

and their bodies taken to the morgue. Hugo Howard, 15 months old, died after removal to the hospital. William Howard, five years old, was fatally burned and died at the hospital. Max Gumpert and Henry Serman are painfully burned. Bessie Howard cannot live until night. Her death will make the total of casualties five.

These horrors constitute the sum total aside from property damage which resulted from a gas line explosion in the upper rooms of 2341 Menard street, occupied by Gustave Mohr last night. The kitchen in the rear of the second story of 2341 Menard street was transformed into a roaring, fiery furnace in a flash. In this furnace were confined a helpless mother, her two babies and the 15 months old tot of a neighbor.

The mother perished in torturing agony.

Mrs. Mohr, in whose kitchen the explosion occurred, in order to make the fire in the cook stove burn faster poured gasoline over the wood. The blaze in the stove ignited the can of gasoline and an explosion followed.

The burning oil was thrown in all directions, enveloping Mrs. Mohr and the child. Mrs. Howard, who was also cooking supper in her house, heard the cries and running out on the porch caught sight of the flames. She darted into the burning kitchen and began groping for her boy. She was dragged from the room by Max Gumpert.

NEW YORK, May 22.—The Journal this morning says:

Silver bullion has just sold at 60 cents per ounce, the lowest point it has ever touched except for a short period in 1894, when it sold at 58 cents per ounce. The steady decline in silver is receiving considerable attention abroad.

Paris has been fairly flooded with South American dollars which have been sold on this side as low as two francs twenty-two centimes for the dollar. The price of silver in the Indian bazaar has fallen to seventy-six rupees, the lowest price on record. The exchange between London and Shanghai has also fallen to almost the lowest, and even at the low rate China does not absorb a large quantity of silver.

Dating from the declaration by Japan of its intention to abandon the use of silver as its standard coinage and go upon a gold basis, the price of the white metal has been steadily declining.

CHICAGO, May 22.—A special to the Times-Herald from Washington, D. C., says:

The state department has received, according to one of the minor officials, a semi-official report from Mr. Calhoun who was sent by the President to Havana to make a special inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the death of Dr. Ruiz in the Guanabacoa jail. The report is to the effect that Dr. Ruiz was murdered, though it will be impossible to establish this fact to the satisfaction of the Spanish government. Mr. Calhoun has read the report of the autopsy made by Dr. Burgess who says that the wounds in the head could not have been inflicted by Dr. Ruiz himself. Dr. Ruiz was evidently struck from behind, proba-

bly with a bar of iron, which fractured the skull and caused hemorrhages. The report of Mr. Calhoun, it is said, goes further and declares that the Spanish officials, instead of doing anything to assist investigation are placing every obstacle in the way and using every effort to so frighten the witnesses that it will be impossible to secure full testimony.

The result, Mr. Calhoun says, will be that the United States will form an entirely different conclusion from that which will be arrived at by the Spanish government. It is not likely that the official report of Mr. Calhoun will be received in Washington before the middle of next month.

WILLIAMS BAY, Wis., May 22.—The first glimpse of the starry heavens through the world's greatest lens was given to President Harper, of the Chicago university, and a party of representative Chicagoans at the Yerkes observatory. Prof. Hale and Prof. Barnard were the hosts. The visitors were shown the two motions of the telescope; the clock was set in motion, the lifting floor came up with a motion almost imperceptible, the great dome revolved and the telescope was turned on Jupiter. Director Hale then got the star in the field of the finder and President Harper was the first of the visitors to look at the planet through the Chicago university's great glass. Jupiter is 500,000,000 miles distant from the earth, roughly estimated, and the Yerkes telescope brings it to less than one million miles distant.

The night seemed an ideal one for observation. The sky was cloudless, but owing to the atmospheric disturbances of the day before and the fall in temperature, the seeing was pronounced by the astronomers only fair.

Prof. Barnard, captured by the Chicago University from the Lick observatory, declares that it is not possible to estimate what the telescope may do for science. It will take weeks and possibly months for the operators to successfully solve the problems which the atmosphere may present.

"We have a right to expect great results," he said. "This instrument collects 25 per cent more light than does the Lick. This means a great deal, since it allows us to penetrate one fourth farther into space. Were there no problems in the space between heaven and earth and the atmosphere was an invariable quantity it would be reasonable to give the imagination swing and tell about what we ought to be able to do with the telescope. We have been fortunate in working with the smaller telescope from this site and from this we are able to say that the Yerkes telescope is located at an especially ideal point.

"It is already assured, by reason of the excellence of seeing experienced here in the day time that something definite may be had about Venus and Mercury and the question of their rotation periods. We may possibly confirm either the short or long periods of rotation, as assigned to these planets by various observers.

"We can reasonably expect much clearer and new information about the moons of Jupiter, their physical condition and periods of rota-

tion. Saturn and his rings will be fruitful fields and we shall be disappointed unless we are able to bring down accurate knowledge of the surfaces of Uranus and Neptune.

"This telescope will show the world much that is new concerning the asteroids, the little worlds between Mars and Jupiter and the science of astronomy will be enriched by its exposures of many of the secrets of the double stars. We can promise more accurate measurements of the distances to the fixed stars. The moon will be better seen and the little valleys and hills on the desolate surface will be more numerous. It is too much to expect of any telescope yet built that it should reveal whether it ever bore life or what it is composed of. The moon looks as if it were seen at a distance of 200 miles with the naked eye.

Prof. Hale says that the preliminary work done makes it likely that much attention will be paid to solar work. His opinion is that the site is most conducive.

The atmosphere here is decidedly better for astronomical purposes than on Pikes Peak or Mount Etna, declared the professor.

"The most delicate observations of the sun will be possible and undoubtedly fruitful science. The lenses have already proven to be the best in existence for this branch of the work. The image of the sun at the focus of the instrument is seven inches in diameter."

PARIS, May 22.—Advice received today from Athens says the Greek minister for foreign affairs, M. Skouloudis, in conversation with several foreign envoys, declared that Greece cannot pay an indemnity to Turkey, nor agree to the rectification of the frontier.

LONDON, May 22.—A dispatch from Vienna says the Austrian cruiser, Kron Princess Stefanie, has been ordered from Salonica to Palermo, near Piræus (the port of Athens) to remain at the disposal of the royal family of Greece if required to convey them away from that country.

ATHENS, May 22.—The arrival of volunteers from America yesterday excited curiosity but no enthusiasm. They will join the army of Crown Prince Constantine.

The losses of the Greeks in Phourkos Pass were 800 killed and wounded. All irregulars have been disbanded.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, May 22.—A dispatch from Owensville, Ky., says a pitched battle took place last night between a mob of toll gate raiders and a sheriff's posse of twelve men. The latter were guarding the toll house when twenty-five mounted men heavily armed appeared and ordered the keeper to open the gate down. The sheriff ordered them to surrender. After several volleys were exchanged the mob withdrew. The posse found David Johnson mortally wounded. It is reported that Charles Jones was seriously hurt.

NEW YORK, May 22.—Richard M. Scruggs, the St. Louis millionaire, and E. G. Laughorne of the same city, were arrested by the custom inspectors as they stepped off the steamer St. Paul from Southampton today. Warning had evidently been telegraphed when they left Southampton. The