

PARIS STRUCK BY A TORNADO

Genuine Twister Does Terrible Damage in France's Fair Capital.

LARGE NUMBERS OF PERSONS BADLY HURT

Violent Gust of Wind Works Fearful Destruction to Life and Property in One Short Minute—Floods of Rain Follow.

PARIS, Sept. 10.—A violent tornado passed over a portion of this city at 2:30 p. m. today. In one short minute the twister had passed, but in that time terrible destruction had been done. The death list, it is believed, will be small, but over half a hundred persons were more or less seriously injured.

The city is much stirred up by this evening over the disaster, which has assumed considerable proportions. The number of minor casualties and injuries to persons is large, and further reports are constantly being received. Over fifty injured have thus far been reported to one fire station alone, and five were seriously injured. Several men and women had their skulls fractured by the falling of some gates behind which they had sought shelter from the storm.

The breaking of the storm was accompanied by many demonstrations of fright by individuals and by crowds, the panic spreading to others. The lowering sky and the howling of the tempest filled the air with flying debris, frightening the crowds in the streets out of self-control. Everybody started to run without much regard to obstacles, personal or otherwise, that might come in their way, and there was much shouting and screaming to add to the confusion. The damage to property was widespread.

The first tempest of wind, which did most of the damage, was succeeded immediately by torrents of rain and tonight cellars all over Paris are flooded. At Glychy the roadway of the Boulevard National subsided several yards as a result of the washing away of the railroad. The Quai Des Orfèvres shows a striking scene of desolation, buildings being damaged and all looking as though swept by a torrent of rushing water.

Considerable destruction was caused on and about Pont Neuf, the Place du Chatelet, the Observatoire, the Tour Street Jacques and elsewhere in the neighborhood. From the Quai St. Michael to beyond the Pont Neuf every tree was uprooted, many barges were sunk and a number of small boats were swamped. The crews of the barges, however, succeeded in escaping. One of the hundreders was in the Seine, where thirty men were being manœuvred, and the women were saved with the greatest difficulty. The scaffolding of the courtyard of the Sainte Chapelle was blown away and every pane of glass in the side of the Palace of Justice facing the river was smashed by uprooted trees.

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