THE STATE HOUSE SCANDAL.

Weight of Dome Threatens Capitol.

MR. C. C. WILSON SAYS BUILDING IS UNSAFE AND LIVES ENDANGERED.

Columbia, June 5.—Senator J. Q. Marshall, chairman of the commission to provide for repairs on the State house, yesterday transmitted to Governor Heyward a special report of Mr. C. C. Wilson, in which the engineer finds that for lack of proper support the dome is in danger of collapsing, and according to Gov. Heyward's interpretation of the report the lives of those who frequent the State house are endangered and the property is in jeopardy.

Gov. Heyward will at once employ a non-resident engineer to look into the safety of the dome.

Engineer Wilson in his report says:

Columbia, S. C., June 3, 1904.

Gentlemen: In preparing details and plans for the new ceiling for the lobby in the State house, which it will be necessary to attach to the girders carrying the dome, it has come to my attention that these girders are seriously overloaded already. I have made careful calculations of the stresses in these girders, and beg leave to report as follows:

No. 1.
Actual stress, 102.95 tons
Safe stress, 88.84 tons
Excess stress, 14.55 tons—16 per cent.

No. 2.
Cantilever end:
Actual stress, 547.17 tons
Safe Stress, 366.00 tons
Excess stress, 211.00 tons—65 per cent.

No. 2.
Supported at both ends:
Actual stress, 91.8 tons
Safe stress, 102.85 tons

No. 3.
Actual stress, 233.75 tons
Safe stress, 120.00 tons
Excess stress, 113.78 tons—95 per cent.

No. 4.
Cantilever end:
Actual stress, 632.00 tons
Safe stress, 918.00 tons

No. 4.
Supported at both ends:
Actual stress, 430.60 tons
Safe stress, 149.87 tons
Excess stress 280.74 tons—187 per cent.

There are two girders designated by No. 4, which rest at one end on brick wall, coming immediately over old vent flues. These flues are spanned by a stone lintel, and a load of 206,000 pounds is brought upon them, while the safe load is 40,450 pounds. One of these stones is cracked and the weight is now supported by a narrow brick partition between the flues.

I regret exceedingly the occurrence of this serious difficulty; but I deem it my duty to bring the matter to your attention, and to ask an immediate investigation by some expert, and that no further work be done on the building until this construction is removed or strengthened, unless such investigation shall show that my calculaions are wrong, which I sincerely wish might be the case.

Respectfully yours,
(Signed) Chas. C. Wilson,
Architect.

GOV. HEYWARD TALKS.

Gov. Heyward gave out the following statement:

"The report of Architect Wilson, submitted to me by Chairman Marshall of the commission for the completion of the State house, comes to me as a great surprise as it no doubt will be to the people of the State generally. Should this report be correct the lives of those who frequent the State house are in danger, and the property of the State is also in jeopardy. This certainly presents a condition which in my judgment requires immediate and most careful attention; and I deem it my duty to take steps to have the dome thoroughly examined, and the report of the architect either verified or disproved.

"At the last session of the general assembly a certain amount was approximated for extraordinary repairs on the State house and heating plant, 'to be expended by the governor in case of an emergency requiring it.' From this fund I propose to secure the services of a thoroughly competent and reliable architect, one who is not a resident of this State, who shall look most carefully into the safety of the dome, and report to me as soon as possible. There remains nothing further to be done, as far as I can see, until such an examination and report has been made."

CHAIRMAN MARSALL'S LETTER.

Accompanying the report was the following letter from Chairman Marshall:

"Dear Sir: I beg herewith to hand you a report made by Mr. C. C. Wilson, architect of the commission for the completion of the State house, wherein he has made known to said commission that the girders carrying the dome of the State house 'are seriously overloaded.'

"The commission do not think it advisable with the facts as stated by Mr. Wilson before it to proceed further with their work until a thorough investigation is made to ascertain if Mr. Wilson's calculations are correct.

"The commission, therefore, deem it proper that this matter be brought to your attention so that you may take such steps as you may see fit to verify his report."

Would do all He Could to Oblige.

Representative Adamson of Georgia recently told a story which illustrated true good fellowship. He had been campaigning in Georgia on foot and was twenty-five miles from home. It became nceessary for him to go home, and he tried to secure a conveyance, but all the teams were busy on the farms. Finally he went to a man whom he knew very well and said:

"Bill, I have to go home, and I want a rig to take me. You've got to get me one."

"Adamson," he replied, "we are five months behind with our work here, and it is next to impossible to get a horse that can be spared, but there isn't anything I won't do for you. I'll tell you what I'll do—I'll walk home with you."—Washington Post.

THE COMING COTTON CROP.

Acreage Increased Nearly Ten Per Cent---Department of Agriculture's Estimate of the Cotton Crop.

Average Condition Better---Comparisons With Last Year---The Increase in South Carolina Relatively Small.

Washingtn, June 4.—The chief of the bureau of statistics of the department of agriculture estimates the total acreage planted in cotton in the United States this season at 31,730,371 acres, an increase of 2,823,016 acres, or 9.8 per cent. upon the acreage planted last year.

The average condition of the growing crop on May 26th was 83, as compared with 74.1 on May 26, 1903, 95.1 at the corresponding date in 1902, and a ten year average of 85.8.

The percentage of increase in acreage in the different States (the comparison being with the area planted last season) is as follows:

Virginia 19.0; North Carolina 13 5; South Carolina 9.0; Georgia 7.7; Florida 10 7; Alabama 9.0; Mississippi 10.5; Louisiana 13.5; Texas 7.1; Arkansas 9.3; Tennessee 11.5; Missouri 23.0; Oklahoma 29.2; Indian Territory 26.0.

The condition of the crop by States on May 26 was as follows:

Virginia 82; North Carolina 84; South Carolina 81; Georgia 78; Florida 88; Alabama 80; Mississippi 85; Louisiana 86; Texas 84; Arkansas 84; Tennessee 85; Missouri 82; Oklahoma 93; Indian Territory 90.

Aside from the large increase in acreage, due mainly to the high price of cotton, there are no conditions calling for special comment at this time.

TERRIBLE FIRE IN PEORIA.

Ten Men Killed---Over 3,000 Cattle in Barns Were Roasted or Suffocated.

Peoria, Ill., June 4.—An explosion which occurred in the 11 story warehouse of the Corning distillery, the second largest in the world, this afternoon, completely wrecked the building. The ruins immediately took fire and communicated to three adjoining buildings, burning them to the ground. Ten men were buried beneath the ruins and burned to death and six others were seriously injured. The loss on buildings and whiskey and spirits stored will approximate $1,000,000. The fire spread to the stock yards district, where a dozen large cattle barns, filled with cattle for market, were burned.

The cause of the explosion cannot yet by determined.

The wildest excitement prevailed after the explosion, and the immense plant was surrounded by thousands of people, who, however, were unable to get close to the structure on account of the intense heat.

The warehouse containing in the neighborhood of 30,000 barrels of whiskey was instantaneously a seething caldron and it was seen no one inside the big structure could escape. The warehouse in crushing the smaller structure near by set that on fire, and the whiskey from the burning barrels flooded everything in that section. Large streams ran down grade toward the river, and in a short time there was a foot of whiskey in the cattle pens east of the warehouse where 3.200 steers were chained fast. Their distress lasted but a few moments, however, for they were soon roasted to death or suffocated.

They were the property of Dood & Keifer of Chicago. It is impossible to compute their loss, but it will amount to thousands of dollars.

The two fermenting houses were speedily food for the flames. They were two structures of good dimensions and both of them were practically destroyed.

The firemen got near the fire with difficulty and the water had little or no effect. A high wind was blowing and fanning the flames in the direction of the Monarch distillery and for a time it was feared that the fire would sweep along the entire river bank. However, the heroic work of the firemen began to tell and at 7 o'clock the fire seemed under control with no likelihood of a further spread.

London, June 6.—The Times correspondent at Tangier, under date of June 5, says: "The sultan's authorization to comply with Raisuli's demands cannot be received for a day or two. If the sultan fully acquiesces in the demands, the release of the captives may be expected shortly, but that by no means settles the situation, for having twice succeeded in defying Europe and the sultan, Raisuli's success will tempt the tribesmen to further outrages.

Lexington, Va., June 5.—Edward McCormick, a young farmer of Brownsburg, 16 miles from here, last night shot and instantly killed John W. Wade and Arthur Blackwell. The shooting was the result of bad feeling that has existed between the men for three years. It is asserted that the dead men had been drinking and waylaid McCormick and his father on their way home and stoned them whereupon young McCormick fired, shooting Wade through the heart and Blackwell through the lungs. McCormick was arrested today.

Jacksonville, Fla., June 5.—Mrs. Mattie E. Carlisle was found dead at her home here today. Her body was lying under her bed and was badly bruised. Two young women who besides her were the only occupants of the house on returning from their work last night found the front door locked. Later when they failed to see Mrs. Carlisle they notified the poilce. A search was made and nothing was found, but feeling nervous they spent the night with a friend. Returning this morning they found that she had still not appeared and the police searched more thoroughly, finding the body.

GLENN SPRINGS WATER
Best Remedy for Stomach Troubles.

A DASTARDLY CRIME.

Strikers Blow Up a Train Load of Strike Breakers at Independence, Colorado--Sixteen Killed Outright---Many Others Wounded.

Special to The Daily Item.

Cripple Creek, Col., June 6, 1 p. m.—A train filled with non union miners, imported to break the strike, and the depot at Independence were blown up with dynamite this morning. Sixteen of the "strike breakers" were killed, nine mortally wounded and many others sericusly injured. It is believed that the strikers perpetrated the crime. A number of doctors have been sent from Colorado Springs on a relief train. The sheriff with a large posse is in pursuit of the dynamiters.

MISCHIEVOUS BOY CAUSED RIOT.

Four Italians Wounded in a Fight With New York Police and 14 Wounded.

New York, June 5.—A boy with a baseball started a riot near pier 42 North river late today, as the result of which four Italians received bullet wounds and were taken to the hospital and 14 of their countrymen are under arrest.

The boy threw the ball at a group of 150 Italian coal passers who were leaving the pier and it struck one of the men on the leg. The Italian drew a stiletto and ran after the boy but was caught by a policeman. The Italians then knocked the officer down and beat him until other policemen charged the crowd. Italians and policemen then drew revolvers and on the shooting that followed four of the Italians were wounded. The others were driven aboard the Cunard liner Slavonia.

Owing to the fact that the Italians threw their revolvers into the river as soon as the chambers were emptied none was found on the prisonres but every man arrested had a stiletto and some of them two. None of the policemen were seriously hurt. It is thought the wounded Italians will all recover.

MOB BURNED BULL FIGHT ARENA.

Riot Followed Stopping of Exhibition in St. Louis---Incendiarism Was Rampant.

St. Louis, June 5.—Incensed over their failure to see a "genuine Spanish bull fight," which the authorities had ordered stopped, a riot was started in an arena near the world's fair grounds this evening by a crowd of 2,500 men and boys who were unable to get their money back and the building was burned to the ground. The price of admission charged was $1. Four men were placed under arrest by the authorties of St. Louis county charged with destruction of property. The crowd, thinking these men were connected with the show, made an attempt to mob them and in their encounter with the deputy sheriffs, a number were roughly handled and some received scalp wounds. The building is said to have cost $2,500. It is a total loss.

The initial performance by the company of Spanish bull fighters had been advertised widely for today, but Gov. Dockery, to whom numerous protests had been made by religious and humane societies, ordered that it should not be allowed o take place.

Despite these orders a large crowd assembled in the arena at the advertised time of opening. Before the regular performance a number of cow boys drove in some bulls which they ran around the arena in the wild west style. The crowd soon became tired of this and called for the bull fight. The announcement was then made that the bull fight would be proceeded with.

As the matadors came into the ring a county official stepped up to the announcer and handed him a paper informing him that the proposed show could not take place. When this became known to the crowd they leaped into the arena and demanded the return of their money. Failing to get this, the crowd went to the office, which was located in a small building outside the arena and begaon to stone the structure. This was followed by attempts to burn the arena, which was an immense building constructed of pine. Bits of burning paper were thrown at the woodwork and finally some one went inside and dropped a lighed match into a pile of hay under the arena. The whole structure was soon on fire and before long was in ruins.

A call was made for the fire department, but the single engine that responded, stuck in the mud and there was nothing to stop the progress of the flames. The fire department of the world's fair was called out to protect the exposition buildings, should it become necessary but as the wind blew in the opposite direction there was no danger.

Piedmont, June 5.—A serious shooting scrape occurred here this afternoon between 1 and 2 o'clock at a negro cabin on the Anderson side. As a result two negroes, Jerry Dial and Henry Sherman, are dead and another, Warren Samples, is fatally wounded. A gang of them, it appears, had congegated at this cabin for a game of cards and were all equipped with the usual accompaniments, psitols and mean corn liquor.

N. G. Osteen, Jr.,
SURGEON DENTIST,
OFFICE:
No. 18 W. Liberty St.,
(Over Osteen's Book Store.),
SUMTER, S. C.
Office hours, 9 to 1.30; 2.30 to 6

RUSSIAN GUNBOAT TORPEDOED.

Japanese Destroyed Another Vessel---Gain Another Victory on Land---Advancing on Port Arthur.

Tokio, June 6, 11 a. m.—The Russian gunboat Giliak was torpedoed and destroyed at Port Arthur Saturday.

London, June 6.—The Daly Telegraph's Tien Tsin correspondent wires:

"Four thousand Russians belonging to Gen. Stalkenberg's brigade on May 31 attacked 1,500 Japanese occupying a position five miles south of Wafangtien. The Russians were repulsed, losing 200 killed and 400 wounded. The Japanese lost more than 100 killed."

ALMOST IN TOUCH.

Cheefoo, June 6, 1.30 a. m.—But two miles separated Japanese and Russian armies on the Liao Tung peninsula on June 2, according to Chinese who have arrived here from Dalny.

The Japanese army, reenforced by the men who landed at Dalny, occupied Twing-Ching and also Sanchimpo, several miles west of Dalny. They then proceeded along the coast toward Port Arthur. On one side of the army are high mountains and on the other side is the sea from which the Japanese gunboats are supporting the flank of the army.

On June 2 the Japanese forces were within seven miles of the outer forts of Port Arthur only two miles from the Russian army, which is ready to protest their further advance. The Chinese believed that there would be a big battle at this point. It is also stated by the Chinese that the Japanese have moved their base to Dalny from Talien Wan. The larger Japanese ships are anchored outside, the smaller ones inside the harbor. Troops are being landed, they say, from small vessels, apparently coming from Pitsewo or the Elliott islands.

The Chinese further reported that a number of Chinese have been shot while attempting to get through the Russian lines.

SITUATION AT PORT ARTHUR.

Washington, June 5.—The Japanese legation today received the following cablegram from the home government, at Tokio, bearing on events at Port Arthur:

"Admiral Togo reports, that, according to a message received by him through wireless telegraphy from the captain of the cruiser Chitose, which was exercising off Port Arthur, four masts one with wireless telegraphic instruments and a sentry box, were seen on the top of Laoteshan. Great explosions were heard, and rising of dense smoke was observed repeatedly in the direction of Port Arthur during Saturday."

The Japanese torpedo boat destroyer Ikazuchi yesterday discovered and exloded a large mine off San Shan Island, at the entrance to Talienwan Bay.

The Japanese naval authorities engaged in clearing out the mines in the vicinity of Talienwan Bay are employing Japanese shell divers from Kushiu Province for the purpose. These divers volunteered for this work and they are wonderfully expert. It is said that with their diving paraphernalia they can stay under water for half a day at a time. Hundreds of Japanese fishermen are volunteering to assist in clearing away Russian mines, and it is probable that some of them will be used for this work. These voluntary offers are taken to illustrate the unity of the Japanese people in the war.

PORT ARTHUR REALLY CUT OFF.

St. Petersburg, June 5.—The Government apppears to be without fresh information today of any sort concerning Port Arthur. The authorities are sceptical over the stories of smoke and heavy detonations at Port Arthur, which may have been caused by the Japanese passing over mine fields on the landward side. Even this, they say, is a doubtful supposition thus early in the siege. It is again pointed out in official quarters that the Government is not in receipt of any regular information from Port Arthur, but is wholly dependent upon the reports from Japanese or neutral sources, except when a messenger succeeds in getting through the lines. It is not expected that the embargo will soon be raised.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY IN WAR

Tokio, June 5—4.30 p. m.—It is suspected here that the Russians at Port Arthur are communicating with points on the Chinese coast by means of wireless telegraphy. It was reported that a wireless station had been erected secretly at the village of Peh-Wang, on Takion Island, one of the Miao Tao group, situated in Pe Chi Li Strait, and the Japanese cruiser Chitose visited the island yesterday to investigate. She did not find anything. It is reported that another such station has been erected near Shan Hai Kwan and the Japanese are investigating this matter.

Yesterday the Chitose steamed in close to Liao Te Shan Promontory and discovered four masts and a watch house near the coast. One of these masts evidently was fitted for wireless telegraphy operations. The Chitose reports having heard a series of explosions at Port Arthur and believes them to have resullted from blastings preparatory to emplacing new batteries.

ANOTHER JAPANESE WARSHIP SUNK.

Special to The Daily Item.

Chefoo, June 6, 2 p. m.—The Russian Consul here has been informed that a large Japanese warship has been sunk by a mine near Talienwan. The report has not been confirmed.

Liao Yang, June 6—8 p. m.—Military interest is now centred upon the region of imminent operations—the Liao Tung peninsula. Another Japanese army is landing on the eastern coast, as a counter-weight to the Russian advance from Damshitsiao southward upon Gen. Oku's army.

The Japanese have seemingly given up the idea of attacking Liao Yang if they ever entertained such plan. The rainy season, which is expected to begin in two or three weeks, would it is considered here, render an advance to Liao Yang impossible. Meanwhile the Cossacks are keeping in touch with the Japanese outposts. Another force is watching Gen. Kuroki's right wing north of the Yalu River.

The health of the troops is remarkable everywhere. There are no contagious diseases and only a few cases of intestinal disorders, but the medical authorities do not expcet such immunity during the hot weather that is now beginning.

TWO OUTPOST FIGHTS.

Liao Yang, June 6.—Details have been recieved here of two small outpost fights, one in Liao Tung and the other in Southern Manchuria. The former occurred in the morning of Juen 3, at Yan Tsi Antur, east of Vafangow, (twenty-five miles above Kin-Chou.) The Russian force consisted of an infantry regiment, some artillery, several companies of Cossacks and a squad of dragoons. The enemy was discovered in the valley of Pwy-Tsi-Antuo. The Russians brought up a battery, opened fire and cleared the Japanese out of the valley. Then the Russian guns were moved to a more favorable position. The Japanese, taking advantage of this, fired a few shells. The Russian losses were Col. Sereda and seventeen unmounted. Both sides retained their positions.

The other fight was between Major Mistchenko's Cossacks and the Japanese advance posts along the river Kolendzy, north of Taku-Shan. It lasted from the evening of June 3 till late the following day. A company of Cossacks tried to cut off a detachment of Japanese posted on the heights of Ladzaipudzy, but the enemy brought up reinforcements and the Russians were reinforced by five companies of Cossacks. Finallly 3,000 Japanese were engaged, including artillery The Cossacks repeatedly drove the enemy from their intrenchments. In one case the Japanese fled across the river, but returned with more reinforcements and the Russians drew off. The Cossacks' commander, Col Staroff, was killed and two officers and nine men were wounded. The Cossacks carried the body of their commander to Siu Yen.

SORTIE OF RUSSIAN FLEET AT PORT ARTHUR.

Liao Yang, June 6.—It is persistently reported here that the Port Arthur squadron made a sortie shortly before dawn on Saturday, with the torpedo boat destroyers leading, and found the Japanese fleet quite unsuspecting the presence of hostile war ships, with the result that four of the Japanese ships were sunk during the attack.

RUMORS FROM TIEN TSIN.

Tien Tsin, June 6.—Heavy firing was heard at New Chwang, coming from the direction of Liao Yang.

The Russians have evacuated Sin-Min-Tung, (about 300 miles west of Mukden,) and its vicinity. It is said that the troops which were at Sin-Min-Tung are joining on the road to Mukden.

Nothing is known at New Chwang of the Japanese movements.

RUSSIAN FLEET CANNOT ESCAPE.

London June 7.—The corespondent aboard the Times' steamer Haiman, telgraphing June 6, says:

"It is pretty certain from intelligence received by the Japanese secret service that, even if the channel of Port Arthur is practicable for large draught ships, there is not sufficient coal in Port Arthur for such vessels to take the sea.

"The explosions heard at Port Arthur are believed to have been caused by the demolition of certain government buildings.

"A portion of the Japnaese second army corps will hold the land approaches to Port Arthur until Talien Wan Bay shall have been made practicable for a further debarkation.

Meantime a screen of mounted troops is being pushed up beyond Kaiping for the purpose of allowing the reconstruction of the railway to proceed as rapidly as possible."

Chefoo, June 7, 12.30 p. m.—It is reported from Chinese sources that the Japanese made a land and sea attack on Port Arthur yesterday. No reliable information confirmatory of this report nor any statement of result of the attack has been received.

A CRAZY UNDERTAKER.

Man Kills Three of His Children and Commits Suicide.

Roselle, N. J., June 6.—After killing three of his children and wounding a fourth Joseph M. Pouch, at one time an undertaker, shot himself through the head today and died a few minutes after.

Pouch lived in a little cottage with his four children. Yesterday he killed two of them and embalmed their bodies. He took the other two to an upper room with him. Meanwhile he had mailed a warning to County Physician Westcott, who, upon recieving the letter, notified the police. When the officials knocked at the door of the Pouch cottage today Pouch shot and killed his little daughter and wounded his remaining son. He then shot himself and died as the police forced an entrance. The boy will recover.

Pouch is believed to have been insane. He was about 52 years old and was the son of a wealthy undertaker in Brooklyn. When the elder Pouch died some years ago he is said to have left his entire estate to a brother of the central figure in today's tragedy.

This fact is believed to have made Pouch morose. He had been twice married. The first wife obtained a divorce and has since remarried. His second wife died two months ago. Her death caused Pouch to become more despondent.

GLENN SPRINGS WATER
The Kidney Cure.

SHOT IN THE BACK.

Fatal Shooting Affair in Hasell Street, Charleston.

The Slayer Wounds Two Others---Dead Man Former Dispensary Constable and Carrolls Blind Tiger.

Charleston, June 6.—George Caulfield was killed and Joe Myers and Hunter Sharp were wounded by Pat Carroll in a shooting affair tonight which had its origin in a fight between Caulfield and Carroll a few minutes previously.

According to the story of several witnesses the trouble was thought to have been ended when Carroll opened fire on Caulfield and his friends, a few blocks from Caulfield's house, to which the latter was on his way, being attended by his friends. Carroll had been drinking. He came up to Caulfield, who was talking with John Murphy, Myers, Sharp, Capt. Francis and Capt. Flatley, and engaged in the conversation. He and Caulfield differed about some matter which was being discussed and the two men clinched and fell, Caulfield being on top. Myers pulled Caulfield off and after speaking a few words, counseling peace, Caulfield was lead away from Carroll and the party started in the direction of Caulfield's home on Anson street.

Carroll followed and is said to have remarked on turning into Hasell street, "I've got Caulfield where I want him." At all events the party walked a block and a half when Caulfield, who was in advance of the party, suddenly stopped, probably seeing Carroll with his pistol in front of him, and immediately fire was opened. Caulfield had turned and received his death wound in his back. Carroll emptied his pistol into the party, shooting Myers in the arm and Sharp in the leg.

The wounds of Myers and Sharp are flesh wounds, and they were taken immediatey across the street to Dr. Cathcart's office and the wounds were dressed.

Carroll was arrested about 10 o'clock, a half hour after the shooting, in a saloon on Market street. The witnesses were all put under arrest. All the parties are well known and the shooting caused great excitement.

Caulfield was formerly a dispensary constable and is thought to have been still in the employ of the constables as an informer. He leaves a wife and two children. Carroll is said to run a blind tiger.

IMPORTING BOLL WEEVIL ANTS.

Dr. Cook on His Way From Gautemala to Texas With Cotton Destroyers.

Washington, June 6.—The department of agriculture has been advised that Dr. Cook, who has discovered in Guatemala an ant that is a fierce enemy of the boll weevil, has started by the overland route from Guatemala for the cotton fields, carrying colonies of ants with which experiments will be made in the weevil ravaged sections.

If these experiments prove as successful as is expected by the department the ant colonies will be imported in a wholesale manner.

Dr. L. O. Howard, the chief entomologist of the department, has received a report from his experts in Texas regarding the reported discovery in Bexar county of an ant that destroys the weevil. The report says that the ant mentioned is the common Texas ant and that nothing unusual has been developed by the investgation into the matter. It suggests that the weevils had been feeding and depositing eggs on the plants left over from last season and that many of the females which had died and had fallen were eaten by the ants and adds that as the extreme dry weather had reduced the number of plant lice on the coton, the ants, thus deprived of their natural food, merely took advantage of the opportunity to feed on the weevils.

BIG FIRE IN DANVILLE.

The Loss is Placed at $400,000 ---Four Million Pounds of Leaf Destroyed.

Danville, Va., June 6.—The costliest fire in the history of Danville occurred yesterday, entailing a loss that will probably reach within the neighborhood of $400,000. Of the burned buildings, Lee's warehouse was owned by J. G. Penn and O. W. Dudley, the factory adjoining the warehouse on the east by B. Newgrass of London and the two factories on the west by the T. C. Williams' estate of Richmond. The American Tobacco company was the lessee of all the buildings and used them as storage warehouses for leaf tobacco. Nearly four million pounds of leaf tobacco stored in hogsheads were burned.

The building owned by Penn & Dudley was valued at about $15,000; insured for $10,000. The building owned by B. Newgrass of London and known as the Scott factory, was valued at $7,500 and fully insured. The two brick buildings were part of the T. C. Williams estate and valued at about $15,000 each and fully insured.

The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco company suffered a loss of probably several thousand dollars by water.

Hung for Two Months.

San Antonio, Texas, June 5.—While walking in a clump of trees in the 1st ward today, a railway man and a young woman found the decomposed remains of an unknown man hanging by the neck from a tree. The body was terribly decomposed, the jaw having fallen from the skull and the flesh from the bones. The skull was bald and a ragged fringe of reddish beard clung to it. The body was in a sitting position, the rope having cut almost through the neck. One foot was lame and the man seemed to about 50 years of age.

Signs of a rude camp were near. In the pocket of the trousers was a newspaper dated October 25, 1903.

Medical opinion is that the body had been suspended for two months.