THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

TWENTY-SECOND YEAR. OMAHA, FRIDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 18, 1892. NUMBER 151.

FIRST FATAL BLAST

Old Winter Opens with a Terrible Blizzard in the Mississippi Valley.

AWFUL WORK OF THE WIND'S FIERCE FURY

Redbud, Ill., Almost Swept from the Earth by a Winter Cyclone.

MANY PEOPLE INJURED IN THE WRECK

Houses Demolished and Ruin Spread Everywhere in the Pretty Village.

TRAFFIC BLOCKED AND WIRES DOWN

Cold Rain, Followed by Snow, Visits a Broad Section of Country and Creates Very General Havoc in the Cities.

REDBUD, Ill., Nov. 17.—Where last night existed a beautiful little town, full of happy homes, is today a scene of wreck and desolation, caused by a cyclone. Houses, barns, fences and orchards are leveled to the ground and spread over the surrounding country. Entering from the south the cyclone first demolished the Catholic church and school and the residence of Morgan Drage. The German Lutheran church was next levelled to the ground. After destroying several barns and tearing away fences, it struck the large two-story residence of Peter Kendall, which was of solid stone, and crumbled it to fragments. Mrs. Kendall was severely injured. A large double brick house, occupied by D. D. Perry as an office and composing room, was entirely destroyed. The family were buried in the ruins, but managed to extricate themselves without serious injury. Peterson's agricultural warehouse was blown down and fourteen other residences were destroyed. The son of Jacob Koch was killed instantly and his mother was fatally injured. The injured include the following:

MRS. JACOB KOCH, fatally.
MRS. PETER KENDALL.
MRS. PETER KARCHER.
MRS. LOUIS BOGEN.
JULIUS HOHN.
MR. BRENNEMAN.
MRS. EMMA CROW.
MRS. JOHN MANNERBELDT.
MR. AND MRS. D. D. PERRY.

Many of the people are without clothing and shelter and the cold rain makes their situation the more deplorable. The property loss is estimated at $100,000.

Ruin and Desolation.

The horrors of an inky darkness, lighted up momentarily by flashes of lightning, added to the fear and madness which oppressed all minds during this terrible visitation. Daylight only made more terrible that which night had hidden. The streets, when lit up by the first streaks of dawn, presented a pitiable scene of ruin and utter desolation.

On every hand rose the moans of the injured and the grief of their friends and relatives. The streets were blocked with the debris of the storm's wreck, and for some time it was impossible to get an accurate list of the sufferers of the terrible visitation.

As soon as the more fortunate of the people of the little city recovered from the first shock of the calamity, efforts were at once directed to caring for the injured. They were taken to the homes of those who had escaped the storm's wrath and cared for by willing hands and the doctors of the village dressed their wounds.

Course and Extent of the Storm.

CHICAGO, Ill., Nov. 17.—The conflict of the elements, incident to the exit of warm weather and the advent of winter's chilly blasts, culminated today in one of the most destructive and far-reaching storms of the year. The initial battleground of the mighty opposing forces, it appears, was near the little city of Redbud, Randolph county, in the extreme southwest part of Illinois. Sweeping down from the north came a tremendous storm of snow, rain and sleet, which, encountering the warm air currents of "Egypt," developed three distinct cyclonic storm centers, diverging from a common center near Redbud.

Taking a southeasterly course, one prong of the storm passed through western Kentucky and Tennessee, leveling everything in its path at Redbud and only when northern Alabama was reached had it spent its force.

To the westward moved a second storm center, passing through central Missouri, thence across northern Kansas, finally being lost in the mountains of Wyoming. The third arm took a northerly course through Iowa, veering to the west into Nebraska, leaving a hopeless tangle of telegraph wires in its wake, until it became next to an impossibility to reach any of the great cities west of Chicago except by circuitous routes.

IOWA'S GREAT SNOW STORM.

Railroad and Street Car Traffic Almost Suspended at Cedar Rapids.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., Nov. 17.—(Special Telegram to THE BEE.)—The worse snow storm that has visited this vicinity for years began early this morning and has been raging ever since. Telegraph wires are prostrated in every direction and trains are from two to four hours late. Street car traffic is almost entirely suspended, the cars being unable to run through the deep snow. The storm does not extend further south than Burlington and is moving slowly.

Six Inches of Snow.

DAVENPORT, Ia., Nov. 17.—Six inches of snow fell between 8 o'clock this morning and this evening, driven by a north wind. The snow would do much to midwinter.

PROSTRATED THE WIRES.

Heavy Winds and a Wet Snow Play Havoc with Telegraph Lines.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 17.—The heavy storm of today throughout Missouri [illegible] of southeastern Nebraska and [illegible] of Kansas and Oklahoma [illegible] wires. The storm [illegible] snow [illegible] wires [illegible] Kansas City [illegible] Omaha [illegible] Chicago [illegible] Kansas City [illegible] Omaha [illegible] Chicago [illegible] Kansas City [illegible] Omaha [illegible] Chicago