CLARKSVILLE EVENING TOBACCO LEAF-CHRONICLE.

VOL. 2. NO. 116. CLARKSVILLE, TENN., TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 11, 1890. FIFTEEN CENTS A WEEK.

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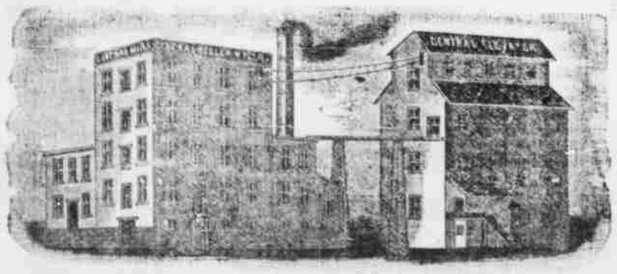

We exchane any day in the week Flour and Meal for Wheat and Corn.

BURNED ALIVE.

Awful Holocaust in the Little Village of St. Michael, Que.

A Mother and Seven Children Perish in a Burning House.

The Husband and Father Burned So Severely in Attempting to Rescue His Loved Ones That There is No Hope of His Recovery—A 16-Year-Old Daughter Being at School Escapes.

MONTREAL, March 11.—A horrible holocaust occurred early Sunday morning at the little village of St. Michael, by which a woman and seven children were burned to death and the husband and father received fatal injuries in an heroic effort to effect a rescue.

The village of St. Michael is situated some twenty-two miles from this city, and the most preminent man in the little town was Francois Colbrette, who owned an extensive farm on the outskirts of the village, and the manor house on the farm was the scene of the awful tragedy.

At 6 o'clock Mr. Colbrette, with his hired men, after lighting a fire in the kitchen stove, started for the barn, 500 yards from the dwelling, to tend to the cattle. A short time afterward the hired man shouted to his master that the house was on fire.

Colbrette rushing to the door, was horrified to see the entire lower part of the house in flames. He at once hastened to the scene, the shrieks of his unfortunate family even at that distance being plainly heard. On arriving he at once saw that it was impossible to enter the lower part of the house, so he secured a ladder and tried to effect an entrance by a second-story window. No sooner had he burst in the sash than he was enveloped in a great sheet of flames and his clothes on fire in several places.

With his hair singed from his head and face, and his hands a mass of burns, he fell from the ladder. No bones were broken by the fall, and the shrieks of his loved ones, which he could still hear, made him forget his own shocking injuries, and, picking himself up, with his clothes still blazing, he rushed to alarm the neighbors. When those arrived the fire was past extinguishing, and the large manor house was simply a mass of smouldering ruins. Mrs. Colbrette and her seven children had fallen victims to the fire demon.

Later on in the day the remains of the unfortunate mother, with the youngest child clasped in her arms, were found. The other six had been burned to ashes and no trace of their bodies could be found. The eldest child, Miss Marie Colbrette, aged 16, had a fortunate escape from a similar fate, as only on Saturday she had been sent to the convent of the Sacred Heart at Sault au Recollet. Colbrette himself was so seriously burned in his brave efforts to save his family that no hope is entertained of his recovery.

A KENTUCKY KILLING.

Drunken Toughs Kill One Man and Fatally Wound Another.

SADIEVILLE, Ky., March 11.—Another bloody tragedy occurred Saturday night six miles south of here, at a small place called Muddy Fork, in Scott county. A protracted meeting was in progress, and Sam Sellers, W. True, Dennis Sweeny and John Cook, being well filled with whisky, took in the meeting. After the crowd had dispersed James Robinson, William Bailey and a Mr. Slade started home with Robinson, and were overtaken by the above-named parties, when a slight altercation took place, in which some hot words were indulged in.

Sam. Sellars drew his pistol and began firing at Robinson and Bailey, two shots taking effect in Robinson's body, killing him instantly, and one striking Bailey in the neck, which is considered dangerous. All four of the parties were promptly arrested by indignant citizens immediately after the shooting, and were taken by Deputy Sheriff J. L. Luke to Georgetown Sunday morning and lodged in jail. James Robinson leaves a wife and five small children. He was formerly a constable in this county, and was known as a faithful officer, a devout member of the Methodist church and an upright citizen, and highly respected by all good citizens.

MOVABLE DAMS.

It is Possible the Ohio River May Be Made Navigable the Year Round.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—Col. E. W. Merrill, of Cincinnati, was given a hearing by the river and harbor committee of the house Saturday morning with reference to a system of movable dams for the Ohio river, by which he contends, he can make the Ohio navigable all the year round. The dams are similar to what is known to boatmen as the Davis Island dam, below Pittsburg, which raises the level of the river during very low water.

He proposed that the river and harbor committee should authorize in its forthcoming bill the construction of four such dams between Wheeling and Pittsburg, which is the most shallow part of the stream during the low water season. The committee was much impressed with the plan which he proposed, and they practically gave him to understand that they would authorize this year the construction of one such dam just above Wheeling. Col. Merrill says from what he gathers from the committee he thinks the system will be adopted and applied generally to all navigable tributaries where low water during the dry season prevents navigation.

SUFFERING IN THE DAKOTAS.

An Appeal from the President of the Red Cross Society.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—Miss Clara Barton, president of the American National Association of the Red Cross, has been investigating the statements concerning the suffering and destitution existing among the pioneer settlers of North and South Dakota with a view of aiding those in need of help. She has ascertained that there is urgent necessity for immediate action, and now appeals to the public for cash subscriptions large enough to meet every emergency. She has information that there are at least 5,000 people dependent, and many more who, though they have provisions for themselves, need feed for their stock.

H. T. Helgesen, state commissioner of agriculture, Grand Fork, N. Dak., will distribute all funds sent to his address.

MINERS ENTOMBED.

One Hundred Miners Imprisoned in a Welsh Colliery.

LONDON, March 11.—An explosion occurred Monday in the Morsa colliery at Glamorgan, Wales. One hundred miners were entombed.

Communication with the unfortunate miners is impossible, and it is feared that they have all perished.

THF WORLD'S FAIR COMMITTEE

Presents a Bill to the House Sub-Committee in Charge of the Fair—1892 or 1893—Provisions of the Bill.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—The committee of Chicagoans who have been in consultation with members of the world's fair committee for several days past, Monday presented a completed bill providing for holding the fair in Chicago, to Messrs. Hitt and Springer, of the sub-committee, in charge of the bill.

The bill is really the joint compilation of the ideas of the sub-committee and the Chicago delegation. While it contains some changes radically different from the original bill, it is provided that there shall be a corporation under the laws of the state of Illinois, with power to elect it's own officers, and to have control of all receipts and disbursements of money's subscribed.

This corporation will have power to select a suitable site and erect buildings. These buildings are to be delivered to a government commission to consist of two commissioners from each state and territory, one to be a Republican and one a Democrat, these commissioners to be nominated by the governors of the states and appointed by the president.

The local corporation is to have executive control of the fair while the government commissioners are to allot space to exhibitors and appoint juries of award who shall have control of the prizes, etc., to be given at the expense of the United States.

The date of holding the fair is left blank in the bill, and will be decided on at the next meeting of the full committee. The Chicago delegation told the sub-committee that this was a matter that they were not concerned about, as Chicago could be ready to hold the fair in 1892 as well as at any other time.

They agreed, however, to leave the point for the action of the committee, several members of which are in favor of holding the fair in 1893, and a celebration in 1892. When the corporation assures the president that it has at hand that sum, and that $5,000,000 capital and that $5,000,000 additional can be had if necessary, he is to appoint the government commission, which will proceed to Chicago and proceed to make preliminary arrangements for holding the fair.

The section providing for a government appropriation of $1,500,000 was not changed.

SITUATION IN HAYTI.

Interview With the Former British Minister There.

NEW YORK, March 11.—Mr. James Zohrab, British minister to Hayti, who is in the city on his way to England says:

"Everything is quiet in Hayti, but it seems to be the calm before a storm. I look for another revolution there very soon. It seems to me that the people are in a condition that must precipitate another fight.

"Hayti is naturally one of the very richest countries in the world for its area. I believe that under a firmly organized government, a government where property was secure, the island would support a population of 20,000,000 souls. One can form no idea of the wealth of the island without a visit there.

"There are the coffee forests for instance. The coffee bush is not cultivated at all, but the trees grow wild in such luxuriance that it is utterly impossible for a man to penetrate them. Paths are cut through them from one village to another, and that is all. When the coffee harvest comes around the people gather the berries from the edges of the groves and the rest goes to waste. It is a very conservative estimate when I say that for every 1,000 tons gathered 800 tons go to waste.

"It is much the same with the sugar cane. The people do not cultivate the sugar cane. It grows wild. You can tell that by looking at it when it is brought to town. It is crooked. You could not for $5 get a straight piece two feet long. Everything grows in such confusion that the people live in spite of revolutions. In no other country could the drain of such constant warfare be sustained.

"The ordinary government is terribly expensive. Every year when the coffee season comes around the government collects from $4,000,000 to $5,000,000. But under the system there the officials in power know that their turn to go into exile will soon come.

"I have been there two years, but the third set of officials is in power. Each set, knowing that its time would soon end, had to prepare to go, so they pocketed all the money in sight.

"Hayti has a bad debt now. The last revolution added to it materially, so that it is over $30,000,000. With a reasonably good government this debt could be paid off. As it is there is no great hope."

OBJECTIONS WITHDRAWN.

Bishop Fink Willing That Catholics Should Join the Farmers' Alliance.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., March 11.—Bishop Fink has consented to have his recent letter prohibiting Catholics from joining the Farmers' Alliance modified. Representatives of the state and county alliances were given an audience by the bishop, and assured him that there was no desire to conflict with the views of the church, and that all religious parts of the constitution would be eliminated. In view of these assurances Bishop Fink has addressed a letter to Mr. A. M. Thistlewaiter, Leavenworth, Kan., a member of the alliance, stating that his objections to Catholics joining the alliance are withdrawn.

Heavy Postoffice Robberry.

GREENVILLE, Tex., March 11.—The postoffice at this place was robbed of several thousand dollars Friday night. The thieves succeeded in breaking open the mail boxes of the First National bank and other firms and abstracted the contents. No clew.

Jay Gould in Texas.

FORT WORTH, Tex., March 11.—Jay Gould, George Gould, J. M. Eddy, S. H. H. Clark and seven minor railroad officials arrived here from the east Sunday afternoon. After inspecting the Texas and Pacific property the party proceeded west.

ASSASSINATIONS.

Three Promised by the Russian Nihilists Thursday.

The Czar, the Czarina and the Czarewitch.

A Warning Letter Shown the Czar by the Moscow Police—The Date is the Anniversary of the Murder of Alexander II, Father of the Present Czar—Various Other Foreign News.

LONDON, March 11.—A letter is said to have been shown to the czar by the chief of police at Moscow, warning him that on March 13, the czar, the czarina and the czarewitch will meet certain death, and that no power on earth can avert their doom. It is asserted among the Nihilists in London, Berlin and Paris, that on the same date, the anniversary of the murder of the Emperor Alexander II, will be celebrated by an attempt to assassinate Alexander III.

Silver Money in Russia.

LONDON, March 11.—A dispatch from St. Petersburg says that it is learned on good authority that the czar is taking a remarkable interest in the financial experiments of M. Vishnigradsky, his minister of finance, who is doing his utmost to re-introduce into Russia the former silver metallic currency in place of the paper rouble.

In case exchange continues to hold good, there is little doubt that the finance minister will gain his end, as the difference between the silver and paper rouble now only amounts to five cents.

The czar is exceedingly economical in his own personal expenditures, and does what he can in order to further the plans of his minister, which do not please certain of the grand dukes, accustomed as they are to throwing money about ad libitum.

A Sister of Charity Murdered.

MOSCOW, March 11.—Tremendous excitement prevails here over the horrible murder of a Sister of Charity named Piutnizky, a woman of 40 years, well known for her many charitable deeds.

Her body was found cut into small pieces, thrown into a sack, which was sewed up and flung into a secreted spot, where detectives found it. The head was rudely cut from the trunk, and blood appeared in clots in another part of the city.

As nearly as could be determined the woman was strangled, and from some evidence which the police will not disclose the murder was put upon a young medical student named Belsousoff, who was arrested in the province of Vladimir and immediately committed suicide.

The Portuguese Trouble.

LONDON, March 11.—The Standard's Lisbon correspondent says: "Mr. Magmac, director of the Delagoa Bay railway, who has been here ten days trying to effect a settlement of the railway trouble has satisfied himself that the Portuguese government is determined, at whatever cost or hazard, to keep the railway and its lands, and to exclude England entirely from Mozambique. The company claims £1,750,000. America's claim on behalf of the McMurdo estate is £760,000. In view of Portugal's deliberate attempt at forcible confiscation, England and America will insist upon ample compensation for their outraged citizens."

French Interest in Africa.

PARIS, March 11.—Advices received from M. Bayol, French agent on the West African coast, state that the situation in regard to the trouble with the Dahomians was unchanged.

The Republican press approve the statement of M. Etienne in the chamber of deputies Saturday that the government intended to confine its operations to punishing the King of Dahomey, and did not contemplate carrying on war into the interior.

Indignant Romans.

ROME, March 11.—Buffalo Bill, during his exhibition on the Compagna Saturday, offered a sum of money to any outsider who should succeed in riding a certain horse. Some peasants succeeded in riding the animal, but payment was refused on the ground that they had not mounted within the required time. The audience was indignant, and roundly hissed the managers.

Germany Embarrassed.

LONDON, March 11.—The Chronicle learns that Germany is treating with the Vatican with a view to the representation of the pope at the Berlin labor conference. The fact that Italy will send delegates to the conference proves an obstacle in the path of the German government.

A Valuable Bible.

LONDON, March 11.—A Bible printed in an Indian language at Cambridge, Mass., in 1661, was among the rare books in a collection just sold at auction here and brought $510.

Foreign Notes.

Only 12 per cent. of the population of Russia can read and write.

Sir Peter Coates of the firm of J. and P. Coates, threadmakers, is dead.

Mr. Robert Lincoln, United States minister to England, denies the statement that he intends to resign.

The Duke of Fife is to preside at Stanley's first lecture in London. All the seats have been sold, although the lowest price was $500.

At Prague a number of students who were making a demonstration Sunday at the graves of young czech notables at Walschau were arrested by the police.

An Englishman has invented a desk for the use of persons traveling, the table of which is fixed in such a way that it remains steady in spite of the swaying of the boat or train.

The latest rumor is that another daughter of the Prince of Wales is to follow the example of the Duchess of Fife and marry out of royalty, the man of her choice being an English earl.

Owing to a disagreement between Signor Biancheri, the president of the Italian chamber of deputies, and Premier Crispi, the resignation of the former is expected. A crisis is impending.

At Buda-Pesth recently two men met to fight a duel to the death. The distance was twenty-five paces, and each man was to have six shots. Neither party managed to hit the other in that time, and the affair was abandoned in disgust.

Paris public schools are overcrowded, and the authorities propose to help to remedy the difficulty by forbidding the attendance at them of children of foreigners. There are 60,000 foreign children in the city, and at least 5,000 of them are getting a French education free at the public schools.

In Kent, England, a farm of 500 acres that has been let for $6,000 per year has just been relet to the same tenant for $2,500. This is said to be a fair illustration of the decline of farm values in England of late years.

Detective Moser denies that he was in America at the time that Mr. T. Harrington in the debate on the Parnell commission report, asserted that he exchanged cable dispatches with Soliciter Soames with regard to procuring evidence for The Times.

The Socialists, Krause and Rieckman, have been sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment at hard labor for committing perjury at the recent Socialists' trial at Elberfeld. Gemmar, another Socialist, received a sentence of one year at hard labor for a similar offense.

Mr. Pyne, distinguished Irishman, is said to wear a watch upon the face of which is engraved the motto, "Pay no rent." When a tenant comes to him complaining about some act of his landlord and asking for advice, Mr. Pyne says: "I cannot give you advice on that subject because Mr. Balfour says that it would be illegal, but I can tell you the time of day." Then he pulls out his watch and shows it to the tenant.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

Condensation of Interesting Items on Various Subjects.

Burglars burned the Emmet house, at Wheatland, Pa.

Indiana Grand Army encamps at Indianapolis this week.

Mary Gallagher died at Cleveland, O., Sunday, at the age of 102 years.

Investigation of the fire department scandal is in progress at Indianapolis.

A preacher named Fritch was arrested near Reading, Pa., on a charge of larceny.

The United States gunboat Concordia was successfully launched at Chester, Pa., Saturday.

The executive mansion at Washington has been filled with a perfect system of fire-alarm boxes.

The senate committee on elections has decided in favor of the republican contestants from Montana.

Frank Mingus, of Lagrange, Ind., killed his mother-in-law because she refused to let him see his child.

George Avery was drowned at Youngstown, O., while trying to save the life of a man named Lovitz.

Mr. McComas, of Maryland, has completed his bill to prohibit partisan reapportionment of congressional districts, and it will be debated in congress this week.

Bishop Fink has consented to have his recent letter prohibiting Catholics from joining the Farmers' Alliance modified so that Catholics may now join the order.

A man supposed to be John Thompson Gardner, and thought to be of Philadelphia, died at Alexandria, Va., of a pistol shot wound. He was picked up in a gully.

Fruit is entirely knocked out at Mancie, Ind., and wheat arises to remark that it will be compelled to throw up the sponge if this cold weather comes in for another round.

George H. Abbey and William George attempted to cross the river on the ice, at Youngstown, Saturday. The ice gave way, and George was swept under and drowned.

George H. Hill, a young man living near Sandusky, O., was thrown from a wagon by a runaway horse Friday night. The lines caught about his neck and he was dragged to death.

It is announced with a positiveness that makes it almost indisputable, that Attorney General Trowbridge, of Michigan, will be compelled to resign his office, owing to mental impairment.

It has cost the Cincinnati Southern railroad $250 in the Georgetown, Ky., court to tell T. J. Barkley he was on the right train and then find that the train was a special and fire him off.

John N. Hodgson, the young man who shot himself at his boarding house at Cleveland last Thursday night four hours after his marriage to Miss Addie May Bishop, was buried Sunday afternoon.

A meeting of citizens of San Francisco was held in the rooms of the chamber of commerce to devise means for aiding unimployed workingmen. It was resolved to put them at work on Golden Gate park.

Officer Brisco, of Chicago, shot Friday evening by Patrick Crowe, the desperate young diamond thief whom he was trying to arrest, may die. Officer Linnville, the other victim, is in a fair way of recovering.

The squadron of evolution has been experimenting with the torpedo apparatus invented by Capt. Howell, commander of the Atlanta, of that squadron. The results show it to be superior to anything heretofore existing.

Henry Eckerlie learns not to interfere with a Xenia, O., officer by receiving a probably fatal bullet from the revolver of a colored policeman, Lewis Clay, while trying to keep him from arresting George Mansfield.

The family of George H. Corliss, builder of the Centennial engine, will soon erect a $50,000 Young Men's Christian association memorial building at Newburyport, Mass. Among the features will be an amateur photograph gallery.

Cigar dealers have been giving away lately, instead of pictures and other useless things, patent safety matches in a little book, one of the leaves of which is prepared with the composition upon which the match may be ignited.

Fire in Gray & Baffy's six-story brick furniture factory, 98, 100 and 102 Congress street, Detroit, destroyed the building, together with the Carrol & Hunt Chair company's establishment, on the west. Loss, $250,000; only partially insured.

At San Diego, Cal., Judge Aitkin has rendered a decision in the case of John Wolfskill against John G. Downey et al., directing the partition of the Rancho San Jacinto Nueve among ten persons. The ranch contains over 45,000 acres.

Drunken hoodlums named Sellers, True, Sweeney and Cook met Messrs. Robinson and Bailey returning from protracted meeting at Muddy Ford, Ky., shot and instantly killed Robinson and badly wounding Bailey; drunken meanness; no quarrel; wanted to shoot somebody.

At a prize fight near Wilkesbarre, Pa., Saturday, between Jack Hefferman and Jack Carter, Hefferman was seconded by his mother, Bridget Ward, over 60. When her son finally came off victorious, she clasped him in her arms exclaiming: "Well done, me boy. Yer mithir didn't raise ye for nothing."

CONGRESS.

Sixty-Fourth Day.

The senate was not in session.

In the house—A bill was passed to compel the attendance of witnesses in land office cases. Public building bills were then considered in committee, and a number passed and reported to the house. At 6:50 p. m. the house adjourned.

A GREAT FAILURE.

De Lesseps' Ditch Across the Isthmus of Panama.

Report of the Commission Sent to Investigate.

After Hearing Their Report the Heretofore Enthusiastic Frenchman is Obliged to Confess That the Panama Canal Scheme is a Definite and Disastrous Failure—Refuses to Talk.

PARIS, March 11.—The commission of engineers which was sent to Panama to report on the state of the De Lesseps canal have returned to Paris, and a most disastrous story they tell. M. De Lesseps, who always hoped that the result of the report would be in the nature of a warrant for a further appeal for funds, is obliged to confess that the canal scheme is a definite and disastrous failure. De Lesseps is very much broken down about it.

Refused to Talk.

M. De Lesseps was seen Saturday. Contrary to his usual custom, he was unwilling to speak about the canal, alleging as an excuse that the report of the commission has not yet been laid before him. Monchicourt also refused to talk as to the tenor of the report, but from other sources it has come to knowledge that all that has been done with the millions of money spent over the concern is the extraction of about one-fourth of the earth that has to be removed for the construction of the canal according to the reformed plan of the canal with lock gates, which is a great modification of the original scheme.

There remains to be extracted for the construction of the canal, according to the second plan, 40,000,000 cubic meters of matter, besides which there is the very difficult work of changing the course of the Chagres river, removing and reconstructing the line of the Panama railroad, and the construction of lock gates would have to be carried out. It may be added that the fourth already completed would need further very large expenditure before the work done could be turned to useful account. In the present state of the company's finances any attempt to continue the work is totally out of the question. All concerned in the old scheme, except a few deluded shareholders, appear to be resigned to the fact.

Contractors Criticized.

The engineers' report contains little else beside these melancholy figures and a very full list of names of the people who are chiefly to blame for this colossal fiasco. The list is principally made up of the names of the different contractors who, if the allegations made against them are true, have acted in a most scandalous manner. Several of them are charged with deliberate neglect of their engagements with the view to being invited to annul their contracts with the company and get out of them considerable profit.

The charges will be fully investigated and prosecutions instituted. So the directors of the company threaten. But, as such proceedings will cost money, it is more than likely that nothing will be done. The only thing in the report that has any comfort for the shareholders is the statement that most of the material and machinery is still in good condition and can be turned to profitable account. It has already been suggested that this material should be acquired by the government for eventual use in the construction of the canal between the Atlantic and the Mediteranean, which appears to be definitely decided upon.

THEY MAY BE ALIVE.

The Eight Imprisoned Men in the Wilkesbarre Coal Mines.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., March 11.—It is said that the workmen who were engaged in laying a pipe from the Stanton mine to the Hillman mine were startled Sunday evening by loud knocking on the main water pipe, which runs all through the mines. The men stopped work all at once. George McDonald cried out: "My God, what can it mean? Is it possible that the men are still alive?"

It is thought by well posted miners that, if the men are really alive, they must be on the top lift of the Hillman vein. They are able to get air there, and may have taken a mule along with them when they found themselves hemmed. The mule could have been kept for a day or two, and then the men, finding no release at hand, might have slaughtered him. This would be a relief to the animal also, as he would have to die in the course of time. If the men found themselves in the predicament stated the fact can be depended upon that they saved every drop of the mule's blood for drinking purposes. The men will be able to subsist on the mule's flesh for a couple of weeks. If the air continues good they could easily live that long.

For the first time since the fire began smoke ceased issuing from the South Wilkesbarre shaft Sunday afternoon. Over 1,000 gallons of water a minute have been poured into the mine for several days, and it has now reached the fire.

Rev. Father Thomas, of Hoboken, conducted the requiem mass, celebrated in behalf of the entombed miners in the South Wilkesbarre shaft at 8 o'clock Monday morning in St. Mary's Catholic church. The services, which were of a most solemn and impressive nature were attended by about 2,000 people.

Chicago Cigarmakers to Strike.

CHICAGO, March 11.—The Herald says that it is very probable that the union cigarmakers of this city, about 1,500 in number, will strike shortly. The cause is said to be a concerted movement on the part of the manufacturers to reduce the wages. Already about 150 workmen are idle, having been locked out by their employers.

Father and Son Murdered.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 11.—Mr. Charles Williams andh is 12-year-old son, living in the suburbs of Galena, Kas., were found murdered in their bed Sunday morning. Williams was blind and had lost both arms in a mine accident. The supposed murderer was arrested at Prescott, Ark., Sunday afternoon.

Tragedy Near Zanesville, Ohio.

ZANESVILLE, O., March 11.—Frank Gray shot Robert Thompson in the head Sunday evening, three miles east of this city, killing him instantly. Gray says he didn't know it was loaded and only pointed the gun at his companion for fun. Both are about 25 years of age. No arrests.