

400 DEAD. THOUSANDS INJURED IN ST. LOUIS TORNADO.

MILLIONS ARE LOST

Hundreds of People Believed to Be Still Buried in the Ruins—The Storm Wrecked Buildings of All Kinds, Especially Along the River Front—Many Vessels Are Wrecked.

St. Louis, Mo., May 29.—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.

200 DEAD—THOUSANDS INJURED. Health Commissioner Starkloff, two hours after the tornado passed, feared that the dead would reach 200 and that not fewer than 1,000 persons had sustained serious injuries. By midnight reporters 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.

Of the destruction of property there can be no satisfactory estimate given. The loss in extent and in character is beyond conception.

In South St. Louis the storm spent its force. All the way from Papin street to Carondelet it put a stamp on the face of the city that will not be effaced for years. Big, strong buildings fell before the wind like houses made of cards. From where it entered the city, out in the southwestern suburbs, to where it left it, somewhere near the Eads bridge, there is a wide path of ruins. Factory after factory went down, and piles of bricks and timbers mark the spots on which they stood. Dwellings were picked up and thrown in every direction. Business houses were flattened. There was no chance for the escape of the occupants. The ruins covered bruised and mangled bodies that will not be uncovered until a systematic search is made. Hundreds of families in South St. Louis are homeless, practically, and the temporary hospitals shelter scores and hundreds.

THE COURSE OF THE STORM. The tornado proper was preceded by a severe blow from the east. Strong and steadily the wind came and then it swelled to a hurricane and there were three distinct attacks which tore off roofs and commenced the general destruction which followed. When this wind met one which was coming from the southwest the tornado was born, and, returning, began its work of destruction. It struck St. Louis on the southwest at a point just north of Tower Grove park and ran in a northeasterly direction until it reached Grand avenue. From there it followed Mill creek valley clear to the river, veering slightly to the north when it reached Tenth street.

At the levee it swung around almost at a right angle, and swept straight up the river to beyond Venice and Madison, where it veered to the east again.

Judging from the reports of the greatest damage done the path of the storm was on an average of ten or twelve blocks in width.

The worst damage was done in a path about six blocks wide, extending eastward from Grand avenue to Tenth street. From Lafayette avenue on the south to the railroad tracks on the north, about every other block the wind seemed to reach out and crush a few buildings and unroof a few residences outside of its main path.

Every wire along Chouteau avenue from Grand avenue east to Tenth street was down and the poles, and their heavy weight of cables were scattered along the streets.

All assets from Park avenue to Chouteau were in a similar condition. None of them were passable with a difficult and dangerous experiment.

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. Approaches were blocked. A \$800,000 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 CITY HOSPITAL'S DAMAGE. In the flashes of lightning the city hospital looked like a ruin. The new surgical ward was partly 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. There were 450 sick people in the hospital when the storm came. Some gathered strength in their fright and ran shrieking from the place, finding shelter on the outside. Thirteen were injured in one ward.

The city hall and 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.

SCORES OF BUILDINGS WRECKED. 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 toppled 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. They are covered in places with debris ten feet deep.

THE EAST ST. LOUIS HAVOC.

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 bank to the north of the Eads bridge not a house is left standing. In the latter portion the loss of life is terrible. Scarcely a family seems to have escaped without some member being killed, while in many instances whole households were wiped out of existence. The Catholic church of St. John of Nepomuk, at the corner of Twelfth and Souldard streets, was destroyed, except the front, which stands like a tower, all sides and back walls being completely destroyed.

ON THE RIVER FRONT.

Only One Boat Escaped Danger—Scores of Lives Undoubtedly Lost.

St. Louis, May 29.—The tornado vented its greatest fury along the river front, and the levee for miles up and down was devastated and laid waste. Great steamers were torn from their moorings at the first blast and were driven down the river for miles.

Of all the craft that lined the river for miles, but one remains to tell the story of the disaster. It hung steadily to its moorings throughout.

When the tornado struck the river the light of day vanished in a moment, and those at work on the levee could barely discern the forms of the steamers as, one after another, they pitched and tossed and finally, with a crash, were blown into the dark waters and disappeared.

The steamer J. J. Odell of the Illinois River packet line, was blown out from its wharf at the foot of Morgan street, crashed into the second pillar of the Eads bridge and sank. Her boilers blew up before she disappeared. She had a crew of twelve, and three women passengers, besides her captain, George Townsend, an old river man. Three of her crew, Jack Morrissey, Pat Milan and a man by the name of Moore, reached land in safety. The two former jumped before the explosion and caught driftwood. Moore was blown overboard by the explosion and was cut about the head, but managed to swim to the shore. Three others of the crew clung to the pier and made their way up to the bridge proper.

There is no way of estimating the number of lives that were lost on the river craft that happened to be near when the tornado came. Hundreds of barges were moored all along the river bank. In some instances as many as ten or twelve persons were on board when the anchorage gave way under the terrible strain. Men were blown into the water and the destruction of life will be large.

The storms swept diagonally across the river and struck the Illinois bank with increased fury. The loss of life in the water on the east side seems to be light, as everybody was cautioned not to jump, and everybody was carried safely to land.

The City of Providence was blown up on the Illinois bank. The St. Louis and St. Paul Packet Company's steamer St. Paul had started for Keokuk when the tornado struck the city. She has not been heard from since. She had a full cabin list. The Belle of Calhoun and the Libbie Condor, which were moored near Chouteau avenue, were almost totally broken up. The Ellen G. Smith, the harbor boat, was blown away down the river and was wrecked near Arsenal Island. It is thought no lives were lost on this boat.

The steamer Ed Harvester of the Missouri Valley Transportation Company was torn from its dock and carried down the river.

NATIONAL AID PROVIDED.

Both Houses of Congress Pass a Relief Resolution—Prompt Action Taken.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—Almost the sole topic of conversation among the members of the House to-day was the St. Louis tornado. Men stood about in groups and discussed the details. The St. Louis members, Messrs. Cobb, Bartholdt, and Joy, and Murphy of Illinois, who lives in East St. Louis, were almost frantic with anxiety. They had no news of their families,

except such as came through the Associated Press dispatches. In the death list they recognized many whom they knew. Mr. Bartholdt, whose family lives within a block of Concordia hall in South St. Louis, was especially solicitous for news from his family. Captain Couder, in his invocation, referred feelingly to the sorrow and suffering in the grief stricken district.

As soon as the journal had been read Mr. Bartholdt of Missouri asked unanimous consent for the consideration of a resolution prepared by Mr. Joy, directing the Secretary of War to place at the disposal of the mayors of St. Louis and East St. Louis a sufficient number of tents to afford temporary relief to the homeless in those cities, and to give such other relief as might be proper, etc. He explained that his colleague, Mr. Hubbard, had called on the Secretary of War this morning and had been informed that if Congress would give the authority, eight or ten boats now near St. Louis in the Mississippi river for improvement could be sent to the city to render assistance and relief.

The resolution was unanimously adopted. The Joy resolution was at once sent to the Senate, where unanimous consent was given to consider it. Senator Vest expressed his dissent to the resolution, saying the people of Missouri and St. Louis were able to take care of the people and that later reports had shown that the first accounts of the terrible calamity had been exaggerated. He said it would do no harm to pass the resolution, however. Senator Callom expressed the opinion that the States could take care of the people. The resolution was changed from concurrent to joint and passed.

In his prayer opening the Senate the Rev. Dr. Milburn, the blind chaplain, referred to the St. Louis storm, praying: "Oh, God, we stand aghast at the awful tokens of Thy power and majesty. The earth is shaken and trembles and the foundations of the hills are shaken." Divine mercy was invoked for the stricken city of St. Louis, succor for the maimed and afflicted, strength and aid to those ministering relief, and protection from another visitation of Divine wrath.

The War department was disposed to do all in its power to aid the stricken localities, but being without any official reports of the disaster, owing perhaps to the absorption of all telegraphic facilities by the press, it was at a loss to know what was necessary to be done. However, to show its disposition to act in the matter without delay, the following telegram was prepared by Assistant Secretary Doe and sent to the three representatives of the engineer corps nearest to the scene of the disaster: "W. Ring at Rock Island, Assistant Engineer S. H. Young at Osage City, and S. W. Fox at Chamolis: 'In the matter of the recent destructive storm at St. Louis and other places, the assistant secretary of war directs that all possible aid be given by the use of any available government boats.'"

None of these boats are at St. Louis just now.

EADS BRIDGE DAMAGED.

The Eastern Part of the Great Structure Collapses—A Train's Experience.

St. Louis, May 29.—A train had left St. Louis just before the storm broke, and Engineer Scott had only proceeded a short distance when he realized the danger. The wind struck the coaches, at first causing them to careen. At that time he was about half way across the Eads bridge. Overhead the poles were snapping and tumbling into the river, while large stones were shifting to and fro from their foundations and plunging into the water.

Realizing that any moment his train might be blown into the water or else the bridge be blown away, Scott put on a full head of steam in an effort to make the east side shore. The train had scarcely proceeded 200 feet and about the same distance from the shore when an upper span of the bridge was blown away. Tons of huge granite blocks tumbled to the tracks, where the train loaded with passengers had been but a moment before.

At about the same instant the wind struck the train, upsetting all the cars like playthings. Luckily no one was killed, but several were taken out severely injured.

The wrecked part of the bridge is just east of the big tower near the Illinois shore and extends east for about 300 feet. The entire upper portion, traversed by street cars and carriages, was carried away, while the trucks beneath were buried in the debris, in some places eight feet deep.

20 DEAD AT ONE PLACE.

Fred Hanchelmer's Tenement Razed—The Inmates All Probably Dead.

St. Louis, May 29.—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 twenty bodies are still buried. Five mangled forms were uncovered and removed just before midnight.

Fred Hanchelmer kept a saloon on the southeast corner of Seventh and Rutgers, a three-story brick building fitted up overhead as a tenement house, and no less than eighteen families called it "home." A few minutes after the tornado struck the structure it was a mere pile of bricks, woodwork and plastering and beneath it an unknown number of men, women and children met death.

Hanchelmer's wife and not less than twenty people—probably many more—are known to be pinned under the ruined tenement.

A TERRIBLE RECORD.

Nearly 700 People Killed in Tornadoes Since April 12.

This year will stand as a record breaker for tornadoes and great loss of life. Within the last thirteen days there have been storms which have caused the loss of 650 people and the injury of probably twice as many more.

The first of the three big tornadoes was at and from Sherman, Texas. Eighty-five persons were killed within Sherman and fully 125 injured; while thirty-five persons lost their lives in

towns southwest of Sherman and several hundred received injuries. Two days later—May 17—Northwestern Kansas was visited by a terrible "twister." The total loss of life was near thirty, with scores of injured. May 23 occurred the storm in Michigan, Illinois and Iowa, in which 100 souls perished either by the wind or by drowning in floods. Last night occurred the storm in St. Louis, by which 400 people perished, making the awful total of 660 actual dead since April 12.

EAST ST. LOUIS' LOSSES.

Probably 200 Dead—Many Buildings in Ruins.

St. Louis, Mo., May 29.—At East St. Louis houses, factories and workshops along Front street were cut to the ground and many other structures wrecked.

How many lives were snuffed out under the wrecks it will take time to find out. Two hundred is thought to be a conservative estimate of the number of the dead. The three-story frame hotel of William Wicker, in which there were fifteen or twenty people, went down with a crash.

Among the buildings destroyed were the city hall, the police station, the Tremont house, the Baltimore and Ohio and Vandallia railroad round houses. Every freight house on the island, the Wiggins Ferry Company's warehouse, the Standard Oil works, the Griggins hotel, the Workman's bank and Harris' cooper shop.

A TRAIN OVERTURNED.

Six Coaches Struck by the Tornado, But Only One Man Killed.

St. Louis, Mo., May 29.—As train No. 68 of the Merchants' Terminal pulled out of Granite City, Ill., at 6:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon it was struck by the second division of the hurricane and was carried from the track and six coaches, containing 340 passengers, were overturned.

The train is known as the "work train" and carries employes to and from their work at the Niedringhaus rolling mills and Stamping works at Granite City.

IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY.

Much Damage Done at Clayton—Many Lives Were Lost.

St. Louis, Mo., May 29.—The storm did not vent all its fury in St. Louis. After working its destruction in South St. Louis it moved into the country, leaving another trail of ruin in its wake. It is impossible to get the full list of killed and injured.

At Clayton a new Presbyterian church was leveled to the ground and another wrecked. Part of the court house at Clayton was also torn down. Houses were unroofed or totally destroyed in the path of the storm.

AUDRAIN COUNTY, MO.

Seven People Killed and Many Injured—No School House Disaster.

MEXICO, Mo., May 29.—A tornado visited this section yesterday afternoon, sweeping through the country. Seven people were killed and twenty-five injured. Houses, barns and other buildings were wrecked.

It was reported that at Rush Hill, twelve miles from here, a school house, crowded with children, was torn to pieces and fifty children killed, but this, fortunately, has proved unfounded.

The Auditorium Will Be Fixed.

St. Louis, Mo., May 29.—J. A. Gorman, the contractor who has the contract for the decorating of the convention hall, said: "From my acquaintance with Architect Isaac Taylor, who is in charge of the building, and the contractor who did the building work, I am positive that the Auditorium will be repaired and ready for the convention on the 16th. As far as the work of decorating is concerned, I will have it ready on time, and I will ship a car load of decorations from Chicago to-morrow night to replace those damaged by the storm."

A Missouri Town Inundated.

LEBANON, Mo., May 29.—News reached here last night from Linn Creek, the county seat of Camden county, that the Osage river is all over the city and the people were compelled to take to the hills. This is the second time this year Linn Creek has been inundated.

REVOLUTION IN CRETE.

Foreign Consuls Forced to Go on a Warship—Thousands in Arms.

LONDON, May 29.—A dispatch from Cannes, in the Island of Crete, to the Times, says: "All of the foreign consuls here boarded the British warship Hood, on her arrival. The foreign consulates in the town are crowded with refugees. The cannonading has been heard in the direction of Kalybes, whither a force was dispatched to relieve the Vamos garrison, and which encountered the insurgents."

Horses and Cattle Drowned.

BALDWIN, Mo., May 29.—Torrents of rain, accompanied by hail, poured down three hours without abatement, turning the small creeks into rivers, the water furiously taking along everything within its reach. Horses and cattle drowned are continually coming down. Several houses and barns were blown down. No lives were lost, as yet reported, but several people were hurt.

Hail as Big as One's Fist.

WICHITA, Kan., May 29.—At Kingfisher hall stones were five inches in circumference and demolished all the windows of every building that had a south front. What seemed to have been a terrible cyclone was seen eight miles west and it is feared at Kingfisher that immense injury has been done to people and property. No details have yet arrived.

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J. FRANCIS, Gen'l Pass. Agent, Omaha, Neb.

JAS. W. CARR,

Attorney, 313 Board of Trade Building. SPECIAL MASTER COMMISSIONER'S Sale.—Under and by virtue of an order of sale on decree of foreclosure of mortgage issued out of the District Court for Douglas county, state of Nebraska, and to me directed, I will, on the 30th day of June, A. D. 1895, at one o'clock P. M. of said day, at the north front door of the county court house, in the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, sell at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said order of sale as follows, to-wit: The north thirty-two (32) feet of lot one (1), block "E", in Prospect Place, an addition to the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, as surveyed, platted and recorded. Said property to be sold to satisfy William C. Lodge, plaintiff herein, the sum of three hundred and forty-two and 74/100 dollars (\$342.74), and also the further sum of fifty and 75/100 dollars (\$50.75), with interest thereon at the rate of ten (10) per cent per annum from the 16th day of July, 1895.

To satisfy Henry T. Clark, Receiver of the Union Trust Company, defendant herein, the sum of sixteen and 37/100 dollars (\$16.37), with interest at the rate of ten (10) per cent per annum from September 30th, 1895.

To satisfy the City of O'Neil, defendant herein, the sum of two thousand and eight and 18/100 dollars (\$2,008.18), with interest at the rate of seven (7) per cent per annum from September 15th, 1895. Also to satisfy the further sum of twenty-nine and 33/100 dollars (\$29.33), together with accruing costs, according to a judgment rendered by the district court of said Douglas county, at its September term, A. D. 1895, in certain action then and there pending, wherein William C. Lodge is plaintiff, and John J. McCaffery, Mary A. McCaffery, Patrick Hughes, City of O'Neil, Henry T. Clark, Receiver of the Union Trust Company, Mrs. Patrick S. Hughes (first name unknown), John J. Woolley, O. W. Hart, J. W. Dodd and W. S. Heaton, are defendants.

Omaha, Nebraska, May 29th, A. D. 1895. W. M. TEN EVYCK, Special Master Commissioner. Jas. W. Carr attorney. Lodge vs. McCaffery, et al. Doc. 52; No. 149. 5-29-5

SAUNDERS & MACFARLAND,

Attorneys, 164 Farnam Street. SPECIAL MASTER COMMISSIONER'S Sale.—Under and by virtue of an order of sale on decree of foreclosure of mortgage issued out of the district court for Douglas county, state of Nebraska, and to me directed, I will, on the 1st day of July, A. D. 1895, at one o'clock P. M. of said day, at the north front door of the county court house, in the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the property described in said order of sale as follows to-wit: Lot thirty (30) in Reed's Second addition to the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska.

Said property to be sold to satisfy Harry J. Twisting, defendant herein, the sum of three hundred thirty-two and 48/100 dollars (\$332.48), with interest thereon from the 6th day of May, 1895, at the rate of ten (10) per cent per annum, and attorneys' fees amounting to thirty-three and 24/100 dollars (\$33.24), together with accruing costs according to a judgment rendered by the district court of said Douglas county, at its May term, A. D. 1895, in certain action then and there pending, wherein George Jeffrey is plaintiff, and H. J. Twisting, H. B. Levy, County Treasurer, Douglas County, Nebraska, Saunders, Macfarland & Dickey and Eleanor P. Sidley are defendants.

Filed at Omaha, Nebraska, May 25th, A. D. 1895. GEORGE W. HOLBROOK, Special Master Commissioner. Saunders & Macfarland, attorneys for defendants. Jeffrey vs. Twisting, et al. Doc. 42; No. 120. 5-25-5

50 CENTS FROM NOW TILL January 1, 1897. THE AMERICAN