

Mississippi river at this point has overflowed its banks and all low lands on either side are covered with water three to ten feet deep. The river rose seven inches last night and is rising fast today. It is within a foot of the high water mark.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 17.—A crisis has arrived in northern Louisiana. The mighty force of nature won the fight. Last night at 10 o'clock the workers on the levee at Bigge, four miles below the Delta, La., were horrified to see a sudden bulge in their embankment. A small yellow stream began to trickle through the aperture and a moment later there was a crash. The Louisiana main system had at last succumbed to the fearful onslaught of the Mississippi river. A general alarm was sounded and the inhabitants of the vicinity began moving most of their valuable effects. In thirty minutes the crevasse had increased in size from a dozen feet to fifty yards and the water was pouring through the opening with fearful velocity. There is a strip of swamp about two miles wide immediately behind the levee where the break occurred, and beyond that there are many of the finest plantations of southern Louisiana. Unless the crevasse can be stopped the overflowed area will include the lower half of Madison parish and all Tensas and Concordia parishes. The water will then flow in Tensas river and should that stream prove its inability to carry the great volume of water into the main channel the flooded area will extend to Franklin and part of Catahoula parishes and take the fifth district levee where the board had concentrated nearly a thousand men along the levee adjacent to Bigge, this strip having been regarded as one of the weakest points in the entire system. The fertile lands that will be inundated are in the highest state of cultivation, and the loss will be tremendous.

ST. LOUIS, April 17.—The river here this morning showed but a decline of .3 of a foot for the past 24 hours and the prediction is that it will change but little during the next two days. Above here, however, slight rises are marked on the Missouri at Boonville and Kansas city, and on the Mississippi at Hannibal, Keokuk and Davenport.

The local weather observer, Frankenhoff, thinks the Missouri will continue to rise slowly, and the upper Mississippi also will rise generally; but no danger stages are indicated south of Keokuk with the water now in sight.

ATHENS, April 19.—The firing commenced this morning between Greeks and Turks at several points along the frontier. Col. Manos, at the head of 25,000 Greek troops, has crossed the river Arakaphos on the frontier of Epirus and is now entering that part of South Albania after having driven back the Turkish advance posts.

The bombardment of Prevesa was resumed at daybreak. The landing force has not yet attacked the place. A dispatch from Greek headquarters this afternoon says three important positions were occupied today near Menex by the Greek troops. Prince Nicholas, the third son of King

George, has been ordered to the front in command of a battery of artillery. Later in the day confirmation was received of the report that a large Greek force had crossed the river Arakaphos. The Greek battleship Spetzai has been taking part in the bombardment of Prevesa. The firing recommenced at 5:30 a. m. today. A body of 700 Greek "insurgents" landed at Syrak, Epirus, and are now marching on Filiplada. Numerous other bands of Greek "insurgents" have entered Epirus.

Dispatches from Tyriaver, north west of Larissa, say that the fight in the vicinity of Revent and Bougazi lasted throughout Sunday. The Greeks captured two Turkish posts, one of which was retaken later by the Turks. The fighting was of a desperate character hand to hand, and the Greeks are reported to have advanced into Damazi plain and occupied Viglia, which commands it, capturing a battery of Turkish artillery. The second engagement occupied at Grizovalli, where the Turks, according to last reports received, were attempting to recapture that post from the Greeks.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE TURKISH ARMY, MACEDONIA, ELLASSONIA, April 18, evening.—[Copyrighted 1897 by the Associated Press.]—The Turkish forces hold their positions in Milouna pass. During the severe fighting which began yesterday evening, Greeks and Turks alike fought and behaved in a most admirable manner. Turkish reports just received say the whole Milouna pass is now in the possession of the Turks who carried two Greek blockhouses at the point of the bayonet.

Late tonight information was received from the front that the Turks had occupied the whole extent of Milouna pass and all commanding heights from Neckeme to Papaly Vava as well as all defiles. The Turkish losses thus far are reported to be slight—30 killed and 50 wounded. A correspondent of the Associated press counted 100 Greek corpses on the hill opposite the Turkish position. The Turks declare the Greeks were drunk during the fighting today. Kenan Bey has returned from Karyia where the fighting continued when he left there. The Turkish loss at that place was 200. Kenan Bey says he counted nearly a thousand dead Greeks.

ROME, April 19.—A dispatch to the Messagero from Arta says the remaining Turkish fort at Prevesa has been destroyed by the fire of the Greek warships and the position to the Turks is untenable. Four thousand Greeks have been landed for the purpose of occupying Prevesa.

A second dispatch to the same paper announces that 2,000 Albanians who started into Greece with the expressed intention of reaching Larissa have recrossed the frontier and are now ravaging Epirus.

ISLAND OF CORFU, (noon) April 19.—Greek troops, as this dispatch is sent, are advancing on Filiplada, northwest of Arta. A detachment of 600 Greek troops are in readiness to land at Brevesia, a Turkish fortified position north of the entrance to the gulf of Arta. Turkish

forts at that place have been almost completely destroyed by the bombardment of the Greek fleet. Many forts have been reduced to ashes.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—The Turkish minister, Monstaph Bey, has communicated with Secretary Sherman on the status of the Turko-Grecian conflict. He officially informed the American secretary of state of the termination of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Greece and the attitude of offense which Turkey has been compelled to take by reason of the aggressive course of Greece. It was expressly made known, however, that no declaration of war had been issued. Until this declaration is made the United States government is not likely to give official recognition to the existing state of affairs.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—The following official statement is made at the state department:

"The department of state has received a dispatch from the United States minister to Turkey, relating to the situation between that country and Greece, and the Turkish declaration of war.

"Terrill states that the minister from Greece has been informed he must leave before next Wednesday. He is not permitted to communicate by telegraph with the Greek government. All subjects of Greece are required to leave Constantinople within fifteen days. The note of the Porte to the foreign powers disclaim any desire for territorial conquest. The Turkish minister informs Terrill that the Greek government requires all the subjects of Greece of military age reserved for military duty. The Turkish government claims the regular Greek troops seized and were fortifying Analipsi in violation of an agreement prohibiting it. Hence the attack there by the Turks on the 16th. The Turkish troops are scattered along the border of Thessaly and cannot quickly concentrate for decisive battle. This may enable the Greek army to fight them in detail.

ELLASSONA, April 19.—The town of Ellassona has been deserted by its inhabitants who fled northward and towards Salonica, fearing that the fighting between Turks and Greeks will extend to this place.

ATHENS, April 19.—A dispatch from Arta filed at 11:30 this morning announced that fighting continues between Greeks and Turks at the entrance of the Gulf of Arta and elsewhere in that vicinity. The Turkish batteries at Hammatien and Pantocratoros are replying feebly. The crossing of the river Arakaphos by the Greek armies under Col. Manos, numbering about 25,000, was attended by severe fighting during which the Greek artillery batteries distinguished themselves. This Greek force is now in Epirus.

Dispatches from the front received here this evening say that the Turks in considerable force have been attacking Revina, not far from Tyriaver, northwest of Larissa, which would indicate that the Greeks have not advanced far into the Damazi plain. It is added that the Turks were repulsed at Revina.

A still later dispatch from Grizovalli admits that the Turks have recaptured