

WATERTOWN, Wis., Aug. 15.—A terrific thunder, lightning, and rain storm passed over the section of country south of here this morning, doing great damage. At Lake Mills the house and barn of W. H. Raynor was struck by lightning and burned and a valuable horse killed loss, \$1,000; partially insured. In Farmington and barn and windmill were also struck and destroyed.

SHERRBROOK, Que. Aug. 15.—The most severe thunder storm of the season passed over here to-night. Several houses and barns were struck by lightning. Considerable damage was done.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 15.—The gigantic oak tree at Mount Vernon, known as Washington's oak, has been destroyed by lightning.

The total rain-fall in Ohio for the nine months ending June 1st was 55.01 inches, or 1.01 inches more than the average rain fall for a full year.

Hunters who pretend to know, and who base their opinions on the late-ness of the spring and certain so-called sure signs, declare this fall will be an unusually good hunting season. Deer are said to be remarkably plentiful in the Adirondacks.

The man who camps out for a few days and is compelled to do his own cooking, will not growl on his return home, about the food that is set before him, until after the recollection of his own failure as a cook shall have been forgotten.—*Commercial Advertiser.*

Leadville, Col., was visited last Wednesday, Sept. 6th with a heavy snow storm. In the Middle and Eastern States the weather has been warm and sultry. Texas at the same time was visited with an unprecedented rain fall, causing much destruction of property along the Cnocho river. Six inches of rain fell all over northwestern Texas. It is estimated that 25,000 sheep, besides cattle, horses and mules, and sixty or seventy-five persons, were swept away. About fifty houses were washed away in Laredo, and the track of the Mexican National Railroad was badly damaged on Sunday.

Sergeant J. G. Linsley's summary of meteorological observations on Mount Washington for the month of August shows the month to have been warm and dry, with light winds, a mean temperature a fraction above the average for the corresponding month during the past ten years, and a total rainfall below the average and less than for the corresponding month in any year since 1876. The mean temperature was 47.7, the highest being 65.5 on the 6th and the lowest 26 on the 19th. The mean barometer was 30.015, the highest 30.264 being on the 1st and the lowest 29.672 on the 9th. Frosts occurred on the 16th, 18th, 22nd and 26th. The highest velocity attained by the wind was eighty miles an hour on the 13th. The total rainfall was 2.51 inches, rain or snow falling on the 4th, 6th and 21st.

DALLAS, Tex., Aug. 28.—From all parts of western Texas, in a region about four hundred miles from Dallas, comes reports of the heaviest and most disastrous storms ever known in the Southwest. They have prevailed, with now and then a dry day, for over two weeks, but the last three days have culminated in the loss of nearly one hundred human lives, thousands of head of stock, and vast amounts of property generally. The most seriously inundated region is in the sparsely settled frontier, without railroad facilities, and penetrated only by the government military telegraph line, and the wires on this are so prostrated that all attempts to-day to reach the flood centre by either the northern end via Denison or the southern end via San Antonio, have failed. There is no doubt that the towns of San An-

glea and Ben Ficklin have been almost entirely swept away, and the settlements surrounding them have suffered proportionally.

DENVER, Aug. 30.—A heavy snow storm has been raging at Leadville, all last night and this morning.

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M., August 31.—A heavy rain has prevailed in this part for the last three days and finished up to day with a snow storm in the mountains. The peaks of the Sandia range are now as white as winter.

**Never Such a Season.**

There was never such a season before since the world began. The very edge of grumbling is taken off and complainings have been transferred from all classes to picnic parties. It is impossible to find the slightest ground for grumbling. Along with his myriad virtues the man who cultivates the soil and depends upon the weather, possesses the one slight fault, not very serious either. It has been truly a remarkable season. It was demonstrable by the weather reports up to the first of June, that further rain was an impossibility. It did rain in reasonable quantities, most unreasonably and in defiance of all calculations based upon indisputable data. When July opened the impossibility which existed at the opening of June had been further strengthened. The year's rain had pretty well fallen and the doctrine of the equities and assignment of a reasonable rainfall to the remaining month clearly shut July out. We thought it proper to announce this plain matter of fact. We find ourselves tangled in the opening days of August in a most pitiable plight. If we predict rain we might be the means of cutting short the late corn, if we predict drought we may bring another flood upon the already much flooded people of this city. It is a Sirius matter to predict the weather in those days when the dog star rises and sets with the sun, and we shall leave August and the dog days to get along as best they can without any prophecy. In this said failure of the weather it is a pleasure to reflect that our prophecies have been based upon sound data, and that there has been no flaw in them, although the weather has been sadly off. In this respect we are in line with the rest of the weather prophets, Tice and Vennor, and our Alabama friend, whose name we have forgotten. The heavens may go wrong and the weather fail to come to time, but they always come up smiling and unmoved. We are now convinced that weather prescience in this world is confined to the goose bone, the cockle burr, the ground hog and the katydid.—*Nashville Banner.*

**Crops damaged by Wet Weather.**

MILLERSBURG, O., August 21.—Another tremendous rain poured down upon us to day, and the streets are flooded. The farmers are threshing their wheat that is out as fast as possible, and find much of it in a bad condition. Sprouts and roots attached to the grain are found in abundance, and much of it being very damp and not fit for market. One farmer said to day that we would see by Christmas about how much good wheat there was and the price also meaning that there was three times more damaged grain than was expected.

The continuous rain has further lowered the prospects for oats, but has brightened the corn's chances materially. Not any complaints of potatoes have been heard yet, except in a few bases on bottom lands, where water overflowed them.

—A trade journal gives directions for "preserving harness." Preserved harness may be considered very palatable by those who like that sort of thing, but we don't want a bit in our mouth.—*Norristown Herald.*

**Where the Rain Went to.**

DALLAS, Tex., Aug. 20.—Passengers by the Texas and Pacific Railroad say one of the heaviest rains ever known, continuing three days and nights, without intermission, stopped falling in West Texas last night. In some places, the plains where tradition says it never rains, have the appearance of a sea, and the rainfall is estimated at six inches. The flooded section begins near Abilene and extends west for nearly 300 miles, including the country from the Brazos to the Pecos Rivers. Miles of the track of the Texas & Pacific Road have been damaged, and in several places washouts have occurred. Four miles of track west of Abilene were washed away and trains cannot cross. Transfers have to be made. In one spot 100 yards of track and embankment are washed away, and will have to be entirely rebuilt. Great drifts of dead prairie dogs are piled in the rubbish. Thousands of them have been drowned, and thousands more can be seen struggling in the water. On these plains the waters from such a flood flow southward, and the only channels to carry them away are the Brazos and the Colorado, the Concho and the Pecos Rivers and their small tributaries, consequently it will be several days before the land becomes dry again. The great washout referred to was the work of a water spout between Abilene and sweet water. A similar one is said to have occurred near Van Horn, nearly 600 miles of Dallas, and another spout is reported to have struck and seriously damaged the Southern Pacific track in South Eastern Arizona. It will take several days to repair the Texas Pacific track. It is feared that great loss of life and stock has occurred in the remote and sparsely settled country to the north and northwest of the Texas & Pacific. Parties in to day from the flooded district along the line of the road say its situation is simply indescribable. Hundreds of laborers have been put to work repairing the tracks and are working night and day.

**Wet Weather.**

LOUISVILLE, Ky., August 17th.—In conversation with farmers from different parts of the State, a reporter learns that crop prospects are not near so encouraging as they were a month ago. The general complaint is of too much rain. In many districts of the State lying east of the city, creeks and small streams have been over the banks, and whole fields of grain and tobacco have been partly or wholly destroyed. It is the general opinion that the yield of wheat and oats will be short of an average. The outlook for corn is somewhat better, but as much depends upon September it is yet early to speak with any degree of certainty. Early frosts are now most feared, but if these should not occur, indications are that the crop will go fully up to an average. In many parts of the State, tobacco has suffered from wet and insects to such an extent that in many places not more than five-eighths or three-fourths of an average yield will be realized, and the crop will not only be light in quantity, but inferior in quality. The bright promises of a large crop that were so encouraging a short time back have been overthrown by the ravages of insects, and continued rains in many localities have beaten the plants into the ground to such an extent as to materially degrade the quality of the staple that will be gathered. From reports gained through conversations with half a dozen planters, it appears that tobacco has suffered more than any other crop, and calculations that were predicted on an average yield have all been overthrown. One gentleman informed the reporter, however, that there was considerable of last year's crop still held in first hands, and the deficiencies this year will not materially affect the market.