

Illinois, about 10 p.m. with a loud report, and exploded a short distance east of the town. During the night the moon and stars were faintly obscured by a fine rain of ashes and minute cinders, sifting away to a light dust or gray powder.

On the same date a ball of fire passed over Levis, P. Q., at midnight, with a loud report, but no trace could be found on the ground.

On May 4th, 1890, a meteor was seen over Hancock, Kossuth, Palo Alto, Clay, Dickinson and Emmett counties, Iowa. It appeared like a large ball of fire at Angora, separating into two over that point, and then bursting into fragments, the sound of the explosion being heard three minutes afterwards. Buildings were shaken, windows broken, and a quaking of the earth was felt. A column of smoke rose, of dense appearance, as far as the eye could reach towards the zenith.

On February 24th, 1891, a large meteor passed over Portland, Maine, and was supposed to have fallen in Franklin County.

The London "Standard" of November 22nd, 1882, describing a large meteor which a few days previously passed over the northern sky, says an aurora was unusually bright at the time this strange torpedo-shaped luminous body passed majestically from east to west. It was described as resembling the glow produced by an electric current passing through a vacuum. Coincident with its appearance there was a magnetic storm of remarkable intensity. So violently were the telegraph and telephone wires deranged by the strong earth currents that their working was rendered impossible. American electricians equally experienced this interruption, and it was at the moment when the magnetic storm reached its intensity that the luminous body sailed across the sky. At Sidmouth the aurora was of an exquisite rose pink color. During the passage of the meteor the block signalling apparatus was greatly affected, two separate sections working at the same time, and the needle of the speaking instrument, instead of being read at vertical was obliged to be read at an angle of 45°. The block bells continued to ring during the passage of the object and for some seconds after its disappearance, and the signals were generally disarranged. At the same period very large spots existed on the sun's surface.

I believe the largest aerolite in any collection is in Brazil, weighing 14,000 lbs.