

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

CRIPPLE CRSEK, Colo., April 29.—Last Saturday's horrors were repeated three-fold in the destruction wrought by a second fire this afternoon. To an increase in the amount of property destroyed on Saturday the fire of today adds the loss of life and leaves from 3,000 to 4,000 people homeless in a city of desolation, with no homes to offer and no food to supply their daily wants.

The business portion of the city left standing tonight is less than would cover a city block. The residence section is confined to what were formerly the suburbs on the placers of East and West Old Town to the northeast and a portion of Capitol Hill on the south.

When an alarm of fire sounded from the Portland hotel at 1:30 o'clock this afternoon it was quickly responded to, notwithstanding that the firemen and the people, one and all, were thoroughly exhausted by the work of Saturday and the tension under which they had lived since. Smoke was rolling from under the cornice of the Myers avenue and Second street sides of the building, and the alley to the south was full of flames. Almost instantly the building was blazing from a dozen places in front. Streams of water were turned on quickly and the firemen fought feebly for a few moments in an attempt to put out the fire.

Buildings in advance of the fire were blown up in a futile attempt to check its speed. All about the burning blocks the streets were jammed. Charges of fifty pounds and more of powder were put in. The explosion threw debris high into the air and its falling felled men right and left.

At 2 o'clock the solid row of business houses to the north along Second was all fire.

The origin of the fire appears to have been purely accidental, though the general belief is that it was incendiary. There has been talk of crediting Saturday's fire to such origin, and this one coming so close upon it, gives rise to suspicion. The facts appear to discredit the suspicion.

CHICAGO, April 29.—Rainstorms in the state of Wisconsin, Iowa and eastern Nebraska yesterday and last night were very severe, and reports show much damage was done. The dispatches received are as follows:

Omaha.—Torrents of water fell and carried away sidewalks and loose material with it for blocks. People along Ames and adjacent streets are packing their goods preparatory to leaving for higher and dryer quarters. One hundred feet of sidewalks was floated away and the Ames avenue sewer caved in.

Dubuque.—Nearly two inches of rain fell in one hour and ten minutes. Great damage was done to streets and bridges. Both power houses and many residences were struck by lightning.

Des Moines.—In Clay county all the rivers are out of their banks.

Elkport, Iowa.—Much damage was done to property. Lightning did some damage at Pomeroy and a heavy rain was accompanied by hail in the northern part of the state.

Clinton, Iowa.—Had a cloud burst. Trains on the Anamosa branch of the

Chicago and Northwestern and Clinton branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul were delayed several hours by washouts.

Michell, S. D.—Had a heavy rain fall, washing out seeds and doing other damage.

Sioux City, Iowa.—Had a heavy thunder storm, considerable damage being done to telephone and electric lines. Streets were washed out and a number of buildings damaged by lightning.

Oshkosh, Wis.—More than an inch of rain fell here. The heavy down fall of the last few weeks has solved the water question in the Fox River valley. The water this morning was but one and three-tenths inches below the crest of the Menasha dam, which is the point the government has for two years been aiming to attain. Boatmen and lumber men are jubilant at the condition of things, which is the most satisfactory in ten years.

Sheboygan.—A terrific electric storm followed by a cloud burst occurred here last night. Several buildings were struck by lightning and two dwellings burned. The electric wires are on the ground and many meters were burned out. The city fire alarm service was also destroyed and all telephone wires are down. Water to the depth of a foot flowed through the streets. The Chicago & Northwestern railway track is washed away for some distance and trains are delayed.

Mitchell, S. D.—A severe cyclone struck the northern part of the county. It took a northerly course, destroying farms, property and doing immense damage.

Reports from Montrose, S. D., state that a cyclone passed about two miles west of that place. It struck the residence of Frank Malloy, demolishing it entirely. Next in its track was the residence of Conrad Kirchner, which was torn from its foundation and badly wrecked. About two miles further north it struck the residence of Peter Flannery, which was demolished together with barns and outbuildings. The family escaped by going into the cellar. The house of Michael Mennon was next in its path and this, together with all the outbuildings, was torn to pieces and carried away. The family consisting of himself wife and five children, were badly injured and were all unconscious when found. The storm was the worst ever known in this section and was accompanied with heavy hail. The storm gained in strength as it traveled northward and it was thought great damage was done but no particulars have been received from that section.

The little town of Epiphany lay directly across its path and was completely wiped off the face of the earth, not a building is left standing. Three persons were fatally and fifteen more or less seriously injured in that immediate vicinity. The wires are down and reports are meager.

At Madison a heavy wind demolished several buildings and hail destroyed a great deal of glass. On account of communication being cut off the full extent of damage is unknown.

Boston, May 1.—The Boston Com-

mercial Bulletin will say tomorrow of the wool market: The market has been very dull throughout the week. The drop in tops on the continent and the decline of 5 per cent in the London auctions have checked purchases. Our market is now nearly back to the lowest point, fine medium Territory clothing being offered at 30 cents clear. The growers are generally holding wool at last year's prices, and as they are looking forward to a new tariff at the special session next spring, there is likely to be more wool in the country than usual. The most notable events are a shipment of 53,000 pounds of Western wool to the same English mill that purchased a month or so ago, and a cable dispatch offering to purchase a large line of new spring Utah wool at 10c, laid down in England. This price is $\frac{1}{2}$ c less than the cost of such wool in that position, bought at prevailing prices in Utah.

The sales of the week were 1,308,000 pounds domestic and 427,000 pounds foreign, against 1,180,000 pounds domestic and 635,000 pounds foreign last week.

The receipts to date show a decrease of 11,704 bales domestic and an increase of 10,877 bales foreign against the same date in 1895.

NEW YORK, May 2.—A dispatch to the Herald from London says: The underground excitement and resentment here against the German emperor is very like the feeling which existed in France in 1870 against Bismarck.

Making due allowances for the difference of national temper the results one hears daily hurled at the German emperor surpasses tenfold anything you read in print. One can get an idea how deep the feeling is when you note how even men in the responsible positions of ministers of state constantly harp on the string they will tolerate no further interference at no cost. It is France and the candidature of the Hohenzollern prince in Spain over again and I fear the same blindness with regard to the real state of affairs. Yesterday the permanent secretary of an ambassador told your correspondent the English will achieve what has been deemed impossible—the reconciliation of France and Germany and this at their own expenses. One day it is "the treachery of Russia, next the intrigues of Germany," then "the machination of the Boers," and lastly, "the wickedness of the Turks."

NEW YORK, May 2.—A dispatch to the World from Havana says:

Consul General Williams has not yet obtained a list of the five prisoners captured on the American schooner Competitor. Laborde and Milton are American citizens. The former wrote a letter to Mr. Williams asking him to come and see him, but neither Williams nor Laborde's lawyer have as yet gained access to him. The prisoners are at the arsenal undergoing examination before the judge of instruction, preliminary to a summary naval court martial. The whole proceedings will not last more than ten days.

Under the treaty even American citizens caught with arms in their hands are entitled to be represented by counsel.

The Spanish authorities say that the Competitor was ordered to show her colors and that it had no flag. Her