

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

KANSAS CITY, April 16.—A storm of great severity passed over eastern Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and the southwest generally yesterday and last night. In Colorado and Kansas, it is believed considerable damage was done, but it is impossible to learn anything from those sections, because all telegraphic communication has been cut off since 8 o'clock yesterday afternoon. For a short time last evening, Denver was reached on a very shaky wire, but after thirty minutes the wire failed and since that time no word has been received or sent into Denver direct over the telegraph wires. The storm covered a wide area northward, Denver wires via Omaha also being down. In south Kansas and Oklahoma much damage was done to the crops.

A peculiar feature of the storm was the intense darkness and extraordinary electrical display. The atmosphere was surcharged with electricity, and several persons and horses were stunned and shocked. In the western part of Oklahoma and Pan Handle, Egyptian darkness prevailed. Such peculiar storm has seldom been seen, and the superstitious thought the astronomical conditions, which, it has been claimed by a South Carolina minister, are now repeating themselves for the first time since the death of Christ, had something to do with it. The rain that fell in western Oklahoma was actually a shower of mud. At 10 a.m. a slow wire had been secured to Denver, but it is not sure it will hold any length of time.

Last night Denver and the Pacific coast could be reached only by St. Paul and the northwest by Spokane, Seattle, Portland and thence down to San Francisco, and eastward via Reno and Salt Lake City.

VIENNA, April 16.—A dispatch from Liabach, the capital of the duchy of Carniola, announces that there were three fresh earthquake shocks there yesterday evening and three more at 9 o'clock this morning. At Laibach seven persons were killed.

NORTH PLATTE, Neb., April 16.—Judge Sinclair, of the district court, has rendered a decision upholding the constitutionality of the irrigation law. He ruled that the provision of the irrigation act, granting the right of eminent domain, was constitutional. The right of condemnation of the right of way for irrigation ditches is by the decision placed upon the same basis as the condemnation of the right of way for railway lines.

CHEROKEE, Kas., April 16.—Late last night a cyclone struck the house of Frank Goodin, three miles west of here, and literally tore it to pieces, scattering debris all over the corn field. Mr. Goodin had his neck dislocated and will die. Mrs. Goodin was caught under the roof and pinned to the ground, her clothing taking fire, her screams attracting the neighbors who rescued her. Half a dozen other farm houses in the immediate vicinity were also demolished, but nobody else was hurt.

NEW YORK, April 16.—A special from Washington, says:

Minister Guzman, was closeted with Secretary Gresham some time last

evening, discussing the Nicaraguan situation, but what action, if any, was taken, is not made public.

JACKSON, Mich., April 16.—Faony Fox, the 18-year-old daughter of a farmer, died yesterday after having given premature birth to a child. Curtis Harwood, her cousin, and Dr. J. D. North, one of the oldest and most prominent physicians of this city, were arrested today, both charged with murder. Harwood has stated that Dr. North performed the operation which caused the girl's death.

HAVANA, April 16.—Chagrin and anger succeeded the premature elation of Captain General Calleja over the supposed capture of Jose Maceo. Maceo's double was captured, but not Maceo. Anticipating that unusual efforts would be made to capture him the wily Cuban general donned a disguise and went to the front in command. Colonel Guerra was the one captured while Maceo escaped to the mountains with a few followers.

DENVER, Colo., April 16.—The open air silver mass-meeting held from the steps of the east entrance to the Capitol this afternoon was the largest that Denver has ever seen. Various estimates place the number present at anywhere between twelve and fifteen thousand. On the steps of the Capitol and in the vast concourse of people were men and women of every division and shade of political affiliation and belief. The meeting was called to order by Judge A. W. Rucker. Miss Caldwell was introduced, and in a sweet voice sang the "Silver Song," which was greeted with great applause.

Promptly at 2:30 ex-Congressman Sibley was introduced and received an ovation.

General Warner, the next speaker, was introduced by the chairman as one of the few surviving generals of the late war, and the one who had been chosen as general of the silver forces.

The general confined his remarks to practical politics.

Mr. Sibley leaves for his home in Pennsylvania tonight, and General Warner continues his trip alone through Colorado to the Pacific coast.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—The Chinese imperial edict sent by the Associated Press from Tien Tsin is accepted among officials and diplomats here as settling at rest the conflicting reports as to the final terms of peace. The indemnity of 200,000,000 taels is the compromise. Japan first demanded 300,000,000 taels, but on solicitation Prince Ito threw off 100,000,000. At the Chinese legation it is stated that a tael varies in value, but the present value of customs or the treasury tael, in which undoubtedly the payment will be made, is \$1.50 in Mexican silver, or about 75 cents in gold. This would make the indemnity equivalent to three hundred million in Mexican silver, or \$150,000,000 in gold. The Mexican dollar is the current coin of China and the basis of calculation so that the belief is very strong, though information on the subject is lacking, that the payment will be in silver.

The edict that Japan is to occupy the Liao Tung peninsula up to the

fortieth degree latitude settles the important point that she is to have the great fortress of Port Arthur and immediate surrounding territory as forebadowed in these dispatches. The Liao Tung peninsula is a small point of land jutting southward into the gulf Pechili, with Port Arthur at its extreme point. The fortieth degree of latitude cuts across the mainland where the little peninsula broadens into the mainland of Manchuria. This lower peninsula has the shape of a sword and is known as the "regent's sword." The edict does not state whether Japan gets the acquisition permanently or until the indemnity is paid. She has contended for having it permanently. If the occupancy is temporary it will give Japan the military command over China as long as the occupation lasts.

The permanent occupancy of the island of Formosa has been settled for some time.

The opening of Peking and four new ports of commerce marks the introduction of modern methods in the interior of China. Japan has gained the privilege of establishing her cotton and other factories in China, but it remains to be seen whether Japanese capital will invest in these enterprises, or the Chinese will buy these modern fabrics.

The edict makes a significant omission as to the reported Japan-China alliance, offensive and defensive, which, if consummated, would have given the "orient to orientals." Japanese and Chinese officials in Washington have never credited the report of this alliance.

TIENTSIN, April 17.—Japan's occupation of Port Arthur is temporary, thus insuring China's integrity on the main land of Asia after a term of years, and avoiding the possibility of European intervention.

YOKOHAMA, April 17.—The *Jiji*, a newspaper, states that the terms of peace concluded between China and Japan include the cession of the territory from the Yalu river to Liao river on the southern portion of the Liao Tung peninsula on which Port Arthur and "Regent's Sword" are situated, and include Vinkow, Hat Cheng and Chu Lien Cheng; also the island of Formosa and the Pescadores Islands; an indemnity of 200,000,000 taels payable in six years; the abolition of Chinese extra territoriality; the preservation of Japan's extra territoriality and certain commercial privileges for Japan.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—Secretary Gresham has laid down some doctrine touching the rights of merchant steamers in foreign ports to afford asylum to refugees, that may be of great importance to the commanders of vessels. This was called out by a letter addressed to the state department in December, 1893, by C. P. Huntington, president of the Pacific Mail Steamship company, asking for an exact definition of the powers of captains of merchant steamers in this respect. The secretary responded that the so-called doctrine of right of asylum having no application to merchant vessels in port, it follows that a ship master can find no exercise of discretion on the character of the offense charged against a refugee. While no general rule can be laid down as a comprehen-