

THE EVENING NEWS.

Wednesday, Aug. 27, 1875.

Pioche Flooded.

Thousands of Dollars Worth of Property Lost.

Yesterday at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, an exceedingly heavy storm, was approaching from the northwest. It was first only noticed at a distance of about five miles from town, sweeping over the plain with more of the appearance of a high wall of dense smoke than of an ordinary rain-storm. It less than ten minutes, however, reached us.

The sky became so dark, and it was impossible to use lamps, and candles in houses. People walking on the streets began to hurry their footsteps, teams put out to full speed, and men spurred their horses to obtain a place of shelter. Doors and windows were closed, as a protection from the coming storm, and everything being tokened of general importance and value.

Fame came a few exceedingly large drops of rain, mingled with hail, which melted as soon as it touched the ground. Gradually the rain fell faster and faster, until the air was so filled with it that one could scarcely see farther than 200 yards. On Main street, there was at first a small stream, probably two or three inches deep and a foot and a half wide. This stream increased in size gradually, until in about ten minutes the whole width of the street was covered with a muddy, swirling torrent. The sides of houses of brick, stone and the sides of the rising river forced them back into the street, stones and saloons, though, no clouds of smoke, the lightning flashed in the sky almost every moment, and the quickly following, loud crashing and rolling of the thunder told how near we were to the discharge.

TENTS!

The damage was described from the lower part of town, another was coming in an opposite direction. The two storms met not far from the Adelphi Hotel, in the center of town, when the earth was said to have fallen there was enormous. It was so great that some even thought a cloud-burst had occurred. Builders weighing over two hundred pounds were carried down with the flood.

Now, the damage in the Meadow Valley Cemetery is reported by the miners who were forced to leave it to be full of water to the eighth level, 150 feet above ground. Miners came to the surface thoroughly wetted, and far more frightened than wet.

Two Storms Meet.

Whilst the first described storm was still in the lower part of town, another was coming in an opposite direction. The two storms met not far from the Adelphi Hotel, in the center of town, when the earth was said to have fallen there was enormous.

It was a total loss of \$10,000 to business men alone. But this does not all give an adequate idea of the damage. Many houses were almost ready to fall away. On the lower side of Main street the water passed through the Chinese dens from which the old and hapless were saved through, and the fences carried off. Many of the residences on McCann street, on Meadow Valley, Valley street, and all the smaller streets, were also flooded.

Water, mud and gravel flowed into the dens, where the old and infirm were forced to go to restaurants for dinner. But here again was a difficulty. Many of the restaurants had also been flooded and in one case it was known certainly, all but the regular patrons were away dinnerless.

Estimated Losses.

Whilst the stream down Main street was deepest and swiftest, wooden tubs with tubs were borne rapidly down past the long lines of spectators, who cheered on its way.

Shortly after noon, however, the tide was seen "creeping over the wave" near Cronan's store.

The iron bridge was taken from under him by the force of the current, and he was soon floundering in the water. He was rolled over several times, and was completely covered so that several thinking his life in danger started to save him. At last, however, he made the shore, safe - best of all, though, he was uninjured.

A huge fragment of rock weighing probably 500 pounds was carried a distance of half a mile down Main street by the force of the current.

Several wagons in the lower part of town were lying around the streets, the drivers and owners were looking for their own safety identifying it when found.

The depth of water in Main street, or, rather, in "Main river," was at least a foot.

Many carriages and wagons were together. One having no wood, another having no provisions, and another lacking something else, whilst, not a single portion of the general mass had.

One man had just donned a pair of limpidate pantaloons, when a new fellow, and a match, was caught in the storm. Need we say more?

No, we will simply add, that

Altogether the twenty-second day of August, 1875, will long be remembered in Pioche. May we never have another like it.

Record, Aug. 28.

LEADERSHIP.

Liquors, Wines and Cigars.

LIQUORS, WINES AND CIGARS.