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## Cyclone in Minnesota.

Nearly Two Hundred Lives Lost at Lake City.

### EXCURSION BOAT CAPSIZED.

The Steamer Sea Wing in the Path of the Hurricane Turned Bottom Up in Deep Water—Great Destruction and Loss of Life at Other Places.

LAKE CITY, Minn., July 14.—What will probably prove to be the most disastrous cyclone that has ever struck this community passed over this city at 9 o'clock yesterday evening, inflicting the loss of life of perhaps one or two hundred people, and damaging property to an extent that at this writing cannot be estimated. Your correspondent was visiting friends in Lake City, and was sitting in the yard when what appeared to be an ordinary electric storm was noticed coming up from the west. In half an hour the whole heavens was converted into a complete canopy of lightning, which was watched with interest by the brave citizens of the little village and with fear by the timid women and children.

A little before dark a terrific wind struck the community and your reporter sought the shelter of the house just in time to escape being caught under a huge tree that came crashing down against the house. Windows were closed instantly, and none too soon, for the cyclone was upon us, and trees and houses were fast being demolished in its path, while my wife in fear and trembling sought the seclusion and protection of the cellar in company with the ladies of the house. I assisted in closing shutters and making preparations for the worst that could be expected, while trees were heard to be crashing down and missiles were striking against the house. The building proved strong enough to weather the blast, and in half an hour the worst of the hurricane had passed.

As soon as the trees had been cleared away from the front of the house your correspondent started out, and soon learned that a horrible calamity had befallen the place that has not been equalled since the St. Cloud cyclone several years ago. People began to gather in the streets, and in a few minutes the news was scattered abroad that an excursion boat, with over 200 people on it, was capsized in the middle of Lake Pepin. The boat proved to be the steamer Sea Wing, which came down the lake from Diamond Bluff, a small place about seventeen miles north of here, on an excursion to the encampment of the First regiment, N. G. S. M., which is being held a mile below this city. The steamer started back on the homeward trip about 3 o'clock, and although there were signs of an approaching storm it was not considered in any way serious, and no danger was anticipated.

The boat was crowded to its fullest capacity, about 150 men, women and children from Red Wing and Diamond Bluff, being on board, and about fifty people on a barge which was attached to the side of the steamer. When about opposite Lake City the boat began to feel the effects of the storm, but the officers kept on the way, while the storm increased as the boat continued up the lake, and in fifteen minutes was at its height near Central point, about three miles above Lake City. The steamer was at the mercy of the waves, which were now washing over the boat and all was confusion. The boat momentarily ran on to a bar and the barge was cut loose, and the steamer again set adrift in the lake. A number of those on the barge jumped and swam ashore.

As the barge also floated again into the deep water those on the barge saw the steamer as it was carried helplessly out into the middle of the lake, and as they were being tossed about in the raging waters they were horrified a moment later to observe the steamer capsize and its cargo of 150 precipitated into the lake. Those on the barge remained there until they were drifted nearer the shore, and they were all rescued or swam ashore. Among them were two ladies who were brought to the beach by strong and ready swimmers. There were about fifty in all that were on the barge.

The events that transpired on the steamer after it separated from the barge are probably most clearly related by those who were rescued from it. As soon as the storm had begun to affect the progress of the boat Capt. Wetheren gave instructions to run the boat into the Wisconsin shore but it was impossible to run against the terrible forces of wind and wave. In five minutes more the waves began to wash into the boat and fill its lower decks, and while the hail stones as large as hens' eggs came down on the heads of the poor and helpless creatures who were huddled together on the top.

A huge wave struck the craft in the side at the same moment that a terrific blast of wind more horribly forcible than the others came up and carried the boat over, all of the people on board, 150 or more, being thrown into the water, some being caught underneath and others thrown into the waves. The boat turned bottom upward and only about twenty-five people were observed to be floating on the surface. These caught hold of the boat and climbed upon the upturned bottom, and those first securing a position assisting the others.

in ten minutes more the twenty-five or so who had obtained momentary safety on the boat could observe no others of the boat, crew or passengers floating on the surface of the continuing high sea of waves. Afterwards, however, as a flash of lightning lighted up the surface of the lake the sight of an occasional white dress of a drowning woman or child was observable, but it was impossible for those who witnessed the horrible sight to lend any aid. Those remaining began calling for help from the shore as soon as the storm began to abate, and in half an hour lights were observed flitting about on the pier at Lake City, opposite which point the upturned steamer had now been driven. Before help could reach them, however, the poor creatures who yet remained to tell the horror of the night, were again submitted to another battle with the elements with no word of warning, and as they were just beginning to hope that they would be taken off by the citizens of Lake City, the boat again turned over, this time on its side and again all of the remaining twenty-five souls were huddled into the water. Of these several were drowned before they could be brought to the boat by those who succeeded in remaining afloat and again securing a hold on the boat's side as the men hung on to the railing in danger each moment of being washed away by the waves.

One man observed the forms of two women wedged in between a stationary seat and the boat's side, both pale in death. As the lightning gleams lit up their upturned faces, another man saw two little girls floating past him as he lunged with desperate efforts to the steamer's side.

Half hour after the passage of the storm your reporter went with others to the dock where the steamer Ethel Howard was anchored safe from the storm. It was presumed that the steamer would at once proceed to the rescue of the drowning, but when I asked the captain, Mr. Howard, if he was going out to the rescue, he replied that he was not going to run his boat away from the shore until the indications of another approaching storm had disappeared. He said also that he did not propose to run the risk of losing his boat in order to look for dead people on the lake.

Citizens of Lake City who heard Capt. Howard's remarks were most severe in their denunciation of the position he assumed in the face of the statements made to them that every minute might mean the saving of a half dozen lives. Many talked of taking the boat away from him by force, but there were not enough to put the plan into execution, and other means of rescue were resorted to.

In a few minutes a dozen or more row boats were manned and put out from the shore. The upturned boat was at last discovered, the twenty or more remaining people clinging to the boat were rescued and brought to the shore, most of them being able to swim.

Among those who are known to have been on board of the steamer, and who are undoubtedly drowned, are:

- Two children of C. H. Rehder.
- Peter Gerkin, his wife, five children and hired girl.
- Fred. Sherf, wife and daughter.
- Mrs. Capt. Wetheren and her two children.
- F. Christ.
- William Blaker and family of three.
- Mrs. Hempting and daughter.
- Gus Beckmark.
- Miss Flinn.
- Boze Adams.
- Ira Fulton.

A full list of the 150 passengers which are pretty certain to have been drowned is not obtainable at this writing.

A large majority of them were women and children, those saved being nearly all strong men who were able to swim and cling to the boat after it had capsized.

On the return from the capsized boat with three or four people who had been rescued, one of the row boats encountered two floating bodies, each with a life preserver attached to them.

In Lake City the damage to property by the cyclone is great, although no fatalities have been reported.

Up to this time fifty-nine bodies have been found and laid out.

Another One Near St. Paul.

ST. PAUL, Minn., July 14.—A destructive storm, including a cyclone and ending in a fierce hurricane, swept the country just north of here at 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon, carrying death and destruction in its path. The storm originated at a point four miles directly north of here and moved north-easterly toward White Bear, covering a country accessible only to teams, and reports come in slowly. It is certain there are at least eleven persons killed and a large number seriously injured.

The storm center was at Kohlman's lake, at the large stock farm of James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern road, and to these points three ambulances have been sent, accompanied by a force of ten surgeons. Telegraphic communication with White Bear is cut off, and as thousands of excursionists went out during the day the stations are crowded with anxious friends.

The storm came on with fearful suddenness and was in plain view from this city.

The cottages of Messrs. Schurmeier and Good, on Lake Gervaise, were totally destroyed by the cyclone and five were killed and ten injured. Following are killed:

- Mrs. J. H. Schurmeier.
- Charles Schurmeier, of St. Paul.
- Rev. Mr. Phaeffer, of Brennan, Tex.
- George Miller, of the First National bank, of this city.
- Schurmeier's driver, name unknown.
- The injured are:
- J. H. Schurmeier, scalp wounds.
- Charlie Good, serious injury to scalp.
- Mrs. Phaeffer, shoulder broken.
- Thomas Barnard, not seriously.
- Mrs. George Miller, slightly injured on head.

Miss Carrie Moss, slightly injured. Clark Hansen, bruised hip. R. Good, three scalp wounds and an injury to the spine. Mr. Genter. Miss Minnie Moss.

Reports from outlying towns show that the storm visited destruction upon many places. While the central storm point was at Lake City and Lake Kohlman, the wind was of the force of a hurricane over all of the territory north of St. Paul, and its track was marked by ruin for a distance of fourteen miles. Beginning at Lake Macanion and extending across to Lake Vadnois, the storm left nothing standing in the path. Farm houses were unroofed, all standing grain prostrated and trees uprooted.

Vague reports of loss of life are coming in continually. At New Canada it is reported that twenty lives were lost and scores injured. The damage to property is also extensive. White Bear lake was crowded with excursionists, but it escaped the cyclone, though there was a general scare, a hard blow and a severe hail storm.

### Path of the Tornado.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., July 14.—Minneapolis and St. Paul almost by miracle escaped the severe effect of a cyclone late yesterday afternoon. At 4 o'clock the funnel formed a few miles north-west of Minneapolis and first came to the ground, but only for a moment, near the Twin City stock yards. No serious damage is yet reported from there.

It then rebounded and came to earth again about five miles further east, and rebounding again struck the vicinity of Kohlman's lake, seven miles from St. Paul, with an intensity that was terrific. At this time the top of the funnel, as seen from a tall building in this city, seemed fully two miles in circumference.

At Kohlman's lake six people are dead, five missing and nine wounded. At Little Canada, also near St. Paul, there are lives lost but how many is not known. The cyclone cut a swath 200 yards wide, leveling everything before it. The damage to property is great but not yet estimated. Large trees were broken like straws and carried hundreds of yards, and six houses were blown bodily into the lake. All the inmates of one house were killed. Hundreds of head of stock were killed. Some very valuable and rich stock farms lay in the path of the storm.

Later advices indicate that at least twenty people were killed at Kohlman's lake, and perhaps as many more at Little Canada. The funnel was photographed from the top of a hotel in this city by F. A. Hogle during the time it was wreaking destruction at Kohlman's lake and excellent negatives obtained.

### VICTIMS GROWING IN NUMBER.

It Is Now Believed Forty Persons Perished in the Chicago Explosion.

CHICAGO, Ill., July 14.—The latest police report relative to Friday night's explosion on board the steamship Tioga would indicate that over forty persons were blown into eternity. The head officers of the Union Steamship company are willing to concede that twenty-five were killed, but a careful review of the situation and a recount of the unknown dead and missing raises the number to more than forty.

The work of pumping out the water-logged stern compartment of the Tioga was finally accomplished yesterday afternoon without accident, and six additional bodies, five of them colored and one white, were taken from the myriad of oil barrels and cotton bales, and sent to the morgue. No effort was made to get into the after end of the compartment, where, it is believed, a number of additional bodies are buried, but the entire work will soon be completed, and the exact result of the fearful explosion will be known. The number of bodies delivered at the morgue is twenty, and of those twelve have been positively identified.

### Sailboat Upsets.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., July 14.—A special to The Times Union from Gainesville, Fla., says that while a party of thirteen were out in a sailboat on Alachua lake yesterday the boat capsized, and Mrs. L. J. Burkeheim, her 3-year-old son and Miss Tillie Brown were drowned. The ten others, including Mr. Burkeheim and his little daughter Ida, clung to the boat until rescued by people from shore.

### Shot From Ambush.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., July 14.—A special from Dover, Del., says: Caleb Ford, a prominent young farmer near Hartley, was shot while working in his fields last Thursday by some person concealed in an adjacent swamp. He is thought to be dying. Suspicion falls upon a man named Bodewell, who has been living at Ford's house, and who, it is rumored, had betrayed a female relative of Ford.

### Railroaders Discharged.

JOLIET, Ill., July 14.—Superintendent Clinton of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern "Outer Belt line," discharged 300 men Saturday on account of the strike in the quarries. All the other roads laid off from two to three crews.

### Charged With Train Robbery.

FORT WORTH, Tex., July 14.—Andrew Temple, a bar tender, has been arrested for alleged complicity in the Crawley train robbery last fall. He is suspected of having taken part of numerous other train robberies.

### Hot Weather Out West.

OMAHA, Neb., July 14.—Yesterday was the hottest of the year. Signal office reports maximum temperature as 105. No cases of prostration reported.

### Idle Men Go to Work.

ASHLAND, Pa., July 14.—The Reading's Keystone colliery will start up this morning after several months' idleness. The works employ 300 persons.

## Program of Congress.

A Forecast of the Week's Proceedings

### IN BOTH SENATE AND HOUSE.

The Senate Will Dispose of the Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill and Probably Take Up the Tariff Bill—Other Washington News.

WASHINGTON, July 14.—There is only one thing certain about the program of the senate for the coming week, and that is, that the sundry civil appropriation bill will be taken up, and if possible, disposed of. Before adjournment Saturday afternoon, the tariff bill was made the unfinished business of the senate, which makes it pretty certain that the measure will be taken for discussion when the sundry civil bill is out of the way. But there is no certainty that the Democratic members of the senate will permit the Sundry civil bill to be put through within the week.

It is generally recognized as a fact that the Democratic policy in the senate is to be one of delay until it is determined that the Federal elections bill is to go over to the next session, or until that measure is passed. The caucus of Republican senators to be held early in the week will come to a determination on the subject of a program for senate action, and when that program is announced the Democrats will know how to govern their conduct hereafter. Until the Republicans come to a decision, however, the general belief is that the Democrats will keep the discussion of the sundry civil bill going. What the decision of the Republican caucus will be is a matter of much doubt.

There is no doubt that a majority of the Republican senators who met in caucus Thursday night favor a change in the rules of the senate under which debate can be limited, and subsequently the passage of the Federal election bill. But the enemies of this proposition on the Republican side of the chamber claim that they can muster enough "bolters" to defeat caucus action with the assistance of the Democrats. Senate caucuses are never considered absolutely binding. They are rather advisory, although it is considered a bold member of the senate who will repudiate caucus action. The Republican caucus will likely be held Monday night. It will determine the program of the senate.

The house this week will probably follow the program determined on by the committee on rules for the week before—the disposal of the original package and bankruptcy bills. Mr. Payson's land grant forfeiture bill is well on its way to final disposition, and he will hardly object to the consideration of the other bills, as he did last week. While no definite program has been determined on, it is safe to say that the bankruptcy and original package measures will have the right of way, with the contested election cases of Langston vs. Venable, from the Fourth Virginia district, and of Witter against Elliott, from the Seventh district of South Carolina, as possibilities. The committee on the District of Columbia will have the floor on Monday for the further consideration of the Atkinson railroad bill.

### Saturday's Congress.

WASHINGTON, July 14.—In the senate Saturday the shipping bills were debated till near the close of the session, and passed. The tariff bill was then made unfinished business, and the senate adjourned.

In the house the silver bill occupied the day. The conference report was agreed to by a strict party vote—122 to 90. The bill now goes to the president.

### HEAVY FIRE LOSS.

Philadelphia Visited By Over a Half Million Dollar Blaze.

PHILADELPHIA, July 14.—Fire which originated about 4 a. m. Sunday in H. T. Atkinson's turning and planing mill at Tenth street and Susquehanna avenue, destroyed that structure and most of Atkinson's lumber in the yard opposite, and then spread to and destroyed Carey Brothers five-story wall paper factory occupying an entire block, 300 by 120 feet. The fire spread so rapidly that no attempt could be made to save the factory, and all efforts were concentrated upon preventing the spread of the flames among the surrounding tenements. These were saved though many of them were scorched and some of the roofs were smashed by the falling walls of the factory, the occupants escaping by hurried flight. Carey Brothers estimate their loss at \$300,000 on stock and machinery, and \$200,000 on building; insurance \$200,000. Mr. Atkinson places his loss at \$80,000, insurance \$27,000. Adjoining property was damaged to the extent of about \$10,000, making the total loss about \$600,000.

The origin of the fire is unknown, but Carey Brothers' watchman alleges that it started in Atkinson's stables, where several men had been carousing during the night. John Trumphy, foreman of Carey Brothers' designing department, was overcome by smoke while attempting to save some valuable designs, and had a narrow escape. John Hicks, one of the planing mill employees, was badly injured by a kick from a mule, while rescuing the animals from the stable.

### Found Dead on the Floor.

MARION, Ind., July 14.—Dominicus V. Skillman, proprietor of the Skillman house of this city, was found dead on the floor of his sleeping apartment, Saturday morning. Skillman had been a hard drinker of late. It is supposed that he died of a convulsion during the night and that in his struggle he rolled off the bed. His age was 55. He leaves an estate of \$20,000, which will go to an adopted son, Joseph Skillman.