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MORE ABOUT THE EARTHQUAKE.

ASTOUNDING!

THE REMARKABLE NEWS FROM NEAR CHARLESTON.

THE EVIDENCES OF VOLCANIC ACTION.

A Terrible Railway Ride.

OPINIONS IN REGARD TO THE CAUSE OF THE EARTHQUAKE.

CHARLESTON, September 2.—A special report from Mr. Pleasant, opposite Charleston, says that a tank sink near the German church which Tuesday was perfectly dry sand, is now full of fresh water. Near Shell street there is a cabin occupied by a colored man that is completely surrounded by a yawning chasm extending through the earth's surface for ten feet and over. All around this there are sinks of fresh water and masses of mud, with queer looking soft substances that have never been seen before. It is contended by many that the mud and other substances found around the village are volcanic matter. Just after the first great shock Tuesday night there was a decided and distinct smell of escaping sulphur over the entire village. This smell lasted throughout the night. It was distinct in those localities where the cavities in the earth were most numerous. Some say that the portions of the mud thrown up by the water-spouts are strongly impregnated with sulphur, and that small pieces of sulphur can be found in the mud. Not far from Charleston, on the road to Summerville, extensive mounds of clay were thrown up and hillocks of sand, in most cases in the shape of inverted cones, the hollow part of which had evidently been formed by the action of water returning into the depths from which it had been raised. In many cases the erupted matter had streamed away from the breaks in the surface of the earth to a distance of twenty to fifty feet. In other places there were fissures, almost invariably extending from north to south. These cracks were not wide and extended downward, always in a slanting direction. The matter that was thrown up was of a dark slaty color and was mixed with gravel. There was also a little slate and in general the mud resembled that which is thrown from the bottom of the phosphate pits along the river. The water in some places had a taste of our artesian water, but in many instances it was just as clear and limpid as that from a mountain spring. These evidences of the great convulsion are not sporadic. They extend far and near in every direction from the city limits of Charleston to Summerville, and at the latter place it was found trustworthy information, that cracks and fissures are everywhere visible for miles and miles around. Strangely enough some of these were in active operation, and the constant shocks that were felt at Summerville sent water out of these fissures in jets to a height of from fifteen to twenty feet. This was evidently the result of the cracks being filled with water and then the sides opening and closing by each succeeding shock. These appearances were of course suggestive of still more violent eruptions and there was constant dread everywhere that there would be a general inundation caused by some extraordinary force of the earthquake. Not only was water emitted in low places, where it might be expected to exist all the time, but on the tops of the highest elevations the mud could be seen. This latter fact indicated that the force was being exerted at a rather greater depth than was at first thought to be the limit of the force.

Near ten-mile hill a fatal accident occurred Tuesday night. The down Columbia train jumped the track. Engineer Burns and fireman Arnold (colored) were badly injured by the tremendous leap which the train took in the dark under the unseen influence of the shock that dismantled the road. It is said that the earth suddenly gave way and that the engine first plunged down a temporary declivity. It was then raised on top of the succeeding terrestrial undulation and having reached the top of the wave, suddenly swerved off to the right and left, down an embankment. How it was done was plainly indicated. In many places along the track of the South Caro-

lina and Northeastern railroads and for spaces of several hundred yards in width, the dreadful energy of the earthquake was extended in two particular ways. First, there were intervals of a hundred yards and more in which the track had the appearance of having been alternately raised and depressed, like a line of waves frozen in their last position. Second, the indication was where the force had oscillated from east to west, bending the rails in reverse curves, most of them taking the shape of a single and others of a double letter S. These latter accidents occurred almost invariably at trestles and culverts. There were no less than five of them between the seven-mile junction and Jedburg. In other places the track had the appearance of being kinked for miles, but always in these cases in the direction of the rails. The train at the time of the earthquake was running along at the usual speed, and when about a mile south of Jedburg it encountered its terrible experience. It was freighted with hundreds of excursionists returning from the mountains. They were all gay and happy, laughing and talking, when all of a sudden, in the language of one of the excursionists, the train appeared to have left the track and was going up, up, up, into the air. This was the rising wave. Suddenly it descended and as it rapidly fell it was flung first violently over to the east, the sides of the cars apparently leaning over at less than an angle of forty-five degrees. Then there was a reflex action and the train righted and was hurled, with a roar as of a discharge of artillery, over to the west, and finally subsided on the track and took a plunge downward evidently descending a wave. The engineer put down the brakes tight, but so great was the original and added momentum that the train kept right a head. It is said, on trustworthy authority, that the train actually galloped along the track, the front and rear trucks of the coaches rising and falling alternately. The utmost confusion prevailed. Women and children shrieked with dismay and the bravest hearts quailed in momentary expectation of a more terrible catastrophe. Rev. Ellison Capers chanced to be on board and he lost no time in conveying, as best he could in the agony of the moment, the best advice and counsel he could offer. The train was taken back in the direction of Jedburg and on the way back the work of the earthquake was terribly patent. The train had actually passed over one of those serpentine curves already described, and it is a simple truth to state that every soul on board was saved solely through the interposition of Divine Providence. The horror of the situation in Summerville Wednesday was much intensified by certain manifestations not observed in Charleston to any great extent. All during the day there was a constant series of detonations, now east, now west, and from all possible directions. It resembled a discharge of heavy guns at intervals of about ten minutes and was like the sounds of a bombardment at a great distance. All of the explosions were not accompanied by tremors of the earth, as it was only occasionally that the earth would quake from the subterranean discharge. The remarkable fact was noted in Summerville in respect to the bulging of the water from the interior of the earth that nearly all of the wells had been at low water. There was a sudden rise in all of these wells and the additional water was pure. Looking down into one of these wells, an observer could on the eve of any loud detonation see the water rise up the walls and after the shock again subside. In St. Andrews' parish, for ten miles on the other side of the Ashley river bridge the country is cut up by small fissures and mud holes of from an inch to two feet in diameter. These holes have emitted blue mud and gray sand in large quantities, and the whole surface of this area is covered with little mounds. People living in this parish say that mud and water boiled up from five to ten feet in height, and they all seem to be in a most demoralized condition. One old negro woman said that the view of the city was most appalling. After the shocks were felt cries from the city could be distinctly heard, and almost immediately the light from the fires lit up the heavens over the city.

At Williams' farm, near the three-mile post, the surface of the ground was disturbed by vent-holes which threw out during the night seven

different kinds of sand, varying in color and shade.

At Summerville yesterday the scenes were such as it is impossible to adequately describe. All the stores were closed and the few people who were on the streets wandered about in an aimless way, not knowing what next to expect. All the inhabitants had abandoned their houses after the shocks Tuesday night and few of them had the temerity to return. The shocks are said to have been much more violent than in Charleston, but in general character were of course the same. In Summerville, however, the people rushed, frightened, into the inky black darkness and in the general gloom and despair the wailing of woman, the shrieks of children and the frightened voices of men made up a scene and sounds that were equally distressing and appalling as in Charleston. All through the night there was nothing but sickness and suffering. There was not a home that had not been made desolate in a greater or less degree. All chimneys had disappeared, walls were rent in twain, ceilings fell, and in numerous cases houses that rested on wooden blocks or masonry were leveled to the ground.

Other houses were split from top to bottom and left with yawning chasms in the buildings. In a yard, strange to say, water from a well came up like a waterspout and overflowed the yard and deposited six inches of sand for a distance of twenty steps around the well. In one yard is an upheaval about eight feet square. No damage of consequence is reported on the sea islands.

THE EARTHQUAKE.

The Asheville Citizen of Sept. 2nd says:

On the day preceding the recent terrible and universal convulsion we had published a short article suggested by the recent earthquake in Greece. A few hours after the article was in type, there came the convulsion, to our very doors, strikingly confirmatory of our suggestions, and destined to be forever memorable in our annals. Never before, in historic record, has the Atlantic slope been so convulsed; and never before has an earthquake on that slope been attended with such loss of life or property. The whole United States east of the Rocky Mountains have been singularly free from earth disturbances; and while shocks have been felt, they have been so slight as to make but faint suggestions of the distant terrors of the phenomenon. They were but the sympathetic tremors of the motions, which far away, were violently changing the face of nature, upheaving mountains, submerging islands, over throwing cities, desolating provinces, overwhelming peoples, and demonstrating the prodigious power of the forces which lie chained beneath us, terrible, irresistible, appalling, when they break their bonds, and burst out on their mission of destruction.

Only once in our history have earthquakes occurred this side of the Rocky Mountains, which at all bore similarity to those which are so frequent and destructive in the Southern continent. In the years 1811-12, that part of the valley of the Mississippi lying a little south of St. Louis, and extending below the mouth of White river in Arkansas, was visited by convulsions which continued through a period of eight months, with intermittent periods of violence. The valley of the Ohio sympathized in the movement, but there was no rain effected by it. But along the Mississippi the continued agitation effected great changes in the country. At one time that river flowed back for some hours in its channel. It changed its bed in many places, never to resume it; and eastern Arkansas as is now full of lakes and bays, the former beds of the stream. Heavy forests sunk into the ground, forming large marshes of what had been high land; and the tree tops of lofty forest trees may be seen to this day emerging from out the depths of swamp and water. The solid earth split into seams and chasms which have never since been filled except with water. The country known as "the sunk lands" still form a marked significant feature in the topography of the country. The region was but thinly settled, and there was little loss of life or property; but the towns of New Madrid and Herculaneum in Missouri were destroyed.

The chronicles of this great calamity exist mostly in tradition; but they were impressed upon record by association with the earthquake which at the same time convulsed Venezuela which was the center of disturbances, and the Mis-

issippi basin sympathized with the movement.

And so it is with all similar phenomena. Earthquakes are directly connected with volcanic fires, and eruptive action communicate a motion which is propagated in the elastic crust of the globe. That force is most violent where the crust is of the least thickness. Those who live in fancied security of the solid structure of the earth may remember that the solid earth is a mere thin shell floating on a sea of molten matter, such shell in thickness varying from three to ten miles. This molten matter, always boiling, is subjected to additional violent action by the admission of sea water through crevices in the earth, and must seek vents which they find in the numerous volcanoes which are found along the coasts of many seas and in the larger islands. Volcanoes are rare in the interior, remote from the access of water. The violent discharge of volcanic matter or its effort to escape, causes that prodigious action of the earth's crust which was known as earthquakes. Whatever disturbance felt in the far interior, in a primary formation, such as the mountains of North Carolina, is only propagated motion slight or intense, according to the degree of violence at the focus of commotion.

The earthquake at Charleston appears to be phenomenal, and is so, if that be the centre of disturbance. But it is most probable that we shall yet receive information of disturbances in the West Indies or South America that will make the violence of the Charleston disturbance, terrible as it was to the experience of its people, light in comparison to what it was elsewhere.

The velocity of earthquake waves is calculated at from seven to eight miles a minute; and this is sustained by the slight differences in time noted in different parts of this country in the recent convulsion.

The undulations of great earthquakes extend to an enormous distance. One, in Guadalupe, W. I., was felt to an extent of over 3,000 miles. The memorable one in Lisbon in 1755 extended over a space of over 700,000 square miles, and a portion of this country was agitated by the shock. The duration varies. Sometimes less than ten seconds suffice to do the work of ruin. One in Calabria in 1783, lasted two minutes, in which time it destroyed twenty-two towns and villages, and utterly changed the character of the country around.

Continental North America has not been the subject of severe convulsions in recent times, if we except that portion of it known as Central America and the South Mexican Pacific coast. The former of these, especially the State of Guatemala, is fully subject to such visitations. So is Northern South America, and the whole Pacific coast of that continent. So are some of the West India Islands, notably the island of Jamaica. Cuba is singularly exempt. It is from these countries that we receive the impulses which sometimes alarm, but until the present instance have never been destructive.

A history of this recent earthquake will be exceedingly interesting. Certain it is that opinions as to the exemption of our Atlantic coast must be reversed. Charleston as an apparent centre, with Savannah and Wilmington on the flanks, will suggest new theories, if it shall appear that Charleston was really the recipient of the heaviest force of subterranean action.

GROUNDLESS FEARS.

The Richmond Dispatch of Sept. 3rd says:

The telegrams from Charleston telling of the improved condition of the public mind in that city are interesting. It is not a human nature to write without exaggeration of such scenes as those through which Charleston has just passed; and, therefore, we have reason to hope that the world has not yet heard the last of the enterprise, wealth, prosperity, and happiness of that city. Why should anybody wish to excite groundless fears in the minds of the timid? The New York Herald touches this question in the following paragraphs:

"Scientists have not, it must be owned, been able as yet so to observe and co-ordinate seismic phenomena as to predict with the slightest approach to certainty when earthquakes will or will not occur; but, so far as historic precedents can teach us, we know that the occurrence of destructive earthquakes above the thirty-fifth degree of north latitude is—at least in Northern America—highly improbable, and that, while in volcanic regions, such as those of Naples and

Central America, such disturbances are likely to be frequent, in non-volcanic regions there is no reason to think that they will continue to be, as they have been, comparatively unknown.

"Any person may be struck by lightning and any town may be visited by an earthquake; but the same kind of experience that teaches us not to fret our souls over the chances of the former casualty may well apply, and with even greater force, to the wisdom of preserving our equanimity, in presence of the chances of the latter."

Charleston is below the 35th degree of north latitude. Richmond is in 37. 32. 17. We had a good shaking the other night, but it may be many a year before we have another. In December, 1875, eleven years ago, a reporter for the Dispatch interviewed Professor Winston, of Richmond College, on the point under consideration. He said:

"It may unhesitatingly be said that no such shaking of the earth has been felt in this section within the memory of the oldest inhabitant."

"Is it likely that the shock will be repeated? I reply at once that I think not." "In the vast majority of cases, especially of those occurring in the temperate zone, the shocks are single or in a small group like those of Wednesday night." [December 22, 1875.]

The learned professor prognosticated correctly. There was no return of such shocks for eleven years. Professor Winston further said:

"But what danger are we to apprehend if it should return and with increased force? Only the chance of its being sufficient to topple down the dwelling above you." "The probability of such a convulsion here as would destroy ordinary buildings is extremely remote."

The shock of 1875 was then said to be the severest known in Virginia for a hundred years. It is difficult for us to realize now how severe we considered it at the time; but we can guess what reports were sent out from a paragraph of the Baltimore Gazette (which we find in our files) ridiculing the statement that persons here had been thrown out of bed.

A SENSIBLE PROFESSOR.

On Wednesday a reporter for the Washington Star visited Professor Simon Newcomb at the Navy Department, and inquired if the earthquake of Tuesday night could be explained upon any astronomical basis. He said it could not. The reporter called his attention to the fact that the remarkable weather of this season had by some been ascribed to planetary changes taking place. "That is all nonsense," replied the Professor; "there are no planetary changes occurring, and when it is remembered that the changes we have had during the season do not affect the earth a foot beneath its surface, the absurdity of the theory is apparent."

In every community there are a number of men whose whole time is not occupied, such as teachers, ministers, farmers' sons and others. To these classes especially we would say if you wish to make several hundred dollars during the next few months, write at once to B. F. Johnson & Co., of Richmond, Va., and they will show you how to do it.

Ayer's Aque Cure, when used according to directions, is warranted to eradicate from the system all forms of malarial disease, such as Fever and Ague, Chills, Intermittent, Remittent and Billious Fevers, and disorders of the liver. Try it. The experiment is a safe one, and will cost you nothing if a cure is not effected.

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Itch, Prairie Mange and Scratches of every kind cured in 30 Minutes by Woolford's Sanitary Lotion. Use no other. This never fails. Sold by John Tull, Druggist, Morganton, N. C.

Day and Night

During an acute attack of Bronchitis, a ceaseless tickling in the throat, and an exhausting, hacking cough, afflict the sufferer. Sleep is banished, and great prostration follows. This disease is also attended with Hoarseness, and sometimes Loss of Voice. It is liable to become chronic, involve the lungs, and terminate fatally. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral affords speedy relief and cure in cases of Bronchitis. It controls the disposition to cough, and induces refreshing sleep.

I have been a practising physician for twenty-four years, and, for the past twelve, have suffered from annual attacks of Bronchitis. After exhausting all the usual remedies

Without Relief,

I tried Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. It effected a speedy cure.—G. Stovall, M. D., Carrollton, Miss.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is decidedly the best remedy, within my knowledge, for chronic Bronchitis, and all lung diseases.—M. A. Rost, M. D., South Paris, Mo.

I was attacked, last winter, with a severe Cough, which grew worse and settled on my Lungs. By night sweats I was reduced almost to a skeleton. My Cough was incessant, and I frequently spit blood. My physician told me to give up business, or I would not live a month. After taking various remedies without relief, I was finally

Cured By Using

two bottles of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. I am now in perfect health, and able to resume business, after having been pronounced incurable with Consumption.—S. P. Henderson, Salisbury, Penn.

For years I was in a decline. I had weak lungs, and suffered from Bronchitis and Catarrh. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral restored me to health, and I have been for a long time comparatively vigorous. In case of a sudden cold I always resort to the Pectoral, and find speedy relief.—Edward E. Curtis, Rutland, Vt.

Two years ago I suffered from a severe Bronchitis. The physician attending me became fearful that the disease would terminate in Pneumonia. After trying various medicines, without benefit, he prescribed Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, which relieved me at once. I continued to take this medicine, and was cured.—Ernest Colton, Legansport, Ind.

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GRAIN DRILLS. The Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station, Pottsville, Pa., has prepared a list of the best drills for use in Pennsylvania. The list is published in a pamphlet, and is free of charge. It is sold by the Agricultural Experiment Station, Pottsville, Pa. Address: Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station, Pottsville, Pa.