

THE CHARMED CIRCLE.

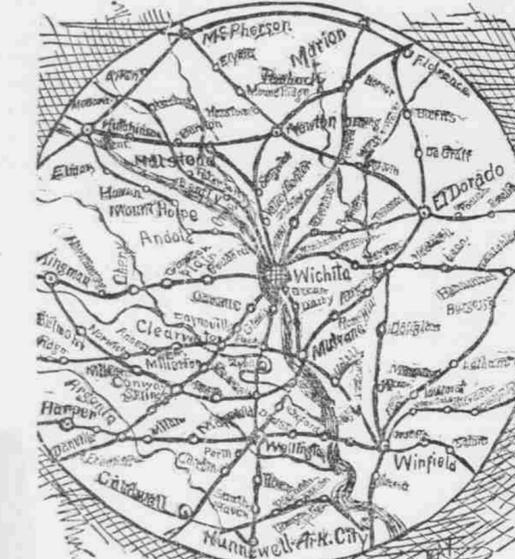
ITS CIRCUMFERENCE AND ITS COMMERCIAL CENTER.

Less Than One-Twelfth of the Area of the State has Given Kansas Her Name and Fame.

The Peerless Princess of the Plains, the Pride of her Parental Prairies, and the Magic Magnet of the Meridian is Wichita.

Some Very Important Facts and Figures Taken From Official Reports, Together With their Logical, Irresistible Conclusions Touching the Garden Spot of Kansas and its Metropolis.

In his hand he took golden compasses to circumscribe the hidden spot of the planet. Kansas is not only the "Central State" of the Union in name and geographically, but as a commonwealth, Kansas is becoming to be recognized as the center of agricultural products, as also a center of wealth and enterprise, of prosperity and of a high standard of general intelligence.



scarcely fifty-five miles to the south, and then describe a circle and the line will encompass not only the choicest section of this great grain growing state, but the rarest rural realm of verdant valleys, of rich, rolling, perennial prairies, of gardens and groves, of herds and homes to be found on the American continent if not in all the world. It constitutes a dominant domain, midway of the temperate zone, yet high above the physical afflictions of ocean levels, whose rivers sparkle in eternal sunshine and where beautiful crops sway ever to the gentle pressure of life sustaining breezes, which in turn are laden with the moisture of the Gulf upon the one hand and cooled by the snow capped altitude of the distant Rockies upon the other.

those residing at a distance, anxious for reliable data touching the far famed Nile of America and its tributary valleys, we herewith give the official figures taken from the last report of the auditor of the state, and from the last report of the Kansas state board of agriculture: The population of the state as returned by the assessors for 1889 was 1,464,914, of whom 241,254, or one-sixth of the entire number lived within the charmed circle. The wheat product of the state for the year 1889, as given by the state board, reached the enormous number of 35,030,678 bushels, of which amount there was produced by the farmers living within the charmed circle 7,847,763 bushels, or more than one-fifth of the entire product of Kansas wheat.

with 8,311 miles of iron bands which run through every county in the state, save six in the extreme southwest. Of that 8,311 total mileage the charmed circle contains 1,521 miles, wanting but 141 miles of having one-fifth the entire railway mileage of next to the greatest railroad state in the union. Ten lines of railway radiate out from Wichita, making her the undisputed railway center of Kansas, with four additional lines organized and chartered within the present year. No people on the face of the globe are better accommodated with railway transportation facilities than the lucky people of the charmed circle. Nine out of ten of the farmers and live stock raisers, and all of the citizens of every town within the charmed circle can reach Wichita's central markets, direct, and within from one to two hours' time. The property of Kansas, personal and real, as returned by the assessors and fixed by the boards of equalization, is assessed at less than one-fourth of its real or true value. Under this rule the total real and personal wealth of Kansas, as of 1889, was \$55,397,933.29. The charmed circle in settlement and development has scarce numbered half the years of the older, eastern portion of the state, lying along the Missouri and Kansas rivers, yet this circumscribed spot has so far outstripped the Kansas of the fifties and sixties as to surprise and astonish men who have lived within her borders since the territorial days. That a section constituting less than one-twelfth of the agricultural area of the state should in so short a time unite, produce from one-fifth to one-seventh of all that the state annually shows of agricultural and horticultural products. In the production of live stock, especially in superior grades of hogs, cattle, sheep and horses, Kansas has become famous. The great live stock market at Kansas City, which is supplied from this state, has grown into a reputation that is world wide and that rivals that of Chicago. The live stock market of Wichita is even surpassing the earlier history of

At 11 o'clock the work of excavating the ruins of the Bowen Merrill fire was still in progress. So far ten firemen are known to be dead. Their names are: GEORGE FALKNER, ULYSSES GLAZIER, GEORGE GLENN, AL HOFFMAN, RICHARD LOWRIE, EPHRAIM STUBBER, CHARLES JENKINS, ANDREW CHELBY, superintendent of the fire department, and the fireman: THOMAS A. BURKHARDT, THOMAS A. BLACK, Wounded—Anthony Volta, pipeman; Law Radot, fireman; Thomas Barren, fireman; A. C. Mercer, captain fire department; Charles Neuman, fireman; B. Black, pipeman; William Purtes, pipeman, wounded internally, may die; Henry Woodruff, fireman, badly hurt; Ebenezer Smith, pipeman, cut and bruised; Tom Talenty, fireman, engine No. 2, fatally crushed; Charles Jenkins, pipeman, badly hurt; William Heitzly, pipeman, badly hurt; John Burkhardt, pipeman, badly hurt and the head.

UNDER THE DEBRIS,

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT AT A FIRE IN INDIANAPOLIS.

Ten Firemen Go Down to Death with a Four Story Structure.

The Work of Rescue Carried on by Hundreds—Others Probably Under the Ruins.

Thirteen Seriously Injured, Some Fatally—Pathetic Scenes at the Homes of the Victims—Narrow Escape of the Operatives from an Explosion in a Saltpetre Mill at Whitehall, N. J.—Casualty Record.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 17.—What at first seemed an insignificant fire in the Bowen-Merrill store this afternoon, resulted in a catastrophe in which at least four men were killed and a dozen wounded, some of whom will die. The building occupied by the book company was a four story, and basement, marble front building, facing Washington street, just west of the Meridian. The fire started shortly before 10 o'clock, near the furnace in the sub-basement. The fire department, when it arrived seemed at a loss to locate the fire and began pouring water into the building at the front when the seat of trouble was in the rear. For two hours the fight had continued in this way until the majority of the spectators had left under the impression that the fire was out. About 5:30, however, there was a terrible crash, and the entire building except the front wall fell inward. At the time a number of firemen were on the roof of the building and were buried in the debris which was piled forty feet high within the walls of the burned building.

FIRE AND AN EXPLOSION.

MILLVILLE, N. J., March 17.—At 8 o'clock this morning fire broke out in a building used for refining saltpetre at Whitehall. Tatum's saltpetre works.

Students' Bodies Washed Ashore.

Another Slide Threatened.

Items From Kiowa.

INCENDIARY SPEECH BY AN AGITATOR. BERLIN, March 17.—One hundred and twenty of the 400 miners employed in the Kaiserstuepe mine at Dortmund, held a meeting yesterday and appointed Herr Schroeder delegate to the international miners' conference at Brussels. Herr Schroeder made an address to the miners, in which he declared that if matters could not be arranged peacefully the miners would seek to establish a universal brotherhood and inaugurate an international strike in order to show the world the poverty stricken condition which would prevail without coal. Herr Schroeder's speech finally became so violent that the police dissolved the meeting.

A PARTISAN'S PLEA.

MR. VOORHEES WANTS TO AVOID POLITICAL ISSUES.

He Asks the Senate to Give Attention to the Relief of Labor.

A Resolution Offered Reciting the Depressed Financial Condition Existing in Agricultural Districts.

The House Committee Modifying the Window Glass Bill—A Retaliatory Tariff Proposed to Meet Canadian Measures—Kansas Matters at the Capital, Etc.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—While petitions were being presented Mr. Cockrell rose to present remonstrances against the extradition treaty with Russia, but was notified that that was a matter for executive session. Mr. Vest said that he had consulted with several of the oldest senators and that there was a general consensus of opinion that they should be presented in executive session. Mr. Voorhees offered the following preamble and resolution: Resolved, That it is the duty of congress in the present crisis to lay aside all discussion and consideration of mere party issues and to give prompt and immediate attention to the preparation and adoption of such measures as are required for the relief of the farmers and other over-taxed and under-paid laborers of the United States.

BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—Under suspension of the rules the following bills were passed by the house:

PROTEST AGAINST THE RUSSIAN TREATY.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—The protest against the ratification of the Russian treaty which the senate over President Pro Tem Ingalls' adverse ruling permitted Senator Cockrell to present in open session today was from the Wood Making Machine Makers' union of St. Louis.

KELLEY'S CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION BILL.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—Mr. Kelley of Kansas, introduced a bill in the house today to provide for the election of members of the house. It declares that no state law or constitution shall deprive a citizen of his right to vote for a member of the legislature of his right to vote except upon conviction of felony. Congress is to fix the congressional election districts in such state immediately upon the publication of the census and to determine the determination of the basis of representation.

TO PROVIDE FOR DISABLED VETERANS.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—Senator Ingalls today introduced a bill providing that a soldier who had lost both eyes or one arm or leg may get married at any time he may so desire, to get some woman to take care of him, and at his death the soldier's widow shall receive \$12 a month as long as she remains single. If the soldier's wife refuses to live with and care for him he may after her absence of six months procure a divorce from any county court upon the payment of \$5.

THE BALLOT BOX FORGERY.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—The investigation by the special house committee in the Ohio ballot box forgery case was continued this morning. A. C. Sands, Mr. Kurtz, private secretary to Governor Foraker, and Representative Grosvener, were the witnesses examined. The taking of testimony appeared to be a mere formality, and the committee went into secret session to determine the further procedure.

PROVIDING MANY NEW PENSIONERS.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—Representative Morrill, of Kansas, today introduced a bill providing for a service pension of 16 per cent to certain soldiers of the late war and their widows. Its enactment into a law will place 80,000 additional pensioners on the rolls at once and about 35,000 each year thereafter.

MR. DOLPH'S FRUITLESS LABORS.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—Mr. Dolph looked weary and discouraged this afternoon when his "junk" investigating committee closed its session. He had been in the room in which it had been meeting and sent back to the room of the committee on territories but the borrowed bible which witnesses had been sworn.

A NEW NOMINATION.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—The president today sent to the senate the following nomination: Frank Burnett, of Missouri, supervising inspector of steam vessels for the Fourth district (St. Louis).

ACTS FOR BRIDGES APPROVED.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—The president has approved the acts for the construction of bridges across the Arkansas river in the Indian territory and at Fort Smith, Ark.

TERRIBLY FATAL FIGHT.

SAN ANGELO, Tex., March 17.—Jerome Shields and C. H. Homan, of Ranger county, left here Friday night with warrants for El Paso to arrest a Mexican horse thief named A. Terroso Dolevosa, who was living with his brother Aepitavos, about twenty-five miles west of here. On reaching their destination they were ambushed by a party of Mexicans who killed and wounded both men. Shields was also slightly shot in the left hand.

BRITISH GRAIN TRADE.

LONDON, March 17.—The Mark Lane Express in its weekly review of the British grain trade says: English wheat is weak. The trade in foreign wheat is also weak. The trade in foreign wheat is also weak. The trade in foreign wheat is also weak.

AN OLD OFFENDER COMES BACK.

CHICAGO, Ill., March 17.—D. D. Spencer to whose long management was attributed the ruin and misery which followed the collapse of the Cook County National bank and the State Savings Institution in 1877 arrived in Chicago yesterday on a slight detour from his home in New Orleans. He is now in the hands of the police.

A FIGHT POSTPONED.

BRISTOL, N. H., March 17.—The fight between Billy Meyer and Jack Hopper, of New York, arranged for May 1, at Fort Worth, Tex., has been postponed to a date subsequent to May 7, the date of Meyer's fight with Andy Bowman for the West End Athletic club at New Orleans, La.

"INTER-OCEAN" FOUNDER DEAD.

CHICAGO, Ill., March 17.—Mr. Jonathan Young Scammon, the founder of the Inter-Ocean, and for very many years prominently identified with the growth and prosperity of Chicago, died at his home in Hyde Park this morning, aged 78 years.

A RIOTOUS DEMONSTRATION.

LIVERPOOL, March 17.—The striking dock men engaged in a riotous demonstration today. Thirty thousand of them marched through the streets and the route of the procession was the scene of constant disorder. The magistracy has invoked the aid of the military to preserve the peace.