

# HOUSTON SUFFERED FROM STORM.

## GREAT DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, BUT ONLY ONE DEATH RESULTED.

### The Story of the Losses as Gathered From All Parts of the City.

While Houston is torn and scarred by Saturday night's awful storm, the damage here was nearly altogether to property.

For ten hours the winds raged, razing and tearing buildings, uprooting trees and doing terrible damage in all part of the city, and yet Houston's loss of life was just one person killed, and his death only incidentally due to the storm.

There were many miraculous escapes, some terrible disasters narrowly averted and the fact that only one death was recorded shows that Houston has been comparatively fortunate.

Even the property damage at this point has undoubtedly been over-estimated in street reports, as the scenes witnessed are in many instances more appalling to the eye than they are in reality. A few days of clear weather, and rapid work by carpenters, tanners and bricklayers, will make a wonderful change in what now seems to be a terrible disaster.

How such a storm could have swept through a city of 75,000 souls, raging fiercely for four after hour, and with all the hurrying of timbers, lifting of roofs and twisting of buildings without killing and maiming a score or more of people is indeed beyond human comprehension.

The only death in Houston traceable to the storm was that of Henry C. Black, whose destruction by coming in contact with a live wire blew down Saturday night, was recorded in yesterday's Post.

While it was impossible during the prevalence of the storm to get anything like a detailed report of the damage, or anything approximating the aggregate result, when the storm abated about 3 a. m., those who had been housed in their cars during the night, in hallways and every place of security, began to move that upon the debris covered streets, and from that time on, as day approached, the crowds grew larger and during the day the streets were filled with people inspecting the wreckage and the damage the storm had wrought.

The streets, covered with wreckage and thronged with people, presented picturesque appearances, with beautiful shades of gray spreading their tulle across the sidewalks, interspersed with fallen telephone poles and strings of tangled wires that rendered several of the streets absolutely impassable to vehicle traffic, hence many of the engineers resorted to horseback travel as the most expeditious method of getting through the scene of wreckage.

At a special meeting of the Building Trades Assembly held Sunday at 3 p. m., it was recommended by the different unions that the men under their jurisdiction work on all repairs of damage caused by the storm in preference to other work. It was also declared that no union will advance the present scale of wages.

The entire day the streets were filled with people inspecting the wreckage and the damage the storm had wrought. The streets of the opera house was detained here until 5 a. m. Many ladies who were upon the streets making purchases early in the evening, being overtaken by the storm, remained in the stores a night until they could reach their homes with safety.

It was a great day for the kodak fiend and the amateur photographer, and the result of their day's work will perpetuate the memory of the most destructive storm that has ever visited this section. Unfortunately no record was kept of the wind's velocity. Mr. McNabb, the United States weather observer at this point, simply keeps a register of the temperature and rainfall and has no wind register, but from his experience is accustomed to observations and his observations of Saturday night's storm, he says he regards the Post's estimate of from fifty to sixty miles an hour as about correct. The rainfall accompanying the storm was 4.22.

The following barometric readings, as taken at the office of Mr. J. M. Lee, representative of the Houston and Texas Central Railway company, shows the following conditions of the barometer from the start to the finish of the storm, and that its greatest intensity was between 11:30 p. m. and 1:15 a. m., when from a southerly movement the divergence of the clouds began and the storm began to abate. The normal barometer at this point is about 30.25, and anything below this indicates danger.

The following are the readings between 5 p. m. Saturday and 6:50 a. m. Sunday:  
5:00 p. m. 29.50 5:10 a. m. 29.20  
5:10 p. m. 29.00 5:20 a. m. 29.30  
5:20 p. m. 28.93 5:30 a. m. 29.40  
5:30 p. m. 28.93 5:40 a. m. 29.48  
5:40 p. m. 29.00

8:45 p. m. 29.15 3:10 a. m. 29.30  
10:10 p. m. 29.00 4:20 a. m. 29.30  
10:50 p. m. 28.93 5:05 a. m. 29.40  
11:20 p. m. 28.93 6:30 p. m. 29.48  
1:15 a. m. 29.00

The storm is technically classed as a cyclonic hurricane. The storm center was, according to Mr. Lee's idea, about twenty miles south of Houston, where the wind attained its highest velocity and the movement of the storm was west.

Considering the great velocity of the wind and the length of its duration the damage in Houston is much smaller than might be imagined, though all sorts of estimates were heard upon the streets yesterday, ranging from ridiculously large amounts to very conservative figures.

The Post presents with this report some figures of losses in the more important cases, but it is not assumed that this covers the entire loss as trivial damage, such as tumbled down fences, sheds and outbuildings are not given in the details, and the loss to shade trees and shrubbery can in no way be estimated in dollars and cents, nor can they be restored as readily as buildings and fences.

Among the more notable damages in the city may be mentioned the following: Dickson Car Wheel works, Houston Drug company, building unroofed and damage to stock; Randolph & Sons, building unroofed and damage to stock; Hamilton Bros., building unroofed and damage to stock; Masonic temple, unroofed and stocks damaged; Houston Wholesale stock company, unroofed and stock damaged; Electric Street railway power house, smokestack blown down and building unroofed; Sweeney & Coombs' opera house, partially unroofed; court house, badly damaged in roof; Capitol hotel, unroofed; Duto's warehouse, blown down; H. Wade, unroofed and stock damaged; American brewery, Union Compress company, Cleveland compress, the First Baptist, Shearn Methodist, Christ Episcopal, St. Joseph's and the Central Christian churches, all of which sustained considerable damage, chiefly in the loss of the roof.

The streets, covered with wreckage and thronged with people, presented picturesque appearances, with beautiful shades of gray spreading their tulle across the sidewalks, interspersed with fallen telephone poles and strings of tangled wires that rendered several of the streets absolutely impassable to vehicle traffic, hence many of the engineers resorted to horseback travel as the most expeditious method of getting through the scene of wreckage.

Post reporters were sent out during the day assigned to the different wards of the city and the details of the more serious damages occurring throughout the city are given by wards.

A trip through the First and Sixth wards of the city out through Chameyville and the Houston Heights disclosed the following damage done to that section of the city and its suburbs:

The Houston Mill and Elevator company, corner Tenth and Railroad, streets, is very badly damaged. The roof is wholly demolished. The smokestack is down and lies across the railroad track, blocking the passage of any train into the siding.

The rear end of the Houston refinery is a partial wreck. The building is severed in the center. Burns and fences totally destroyed.

The colored school on Colorado and Bingham is severely damaged. The building stands on one end, contents broken and damaged.

The large Hawthorne school, on Houston avenue, is slightly damaged. Nearly all the large panes of glass in the building are broken. Otherwise the building has sustained no serious damage.

St. Paul colored church, on Edward street, is nearly a total wreck. The right wing of the building is a complete ruin. The bell tower is destroyed and all the large glass panes are wrecked.

A cottage tenanted by Mr. Richard Waltersdorf, at 1813 Edward street, is partially overturned. The contents are water-soaked and ruined. Mrs. Waltersdorf and her children spent the night in a chicken coop after the house collapsed, having had a narrow escape from death.

Christ church, on Bingham and Sabine, is partially demolished. It will never be used as a house of worship again, as the center of the structure is in twain. Debris and glass are scattered everywhere.

The top of Messrs. Kessler and Dixon's store, on Houston avenue, was completely torn off. The contents of the store, which consists of dry goods, groceries and hardware, were exposed to the water during the night and were seriously damaged and water-soaked. Mr. Kessler estimates the loss to store and contents at \$1500 to \$2000. A force of men are at work making hasty repairs.

A new cottage in course of construction was destroyed at 1920 Oak street. It was owned by Mrs. L. A. Beatty, who estimates damage to the same at \$800.

A house at 1732 Spring street, occupied by Mrs. J. R. Kerr, was thrown off the pillars and overturned. The furniture was severely damaged.

A two-story house in course of construction at 16 Stanley street was blown down. The same was owned and occupied by Mr. O. H. Schultz, who places amount of damage at \$300 to \$400.

The left wooden approach of the Sabine street bridge was torn up for a distance of probably 150 feet. The south entrance is completely choked up by debris and is almost impassable.

The St. Joseph church at the narrow end of Houston avenue is a complete and total wreck. The magnificent structure that once adorned the place is a mass of rubble. A large pile of debris and broken glass mark the place where the canons of God were once dispersed. A Post reporter interviewed Rev. Thomas F. Danford at his home a few days after the storm. He states that the building showed no signs of the calamity that was to render it forever unfit for worship, but that it fell without warning. He estimates the building at \$10,000 loss, and that it precipitated a distance of seventy feet. This bell has an untold history and was the first bell in Houston to toll together a congregation years ago. It has seen service in a great many instances of worship in this city. It is proposed to rebuild at once.

A store occupied by W. T. Walters, 2500 Washington street, had the entire roof blown off, laying open the stock of groceries that were within the furies of the rain. Damage to stock and building estimated at \$150.

The African Methodist church on Washington street was partially destroyed. It was precipitated to the ground, a distance of three feet, wrecking the entire contents.

Flax and contents, corner Washington and Southern Pacific crossing was entirely overturned and demolished. The same was used as a saloon and occupied by J. G. Blaska, who is also consular of Chesapeake. Loss on building and contents estimated at \$2000.

The Southern Cotton Oil company sustained very serious injury. The list room was partially demolished. The seed house is all down. The end wall of the blacksmith shop was thrown in. The machinery was totally destroyed and presents an appalling scene, with smoke stacks scattered right and left, bent and broken into bits and debris lying everywhere and oil tanks grown bare and their contents scattered to machinery is considerable and will cause suspension of operations for probably twelve to fifteen days. It is impossible to place an estimate on the loss, but it is supposed \$15,000 will cover the damage.

The fireman union press sustained a slight damage, mainly to the roof, a being blown entirely off the building. Otherwise the extent of the injury to the plant is very small. It will not interfere with operations.

The damage to the National Cotton oil company can not be ascertained at this time, but it is considerable. The tanks and pipe in the rear part of the plant was uprooted and thrown across the press room, precipitating thousands of gallons of water in the building and inundating the machinery. The roof of the seed house is completely torn off and exposes the immense stock of seed to the weather. A great many other minor damages are in evidence. The damage is so great as to impair work for several weeks.

A drug store on Washington street tenanted by Mrs. M. B. Wade is partially overturned. The roof is wrecked and blown into the building. Loss is estimated at \$500. Part of the contents are destroyed.

The Southwestern Oil company plant at Houston Heights is a partial wreck. Burns and storage buildings are utterly destroyed. The large stack is down and the place is filled with debris.

A house owned by J. M. Dulaney of Houston Heights was blown off five-foot pillars and seriously shaken up, wrecking the interior of the building. Loss about \$500.

The residence of Mr. Charles Brandt was considerably damaged, being precipitated a distance of seven feet. The contents were nearly destroyed. Loss about \$200.

The Houston Heights Brick company was entirely destroyed. Nothing but a pile of debris marks the place where it once stood. Machinery is a total wreck.

The Houston Heights boulevard presents a scene to remind one of the "Mount forest days." Everywhere huge trees uprooted block the roadway. It is impossible to pass the obstructed road.



Ruins of the First Baptist Church on the Corner of Fannin Street and Rusk Avenue.

## RELIEF MEETING CALLED.

### Proclamation by the Mayor of Houston.

A meeting of several citizens was held last night at the office of Weld & Neville, Captain S. Tallaferrro, presiding. It was decided to charter the steamer Lawrence to make the trip to Galveston, taking water and provisions, and to relieve the poor people of Galveston as much as is possible. Captain Tallaferrro was present at the meeting and stated that fresh water and cooked food were needed.

## Relief Boat to Leave This Morning.

A meeting is hereby called to take place at the city council chamber Monday, September 10, 1900, at 9:30 a. m., to take appropriate action in the premises.

## Second Ward.

The Second ward came in for its share of damage and while there are few prominent buildings of a public character in this ward the aggregate damage here was proportionately as large as in any other ward of the city.

## In the Business Center.

The business center of the city presented a very dilapidated appearance yesterday. The streets were filled with debris from the buildings, and the wires were a tangled mass. Show windows in most of the business houses had been broken and the glass was piled in heaps along the sidewalks.

The following is a detailed record of the damage in the main business portion: Capitol hotel, dining room and part of main building unroofed; damage to building, \$20,000; furniture, \$15,000; Abbott Currell & Co., damage to stock, \$500; damage to building, owned by George Brown, \$1000.

James Bute, damage to stock on Texas avenue and warehouses on the north side of Buffalo bayou, \$1000. L. M. Koch, damage to building occupied by James Bute, \$500. Houston Light Guard building, occupied by Mistrot Bros. & Co., damaged \$1000.

graph companies are unable to estimate their losses. The Converse building, loss, \$200 on building; Flaxman Notion company, \$200. Kirkland & Morrow, damage to building and stock, \$200. Houston Ice and Brewing company, \$2000. American Brewing association, \$2000. Central Dry Goods company, \$200. Lewis Bros. & Co., \$400. Guajabert, \$100. A. L. Neims, building, \$1000. Japhet & Co., \$1000 on building and \$250 on stock.

## Fourth Ward and Fair Grounds.

The Fourth ward and Fair grounds were no less unfortunate than the other portions of the city and great loss was sustained by the property owners throughout that district.

The following is a list of the places suffering the most serious damage: Mueller residence, corner Bagby and Rosalie, front blew off; several hundred dollars' loss to house and furniture.

A fine survey of Prof. Jemison, in the estate of Rev. Mr. Brown, was smashed by the falling debris.

## Fifth Ward.

The storm struck the Fifth ward with the same fury that characterized its force in other portions of the city, and heavy losses were sustained by the large manufacturing plants of that locality.

By far the heaviest losses in the ward were sustained by the Dickson Car Wheel company. What is known as the central foundry of the plant was completely demolished, while the main foundry, where the car wheels are made, suffered the loss of its roof and was otherwise badly damaged.

The roof of the Henke Ice plant is a water wreck and both of the smokestacks are down. A part of the plant is running, but with an abbreviated smokestack.

## A TEXAS WONDER.

### Hall's Great Discovery.

One small bottle of Hall's Great Discovery cures kidney and bladder troubles, removes gravel, cures diabetes, sexual emissions, weak and lame backs, rheumatism and all irregularities of the kidneys and bladder in both men and women, bladder troubles in children. If not sold by your druggist, will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1.00. One small bottle is two months' treatment, and will cure any case above mentioned. Dr. E. W. Hall, Sole Manufacturer, P. O. Box 27, St. Louis, Mo. Send for testimonials. Sold by all druggists and Houston Drug Company.

## KIAM'S NOTICE.

We beg to announce that our stock was not damaged in any way by the late storm.

## This Time Next Week

You will be doing what every other well regulated boy is doing—going to school, and when you will certainly want to be dressed as well as the other boys, if not better.

SCHOOL SUITS, with short Trousers, some with Vests, \$1.50, \$2.50, up to \$6.00. NEW FALL HATS, all the stylish shapes and colors, \$1.50, \$1.00 and 50c. SCHOOL CAPS, Golf, Hobart and Eton styles, 50c and 25c.



MAMMOTH CLOTHIER.

## CAWTHON'S.

Saturday night's storm destroyed our show windows and signs, but

## Not a Dollar's Worth of Stock Damaged.

Our store will be open as usual this morning at 7 o'clock.

## K. H. CAWTHON & CO.,

Clothiers, Hatters, Furriers, Tailors, 412 and 614 Main St., under Capitol Hotel.

on Providence and Maffitt streets was totally wrecked.

The new Second Baptist church is twisted out of shape and the windows are all gone.

The Vine street colored Methodist church is one of the most complete wrecks in the ward. Debris from the church fell on the roof of the passage and almost wrecked that building.

The plant of the Acme Lumber company is considerably damaged, as is also that of the Phoenix Lumber company.

The entire front of E. Mahoney's grocery, corner of Wood and Cline streets, is down, and during the storm everything in the store was broken that would break.

The roof is entirely off of Pinnagan & Co.'s side and wool house, and the place is otherwise damaged.

The Howard Smith storage warehouses on Daly place are in pretty bad shape, but no estimate of the damage is available.

The Southern Pacific repair shop building was almost completely demolished, but a large force of men went to work yesterday to rebuild it.

The American brewery is damaged to the extent of \$3000, both of the smokestacks and the roofs on two of the warehouses having been blown down.

The rear of the Henke Ice plant is a water wreck and both of the smokestacks are down. A part of the plant is running, but with an abbreviated smokestack.

The damage to the American brewery consists mostly in the loss of its fine

Vine, Camp Country, Texas, April 1, 1900—Dr. E. W. Hall: I will say that you have discovered the greatest kidney medicine on earth. I have had kidney trouble for fourteen years and one bottle of your kidney medicine has cured me. It will cure all kidney troubles, and I feel like telling you what great work your medicine will do. It is the first on earth. J. R. WOODS.