Committees from the strikers and mine owners met at 7 o'clock. Each party made a final proposition. The proposition from the operators is 50 cents per ton on yearly contracts or pay on the old basis for lump coal only, weighing on top and bottom, guaranteeing 6 cents per ton more than they were getting before. It can not be learned what the miners propose. It is generally thought that if a settlement is not reached today the operators will ship negroes in and put them to work. Many of the striking miners are now destitute and the aid they have been receiving from business men will soon be shut off. A number of them have signified their intention of going to work immediately if a settlement is not reached at once.

A special meeting has been called by the United Smelter Men of America for the purpose of taking action to investigate the discharge of union men and to discuss other matters pertaining to the miners' strike, as it is understood that another cut will be made in their wages if a settlement is not made at once.

Fair at the Fair.

CHICAGO, June 21.—The great Ferris wheel was dedicated late this afternoon. This wheel is to the exposition what the Eiffel tower was to the Paris exposition of 1889. It has not as yet become as widely known as that sky piercing structure, but there is no doubt that it will be in time. The wheel with its passenger-cars weighs 1200 tons and is 255 feet high.

The Prussian section in the woman's building was opened for private inspection this morning, and tomorrow it will be thrown open to the public.

Germany's collective exhibit of wines in the southern court of the horticultural building, was opened this afternoon. Herr Wernuth, the imperial German commissioner, and others made addresses and the ceremony was enlivened by the Germanian manner.

The exhibit is installed in a small reproduction of a German wine cellar, and samples of wine are placed about on tables. The walls are decorated with paintings and maps of German wine-growing districts, and vines are trailed up neatly to hang over them. There are nearly 300 exhibitors in the section. Another attraction at the fair is being arranged by the exposition authorities of the Midway pleasure. The success of the parade of nations last Saturday was such that it will be repeated, and in addition to this it is proposed that all nations shall take part in a grand ball to be given in the stock pavilion the first week in July. The ball proper will be presided by the grand marshal and the exhibition of all the strange dances to be seen on the midway, every group of villages being allowed a certain length of time in which to perform its peculiar part. If possible one great band will be made of the various music producers for the occasion.

Forest Fires Raging.

ASHLAND, Wis., June 19.—Forest fires are raging everywhere in northern Wisconsin and have done great damage to standing timber. No rain has fallen for over a month and the fires run through the woods with a rapidity that is irresistible. Iron River, a lumbering town 28 miles west of here, was saved last night by strenuous efforts, only one schoolhouse and six dwellings being destroyed. At last accounts this afternoon the fire was approaching from the west and grave fears were felt for the safety of the town. The little village of Sandborn, ten miles south of here, was wiped out yesterday, every building in the place being burned. At Mesquid, twenty miles west, John Meigner, a well-known lumber dealer, was suffocated on Sunday while fighting fire, which destroyed his homestead. Many other fires are reported, and as the weather is very dry and hot the worst is feared.

THE DUKE'S FAREWELL.

He and Lafayette the Only Men Who Received such Honors.

NEW YORK, June 21.—The duke of Veragua has written a letter to Secretary Gresham taking leave of the government and requesting that the profound and sincere gratitude of his family and himself for the honor and hospitality extended to them, be conveyed to congress and the people of the United States. The duke alludes to the fact that only once before has the United States honored a citizen of another nation and rejoiced in this way, that his name will be linked with that of Lafayette. He pays a tribute of admiration to the grandeur, progress and prosperity of the United States, and for the intelligence, enterprise and patriotism of its people. He commends the exposition at Chicago as the greatest triumph of the civilization of the nineteenth century and tenders to the exposition officials heartiest congratulations and thanks. In closing the duke requests Secretary Gresham to express to the president his regret at his inability to offer thanks in person and pay his farewell respects to the chief magistrate.

Fatal Storm in Missouri.

STANBURY, Mo., June 21.—A terrible wind, rain and hail storm struck Stanbury at 5 o'clock this afternoon. Much damage was done to buildings and other property. Judge Mastou's house was struck by lightning and burned. William Cummings, a farmer five miles southwest of the city, was instantly killed. Three members of John Douglas's family in the same neighborhood are killed and other members of the family seriously injured.

Now is the time to buy screen doors and screen windows at the Baber Lumber Co's.