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FAIR MILL SETTLEMENTS DEVASTATED BY FLOODS.

Spartanburg Section Meets Frightful Disaster By Cloudburst.

TERRIBLE LOSS IN LIFE AND PROPERTY

The Counterpart of the Johnstown and Galveston Horrors Takes Place in the Piedmont Manu- facturing Section--Niagara of Death Sweeps Over Section and Busy Spindles Cease to Hum.

Not since the close of the civil war has any section of the South suffered a greater calamity, with the possible exception of Galveston, than that which struck the prosperous manufacturing section near Spartanburg, S. C., early last Saturday morning. The disaster was the immediate result of a cloudburst just at the foot of the mountains. In a few minutes time the swollen streams had picked up great boulders of brick and stone, and carried them down like houses of straw. The number of lives lost will reach near or over a hundred. The property loss is appalling. Six thousand buyers are idle and starvation seems almost inevitable. The business of the Southern Railway's main line is crippled for perhaps a month. Six busy cotton mills are gone, with the complete loss of all their machinery and four to five thousand bales of raw cotton, together with as much manufactured goods.

No fair estimate can yet be placed upon the entire loss. The Sunday and Monday issues of the Charlotte Observer, which sent special staff correspondents to the scene, have the following graphic account of the disaster:

As a result of the heavy rains six cotton mills—the Clifton Mills Nos. 1, 2 and 3, the Glendale Mill and the Pacolet Mills Nos. 1, 2 and 3 (the Pacolet Mills Nos. 1 and 2 are one plant)—have been swept away.

Two Southern Railway bridges near Spartanburg, S. C., have been destroyed and three other bridges are badly damaged; there are washouts at a dozen places along the main line in the piedmont section, and at Landrum, S. C., 18 miles of track are submerged and partially ruined.

It is reported that 50 people are killed, and eye-witnesses declare that they saw as many as 10 or 12 bodies floating down the Pacolet river. Those who are known to be dead are Maggie Kirby, Augustus Clave and wife, Miss Lizzie Clavert, M. Felix, Mrs. W. B. Tinley, Marie Sims, Mrs. B. F. Johnson and four children; Mrs. John Owens, Roy Owens, Garland Long, Mrs. Long, Miss Fletia Gosa.

IMMENSE LOSSES TO RAILROADS.

The loss to railway and industrial property is almost incalculable. The destruction of the cotton mills means a loss of at least \$5,000,000. The financial damage to the Southern is enormous and cannot be estimated at this time.

Apart from the direct injury caused by the loss of the expensive bridges, the Southern will sustain a great blow in the blocking of traffic over its main line and branch lines indefinitely.

DESTITUTE PEOPLE.

Near Clifton, S. C., alone, 500 people are homeless and 4,000 are out of employment.

A CLOUDBURST.

The sudden and unexpected rise in the Pacolet river was the direct cause of most of the disaster. On this stream are located the Clifton and Pacolet mills, the Glendale Mills being on Lawson's Fork. All the plants are within a radius of seven miles of Spartanburg, S. C.

For the past 36 hours the Pacolet river had shown the effect of the continuous rains, but the river, swollen as it was, did not cause any apprehension Friday night. The mills were, on an average, about ten feet above water level; they had stood the test of many freshets and were thought to be perfectly safe against any torrent.

But, if all accounts are to be believed, there was a veritable cloudburst Saturday morning at about 6 o'clock, and the river rose, visibly, higher and higher. In two hours, it is declared, the river rose 50 feet, making it 60 feet higher than the usual water level.

MILLS SWEEP AWAY LIKE STRAW

Before this fierce tide the mills went like straw. The first to go were the Pacolet Mills Nos. 1 and 2, a plant that is near Pacolet station, on the Columbia and Asheville branch of the Southern Railway. Half a mile down the river stood the Pacolet Mill No. 2, a smaller mill than Nos. 1 and 2, and that, also, was soon torn to wreckage and carried away in the stream.

Of the Clifton Mills No. 1 was first destroyed and was soon followed by mill No. 2.

Clifton No. 3, the largest of the mills that were lost, was situated at Converse station, six miles north of Spartanburg, on the Southern Railway. The mill stood 200 yards above the trestle. For an hour it resolutely withstood the mad onslaught of water, and then gave way, gradually, throwing into the current large pieces of timber that seriously injured and threatened to destroy the big trestle at Converse station.

BRIDGES WASHED AWAY.

The steel bridge over Lawson's Fork on the Pacolet river near Spartanburg has gone. It was one span and was 350 feet long, including the approaches.

The bridge over the Middle Tiger river, between Duncan and Wellford, is destroyed. It was three spans and 142 feet long.

The bridge over North Tiger river cannot be used. It is damaged, though the full extent of the injury cannot be ascertained yet.

The big bridge over the Pacolet river, six or seven miles this side of Spartanburg, is said by railway officials to be very unsafe. It is still standing against the fierce tide, but is badly damaged and is in a very serious condition.

The bridge over the Enoree River just south of Spartanburg is damaged and impassable.

The Seneca river bridge is also useless.

The bridge over the Pacolet river is 107 feet high, one of the highest bridges on the Southern system. It is 342 feet long and made of steel. The Pacolet Mills had 155,000 spindles; the Clifton Mills, 112,000; the new Glendale 30,000 spindles, making a total of 300,000 spindles and a total of nearly 8,000 looms, according to the estimates made by Capt. J. H. Sloan and other well-known cotton men who were seen by a reporter. This estimate makes the mills worth over \$4,000,000.

THE FLOOD CARRIED EVERYTHING BEFORE IT.

Attendant upon the passing of the mills there was incalculable loss. Four thousand bales of cotton and 2,500 bales of cloth were carried away with the debris of the Pacolet Mills. At Pacolet, the Presbyterian church, the hotel, the mill office, mill stores, cotton gins, grist mills, blacksmith shops, a large number of operatives' cottages and all the warehouses of the company were destroyed by the stream. The warehouses were built of brick and stone, one warehouse being built entirely of stone. The population of Pacolet is 5,000, all of whom were dependent upon the mills for support.

MAN AND BRIDE DIE A GLORIOUS DEATH.

Sam Swangare and his bride die in a way that seemed glorious to the spectators. Swangare seized his wife by the hand and when they came clear of the wrecked house he clutched her closer to him and swam to a floating mass of driftwood. There, in plain view, they clung to each other and sang together, so that all on the banks heard. The driftwood rushed against a large mass and separated, and Swangare and his bride went under the water locked in a last embrace.

Fletia Gosa boarded with a Mrs. Bailey, where also lived Mr. and Mrs. Kirby and J. E. Grier. Miss Gosa and Mrs. Kirby were carried out into the water and drowned speedily. Mrs. Emley was caught in a whirlpool just below Converse and, swinging to a piece of plank, revolved in the eddy until she was drawn in by a rope that had been thrown to her rescue. Grier caught the branches of an oak tree and remained there till he was rescued by a boat that was bravely manned. Mrs. Katie Long and her son, Garland Long, and her son, Richard, were hurled into the current. Mrs. Long and her younger son were saved by catching the branches of a tree, but Garland Long and his bride were drowned. The bodies of none of these people have been recovered.

50 DROWNED AT MILL NO. 2.

The greatest loss of life is at Mill No. 2, the furthest mill down the river. It is said that at least 50 operatives here lost their lives. The only names of the dead that are obtainable now are Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Johnson and four children, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Finley and five children. Several of the children of T. M. Massey were drowned, but he and his wife escaped. Massey himself had an extraordinary escape. He was carried through the No. 2 mill out through the opening at the far end of the building and swam to the shore.

THE CLOUDBURST A MYSTERY.

That phenomenon, the cloudburst, remains a mystery so far as origin is concerned. Residents here state that the rain was not heavier than it always is at this time in June, and everybody is sure that at some place close to Converse a cloud opened and emptied into the Pacolet river 20 times as much water as it usually carries. It is supposed that the cloud burst close to the Blue Ridge Mountains, about 20 miles from here.

60 OR MORE MILL OPERATIVES DIE.

In the confusion that necessarily prevails here it will be several days before the full loss of life is reported. Conservative estimates make a death list of at least 60 among the mill operatives alone, though only four bodies are known to have been recovered.

OTHER MILL LOSSES.

It is reported here that the D. E. Converse mill at Lawson's lost 1,000 bales of cotton and four houses. It is also said the Campobello Oil Mills and the Tucapaw Mills on the Tiger river have been destroyed.

A Comprehensive Statement.

Spartanburg, S. C., Special.—Below are the mills that suffered in Saturday morning's floods:

- Arkwright (slightly), capital \$200,000, spindles, 20,256, looms 694.
- Beaumont, capital \$100,000, 3,888 spindles, no looms.
- Clifton, Nos. 1, 2 and 3, capital \$1,000,000, spindles 101,232, looms 2,234.
- Pacolet, Nos. 1, 2 and 3, capital \$1,000,000, spindles 59,332, looms 2,202.
- Whitney, capital \$200,000, spindles 10,000, looms 300.

To Furnish Rations.

Washington, Special.—Absolutely necessary relief in the way of rations, medicines, etc., will be given by the War Department to the sufferers by the disastrous floods in South Carolina yesterday. An appeal to Secretary Root from the local authorities resulted in orders being given to General Chaffee, commanding the Department of the East, to this effect. He will authorize an officer to proceed north from Atlanta with supplies to relieve immediate necessities as was done for the sufferers at Gainesville, Ga.

Relief Funds.

Funds for the immediate relief of the suffering have been started in a number of nearby towns and cities. Spartanburg has taken the lead with a large subscription. Mayor Brown, of Charlotte, immediately issued a proclamation calling upon the people of that city for aid. Columbia has started a liberal fund. The Columbia State giving one hundred dollars. Gov. Heyward, of South Carolina, has issued a proclamation calling upon the whole State to help. Other assistance is imperatively needed.

NORTH STATE MATTERS

Newsy Items Gleaned From Murphy to Platteau.

Grant McAnney, a barber, who has been doing business in Southern Pines, for the past two seasons, and who died in his rooms at the municipal building last Wednesday night, claimed that he went to that town with \$3,000 and had held it in reserve. His attendant says he saw some money in his belt, but could not tell the amount. A woman who has lived with him, and who has been known as his sister, Miss McAnney, took the remains to Pittsburg, Pa., and so far as is known, will fall heir to his money. McAnney had lived a rumbly and exciting life and before falling in health, was a bicycle trick-er and manipulator of many different performances with circuses through the West. He was about 45 years of age.

Manuel Penilla and Nuno Fernandez, two of the crew of the wrecked schooner barkentine Vera Cruz, were tried before United States Commissioner Hill at Newbern Friday for violating section 2865, of the Revised Statutes of the United States. The law provides that any person with intent to defraud the revenue of the United States by smuggling any goods, wares or merchandise subject to duty by law, or every such person who is his, her or their aider and abettor, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500. The government was not ready for trial, consequently the case was continued until June 11. The defendants were required to give a justified bond for \$500, but being unable to do so, they were ordered to jail until their trial.

In the Federal Court at Raleigh an interesting case was on Monday, the defendant being H. C. Dillard, an ex-preacher, charged with writing obscene letters to Miss Lucie Green, of Spring Hope, Nash county. Dillard, a man of 40, loved the girl, but G. W. Finch, half his age, was the favored suitor. It is charged that Dillard wrote the letters and signed Finch's name in order to get the latter into disfavor. When investigation was begun Dillard ran away, after selling his property, and was traced by a postoffice inspector to Boardman, where he was arrested. Dillard was found guilty.

Samuel Haden, a young white man of Salisbury, who was pardoned in January by Governor Aycock, after serving part of a penitentiary sentence for larceny, has written to the governor expressing his willingness to return and serve out his sentence rather than remain out of the State, as he is obliged to do under the terms of his pardon. Haden, who is a consumptive, has been in New Mexico since his release and evidently thinks prison in North Carolina preferable to freedom out West.

Burglars got in their work in the store owned by the Avalon Cotton Mill Company, at Alvon, on the Norfolk & Western road, near Mayolan Friday night. By the use of dynamite the safe in the store was blown open. The robbers secured two days' sale, aggregating \$40, besides a few articles of goods. The exact time of the robbery is not known, as the explosion was not heard by any of the mill people. The company has employed detectives who are at work on the case. Telephone messages have been sent in every direction.

Maj. Patrick F. Duffy, for 15 years associate editor of The Morning Star newspaper, at Wilmington, died at his home there a little after 5 o'clock Monday afternoon in the 60th year of his age. His death was due to congestion of the stomach and was rather sudden. Sunday at dinner he ate some ice cream and became violently ill a little after 6 o'clock. Two physicians were summoned and were constantly at his bed, but he grew rapidly worse and passed away at the hour named.

A charter is granted by the State to the Fayetteville Gas & Electric Co., capital \$33,000, A. M. Taylor, of Baltimore, and others stockholders.

Johnson Stroud, colored, was placed in jail in Greensboro Tuesday night, charged with an attempt to criminally assault his ten-year-old stepdaughter. Emma Reese, the young white girl of Charlotte, who swallowed crushed glass last Tuesday, was taken to the Presbyterian Hospital Saturday, and her condition was improved. The account of the surroundings of the girl at her home on Middle street provoked intense sympathy for the sufferer, and a large number of citizens of Charlotte offered to contribute any amount that might be needed to care for the girl.

The jury in the case of Grimm vs. Seaboard Air Line Railway returned a verdict at Wadesboro late Saturday afternoon in favor of Grimm for \$5,000. The judge set the verdict aside as being excessive—and because it was claimed after the verdict that one of the jury was related to the plaintiff by marriage, in the eighth degree.

Henrietta was visited Friday by quite a thunder and rain storm. The lightning struck the Henrietta Mills store, at the southeast corner, just at the roof and knocked off a lot of brick, but no serious damage was done. The lightning struck at several other places in town and burned out a number of 'phones. A hog or two was killed also.

NORTH CAROLINA CROPS.

Report of the Department to Close of Past Week.

During the week ending Monday, June 1st, local showers occurred over a large portion of the State, which, though not general, caused a marked improvement in crop conditions. The showers were irregularly distributed, chiefly at the beginning and end of the week, the largest amounts falling in northern counties, while along the southern border very little precipitation was received, and in that section crops are still suffering for lack of moisture. However, in a large number of counties the drought was thoroughly broken, vegetation was much refreshed, and crop prospects though not flattering are favorable. While the rainfall was of immense benefit in bringing up dormant seeds in supplying the immediate needs of growing plants, and in placing soil in better condition for cultivation, there was not sufficient rain except in a very few places to thoroughly soak the ground or to soften up plowed land. Hail occurred in several eastern counties on the 24th with some damage to crops. The temperature was moderately above the normal and favorable during the entire week, until Sunday, May 31st, when cooler weather with northeast winds set in. The sky was more or less cloudy during the week even where no precipitation occurred. Though backward and generally with poor stands crops are clean and are now being well cultivated.

Corn has not all been planted; a good deal was brought up by the rainfall this week, and that up grew nicely; most of the early corn has received first plowing; in counties suffering from drought much replanting will have to be done. The rains caused cotton to come up nicely, though all is not yet up; planting is practically finished; cotton plants are very small, but have improved, stands are better and choppiness is underway. The weather was excellent for the work of transplanting tobacco in the northern counties where it progressed rapidly, while the crop shows some improvement. A number of crop correspondents state that wheat is better than expected, though the yield will be short; harvesting early wheat and oats has just begun in a few places; spring oats are not promising. Planting peanuts is well advanced and good stands have been secured. The yield of Irish potatoes in the east was reduced by the drought; many sweet potato sprouts were set this week. Gardens were much benefited by the rains. The prospect for fruit of all kinds continues fairly favorable in the central-east portion of the State, and for apples also in the west; the blackberry and dewberry crops will be large; grapes are blooming heavily. Meadows were much damaged by the drought and are poor.

Rains during the week: Raleigh, 1.69; Wilmington, 0.70; Charlotte, 0.20; Asheville, 0.90; Goldsboro, 0.80; Greensboro, 1.38; Lumberton, 0.92; Newbern, 0.29; Weldon, 2.06; Marion, 1.15; Henrietta, 0.70; Monroe, 0.92.

The Markets.

COTTON MARKET.

These figures represent prices paid to wagons:

Strict good middling	12.00
Good middling	11.75
Strict middling	11.50
Stains and tinges	11.15

PRODUCE MARKET.

Onions	12 1/2
Chickens—spring	12 1/2
Hens—per head	30
Eggs	13 1/2
Beeswax	20
Turkeys	12 1/2
Corn	40
Ducks	22 1/2
Wheat	60
Wheat—seed	1 00
Oats	45
Rye	1 00
Sides	9
Skims—calf	40
Hides—dry salt	10
Tallow—unrendered	2

A New Orphanage.

Mrs. Lela Elrado has established a new undenominational orphan home at Durham under the name of "Durham Orphanage." An institution of this kind has long been needed at Durham and will no doubt meet with hearty support.

A small fire was discovered at the beginning of the north side of Ely's trestle near Beaufort recently. Live coals from a passing engine appear to have been the cause of the blaze. Part of a tie was consumed when it was discovered. The flames were quickly extinguished by Reeves Sams and a negro, who live in the vicinity. But for the timely discovery it is probable that the other ties would have burned.

Death of An Editor.

Wilmington, Special.—Maj. Patrick F. Duffy, for 15 years associate editor of The Morning Star newspaper, died at his home here a little after 5 o'clock Monday afternoon in the 60th year of his age. His death was due to congestion of the stomach and was rather sudden. Yesterday at dinner he ate some ice cream and became violently ill a little after 6 o'clock. Two physicians were summoned and were constantly at his bedside, but he grew rapidly worse and passed away at the hour named.

PROMINENT PEOPLE.

Dr. Samuel Smiles is probably the oldest living author in England.

The armored cruiser King Alfred has been selected to take the Prince and Princess of Wales to India in the autumn.

Lady Henry Somerset has retired from the presidency of the British Women's Temperance Union because of ill health.

Entertaining a king is an expensive honor. The recent visit of King Edward to Dalkeith palace cost the Duke of Buccleuch about \$25,000.

Justice Fletcher Ladd, of the Supreme Court in the Philippines, has resigned because of his wife's illness, and will return to his home in New Hampshire.

Sir Wilfrid Lawson is known as England's "Grand Old Man of Temperance." He is seventy-three years old, and has devoted forty years of his life to the championship of temperance.

Senator Hawley is a devotee of the houseboat for this summer. He and Mrs. Hawley will begin a lingering tour in Chesapeake Bay, and will go later up the Hudson, Lake George and Lake Champlain.

John La Farge, the artist, is a tall man, slightly bald, with a narrow chest and slight shoulders. His eyes are small, black, piercing. And while he talks there is a dry sort of smile playing around his mouth.

It is pointed out that Judge Maxwell, who died recently in Florida, was the last survivor, properly speaking of the Confederate Senate, which met at Montgomery, Ala., on March 4, 1861, and was presided over by Alexander H. Stephens.

Associate Justice Harlan, of the United States Supreme Court, is seventy years old. Under the law he may retire from the bench on full pay, but there is not the slightest prospect that he will do so, as he is hale and hearty and has the vigor of many healthy men half his age.

The Imperilled Big Trees.

Since the State of California and the United States are both too poor to save the giant sequoias of the Calaveras grove, the people who wish to avert the crime of cutting down those mighty comrades of the mountains are turning to the last resort—the benevolent millionaire. Is there not in this land of billion-dollar trusts and more or less digested securities the sum of \$125,000 of free capital available to keep from the lumber mill the wonderful trees that were towering in their vigorous maturity when the infant Romulus was wading among the reeds of the Tiber?

The big trees of California are like the surviving buffalo—they are so few that every one is numbered. They have no mates in all the world. They inhabit a little strip along the foothills of the Sierras, and there some of them have lived for 5,000 years. They were old when the ruined castles of the Rhine, the palaces of Rome and the temples of Greece were new. If we should allow them to be deliberately destroyed now, in the full glory of their venerable life, for the lack of a wretched \$125,000, we should deserve the European taunt that we are a people without sentiment.—New York World.

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