

## CHOKED WITH DEBRIS

Efforts of Thousands Have Little Effect in Clearing St. Louis Streets.

Passageways Made in Principal Ones, but Others Are Impassable.

Great Uncertainty Yet Exists as to the Actual Number of Fatalities.

### SITUATION SUMMARIZED.

At St. Louis.	
Identified dead.....	136
Unknown dead.....	18
Missing.....	33
Fatally injured.....	19
Seriously injured in hospitals.....	401
Estimated injured outside of hospitals.....	1,000
Property loss, estimated, \$20,000,000.	

At East St. Louis.	
Identified dead.....	110
Unknown dead.....	6
Dying.....	6
Missing.....	10
Seriously injured in hospitals.....	200
Estimated injured outside of hospitals.....	2,000
Property loss, estimated, \$5,000,000.	

St. Louis, June 1.—Although several days have passed since the tornado tore its way through this city, there still exists about as much uncertainty as to the actual number of people killed and the amount of property damaged as on the first morning after the disaster. Scores of dead have been identified, but no one is willing to venture a guess as to how many bodies may be in the ruins of the hundreds of buildings as yet unexplored. The total number of dead in St. Louis identified is 162, and in East St. Louis 127. In St. Louis there are 52 bodies still unidentified, and in East St. Louis 2. It is believed that the deaths of the injured and the future recovery of bodies will bring the St. Louis death list well up to 200. In East St. Louis the city officials declared that they have hopes that the death roll on that side of the river will not exceed 150, but the ruins upon which the rescuers have not yet begun work may swell the totals far beyond that figure.

#### Guessing at the Property Loss.

Many guesses are being made upon the property loss, and they range from \$20,000,000 to \$50,000,000. The most popular estimate is in the neighborhood of \$25,000,000 for both cities. The contractors of the city have been overwhelmed with orders for rebuilding, and the work of wiping out the havoc of the storm will be pushed with all energy. Although thousands of men have been at work night and day clearing away the wreckage in the path of the tornado, they have scarcely made a perceptible impression towards restoring the chaotic confusion to anything like order. Passageways have been made through some of the principal thoroughfares, it is true, but for the most part the streets are still choked with the

**Battered Remains of Homes and Factories,** hospitals and churches. The path of the storm is fully a mile and a half wide. It starts away out in the suburbs of the city, where beautiful homes of people of wealth are located. Taking a zig-zag course it extends down through where the densely populated tenement houses are located, fully six miles, and crosses the river.

At the extreme limits of the city to the west is a quarter known as Tower Grove Park. It is populated by people of wealth and the houses are palatial, with beautiful grounds and surroundings. To the southeast of this is another region of wealth. The storm mowed its way through them both. Magnificent residences in both places were

#### Wiped Off the Face of the Earth

In some cases, while in others roofs were carried away, trees torn from their roots and all the picturesque beauty destroyed. From the corner of St. Vincent and California avenues away to the northeast as far as the eye can reach is a stretch of devastation and ruin. The Christian church at this corner was an almost unrecognizable pile of bricks, mortar and timbers. The Chouteau school, half a mile north, was so badly damaged that it will probably have to be rebuilt, while nearly every dwelling intervening

#### Was Unroofed or Demolished.

At California and Russell avenues the houses at the northeast corner are in ruins, while those on the opposite corner were scarcely damaged. Look-

ing from this point towards the business center of the city as far as can be seen are wrecks of homes. Lafayette park, one of the most attractive public pleasure grounds in the city, has not a single tree left standing. It resembles a thicket of underbrush with the trunks of great trees twisted and torn, scattered throughout. The Lafayette Methodist church, facing the park, is in ruins, as is nearly every beautiful house in this vicinity. North from Lafayette park on Mississippi avenue are the ruins of Schneider's beer garden. Nearly every house on the east side of this street for a mile or more is

**Either Blown Down or Badly Damaged.** Brown's tobacco factory, a 6-story structure at Eighteenth street and Chouteau avenue, was almost wholly demolished, and to the north of it is what remains of Evans Bros.' tobacco warehouse. A short distance south of Chouteau avenue on Seventeenth street is the Fulton Grammar school, or the ruin of it. From here can be seen the remains of the city hospital. This structure has been damaged to the extent of over \$200,000. Devastation and ruin is seen on every side from the hospital.

At Fourth and Soular streets the storm turned its way to the north. It swept nearly everything before it

#### For Two or Three Miles

from the river to Fourth street. Among the important structures to fall were the roof and part of the walls of the Saxony flour mill, the Southern white lead works, Plant's mill and elevators, the St. Louis Foundry and Machine company's works, all of which were more or less seriously damaged.

The number of families left homeless by the devastation along the path of the storm will reach up into the thousands. In many instances these unfortunates have lost all their worldly possessions. Many will for days be dependent on charity and their more fortunate neighbors for shelter.

#### Many Offers of Assistance.

The messages received show that the purses of the people of the United States are at the disposal of the helpless unfortunates of St. Louis. But St. Louis is a proud city. She is always ready to give, but never begs, unless it should become necessary by abject want. The people of St. Louis who escaped the ravages of the tornado will see that their brethren do not suffer for the necessities of life or for any needed assistance. From far off London, Sir Henry Irving, Olga Nethersole and Wilson Barrett have cabled money, sympathy and offers of benefit performances if needed. Telegrams have also been received from governors, mayors and others all over the country.

#### The Damage to Shipping.

Corrected reports from various sources along the river front materially reduce the estimate of the loss by drowning. The revised list of total and partial losses in the levee office of the harbor department included the following steamers: Dolphin No. 2, Libbie Conger, J. J. Odill, City of Quincy, Henry Sackman, George A. Madill, four Wiggins ferries, tug boats Baton Rouge, Belle and S. C. Clubb, Bald Eagle and several barges, all total losses, and the Providence, Vicksburg, Cairo, Exporter, Harvester, Monroe, Arkansas City, Louis Houck and the city harbor boat, all badly injured.

#### ST. LOUIS NEEDS NO AID.

**Mayor Walbridge Thankful for the Many Offers of Assistance.**

St. Louis, June 1.—The following card in answer to the hundreds of telegrams of inquiry has been sent out by Mayor Walbridge:

"It is not practical to make individual answer to the vast number of friends who have telegraphed sympathy and offers of assistance. Through the medium of the press I sincerely thank the many friends for the sympathy they have shown and their proffers of aid. The people of our city are confident of their ability to properly care for all the sufferers from the recent tornado, and heroic efforts are being made to that end. No accurate estimate of the loss of property can now be made, but it is safe to say that the loss as reported by the press outside of St. Louis has been greatly overestimated."

#### Only Four Killed at Jefferson City.

MT. VERNON, Ills., June 1.—Investigation shows that only Mrs. Margaret Correll, her son, Charles, and Charles King and Robert Foster were killed in Jefferson City. The damage to property is worse than first reported, about 75 buildings being destroyed.

#### A Drain on the Treasury.

St. Louis, June 1.—Comptroller Sturgeon thinks that the city treasury will be heavily taxed as a result of Wednesday's storm. He says it will take nearly \$600,000 to repair the damage done to city buildings.

#### Barnato Pleads With Kruger.

PRETORIA, June 1.—Mr. Barney Barnato has arrived here and had a long interview with President Kruger, pleading eloquently for clemency for the reform prisoners. He urged that the heavy punishment which the prisoners had already undergone had vindicated the law.

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