

## AT HOME AND ABROAD.

LONDON, May 12.—A special from Shanghai says the Russians, through an American agent named Smith, have taken possession of disputed territory at Chefoo, over which the British claim rights.

Six Russian warships are there as well as the Detroit, Yorktown, Olympia and Machias, of the United States navy.

Great excitement prevails at Chefoo. A dispatch to the Globe from Shanghai says the Russians have seized territory included in the British concession at Chefoo, in defiance of all legal and treaty rights.

The Globe's editorial comments contain the remark that the "Seriousness of the news from Chefoo cannot be overestimated. The action taken is in direct contravention of existing laws and treaties and cannot be viewed by Great Britain as other than an unfriendly act."

OMAHA, May 12.—A special to the Bee from Lincoln, Neb., says: Lincoln was struck at 4:45 by a tornado, which raged with unabated violence for twenty-five minutes. During this period rain fell as if from a cloudburst, accompanied by hail. The prevailing drift of the wind was from the southwest, but sometimes it seemed to form in eddies between the business blocks and was accompanied by cyclonic features. Buildings were unroofed and torn down, cornices swept from roofs into the streets, and the residence portion of the city nearly denuded of trees. The greatest damage was at the state hospital for the insane, where many of the larger buildings were unroofed. The damage will be very heavy. The inmates were excited, but the guards averted trouble. The damage in the city will probably not exceed \$40,000, though it may be much heavier, as the suburban districts are as yet cut off from communication. The injured are: J. L. Workman, head out by flying debris; A. L. Woody, in a collapsed building; Mrs. J. B. Abbott, caught beneath a horse; Henry Meyer, J. L. Thorpe. There were no fatalities, though the injured were severely hurt.

At the state asylum iron supporters weighing 300 pounds were blown several hundred yards.

In the main business part of the city the Kelly block, North and P streets, opposite and north of the Lincoln hotel, suffered the worst. The damage is put at \$2,000. The Beckwith building was also partly demolished, the loss being estimated at \$1,000.

The Bohemian Catholic church, a brick structure at the corner of Second and E streets, was completely destroyed, loss being \$4,500.

Omaha, May 12.—A special to the Bee from Elkhorn, Neb., says: A cyclone swept this section this afternoon. A funnel-shaped cloud swept downward from the storm center and a general stampede of citizens for caves and cellars ensued. At the schoolhouse the school children fled panic-stricken to the furnace-room, amid the wildest confusion, and a number of children were hurt. The cyclone struck the ground north of the town. Its

course was northwest. The path of the storm was from 200 to 300 yards wide, and everything in its path was razed to the ground, including several houses.

Carl Johnson, a prominent farmer, was caught in the twister. He had a team attached to a wagon. He endeavored to skirt the storm by driving in a meadow to the westward, but before he could lash his horses out of the path of the rapidly-approaching hurricane, he was caught in its vortex, and men, horses and wagon were carried through space, together with fence-boards, posts, wire and other debris. His clothes were literally torn from his back, and he received a number of wounds. At times the wind would raise him high in the air and drop him back to the earth, only to catch him up again. In his flight he would describe a circle, and when the storm finally passed over him, he was 150 yards or more distant from where the storm first struck him. The wagon was completely demolished.

After traversing a distance of about two miles, the funnel-shaped cloud arose as suddenly as it had shot down to the earth, and at a point five or six miles further to the north it dropped again to the earth, where it is feared great damage and loss of life resulted.

BRAIDENTOWN, Fla., May 13.—Jack Trice, a negro, fought fifteen white men yesterday morning, killing James Hughes and Henry Sanchez and fatally wounding Henry Daniels and dangerously wounding Albert Buffum. The battle occurred at the negro's home near Palmetto, six miles south of here, and he fought to prevent his 14-year-old son from being "regulated" by the whites. Monday after Price's son and the son of Town-marshal Hughes of Palmetto fought, the white boy being badly beaten. Marshal Hughes was greatly enraged, and at 3 o'clock yesterday morning he and fourteen other white men went to Price's house to "regulate" the negro's little boy. The whites demanded that the boy be sent out. Price refused and the whites began firing. Trice returned the fire, his first bullet killing Marshal Hughes. Edward Sanchez tried to burn the house, but was shot through the brain by Trice. Then the whites tried to batter in the door with a log which resulted in Henry Daniels getting a bullet in the stomach that will kill him. The "regulators" then ran, a final bullet from Trice's rifle striking Albert Buffum in the back. The whites secured reinforcements and returned to Trice's home at sunrise, vowing to burn father and son at the stake, but their intended victims had fled and only Trice's old mother was in the house. The old woman was driven out and the house burned. Poses with blood hounds are chasing Trice and the boy and they will be lynched if caught.

CHICAGO, May 13.—The fond father, the admiring uncle and the doting big brother who have been in the habit of strapping baby into a basket or other contrivance and giving the youngster a ride on the bicycle must forego that sort of amusement or incur the liability

of prosecution. Such is the edict of the Illinois humane society, which claims the practice now in vogue not only imperils the life of the child by accident, but tends to impair its health in more ways than one.

The officers of the society have been giving the matter serious investigation and have become alarmed at the consequences being visited on the extremely young generation of bicycle riders. A baby strapped on the front of a wheel must needs stand the brunt of the shock when a collision occurs and is helpless when danger arises. But that is only one of the least objections raised. Medical experts, they say, are convinced that the rapid and unnatural motion affects the child's brain. If the advice is disregarded, the officials of the society will take a hand and invoke the aid of the law.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 13.—J. W. Copman, general manager of the Standard Oil company in Japan and China, arrived from the Orient on the China last night. Mr. Copman has great faith in Japan as an important factor in the commercial world. He says she is forging ahead in all lines of industry and he thinks she will soon be a hot competitor with Europe for the Oriental trade in many kinds of manufactured goods. This competition, Mr. Copman says, will affect Europe more than this country. The Japanese, he says, have the two requisites to success of any nation—frugality and industry. These traits of character, he says, are alike noticeable in the rich and the poor. Further than this, he says, Japan is ambitious, and this, coupled with her frugal and industrious habits, will bear her along on the full tide of commercial power until her influence will be felt all over the world.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 13.—Judge Hebbard of the superior court has handed down his second decision in the suit of M. W. Fox vs The Hale and Norcross Silver Mining company on the question of the damages sustained by the stockholders of the alleged fraudulent milling of ores by Directors Alviza Hayward and H. M. Levy. His first decision gave a judgment for \$210,197 for the excessive milling charges and for \$739,618 for damages for fraud. The latter item the supreme court considered too high and so sent the case back to Judge Hebbard for revision. The judgment today reiterates the former decision for the excessive milling charges but reduces the damages allowed for fraud by \$371,980 allowing \$417,638 instead of \$789,618.

CLEVELAND, May 13.—The Methodist conference opened today with Bishop Vincent in the chair. Resolutions were offered denouncing in the strongest terms the Armenian outrages and massacres and referring to the apathy of the Christian governments, Europe and America. It closed by calling on Congress to pass a joint resolution authorizing the President to enter into negotiations with the European governments directly interested, with a view of interfering and preventing further massacres. The resolution also provided that a copy of the resolution be sent to both houses of Congress. It was referred to the committee on the state of the church. The proposition