TERRIFIC STORM.

A Great September Gale in New England.

Its Effects in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

DISASTROUS HURRICANE AND FLOOD.

Loss of Life and Immense Destruction of Property.

Marine Disasters and Loss of Life on the Coast of Maine.

IN MASSACHUSETTS.

[From the Boston Advertiser, Sept. 9.]

About half-past four yesterday afternoon a gale came on from the southward and presently began to give demonstrations of violence. A steady blow for an hour gave place at half-past five to violent gusts and squalls, and a hurricane of the most positive nature ensued. Overhead the clouds gathered and rolled, surging northward in threatening heaps, and the scud flew fast and low. Dashes of rattling rain were borne on the blast and added dampness to terror. Everything movable was moved, and it was dangerous to traverse the streets, so thick and sudden were the showers of bricks from chimneys, fire walls and copings, and so furious the dash of loosened signs and broken awnings. The oldest inhabitant bears witness that the like fury and destruction has never accompanied a gale within the memory of man in this city. Much real damage occurred accompanied with loss of life, but the panic created by the storm set afoot numberless unfounded or exaggerated reports, which "rumor with her thousand tongues" took up and multiplied until millions of dollars and an indefinite number of lives were piled in a hecatomb to the wrath of blustering old Æolus. Though hastily gathered, and therefore possibly inaccurate as to particulars, the following report of the effects of the gale will yet show its terrible power of destruction and prove it the most terrible which has ever visited this city:—

THE COMMON

was literally carpeted with foliage, especially the malls and walks, though very few trees were blown down from their bases. The Old Elm, everybody will be glad to learn—or what there is left of it after withstanding the storms of two centuries or more—remains substantially intact, though much of its summer foliage has been stripped and lays thickly strewn around for several yards to the leeward of the storm. A large elm on the margin of the walk from West street to Park square, succumbed to a violent gust at about seven o'clock, and another tree of reasonable age and dimensions near the Public Garden toppled over during the gale. Many others were much damaged, and the City Forester is thereby spared, possibly, a lucrative trimming job in anticipation of the next summer season.

SOUTH END.

Throughout the South End, as in other parts of the city, the havoc of the storm is apparent on every side. The awnings from the shop fronts are in rags and tatters, trees are prostrate on every side and the remains of fallen chimneys bestrew the pavement at frequent intervals.

Two chimneys were blown down at the residences of Dr. Greeley and Mr. Green, 747 and 749 Tremont street.

The roofs and gable ends of three houses on Worcester street, lately erected by Mr. Allen, builder, were blown down.

In Tremont court, off Lenox street, three two story wooden houses lately erected by Messrs. J. Spencer & Co. were completely levelled with the ground in one chaotic mass.

In Brookline street a chimney in the house of a man named Morris fell through the roof, and the ceiling came tumbling down upon the heads of the inmates, who were taking their supper.

The church of the Rev. Dr. Gannett, at the corner of Arlington and Boylston streets, was unroofed. The tin roofing was rolled up like a carpet and thrown into the street.

The residences of Mr. Payne and Mr. Lawrence, 1,282 and 1,284 Washington street, were unroofed.

Ten or twelve trees in Chester square were uprooted, tearing up the sidewalk as they fell and strewing the ground knee deep with broken branches.

Several trees were snapped off in Tremont street.

AT THE NORTH END.

The chief triumph of the gale at the north part of the city was the complete overthrow of the handsome spire of the Hanover Street Methodist church, which toppled to destruction just before seven o'clock. At about a quarter-past six the steeple was observed to act as if it had departed from the sound principles of its proprietors, swaying to and fro with dangerous freedom. The First police were instantly on the alert, and as speedily as possible all the occupants of houses within reach of the fated spire were warned of the impending danger. Ropes were stretched across the street, and such was the care and efficiency of the police that not a human life was jeopardized when the lofty structure, breaking at the belfry, fell with a crash into Lothrop place, northeast of the church. It swayed over slowly and the top went crushing through the tenement house at Nos. 2 and 3 Lothrop place. It also struck and severely damaged the rear of 301 Hanover street, owned and occupied by Charles W. Parsons & Co., dealers in furniture. The tenement house was owned by Miss Mary Young, of Chelsea, and occupied by Francis Oakes and David Baker. At the time of the catastrophe a sewing society was holding a meeting in the vestry of the church, and refused to vacate at the warning of the police. As the body of the church was not injured, all of its occupants were safe. The steeple now rests on its top with the base leaning against the eaves of the church building. The iron fence is badly broken and the premises are strewn with débris.

A boy named Flynn was struck on the head and severely injured by a falling brick at the corner of Commercial and North streets. His skull being fractured he was taken to the City Hospital.

WARDS FIVE AND SEVEN.

In wards Five and Seven considerable damage was done. Along Beach street and Kneeland the wind held high carnival, and left behind it tracks to identify it when next it comes this way. The shade trees on Harrison avenue suffered materially, and many heaps of debris marked the spots where chimneys fell.

The building on Utica street, next to the corner of Beach, was blown considerably out of shape. The wind first forced an entrance by a window, and, forcing down a partition, got full vent at the roof and street wall; the former was broken and the latter demolished, as far as concerned the upper story. The damage will amount to about $1,000. The Old Colony depot suffered but slight damage, though common report had the building injured to an indefinite extent. Some of the skylights were torn off, and a large window in the back portion of the building was blown in.

PARTIAL DESTRUCTION OF THE COLISEUM.

This once imposing building is now little better than a mere wreck, and its ruinous and dismantled condition gives a more striking proof of the fury of the storm and the havoc which it wrought than any other instance that can be cited. Shortly before six o'clock a furious gust or wind struck upon the orchestral end of the building "like a hammer," as sailors say. In a few minutes the large circular window, which is twenty feet in diameter, yielded to the blast, and the wind getting inside the building quivered like a reed. The whole orchestral end now crashed in, and the blast, sweeping with restless fury to the other extremity, as speedily forced out the other end. In a few moments the whole edifice seemed to be the sport of the elements, and the wind, getting underneath the roof, playfully lifted it off piece by piece until the whole of the transept was entirely unroofed. The air was darkened with falling and flying timbers, which were tossed and blown about like shavings. The crash was tremendous and struck awe into all beholders. The organ was speedily levelled to the ground and buried in a chaotic mass of timbers. The big drum was also laid flat and pierced in several places by the falling timbers. Immense pieces of the roof were carried considerable distances and fell on every side. At the time of the gale there were ten visitors within the building, seven of whom were ladies. There were also two boys working, and Samuel Wilson, the doorkeeper, and a dog. Directly the end window was forced in, the ladies rushed out in a state of the greatest terror and bewilderment, and some of them made their way amid a shower of falling timbers to the open ground. One or two of them turned back into the building, but were urged to go out again by the doorkeeper, who feared that they might be killed, as the whole structure seemed as if it would come down. The dog was panic-stricken and would not move. Fortunately no one was hurt. The catastrophe was witnessed by several persons. A car was brought to a standstill on Berkeley street, and some men getting out in a state of alarm were speedily blown to the ground.

DEATH OF MR. GRANVILLE M. CLARK.

By far the saddest casualty connected with the storm was the sudden and lamented death of Mr. G. M. Clark, which occurred under the following circumstances:—Mr. Clark had just returned from Worcester and was about entering his house, No. 19 St. James avenue, when he heard that some one was hurt by the partial falling of the Coliseum. He went out with the benevolent intention of rendering assistance, and had nearly arrived at the Coliseum, when a furious gust of wind tore up the wooden sidewalk on which he was walking, and the timber was hurled with such violence against his head that his skull was badly fractured, his lips severely cut, and one of his arms broken. He fell immediately, bleeding and insensible to the ground. Some persons who witnessed the accident took him to the house of Mr. Blanchard, near at hand. Here his residence was discovered by means of some papers in his possession, and he was conveyed to his home. He, however, never rallied, but died at about ten minutes past seven. He was thirty-eight years of age, and has left a wife and two children to mourn his loss. He was treasurer to the Adriatic Mills, Massachusetts, the Lancaster Quilt Company, Clinton, Mass., and the Windermere Woollen Company, Connecticut.

THE BOSTON SKATING RINK AND THE NEW NORMAL SCHOOL HOUSE.

The Boston Skating Rink was exposed to the full strength of the blast, which partially dismantled the ventilating apparatus running along the roof, but did not in the least degree affect the general solidity of the building. The roof and one side of the ventilating apparatus was carried away for three-fourths of its entire length, and the fragments of planking were hurled aloft like sheets of paper and forced against the city gas house near the spot. The ventilator, in falling, forced a hole through the northern corner of the roof.

The Normal school house on Pembroke and Newton streets has been seriously damaged. The wind, finding a lodgment in the unfinished building, forced out some of the party walls, which, falling, carried with them several of the floors. A portion of the walls were ready to receive the beams, but the blast in some instances blew down two stories of them. A very large amount of brickwork and scaffolding was displaced, and the crash of the falling ruins was deafening. The damage may be estimated at between $5,000 and $10,000.

DAMAGE TO THE CENTRAL CHURCH.

The costly and beautiful church lately erected in Berkeley street at an expense, including land, of about $415,000, did not escape the fury of the tempest. Two pinnacles of freestone at the base of the spire were hurled from their foundations. One fell on the sidewalk and broke into a thousand fragments. Another crashed through the roof of the nave, pierced the floor of the church and fell into the cellar. A portion of the roof in the aisle was also broken. It is estimated that the damage may be between $3,000 and $4,000.

CHARLES STREET.

and its vicinity fared badly. Torrents of water poured down from the hill, filling the street from curb to curb. The glass in the residence of Mr. Gardner, on the corner of Beacon street, was badly broken; two chimneys fell from the building occupied by Mr. Fette as a school; also one each from Nos. 104 and 106, and from the residence of Mr. Adams, No. 123. At the foot of Mount Vernon street, on the river's edge, a brick fence wall in the rear of one of the new structures was blown over, and the staging and a portion of the wall of a half-completed house opposite were badly damaged. Several of the boats moored at the foot of Chestnut street broke loose and drifted rapidly down stream.

IN CAMBRIDGE STREET AND VICINITY,

the awnings generally were stripped from their frames, and in many instances even the supports were demolished. By actual count, when the storm was spent, but five of nearly a hundred that were in place when it began could be seen uninjured. That sheltering the sidewalk in front of the drug store of Henry Canning, No. 155, was torn in shreds, the iron work demolished, and the windows beneath demolished by its fall. Graves & Newcomb, druggists, on the corner of North Russell street, also lost their awning, not a vestige of it being left. The awning of the liquor agency at the foot of Bowdoin street, and that of Mr. Talbot, provision dealer, opposite, were also torn to pieces. A large chimney on the house corner of Hancock street fell into Cambridge street with a violent crash, but fortunately nobody was dangerously near. There were numerous cases of damage in the immediate vicinity. Two chimneys upon the Revere House fell upon the roof, one without breakage after parting, and not a brick was detached so as to fall to the sidewalk. A wall of an L in process of construction in the rear of a house on Hancock street fell into Ridgway lane with a tremendous crash.

THE BRIDGES

on the west and northerly sides of the city presented lively scenes during the height of the storm. Charles river was curtained with a thick haze, and its surface was nearly covered with drifting lumber and the debris of the many wharves and bridges by which it is margined and crossed for miles above. The experience of those connected with the other water spans to East Cambridge and Charlestown was much the same, with but slight variation of detail. Boats adrift, with and without occupants, were frequently seen, and the driftwood increased in amount as the distance to the mouth of the river decreased.

THE RAILROADS

were more or less obstructed in the vicinity of the city. Fallen branches and boughs hindered the passage of trains on the Lowell route, and the train hands were in several instances obliged to cut their way through. The detention was in no instance very great. On the Eastern road the trains were run slowly, for fear of washes of the numerous embankments, but no serious impediment was met with. The Boston and Maine Railroad appears to have been the most obstructed. The car house between Causeway street and the river was overturned across the track, and prevented the passage of trains either way during the evening and night. The inward passengers were obliged to debark at Prison Point, and were conveyed through Charlestown to the city. The Portland train, upon its arrival, was switched on to the Fitchburg track and run into the Causeway street station of that road. The trains on the Fitchburg road were not much delayed, and no information of obstruction has been received from the southerly and westerly lines.

SOUTH BOSTON.

The new Methodist church on Broadway, near F street, which was almost entirely completed, has been laid almost flat. The steeple fell across the roof, and this burst the side walls out. The spire fell upon a house in Athens street, and almost frightened three ladies to death as they were eating their supper. The church was of brick, with brown stone trimmings; but as it will have to be rebuilt the damage is estimated at $30,000.

About $2,000 worth of lumber was blown off a wharf in Albany street into the water.

The roof of the free bathing house for ladies on Dover-street bridge was blown off.

A chimney was blown over at the corner of Acton street, and, in falling, smashed the window of an apothecary store opposite.

The roof of a house, owned by a Mr. Smith, in Broadway, near G street, was blown off.

Two new wooden houses in Gates street were laid low, as was also a big tree at the corner of Broadway and E street.

The roof of the Hartford and Erie machine shop was partly blown off, and that of the Old Colony machine shop was also damaged.

Four or five brick houses in course of erection at the back of Dorchester Heights are reported to be partially blown down.

The hurricane stripped the top from a covered wagon in Albany street, and forced the driver against a fence, which broke his leg.

EAST BOSTON.

A full rigged ship parted her cable off one of the wharves and drifted to Charlestown Bridge, which she struck, but was hauled off when the gale abated.

The schooner G. R. Hemlet was capsized and sunk off Grand Junction wharf.

The roof of the residence of Dr. Seth C. Adams, No. 131 Webster street, was blown off and the house was considerably injured by water. None of the family or passers-by were hurt.

ROXBURY.

The roof of the gas company's building on the Point and that of a barn, belonging to William Seaver, on Tremont street, were lifted, and the latter was carried some distance and deposited in a vacant lot. Large piles of lumber on the wharves bordering on the canal were blown down and much of it fell into the water and floated away. The steeple of the Eliot church on Kenilworth street swayed so fearfully that the police were obliged to clear the dwellings in the vicinity of their inmates until the danger was past. Fruit trees in the gardens were stripped of their bearing, and many ornamental shades were thrown across the streets. The staging to the new Methodist church on Winthrop street came down with a crash, and the chimneys on Webster Hall and several other buildings were demolished.

THE HARBOR.

The shipping at the wharves and in the stream suffered considerably, though not so severely as might have been expected. Of course, the tidings from the bay are not by any means full, and it is feared that sad news must come. The harbor police were seemingly indefatigable, and well supported their high reputation.

The schooner Edward Lameyer, lying in the stream, was run into by two other schooners whose names were not ascertained, and was damaged seriously, losing both masts and her jibboom and having her bulwarks stove in.

The ferryboat Webster, on the old line, left the Boston side, but was unable to hit nearer its dock than Donald McKay's yard. The John Adams, on the other line, made the Eastern Railroad wharf successfully and landed her passengers there. The Chelsea ferryboat stopped in mid-stream, let go her anchors, and with the aid of her paddlewheels held her own against the gale.

The ship Harrisburg, lying at the South Boston flats, dragged her anchors and was driven to the Chelsea ferry.

Pilot boat No. 7 (the Louisa Jane) lost her mainsail and jib and put into Corey's wharf.

Ship Lisbon, lying at Battery wharf, was keeled over and ripped up the cap of the wharf on that side. A schooner was blown in between the ship and the wharf, but escaped uninjured almost miraculously.

Schooner E. Richardson parted her fastenings at Corey's wharf and drifted into the harbor, but was brought back by the police and her crew.

The steamer Escort left Gloucester for Boston at a quarter-past three o'clock, with a somewhat rough sea, wind southeast. After proceeding about fifteen miles the wind rose to a furious height and the sea was tremendous. In addition, the rain set in heavily and everything was dark with storm and fog, shutting from sight every object. The waves ran mountain high, dashing over the steamer, oftentimes breaking and causing her to stream, roll and pitch fearfully. Doors were smashed in, windows broken, furniture upset and marble slabs broken, and the situation of the passengers, especially the ladies, all of whom were sea-sick, was not only uncomfortable but dangerous. For an hour the steamer made no headway, in the face of the terrific gale, as the officers deemed a cautious method in working the machinery the safest. The lead was constantly thrown by Captain Blanchard, as that was the only method of learning their exact whereabouts, and when the soundings fell from seven to four fathoms within a few moments, steam was stopped, except enough to keep the steamer under some slight control. At this time the gale was at its height, and the condition of things was serious. The officers in charge of the boat said that in all their experience they had never known such a sea to be raised in Boston harbor in such a short time, and orders were given to prepare the anchor and throw it out as a last resort. While engaged in this work the atmosphere lifted somewhat, and, to the great relief of all, in the distance was seen the outermost buoy on the "Graves" off Deer Island and revealed the situation, which was one of safety, in spite of the severity of the gale. By this time the rain had abated and the sky was clear, and occasional observations kept the vessel in the direct way, but the wind continued in full force until after the boat reached Long Island. The Escort arrived at her wharf at half-past eight, three hours behind time. She proved herself a very stanch boat under the most trying circumstances, and large numbers of the passengers called upon Captain Pierce, her commander, and Captains Blanchard and Sykes, who piloted the steamer, to express their thanks for the skill and seamanship they had displayed in safely bringing them and the vessel out of their perilous condition. The pilots were lashed to the wheelhouse and were exposed to the full blast of the storm, as the windows of their house were stove in. The passengers were much alarmed, but the conduct of the officers and men attached to the steamer inspired the fullest confidence, and they behaved well under the circumstances. The Escort passed a small boat bottom upwards, and a pinky schooner off Nahant on her beam ends, but the shipping in the roads rode it out with comparative safety. The steamer Ulysses, which left Nahant at five o'clock, encountered similar difficulty, which became so serious that Captain Calden said the steamer could not survive half an hour longer in such a storm, and he ran the steamer ashore on the flats at Governor's Island, where she remained till ten o'clock, whence she came on the rising tide to the city.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The tin roofs of nearly a dozen first class residences in Roylston street were torn off and thrown into the street.

An expressman driving on Washington street narrowly escaped with his life. A chimney from Liberty tree block fell, struck and injured his horse so severely that it had to be killed. The other part of the chimney fell through the wagon. The driver escaped without injury.

The windows of the grocery store of Mr. Clapp, corner of Springfield and Tremont streets, were smashed in.

The Seaside House, 40 Eastern avenue, was partially demolished and the roof blown into the dock.

A man named Henry Morris was struck by a flying sign on Elm street and was carried to his home at 13 Lowell street.

The tin was stripped from the roof at 91, 93, 95 and 97 Broad street, and seven chimneys were blown down on Central Wharf block.

A chimney fell from the high building on the corner of Hanover and Friend street's and made sad havoc with a wooden awning which was in its way.

The fall of brick and the smashing of glass in the rear of No. 12 School street caused much consternation among the employés in the penny *Times* office. The damage was light.

The side wall of the new Simmons' Building, opposite the new Post office site on Devonshire street, fell outward upon the Boston Stereotype Foundry, but was not heavy enough to penetrate the roof.

Lowell, Billerica and Andover streets are strewn with roof and chimney débris, and Causeway street awnings were badly damaged.

IN CAMBRIDGE.

The storm in this city was unusually severe, being the heaviest ever known to visit Cambridge. The rain fell in torrents the greater part of the afternoon, filling the streets with water and inundating cellars. The effects of the wind may be seen at all points in the city, many of the streets being blockaded by huge trees torn bodily from the earth and thrown to the ground. In Cambridgeport the storm seemed to have had full sway, for in this section more trees were uprooted than in other parts of the city.

Several very lofty elms on Main street, near the college, and trees in the college yard were laid low, while others were partially dislodged from the ground. Unfinished buildings or those in the course of erection were either wholly demolished or seriously damaged. Two blocks of dwelling houses, containing three houses in each block, on Second street, were blown completely over. The loss to the builders, Pettingill & Sawyer, cannot be far short of $5,000. A tenement house, nearly finished, on Cambridge, near Seventh street, owned by Felix McCabe, was blown down, entailing a loss of about $3,000.

On Sidney street a double dwelling house in course of erection by J. W. Packer was blown from its foundation and very much injured. Mr. Packer's loss will amount to about $5,500.

A small building at the junction of Main and Harvard streets, used as a blacksmith shop, was lifted from its pile foundation and turned completely over.

The apex of the steeple of the new church building of the Old Cambridge Baptist Society, with the ornamental cross situated thereon, was blown off for a distance of between five and six feet. The structure is of stone, and shows the immense power of the wind.

A chimney on the house of F. Francis Wells, Esq., on River street, was blown over and passed directly through the roof and the lower stories to the cellar. The falling bricks passed through the dining room near the supper table, from which the family had just retired.

Fences of all descriptions were prostrated, while the fruit trees were robbed of their luscious burdens. The fire alarm telegraph received some injury from falling limbs of trees, breaking the wires, and causing an alarm of fire at the time of the heaviest fall of rain.

Window blinds and awnings were wafted through the air like autumn leaves, and such women who were unfortunately in the streets were pretty roughly used by being blown against fences or buildings. The lumber and wood wharves sustained considerable injury, in the blowing over of piles of wood and lumber. The storm continued with unabated fury for nearly two hours, after which it began to lull, and fears of continued damage to property were removed. The tide was exceedingly high during the storm.

CHELSEA.

A house on Second street, which had been raised recently, was blown down and completely demolished. A carpenter, named Thomas Brown, who was engaged at work upon the house, was buried in the ruins and instantly killed. He was so tightly wedged that the use of saws and axes was necessary for the recovery of his body. Mr. and Mrs. Gilman and daughter occupied the house, and were all badly injured.

The roof of a large block belonging to a Mr. Jackson, of Boston, was blown off and crushed a building adjoining.

The roof of Ballard's block was blown off and fell upon the rear of the Broadway church, in which the sexton and two ladies chanced to be. The church was considerably damaged, and the three occupants narrowly escaped without injury.

A house on Willow street, owned by Nathan Matthews, of Boston, was blown down, and the steeples of the First Baptist and the Universalist churches were badly injured.

Two blocks, located on Vale and Spruce streets, and containing eighteen dwelling houses nearly completed, were blown down and thoroughly demolished. The front of the new laundry was blown in, and the upper story of a block on Bacon street was lifted off.

CHARLESTOWN.

The roof of a large building in the navy yard was demolished, and a sizable tree on the parade ground was felled. The damage to slight structures throughout the city was great in the aggregate, but no extraordinary cases are reported.

SOMERVILLE.

The Unitarian church on Central Hill is reported to be seriously damaged. The tower and roof are said to have been blown over and forced in by the action of the wind, and many dwellings on the top and southerly slopes of Spring, Central and Winter Hills are much injured.

BRIGHTON

suffered to a great extent. Scarcely an orchard, garden or dwelling on the highlands has escaped injury. Though no details have been received, the loss by the storm is reported from several sources of information to be large.

Additional Particulars of the Gale in Massachusetts.

BOSTON, Sept. 9, 1869.

The hurricane last night extended over most of Eastern Massachusetts. At Nahant a large dwelling and stable were blown down, and the depot on the steamboat wharf was blown into the sea.

At Hull every boat at anchor in the harbor was driven ashore or sunk. The windows of the Mansion House were blown in and the outbuildings were unroofed.

At Hingham the streets were blocked with trees, and barns and chimneys were blown down.

Agricultural Hall, in Marshfield, was levelled with the ground.

In Abington three church steeples fell, and a large nail and tack factory in South Abington was unroofed.

At Braintree the steeple of the Congregational church was carried off level with the roof.

At Newburyport and towns further east the gale was less violent. The damage to fruit trees, shrubbery and corn is immense in all directions.

The Coliseum organ is ruined. It had just been sold to Chicago parties for $5,000. The big drum is also ruined. Nearly every vessel in Boston Harbor dragged their anchors, and many collided, sustaining damage. The excursion steamers and passengers had a rough time and narrowly escaped wreck.

At Marblehead several summer houses were blown down, and Frank Barrett, of Nashua, N. H., was killed.

The Sagamore House, on Nantasket Beach, was swept from its foundation. The inmates escaped injury, having just left the house to find safer quarters. The gale along the Eastern coast was the most terrific experienced for years.

Detention of Travellers.

BOSTON, Sept. 9, 1869.

The steamer Bristol did not leave Fall River last night on account of the storm. The passenger train from this city for Fall River last evening did not arrive there until five o'clock this morning. A schooner had carried away a railroad bridge at Somerset; hence the detention.

IN RHODE ISLAND.

[From the Providence Journal, September 9.]

We were visited yesterday afternoon by a fearful gale, which, although of short duration, caused an immense destruction of property and sad loss of life. The weather had been fitful and squally all day, with rain at intervals. About four o'clock the weather increased to a hurricane from the south-southeast, and for an hour spread havoc and devastation on every side. Old citizens who recollect the "Great Gale" of 1815, tell us that the force of the wind yesterday seemed fully equal to that remarkable tempest, the only difference being in the duration of the storm. The tide fortunately was out when the gale commenced its severity; but the wind sent the surge up through the Great Bridge with the rapidity of a torrent. For more than an hour the tide rose a foot every ten minutes until three hours before the time for high tide the water stood within a few inches of the floor of the horse railroad depot on Weybosset bridge. At this time the wind shifted to the westward, and abated its fury and soon the flood began to subside. Had the gale continued another hour at its highest force, we see no reason why the water would not have touched as high a point as at the great flood of 1815. As it happily proved, the tide came no nearer than about six feet of that famous high water mark. The gale yesterday continued about one hour; that in 1815 continued its fearful severity for three hours. We fear that the loss of life yesterday was much more serious than in the previous gale. We have the record of several fatal casualties, and hear of others not yet authenticated. The loss of property has also been very great. Every citizen suffers in the loss of hundreds of beautiful trees in the streets, while scarcely a garden or orchard has escaped. The loss in buildings is large, and much perishable merchandise has been submerged and ruined. The reports from the growing crops in the country roundabout we may be sure will be a sad one; and we shall look with dismal forebodings for news from those who go down to the sea in ships. We give below such details of the disaster as we have been able to gather during the night. Our accounts embrace little beyond our own immediate vicinity. The telegraph is entirely prostrated in every direction. Since four o'clock yesterday afternoon not a signal has been received from anywhere, and much labor must be requisite to restore the ample communication with the great world which we have heretofore enjoyed.

THE GALE IN THE CITY AND VICINITY.

The tide rose very rapidly from four to five o'clock, when the gale was at the highest, and soon after five it overflowed the wharves and filled the cellars on Dyer street, and the other buildings and stores as far up as Weybosset street, the flood increasing every moment and extending from the wharves nearly to Broad street, on Dorrance, and overflowing the large area from Market square to the Rhode Island Bleachery, just below the screw factory and the Providence Machine Company's Works, extending westward to Eddy street, and overflowing that for most of the distance until the wind lulled, at about six o'clock, and at half-past six the water began to recede and fell rapidly from that time, although it was not high water until quarter past nine.

Of course the damage in this district was immense, of which we can give only a partial account or estimate this evening. All perishable goods in the cellars of the warehouses were ruined, the streets were washed and gullied in many places, the buildings on the wharves at the coal yards and the wharves, too, were more or less injured; everything that would float was washed away or moved from its place. The large platforms of the coal scales were floated off and lodged on Dyer and Dorrance streets, and all the streets in that vicinity were more or less strewn with the wreck and debris of the gale. The employés of the lumber and coal yards were very busy removing the horses from the stables, all of which were saved, though some had to swim a short distance to reach a safe place. Chimneys were blown down, houses unroofed and trees uprooted in this vicinity, as well as all other parts of the city. The instances are so numerous that we can only make this general allusion to it at this time.

On the east side the water reached the lime in the storehouse on George W. Hall & Co.'s wharf, where some 150 barrels were stored, and the lime slacked and set the building on fire, which was soon put out by steamer No. 2, without greatly damaging the building, and the balance of the lime was then removed. The lime in D. C. Jenckes' warehouse, No. 48 South Water street, was also set on fire by slacking, but was extinguished before communicating to the building. Most of the lime at both places was damaged by the water.

The loss of property in cellars on South Water street and other parts of the city near the water was very great. A stock of dry goods yesterday moved into a store in Hay Building was partially stored in the basement, which afterwards filled with water and was pumped out by steamers Nos. 2, 4 and 6. The cellars of Adams Brothers, Z. Chase & Co., Waldron & Wightman, Hartwell, Dudley & Co., and E. M. Aldrich & Co. were among the number where much damage was done. Steamers Nos. 1, 5 and 7 were also on duty with those mentioned above.

The larger part of the east wall, above Weeden's block, of the new Atlantic Insurance Company's block, corner of Exchange and Westminster streets, fell about half-past four o'clock, with a loud crash, and crushed in about forty feet of the roof of Weeden's block, nearly ruining Odd Fellows' Hall in the upper story. The Odd Fellows lose about $1,500. The hall was occupied by Eagle, Hope and Roger Williams' lodges, and Mosnausuck Encampment. The weight of bricks came very near breaking through into the third story. The shock did start the ceiling somewhat in the law office in which Judge Greene was sitting.

The freight depot of the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad Company was completely blown down about half-past four o'clock. There were three men in the depot at the time, and one of them, Mr. D. B. Fisher, the night watchman, was considerably though not dangerously injured. He was conveyed to the Rhode Island Hospital. The depot was of brick, and of the greater portion of the line of the south wall there is nothing but the granite foundation. Three cars and some freight were in the depot, and are considerably damaged.

Part of the roof and fourth story of Messrs. Rose & Walker's tannery under the brow of Federal Hill was blown over about half-past four in the afternoon; and the one story hidehouse was also demolished. Mr. Walker and three others were in the attic of the building, and four men were in the hidehouse at the time of the accident, but none of them was injured. Mr. Rose estimated the damage to the buildings and stock at from $8,000 to $10,000.

We are especially sorry to announce that the roof of the Home for Aged Women was taken off, and much damage done. The Hutchinson Family were at that time in the Home delighting the old ladies with their pleasant songs. Just as one of the gratified old ladies had asked to hear the Hutchinson Family Song, the crash came.

One wing of the Oriental Mill, in North Providence, was unroofed and the wall on the gable end blown in, injuring several persons. Two boys were covered with the falling bricks and mortar; one of them, named Henry Shanley, received a compound fracture of the pelvis and some severe flesh wounds and is in a critical condition. The other boy, James Casey, received a compound fracture of the leg.

The roofs of the towers on the Stewart street Baptist church were blown off. One landed on the new St. Stephen's church building. The other was carried with great force across high street, taking on its course a portion of the roof of Mr. N. F. Potter's house and landing in the front window of Willoughby's dry goods store. The force of the gale finds a strong illustration in this incident.

A young girl, aged about fourteen, was thrown down by the gale, on Valley street, Olneyville, and so badly injured that she lived but a few moments afterwards. It is also reported that another young girl was crushed and killed by a tree which fell upon her, and that a man was killed by falling or being blown from a house, both in Olneyville, also; but we were unable to learn the names of either of these parties.

The Union Railroad Company has suffered severely. The car house at the Cranston Print Works was partially demolished, injuring three cars. About sixty feet of the barn at Elmwood was blown off, and the South Providence barn was also partially unroofed. Travel was much impeded by the broken trees and three cars were left out all night because of this embargo.

Two or three unfinished houses belonging to Mrs. Olive G. Pettes, in the Ninth ward, were moved from their foundations.

The cotton mill of Mr. James Y. Smith, in Elmwood, was partially unroofed, and a frightened girl jumped from a second story window and was badly sprained.

A boy named Hughes was killed near the Bristol Railroad depot, Fox Point, by a gate or fence being blown down upon him. A man named Murty Sullivan was severely injured at the same time.

John Sneham, a man residing on Fremont street, was struck by a falling chimney and so badly injured that there is little hope of his recovery.

An unoccupied house on the corner of Bridge and South Main street was blown down.

A house on Bellevue avenue, owned by Bellows Brothers and lately erected at a cost of $6,000, was completely demolished. There were four men engaged inside the building when it was blown down. One of the men, John G. Clark, was crushed by the falling in of the roof and very badly injured in the spine. He can hardly recover.

A boy, whose name we did not learn, had his leg broken by the falling of the Hartford freight depot. He was taken to his home by policeman Richmond Stone.

A new two story house, rebuilt from a barn, situated between North Main and Bark streets, on Constitution Hill, belonging to Henry Green, was blown over, the roof going nearly into the canal. The house was about ready for occupancy.

We understand that a man named Charles Hacket was severely injured by falling bricks at the Silver Spring Bleachery.

Ezra Walker, employed at Horace French's paint shop, on Benefit street, while attempting to shut a large outside door on the second story of the building, was taken, together with the door, by the wind, hurled into an adjoining yard, and severely, if not fatally injured. He was about thirty-five or forty years of age.

Cornelius and George Mahoney, father and son, 61 Front street, were severely injured by the blowing down of a barn belonging to the former. A portion of the building fell upon them, rendering them insensible for a time. The father received several bruises and quite severe contusions, but escaped without any bones being broken. The son George was the most severely injured, a severe concussion, lasting over an hour, two cuts on the head, one on the arm, several contusions on the head and other parts of the body; but he had no bones broken. Both were attended by Dr. Newell.

A dwelling house on the Douglass Pike, owned by John McCall and unoccupied, was blown down.

At the Silver Spring Bleachery part of the roof was blown across the street, and one or two of the flags passed through the dye house.

The southern portion of the roof of the schoolhouse on the corner of Borden and Hospital streets, was blown one hundred feet up Hospital street.

The chimneys and fences at the works of the New England Screw Company were prostrated.

The building formerly the old Stonington depot, on Allen street, occupied as a storehouse by Thomas J. Hill, was demolished, involving a loss of $2,000. Mr. Hill's whole loss in buildings, trees, fences, &c., is estimated at $5,000.

A vessel adrift run into India Bridge, causing considerable damage.

The Rhode Island Hospital suffered to the extent of $300 to $500. The first flat of the south centre—fifty by twenty-five—was torn off, tin and slate started and windows were broken.

The front roof of the Rhode Island Bleachery was blown off and the works deluged with water. One man was blown a great distance and considerably injured.

A woman residing on Acorn street had her knee dislocated by a falling fence.

A two and one-half story wooden tenement house on Republican street, near the railroad bridge on Atwell's avenue, owned by Dr. Newhall, was blown entirely from its foundations, and lies on the ground a complete wreck. The house was occupied by three families, though at the time of the fall only one woman was in the house. She was considerably hurt by the falling plastering, though how seriously we did not ascertain.

A new two story dwelling house, north of the Coves lands, was blown from its foundation, though the building was strongly enough built to hang together.

The tin roof of the Paper Collar Manufacturing Company, on the corner of Stewart and Conduit streets, was carried off.

The tin roof of Slade & Perrin's mill, in Seekell's Hollow, was also carried off.

Several buildings in the course of erection in South Providence and vicinity were more or less damaged.

A building on the corner of Atwells avenue, owned by Mr. P. McEvey, was considerably damaged.

A portion of the tower of the Catholic church on High street was carried.

The tower of the High street Congregational church was somewhat damaged.

That portion of the spire of the Chestnut street Methodist Episcopal church above the clock was blown down, carrying two faces of the clock (which stopped at five exactly), and fell on the roof of the church, breaking it in, and then on the roof of a shed in the rear of W. H. Greene's drug store, which it crushed.

A portion of the roof of the Central Baptist church, on Broad street, was blown off.

The Comstock Manufacturing Company's building on Sprague street, was blown down. Loss $2,500.

R. S. Gilmore's house on Gilmore street, was blown down. Loss $1,000.

Joseph Sheldon's house, corner of Division and Hammond streets, was blown down. It was just boarded up. Loss about $1,000.

Two young girls passing along Valley street, were struck by a fence, and one of them had to be carried home.

A valuable unfinished house on Parkhurst avenue, belonging to Mr. Comstock, was twisted into shapelessness.

The beautiful dining hall of Mr. Dorman, on Westminster street, was damaged to the extent of $200 by the fall of bricks from the adjoining Narragansett block. A basement dining saloon near by was partially filled with water, and a customer created a small sensation by taking his supper with his feet in his chair to keep the chill off. Dorman's dining saloon, near the bridge, was also filled with water, and a steamer pumped it out last night.

The roof of the Cranston Print Works suffered somewhat.

The Catholic churches on Smith's Hill, Hope street, High street and Broadway all received some slight damage to roof or tower.

The tin roof was stripped from the Thayer street school house and from the residence of Robert W. Watson, on Angell street. Mrs. Wayland's house, we hear, was injured.

The chimneys at the Reform School were prostrated.

Many cases of narrow escapes and of slight personal injury are related, which we cannot this morning particularize. One old man was blown down and his head came under the wheels of a Pawtucket horse car, which was stopped just in time to save his life, but he was badly bruised. A woman had a child blown from her arms down an embankment in the Fifth ward, but it was picked up by a young man and returned to the mother without great apparent injury.

The damage to trees is very great, and in many cases the loss is almost beyond calculation. The streets are still blockaded in many directions. Among those most impassable are North, Fountain, Acorn and Claverick streets. A venerable elm, in the yard of Professor Diman on Hope street, planted by Ebenezer Knight Dexter seventy years ago, is uprooted. Another elm tree of like antiquity, in the yard of Mr. William Whittaker on High street, is ruined. All the fruit and ornamental trees in Postmaster Jackson's yard are destroyed. But this story can be repeated in hundreds of instances.

The Pawtucket horse cars were compelled to suspend their trips for some hours because of obstructions on the track.

The fire alarm telegraph is down.

Six steam fire engines were on duty last night pumping out water in various sections.

We learn that the Bristol Railroad is badly damaged.

We have not time or space to enumerate the chimneys blown down or the trees uprooted. In every section of the city the effects of the gale are apparent.

THE SHIPPING IN THE HARBOR.

During the height of the gale, the vessels were in great danger, and it appeared almost impossible for some of them to escape shipwreck, but fortunately no lives were lost that we heard of, and no very serious damage was done to the vessels. The little steamer Adela was coming up, and was blown into Hill's wharf and made fast to a schooner, just in time to save her from going ashore. The schooner Lizzie Major broke adrift from the lower ferry wharf, and drove against the schooner Harmonia, at the Worcester Railroad wharf, staving in her stern, and carrying away davits, and doing other injury, and losing her own jibboom; schooner Nellie Treat broke adrift, ran afoul of other vessels, lost jibboom and davits; schooners Anna Shepard, Helen Mar, and British schooner Brittania, were all adrift, afoul, and received