

ST. LOUIS STRICKEN.

Fearful Destruction of Life and Property by a Tornado.

At Least Four Hundred Killed and Many Hundreds Injured—Vessels Wrecked and Millions of Dollars' Worth of Property Destroyed.

St. Louis, May 28.—When the sun rose on St. Louis and vicinity this morning it showed a scene of terrible ruin and disaster, wind, rain and fire having combined in a mission of destruction. At least 200 lives were lost in this city and as many more in East St. Louis, while thousands were injured, many so severely that they cannot recover. The exact number of dead and injured will, however, not be known for many days for the debris of ruined buildings undoubtedly covers scores of people. The damage and destruction of property will aggregate many millions of dollars, but the exact amount cannot be estimated with any degree of certainty.

The tornado, which caused this destruction, struck the city yesterday afternoon at 5:15 o'clock and soon swept to East St. Louis. The greatest damage on this side of the river was inflicted within a three mile strip along the Mississippi. Many buildings were totally wrecked by the force of the wind and others were unroofed, while very few escaped some injury. Signs and cornices were torn off, shade trees and everything else suffered.

Health Commissioner Starkloff, two hours after the tornado had passed, feared that the dead would reach 200 and that not fewer than 1,000 persons had sustained serious injuries. By midnight reporters of the Associated Press had visited all of the stricken portions of the city and suburbs and Dr. Starkloff's estimates were fully confirmed. The dead were found in all parts of the devastated section, while crushed beneath falling walls, hurled against the sides of buildings, struck by flying timbers, cut by the shattered glass, shocked by the network of down wires, humanity suffered in ways innumerable and the names of all the injured will never be known. Enough were recorded at the dispensaries last night to show how widespread were the tornado's effects.

In the flashes of lightning last night the city hospital looked like a ruin. The new surgical ward was partially demolished. Portions of the other buildings were unroofed. Walls were cracked. Even in the darkness the physicians began the removal of patients to temporary quarters, fearful that the strained structure would go down in a general collapse.

The city hall and the Four Courts were in the path of the cloud as it passed from the city hospital toward the river, and both were damaged. Part of the jail wall was demolished. Convention hall lost a part of the roof on the eastern end and the east end was punctured in several places by flying missiles, and sustained some derangement of the interior. Ten days' work and the expenditure of \$5,000 will make the hall good again.

In the district between Sixth street and the river northward from Chouteau avenue, the tornado tore a diagonal path. The district comprises business houses, many of them of the older type. Every building within the path sustained damage. Smokestacks and chimneys were topped over, walls were leveled and roofs were lifted. Thousands of windows were broken and miles of telegraph and telephone wires were left in a network on the ground. Through this district the streets are impassable.

No words can do justice to the horrors of the scene at Seventh and Rutgers streets. In one wreck alone it is known that more than 20 bodies are still buried. Five mangled forms were uncovered and removed just before midnight.

Of all the crafts that lined the river for miles, but one remains to tell the story of the disaster. After the tornado had passed it left a scene of desolation where ten minutes before steamers had rocked quietly at the docks, some just arriving and discharging their passengers; others preparing for departure. Trucks and baggage had been tossed hither and thither, most of it into the river; plows and agricultural implements had been distributed up and down the levee as far as could be seen, and the whole appearance was that of waste and wreck.

The death dealing cloud crossed the river at such an angle as to strike and wreck the upper works at the east end of the Eads bridge and to sweep a part of East St. Louis. In comparison to its size the fatalities and losses in East St. Louis greatly exceed those on this side of the river. The larger part of the central portion of the city is razed to the ground, while on the flats along the river back to the north of the Eads bridge not a house is left standing.

Fire added much to the loss account. Down wires, wild currents of electricity, crushed buildings, all contributed to this element of destruction. The alarm system was paralyzed. Fire hydrants were blocked. A \$200,000 conflagration on the St. Louis side was supplemented by a dozen lesser fires. In East St. Louis a mill was burned and two other considerable losses were sustained. To the enormous total fires added at least \$500,000. Such another night of horror may St. Louis never know.

THE ST. LOUIS HORROR.

Later Reports Fully Confirm the Terrors of the Storm—Searching for the Dead—Getting at the Facts.

St. Louis, May 29.—When darkness temporarily interrupted the search for storm victims last night, 315 people were known to be dead on both sides of the river, and although the complete death list will never be known, it is believed that it will approximate 400 in the two cities. The number of the injured is even larger and many of the maimed cannot survive. The property loss will reach well into the millions, but insurance people, firemen and police alike refuse to hazard even a guess at accurate figures. The miles of wrecked buildings, as yet unexplored, and the numerous collapsed factories, toward the investigation of which little has been made, may hide almost any number of bodies, as the police have been unable to secure anything like an accurate list of the missing.

In the factory districts many of the employes on duty at the time the storm broke were without relatives in the city, and their disappearance would scarcely be noted, even though they be buried in the rains. It is believed by the police, too, that, owing to the suddenness with which the crash came, many tramps and homeless ones sought shelter among the buildings which were leveled, and that nothing will be known of their death until perhaps weeks hence their bodies are found. The list of known dead in St. Louis is 169 and in East St. Louis 146.

Hundreds of homes are in ruins, dozens of manufacturing plants and dozens of business houses are wrecks, many steamboats are gone to the bottom of the river and others are dismantled. Railroads of all kinds have suffered great loss and wire and pole-using companies have weeks of toil and large expenditures of money to face before they will be in satisfactory shape again. The most furious work of the storm was along Rutgers street, Lafayette and Chouteau avenues and the contiguous thoroughfares east of Jefferson avenue. The houses are in the streets, with the roofs underneath, buried by brick and mortar. Under the brick and mortar are household goods of every description, and on top of all are uprooted trees and tangled masses of wires. There is not a tree nor a building standing in Lafayette park. The wreck of the city hospital is so surrounded by wreckage that it is barely possible to reach it. Many of the handsome residences on Fourteenth street and about Lafayette park are ruined, but the most damage was done on Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and Ninth and south along Chouteau avenue, in the tenement house district. Many churches also suffered from the storm. The path of the storm is about a half mile wide and over four miles long, sweeping through the thickly populated southwest portion of Eastland and across the river into East St. Louis.

Col. Wetmore, manager of the Liggett & Myers tobacco plant, which was wrecked, estimates the entire property damage at \$25,000,000, which will be, he says, almost a total loss, owing to the lack of cyclone insurance. Other estimates range from \$15,000,000 to \$30,000,000, but the majority of them are close to that made by Col. Wetmore.

The following official statement has been furnished the Associated Press: "The convention auditorium was practically uninjured by the great storm, the only damage being that some of the light roof covering on the southeast corner of the building was blown off. The damage can all be repaired in a very few days. There is not the slightest doubt but that the building will be perfectly restored and in first-class condition long before the day the convention is to meet."

ACROSS THE RIVER.
 EAST ST. LOUIS, May 29.—This city is in ruins. The tornado which swept down upon the city Wednesday night obliterated block after block of business houses and dwellings, and left behind in its red trail of death scores of human beings buried beneath the walls of flattened buildings or crushed to death in the streets by the flying debris. The improvised morgues and hospitals are fairly choked with dead, some crushed and battered out of all human shape, and through them flow a steady stream of hysterical women and grimaced men looking for their missing ones. It is almost impossible to make accurate estimates of those killed. At the various morgues and at St. Mary's hospital there are 56. Six are in the Big Four freight house ruins. How many more there are scattered about the city in private houses it is impossible to tell, but a conservative estimate would place the total number at at least 150. The scene is simply appalling. From the river bank to the National stock yards, a distance of over a mile, scarcely a building is left standing. The greatest slaughter was done on the island, so called. Here were located the Vandalla freight house, and general office. Of the river boats' warehouse and humble abodes of workmen nothing is left standing. The place where formerly houses and freight depot were standing were literally swept by the fury of the storm.

An appeal for aid has been made by the East St. Louis relief committee, who state that it is safe to say that 6,000 families are rendered homeless. Mr. Paul W. Abt, president of the First national bank of the city, will receive all contributions sent.

DEATHS OUTSIDE ST. LOUIS.

List of Fatalities at Illinois and Missouri towns—New Baden Demolished.

CENTRALIA, Ill., May 29.—Southern Illinois was the scene of destructive tornadoes Wednesday evening. The first did much damage at East St. Louis and vicinity. The second, although no less terrific in force, fortunately spent itself in a district less densely populated. The latter storm came from the northwest, striking the village of New Baden, 20 miles west of this city. Only five buildings were left standing and the list of killed is reported all the way from 18 to 33. The storm covered a strip about a mile wide and swept everything in its path. Ernest Brink, who lives six miles southwest of here, and three members of his family, were badly injured. Their home was destroyed. Near by, a man and two children, strangers, were killed. Near Irvington, Robert Foster was killed in his bed and his wife barely escaped death. The damage to fruit and outbuildings is very heavy.

A tornado struck the southern portion of Mount Vernon, Ill., at 10 o'clock Wednesday night, wrecking 19 buildings, numerous outhouses, trees, etc. Mrs. Margaret Carroll, Robert Foster and three children and their aunt were killed near Jefferson City, this county. A son of Mrs. Carroll was also killed. Ten people were injured nine miles northeast of here, and Miss Minnie Hoyt was struck by lightning in her house, but a brother within two feet was uninjured. At least 50 houses were destroyed in different parts of the county and in some portions the crops are totally ruined.

At the following places it was reported that the number killed were: At Breckenridge, Ill., two; at Jefferson City, Ill., six; at Dye, Ill., four; at Mascoutah, Ill., five; in Audrain county, Mo., five; at High Hill, Mo., one; at Washington, one.

SEVEN YEARS' RECORD.

Tornadoes Are as Frequent in the East as in the West.

ST. LOUIS, May 29.—In a record of tornadoes kept for seven years by the weather bureau it appears that the United States suffered from an average of 60 a year. In the course of seven years the funnel shaped cloud was seen in 30 different states. This is contrary to the impression which many have that the west suffers from a tornado monopoly. In the seven years New York state averaged two tornadoes a year and so did New England. Kansas and Illinois, at first glance, seemed to be the champion tornado state by this record, with Missouri a close third. Kansas and Illinois had an average of nearly seven tornadoes a year for the seven years the record was kept, while Missouri had five. But when differences in area was taken into consideration and the percentage of tornado clouds to each 10,000 square miles of territory was worked out, it did not appear that Kansas, Illinois and Missouri were entitled to so much reputation as breeders of these peculiar storms. During the seven years the percentage of tornadoes to area placed Massachusetts and Illinois side by side at the top of the list. Indiana in the frequency of tornadoes led Kansas. Georgia, Iowa, Missouri, New Jersey and Ohio were close behind Kansas in their percentages.

ARMOUR TROUBLES ENDED.

The Boycott on the Company's Product Officially Declared Off.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 29.—The grievance committee of the industrial council held a conference with Superintendent G. W. Tourtellot at the Armour Packing Co.'s office this morning. When the conference was over it was announced that the boycott on the Armour company's products had been officially lifted and the fight was practically at an end. The Armour company assured the members of the committee that every man who had been discharged would be put to work. It was stated that of 192 Anchor Federal union men who had not been reinstated Monday, 70 had since been taken back and there were only 128 out.

FOUND WATERY GRAVES.

Schooner Lincoln, with 30 on Board, Thought to Be Lost.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 29.—The schooner Albion brings news of the probable loss of the schooner Lincoln in Alaskan waters. The Lincoln had on board about 30 persons, all of whom have undoubtedly lost their lives. Most of the passengers were gold seekers.

Death from a Man's Bite.

YANKTON, S. D., May 28.—Commodore Coulson died yesterday from the effects of a man's bite. In a personal encounter on the street Dr. Coney got Coulson's finger in his mouth and bit it to the bone and blood poisoning followed. Commodore Coulson was a retired steamboat owner, and had accumulated a fortune transporting government supplies on the upper Missouri river. His assailant is under arrest for mayhem, but will be prosecuted for manslaughter.

Pennsylvania Town Visited.

LANCASTER, Pa., May 29.—A tornado struck Columbia about ten miles from here this afternoon. The mill of the Columbia Rolling Mill Co. was blown down and thus far 15 men have been taken out, one being fatally hurt. A number of others are in the ruins. John Hughes, engineer at the electric light station, was instantly killed.

ST. LOUIS LOSSES.

Bodies Still Being Found and the Death List Increased—Property Losses.

ST. LOUIS, May 31.—There still exists about as much uncertainty as to the actual number of people killed and the amount of property damage as on the first morning of the disaster. Scores of dead have been identified, but no one is willing to venture a guess as to how many bodies may be in the ruins of the hundreds of buildings as yet unexplored. The total number of dead in St. Louis, identified up to the present, is 162, and in East St. Louis, 127. In St. Louis there are 22 bodies still unidentified, and in East St. Louis two. It is believed that the deaths of the injured and the future recovery of bodies will bring the St. Louis death list well up to 200. In East St. Louis the city officials declared that they have hope that the death roll on that side of the river will not exceed 150, but the ruins upon which the rescuers have not yet begun work may swell the total far beyond that figure.

The estimates upon the property loss have grown wilder and further apart. Guesses were made yesterday all the way from \$2,000,000 to \$50,000,000 for St. Louis, and from \$1,500,000 to \$20,000,000 for East St. Louis. The most popular estimate is in the neighborhood of \$25,000,000 for both cities, including railroad buildings damaged.

Although thousands of men have been at work night and day clearing away the wreckage in the path of the tornado, they have scarcely made a perceptible impression toward restoring the chaotic confusion to anything like order. Passageways have been made through some of the principal thoroughfares, it is true, but for the most part the streets are still choked with the battered remains of homes and factories, hospitals and churches. The number of families left homeless by the devastation along the path of the storm will reach up into the thousands. In many instances these unfortunates have lost all their worldly possessions. Many will for days be dependent on charity and their more fortunate neighbors for shelter.

Two companies of the Illinois state militia from Greenville and Belleville, Ill., in all about 100 men, patrolled the levee district of East St. Louis all day. Dead lines were established, and no one was allowed to pass without a permit. The effect of these stringent measures was soon seen in the greatly decreased number of people in the devastated district. Over 60 suspects have already been arrested and were sent out of town or locked up.

THE REPUBLIC'S SUMMARY.

ST. LOUIS, May 31.—The situation in St. Louis at present, as viewed from the Republic's standpoint, is as follows:

St. Louis—Identified dead, 136; unknown dead, 18; missing, 33; fatally injured, 19; seriously injured in hospitals, 40; estimated outside of hospitals, 1,000; property loss, estimated, \$20,000,000.
 East St. Louis—Identified dead, 110; unknown dead, 6; dying, 6; missing, 10; seriously injured in hospitals, 200; estimated injured outside of hospitals, 2,000; property loss, estimated, \$5,000,000.

DEAD AT BOWLING GREEN.

Several Persons Were Killed and a Number Seriously Injured.

BOWLING GREEN, Mo., June 1.—For the first time since the storm the Western Union wires are now working. This town suffered great loss of property and injury to man and beast. Two miles west of Bowling Green residences and barns were blown to atoms, houses were picked up with their contents and occupants and carried over tree tops and set down again, in one instance without injury to the family. In a strip of country a mile wide and extending from here to Curryville, eight miles, almost every house is damaged and many are utterly demolished. At Curryville not a single house escaped damage. The residence of J. W. Alvis was crushed like an egg-shell, and Mrs. Rebecca Reed instantly killed. Jack Emerson and Henry Cash and wife were injured. The damage to property will aggregate many thousands of dollars. Four miles west of here Mrs. Carrie Bradbury had her ribs crushed and sustained internal injuries. Louis James' boy had both arms broken and Joe Smith's boy had his scalp taken off and will die.

KATE FIELD DEAD.

The Special Correspondent of the Chicago Times-Herald Succumbs to Pneumonia.

CHICAGO, June 1.—W. H. Kohlsaat has received a cable message dated Yokohama and signed by Lorin A. Thurston, ex-minister to the United States from the Sandwich islands, which said: "Kate Field died at Honolulu May 19 of pneumonia." Miss Field was in the Sandwich islands as the special correspondent of the Times-Herald, and the last heard from her was a letter dated May 4, in which she informed Mr. Kohlsaat that she had been doing a great deal of horseback riding, and that the exercise in the open air had completely restored her health, which before she went to the islands had been badly shattered.

Indian Territory.

WASHINGTON, May 31.—The eight national banks of Indian territory have aggregate reserves of \$1,334,371, as shown by an abstract of reports to the comptroller of the currency. Their total loans and discounts are \$339,193 and the total reserve is \$93,151, of which \$32,882 is in gold coin, with nearly as much silver coin.

FOURTEEN LOST.

Ferryboat Caught in a Hurricane at Cairo, Ill., and the Passengers Drowned.

CAIRO, Ill., May 27.—The steamer Katherine, used as a ferry boat, was caught at the mouth of the Ohio river by a sudden hurricane at 8:30 o'clock yesterday morning and capsized, and all on board, except the captain, engineer and clerk, were drowned. The dead, as far as can be learned, number 14, among them Capt. Rittenhouse, superintendent of the Cairo City Ferry Co.; Dr. Orr's two daughters, Mr. and Miss Stanley, of Wickliffe; Mrs. William Shannon and baby, of Bird's Point, Mo.; Mrs. Mary Jones, of Jackson, Tenn.; Richard Thurman, of Wickliffe, and Charles Gilhoffer, a merchant of this city. Only three bodies—those of Thurman, Miss Orr and a deck hand—have been recovered.

The opera house and Union depot were unroofed, a number of trees destroyed and signs blown down, but no houses were destroyed or lives lost in the city. Five miles of telegraph poles were blown down on the Mobile & Ohio railway. It is impossible to tell the extent of the damage south of here, but it is believed to be very great. The storm came up very suddenly from the northwest, just as the ferry boat had started from Cairo and while it was still in the Ohio river near the Illinois shore. The rain was very heavy and the people were all in the cabin with the door shut. The boat turned over when the squall first struck it. The captain and the clerk were at the pilot wheel and were thrown out of the pilot house into the water and the boat turned over on them. They happened to be so far away that they caught the guard and pulled out from beneath her. Of those in the cabin only Dr. Orr and Joseph Curry got out.

At Bird's Point, Mo., a church and ten other buildings were partly wrecked.

WORK OF DEATH.

The Cyclone Victims in Michigan Number 44, and There May Be Others.

DETROIT, Mich., May 27.—Full reports of the cyclone which swept over Michigan have not yet been received. First reports of the disaster were overdrawn, but 44 persons are known to have been killed and nearly as many more have received injuries which may prove fatal. From reports that continue to come in from adjacent points the full force of the fierce wind that swept Oakland county is beginning to be appreciated. Everywhere is devastation. Villages that were Monday the homes of contented citizens are today desolate sites, and maimed and bruised fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters mourn for those who met death in the twisting, grinding, resistless wind.

The death roll in the vicinity of Oxford may run up to the hundred mark, for many homes that were on the edge of the cyclone suffered from its fury. At Oakwood, a hamlet a few miles from Oxford, having a population of about 200, not a house is left standing. The path of the storm was between half and three-fourths of a mile wide, and it extended in a nearly straight course eastward for a distance of over 30 miles. A remarkable circumstance is that the buildings in close proximity to each other were blown in opposite directions, some being swept northward and others southward.

WENT INTO THE RIVER.

Awful Accident to a Loaded Tram Car at Victoria, B. C.

VICTORIA, B. C., May 27.—The Point Ellice bridge over Victoria arm collapsed yesterday afternoon precipitating a tram car heavily loaded with human freight into the water 100 feet below. All the passengers in the car, probably 50, were drowned. A sham fight and review was to take place at Macculey Point, near Esquimalt, in the afternoon and crowds were making their way by every route. All the tram cars were packed. Two cars left Government street with more than 100 people. The first got over Point Ellice bridge, which crosses Victoria arm, safely, but when the other was about half way over the middle span of the bridge, about 150 feet in length, gave way and the car plunged into the water some 100 feet below. The car was completely submerged and all on board were drowned, with the exception of some of those who were standing on the platforms, and who, escaping injury from the falling timbers, managed to save themselves by using the floating ruins of the bridge and thus got ashore. Numbers of the bodies have already been recovered, and the work of identification is proceeding, but it is a difficult matter as a great many of the bodies are those of visitors.

FIGHT WITH CIRCUS MEN.

Five Reported Killed and Several Mortally Wounded in an Indiana Village.

VINCENNES, Ind., May 27.—At Fort Branch, a small village south of here, last night a circus steamboat landed. Liquor was sold on the vessel and all were drunk and disorderly. The sale was ordered stopped, but little attention was paid to the orders of the town marshal. A posse of citizens was deputized and marched to where the boat was moored and made an attempt to arrest the circus men. A prolonged fight ensued, in which it is reported that several were mortally wounded and five killed.