



# MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW,

MAY, 1878.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Office of the Chief Signal Officer,

DIVISION OF

TELEGRAMS AND REPORTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF COMMERCE AND AGRICULTURE.

## STORMS.

During this month ten storms have traversed the country east of the Rocky Mountains. The accompanying map shows the paths of their centres:

I. *May 1, 2, and 3.*—Apparently originating on the last day of April in the Rocky Mountains, the centre of this storm progressed eastward over Kansas, Missouri, northern Indiana, southern Michigan, and Lake Erie, moving thence southeastward over Pennsylvania and Maryland to the Atlantic, sending out a branch on the 2d over Ohio, Virginia, Chesapeake Bay, and thence off the coast. Its passage was attended by heavy rains and brisk and high winds from the Mississippi to the Atlantic, sleet and snow falling in New England.

II. *May 4 to 8.*—Appearing first in southern Texas, this storm moved slowly northeastward over Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois, southern Michigan, and Lake Huron. The highest winds during its passage were experienced on the coast of Texas, the lower lakes, and the middle Atlantic coast.

III. *May 8 and 9.*—Developed among the mountains of North Carolina and moved northeastward along the middle Atlantic coast, accompanied by heavy rains and high winds.

IV. *May 8, 9, and 10.*—Appeared first in Kansas and moved eastward over Missouri, and thence rapidly northeastward over Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and southern Lake Huron into Canada. Heavy rains fell in northern Illinois and eastern Iowa, and a belt of lighter rains and brisk winds, from four hundred miles to eight hundred miles in width, attended its progress.

V. *May 10, 11, and 12.*—Like III, this storm seemed to develop among the mountains of North Carolina, passing northeastward over Virginia, eastward over Chesapeake Bay, and again northeastward along the coast to New Brunswick.

VI. *May 12 and 13.*—Traveled from Minnesota very rapidly eastward over the Lakes, Saint Lawrence Valley, and northern New England to Nova Scotia, causing light rains and high winds throughout its course.

VII. *May 13, 14, and 15.*—From the plains of Kansas and Indian Territory this storm-centre moved eastward over southern Missouri, southeastward into Alabama, and then again eastward off the coast, rapidly diminishing in intensity after crossing the Mississippi. Considerable rain fell in all the Southern States, except Texas, but no dangerous winds were reported.

VIII. *May 18, 19, and 20.*—Developing in the southwestern plains, this depression traveled rather slowly northeastward from the Indian Territory over Lakes Michigan and Huron into Canada, attended by rain-belts and fresh to brisk winds throughout the Lake region and western and northwestern sections of the country.

IX. *May 21 to 24.*—From Montana this disturbance moved slowly eastward over Dakota, crossing, with somewhat increased velocity, Minnesota, the upper lakes, the Saint Lawrence Valley, Maine, and Nova Scotia, causing, by its slow progress, several days of cloudy and rainy weather over the entire northern portion of the country. It was during its passage over the Northwest that the terrible and destructive tornado swept through Iowa.

X. Two depressions, one slowly descending from the upper Missouri valley, the other moving northward over Kansas and Nebraska, seemed to unite in southern Dakota to form this storm-centre. From Dakota it moved southeastward into Iowa, northeastward to Lake Superior, and thence nearly due east over the Saint Lawrence Valley, Maine, and New Brunswick. Its rain-belts reached nearly the whole country east of the Mississippi, and brisk winds, increasing occasionally to high, were experienced throughout the northern sections.

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