## STORMS IN THREE STATES

Lives Were Lost and Much Property Swept Away by the Cyclone's Force.

## IOWA AND WISCONSIN SWEPT

Illinois Suffered Some Loss by a Wing of the Winds—Every Member of One Family Reported Killed.

CHICAGO, Ill., May 18.—Many lives were lost and a vast amount of property destroyed to-day by a cyclone that swept through Cedar, Clinton, and Jackson Counties of Iowa, crossed the Mississippi at Clinton and Savanna, and then darted across the State of Illinois in an easterly direction as far as Elgin, Belvidere, and Sycamore, and tore north through Wisconsin to Steven's Point on the one hand and Abbottsford, near Lake Superior, on the other.

It was a three-pronged cyclone, and it came so dangerously near Chicago's suburbs that the Weather Bureau sent out a warning just before dark.

Charles Breen and wife and three children were killed at Preston, Iowa. western part of the county, is thought to have covered about forty miles of territory progressing in a zig-zag direction easterly.

"The storm passed about half a mile south of Preston, along the Maquoketa River and east along its course to the Mississippi, then across to Hickory Grove, east of Savanna, where it ended in a water spout with much damage to property and some loss of life. The track of the cyclone where it passed through the county is something over half a mile wide, the outer edge of the storm touching Preston and working disaster.

Every farmhouse in its track was totally wrecked, trees uprooted, and everything swept away as clean as the path of a scythe through a grain field. Nearly all stock was killed and one family named Breen living south of Preston was entirely wiped from the face of the earth, not a member escaping, according to advices. A farmer named William Hildebrandt was also killed, and a number of fatalities are reported.

From Spring Brook it is impossible to obtain the names of the dead and injured at the present writing. The Milwaukee telegraph lines are down west of Sabula, and poles are torn out, broken down, and carried away. A Milwaukee passenger train was blown from the track at Preston.

A number of washouts west of Sabula are reported, and all trains west on that line are held.

According to late advices, ten lives were lost in the vicinity of Savanna, Ill.

A whole family at Osseo, Wis., is said to have been killed. William O'Meara of Quigley and Michael Hines of Charlotte are reported from Clinton, Iowa, as killed.

A telegram from Elgin states that there was loss of life in Stillman Valley, but no particulars are given.

Men and women were injured, and thousands of head of horses and cattle destroyed on farms that were in the line of the storm.

Two distinct, but less destructive, cyclones, one in the Western and Southern half of Kingman County, Kansas, and the other in the western end of Ringgold County, Iowa, occurred shortly after 6 o'clock Tuesday evening. The Kansas cyclone was preceded by premonitory symptoms that caused the people of Cunningham to take refuge in their cellars, where, notwithstanding that their houses and barns were blown off the earth, they were comparatively safe. The entire town was destroyed, but no fatalities were reported.

The Ringgold County cyclone, ococurring about the same time, swept over forty miles of farming country and destroyed a large amount of property. To-day's renewal of the cyclones began at Stanwood, in Cedar County, Iowa, a few minutes before 1 o'clock and, traveling in a northeasterly and eastern direction, bombarded towns, villages, and farms in Illinois and Wisconsin for nearly five hours. Marshalltown, Iowa, on the main line of the Chicago and Northwestern Railway, was just outside of the path of the big wind, but within influence of the terrific storm of hail and rain that accompanied it. Nearly every window glass in the city was broken, many buildings were damaged, and the streets flooded to a depth of several inches. Between Marshalltown and the river the cyclone seems to have followed a path leading almost due northeast, and it swung high everywhere except at the little town of Preston, which was nearly wiped off the One entire family is reported to map. have been killed. It struck the river at Clinton, and following the west bank, tore north as far as Savanna. This little town, which is on the Council Bluffs Division of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway, seems to have suffered more than any other. Ten lives are reported lost, and a great many houses destroyed. At Savannah the most extraordinary phase of the tornado was noted. The dense black clouds hanging over the city like a great threatening funnel, seemed to separate into three distinct parts. One of these divisions swept eastward, fallowing the line of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul. Another followed to the east and the Mississippi, and the third took a northeasterly direction. Special advices from intermediate points do not show that the cyclone did any damage in its sweep across Illinois until it reached Freeport about 6 o'clock. It struck Pawpaw, Amboy, Elgin, and Stratford about the same time. An hour later it was observed at Belvidere and Sycamore, and, according to dispatches from those points, was heading in a bee line for Chicago. It did not reach this city, however, and nobody seems to understand what became of it.

## Swept Through Illinois.

Pawpaw reports that Mrs. Frank Chichester was killed at a place about four miles north of that town. Hundreds of horses, cattle, and sheep were killed.

The branches of the cyclone that went north and northeast traveled at about the same speed, and, while one reached a point on the Wisconsin Central nearly midway between Abbotsford and Stevens Point, the other went through Augusta on the Omaha Road.

The following special telegram from Bellevue, Iowa, is the most complete story of the effects of the cyclone in that section that has been received.

"About 4:30 this afternoon a terrible cyclone swept across the southern portion of Jackson County, spreading ruin and devastation in its track, and leaving a number of dead and wounded as evidence of its fury and destructiveness. From all information that can be secured up to date, the storm that struck in the vicinity of Elwood, a small village south of Maquoketa, the county seat, and in the extreme south-

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