

kitchen in the grove that was there, nor any where about. The dwelling house is blown all to pieces.

The storm came about sundown. We were eating supper. The negro boy who lives with me and some of the children had got through and had left the table. I was not looking for a storm until I heard the doors slamming from the force of the wind. I caught the two smaller children, and told the others to run with me. We had just got into the big room when the kitchen was torn to atoms by the wind. Then the big house started. I tried to get into the big room next to the well, when the whole end of it blew down. My arm was caught in the door and I could not move a peg.

The children were in the big front room. I had just made up a fire there. The chimney was blown down and the fire scattered all over the room. The beds began to burn, and soon flames were starting in every part of the house. The fire was blown all over the children. Sam's face was burned some. Then the whole end of the big room and the little one that Mrs. Wainwright slept in were blown away.

When the wind came in on that side it blew the door off my arm so I could get to the children. I got them into the room next to the well, where the wind threw a large trunk against Sam and drove him to the wall so he could not move. By some means, I cannot tell how, I pulled it off him. Fortunately he was not hurt bad. The house was up in the air just tossing to and fro, and when it came down it was completely smashed. It was thrown clear off the blocks. The roof was nearly all gone, and the house almost turned over.

My arms are hurt some, but not so much that I cannot use them. Allie was cut on the arms some little with glass, and hurt in the back some, but not seriously. The other children were not hurt. I don't see how we were not all killed. I cannot describe the destruction to you. I can see the path of the cyclone both ways as far as my eyes can see. The storm came from the west and went eastward. The path is over two miles wide.

Uncle Billy Divil's house was blown and broken into splinters, and all the family hurt. He is hurt very bad, and so is the little child Tom. The doctors went to see them. They don't think they can get well. The church was torn to pieces by the wind. Uncle John Rhodes' and grandpa's houses were not blown down, nor were any of the family hurt. Joe Garner, the negro that lived close to us, and his wife were injured quite badly. The negroes who lived on our place (upon the road) had their house completely blown away. You would not think a house even stood there, to look at the place now. Both people are badly hurt. I have not yet heard from Rich. The Medlins and Mr. Sims, close to Rich's, had their buildings all blown away. I fear Rich was in the storm.

Oh, you can't imagine anything about it unless you could see it! And oh, how miraculous it was that my little ones and I were not killed! My things that are not gone are all ruined. My clothes were torn almost off me.

My dress was in strings. The whole face of the earth here around me is a sight to behold. People are coming from far and near to look at it. They say this place is the worst sight they ever have seen.

All of Jos. Garner's house was not blown off, and I stayed there last night. Mrs. Burgan sent over soon this morning, for the children and I, so I am with them tonight. This place was not hurt much. A big crowd of men has been at work today, trying to fix up fences. The old home is all ruined. It never can be fixed up again. All the rails are gone. The timber is all ruined, so that we cannot put a fence around it again. You never saw such destruction in your life. I am so troubled I don't know what to do.

This closes Mrs. Ives' letter.

Today a copy of the *Paulding Review* was received, giving an account of the storm. It says:

One of the most disastrous cyclones ever known in the history of Mississippi swept over the counties of Smith, Jasper and Clarke last Wednesday evening, the 19th inst. It struck Jasper county in the McBay neighborhood and traveled in a northeasterly direction at a furious rate across the thickest settled locality of the country and entered Clarke at Dr. Krouse's. The width of its fatal path was from three to four miles and the distance it traveled was over twenty-five miles in this county.

The destruction it wrought beggars and baffles description. In the twinkling of an eye dwellings, barns, trees, fences—in fact everything in the fatal path of the storm disappeared—were literally swept from the face of the earth.

Immediately after the furious winds had passed, a heavy rainfall set in, accompanied by a heavy hail, which mercilessly poured down upon the helpless and homeless victims. It was indeed a pitiable sight.

The scene that met the astonished gaze of the dazed victims when Thursday's sun revealed the awful results of the storm could not be described. Where the happy homes of a contented people had stood, nothing was left but unsightly and noxious debris.

Houses, fences, barns—all scattered to the four winds of the heavens, and ruin and desolation prevails on every side. In Jasper county over one hundred and fifty families found themselves homeless and the accumulations representing the labor and savings of a lifetime, were swept away in one brief but awful moment. The calamity falls heavily upon the victims, as nearly all of them are farmers and all were already in close circumstances and at best were barely making a living.

The loss of human life was miraculously small. Only three lives were lost in the county—Mrs. W. R. Thigp, Mrs. Shepherd Stringer and Stafford Feyton, colored. The two latter were killed outright, while the former lived until Friday. While it is sad that any deaths should have occurred at all, still, it is peculiarly fortunate that so many others escaped with their lives. Many others were seriously wounded, but not fatally.

Then follows three columns detailing the losses suffered and making an appeal on people outside of the cyclone's

track to aid those whose homes had been devastated.

## CHINESE IN COURT.

NEW YORK, May 6.—Three meek appearing Chinamen who have violated the Chinese exclusion act by failing to register as required by the law, walked into United States Marshal Jacobus' office in this city this morning and were immediately placed under arrest. Their names are Wong Quan, laborer, No. 4 Mott street; Lee Goe, costumer, 2702 Third avenue, and Fong Yue Ling, No. 1 Mott street.

They voluntarily surrendered themselves by the advice of eminent lawyers, in order to test the legality of the Chinese exclusion act. They were taken into the United States district court where Judge Brown was sitting prepared to hear two of the cases. The case of Fong Yue Ling was brought before United States circuit court, Judge Lacombe.

The case of Wong Quan was first called. The chief lawyer for the Chinamen, is Jos. H. Choate, and with him is Thomas D. Riordan, counsel for the powerful Chinese Six companies at San Francisco, which are defraying all the expenses of the test cases. Riordan came here from San Francisco two weeks ago.

United States District Attorney Mitchell appeared to prosecute. Through an interpreter Wong Quan admitted that he was a laborer resident in the United States on May 5th, 1892, when the Geary act became law, and that he had not applied for certificate of residence as required by the law; nor had he troubled himself at all about it and he had no excuse to offer for not doing so. His lawyers appeared as anxious as Mitchell to have him adjudged guilty of violating the law, and Judge Brown remanded him to the custody of the United States marshal to be deported to China.

Lee Goe's case was then called. It differed from Wong Quan's inasmuch as his lawyers said he was without necessary certificate through "unavoidable cause," but not able to prove so, by any white persons, nor was he able to show by any white person that he was in the country on May 5th, 1892, as the law requires.

According to the Geary law, when a Chinaman applies for registration the collector of internal revenue may refuse to register him, unless he shows by reputable witnesses that he was entitled to the protection that registration guarantees. If at the end of the year a Chinaman still remains unregistered he is liable to arrest, when he then must prove by at least one reputable white citizen that he resided in this country prior to the passage of the Chinese exclusion act. Lee Goe had applied to the internal revenue collector on April 11, but was refused registration on the ground that Gay Mamie, the Chinese interpreter, whom Choate officially designated as a "Chinese gentleman" was not in the opinion of the collector a reputable witness because he was a Chinaman. Judge Brown signed the papers for the expulsion of Lee Goe.

The third case was that of Fong Yue Ling, an Americanized Chinaman who