

sity and geographic extent until at 8 a. m., April 24, it was central over Nebraska, covering the Great Plains and the central valleys and extending from the Great Lakes on the north to the Gulf of Mexico on the south. The weather conditions shown on the weather maps for April 23 and 24, 8 a. m., caused severe local storms in Louisiana during April 24. Two well-defined tornadoes occurred in this State along the paths shown on the map, fig. 1.

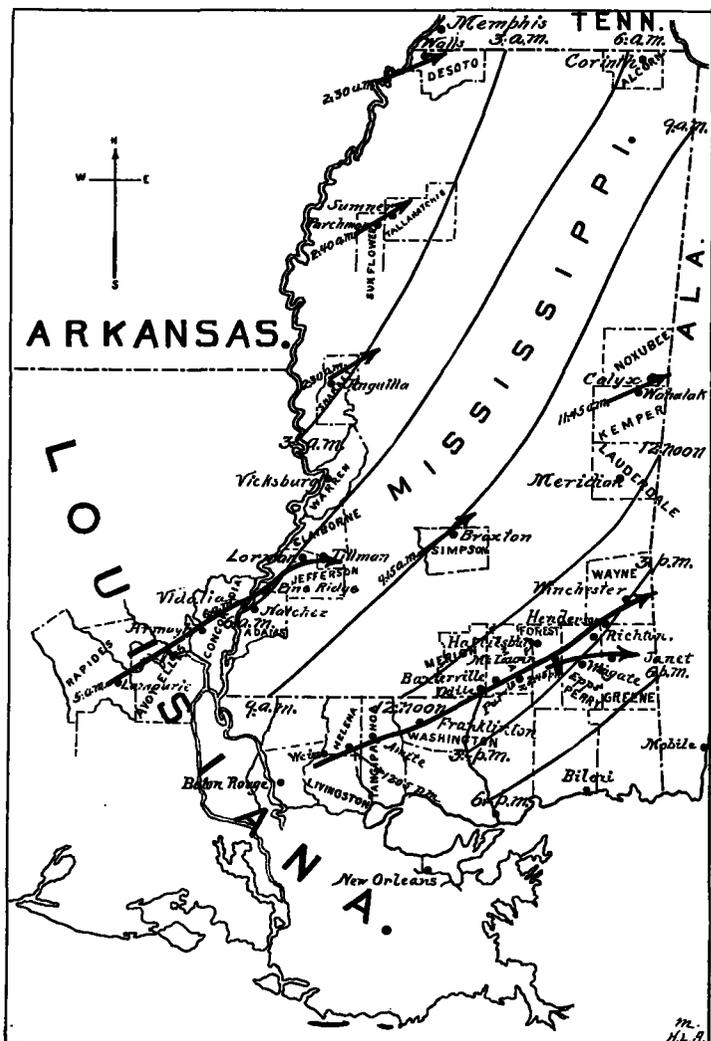


FIG. 1.—Paths of storms in Louisiana and Mississippi, and isobronts in Mississippi, April 24, 1908.

The following table shows the number of persons killed and injured, and the loss of property, including buildings, household effects, stock, and implements, in the first tornado:

Localities.	Number of people killed.	Number of people injured.	Property loss.
Lamourie.....	0	0	?
Richland.....	4	18	\$2,250
Effe.....	0	13	2,385
Centerpoint.....	0	12	.....
New Era.....	2	8	4,000
Serena.....	14	Several	5,000
Armagh.....	0	0	39,900
Vidalia.....	20	61	75 buildings and contents.
Total.....	40	112	About 60,000

This first tornado made its appearance in the vicinity of Lamourie, Rapides Parish, about 5 a. m. It came from the southwest and traveled toward the northeast across Avoyelles, Catahoula, and Concordia parishes, a distance of about 70 miles,

and past into Mississippi at Giles Bend near Vidalia. The majority of reports state that there was a well-defined pendant funnel-shaped cloud, and rotary winds of sufficient violence to uproot trees and destroy buildings. The path of greatest destruction ranged from 300 to 700 yards in width.

The second tornado made its appearance between 11 a. m. and 12 noon in the vicinity of Weiss, Livingston Parish. The storm came from the southwest and moved toward the northeast across St. Helena, Tangipahoa, and Washington parishes, and past into Mississippi near Balltown, La. There was a well-defined pendant funnel-shaped cloud, with rotary winds of sufficient violence to uproot trees and prostrate buildings in its path. The path of greatest destruction ranged in width from one-half mile at Weiss to two and one-half miles at Amite, and covered a distance of about 80 miles in Louisiana.

The following table shows the number of persons killed and injured, and the loss of buildings, household effects, live stock, and farm implements, in the second tornado:

Localities.	Number of people killed.	Number of people injured.	Property loss.
Weiss.....	0	Several.	Much.
Dennis Mills.....	2	2	Much.
Mountpelier.....	2	3	\$4,000
Amite.....	29	60	190,000
Wilmer.....	4	20.	10,000
Aurora.....	0	3	10,000
Franklinton.....	0	8	30,000
Pine.....	9	18	14,000
Balltown.....	0	2	10,000
Total.....	46	116	About 275,000

Severe thunderstorms were reported from other localities in Louisiana, but reports do not indicate that there were tornadoes in other places than those named above.

TORNADOES IN MISSISSIPPI, APRIL 24, 1908.

By W. S. BELDEN, Section Director. Dated Vicksburg, Miss., May 27, 1908.

A severe thunderstorm swept southeastward over Mississippi on April 24, 1908, in connection with a well-developed and very energetic cyclone central near Concordia, Kans., on the morning of that day. Attending the advance of the thunderstorm six tornadoes were developed within the State and two moved into the State from Louisiana, both of which were very destructive to life and property.

The morning weather map of April 24 bore a striking resemblance to the morning map of March 2, 1906, the date of the Meridian, Miss., tornado in which 23 people were killed.

The accompanying chart<sup>1</sup> shows the southward progress of the thunderstorm and also the path, direction of movement, and the time of occurrence of each of the tornadoes. It will be noted that the thunderstorm began in the northwestern counties at about 2 a. m. and reached the Gulf counties at 6 p. m. The paths of the tornadoes varied from less than 100 yards to somewhat more than one-half mile in width, and all of these storms moved in a northeasterly direction. The rate of advance of the two that entered the State from Louisiana was approximately 35 miles per hour. In the chart we have a graphical representation of the typical relationship that exists between the thunderstorm and the tornado.

Roaring winds, severe lightning and thunder, and heavy rainfall with hail were features common to each storm.

No deaths resulted from the (a) Walls, (b) Sumner, (c) Anguilla, and (d) Braxton tornadoes. The number of deaths resulting from the other four tornadoes were as follows:

(e) Wahalak, 2; (f) Pine Ridge-Lorman, 51; (g) Purvis-Winchester, 97; (h) Epps-Janet, 5.

In Adams County 29 of the 30 killed were negroes, but in other counties the proportion of negroes killed was not nearly

<sup>1</sup>This chart is reproduced in combination with that prepared by Mr. Cline for the preceding article.

so great. The largest town struck by any one of the tornadoes was Purvis, located in Lamar County and having a population estimated at 2,000. At that place the killed numbered 55 and the property loss was estimated at about \$500,000. A considerable portion of the property loss in the Purvis-Winchester and the Epps-Janet tornadoes was due to the destruction of thousands of large pine trees and several large sawmills.

Losses by counties.

Counties.	Storms.	Number of people killed.	Number of people injured.	Value of property loss.
De Soto.....	(a)	0	0	\$1,500
Sunflower.....	(b)	0	0	2,000
Sharkey.....	(c)	0	0	500
Claiborne.....	(f)	0	4	2,000
Jefferson.....	(f)	21	82	75,000
Adams.....	(f)	30	200	45,000
Simpson.....	(d)	0	10	10,000
Noxubee.....	(e)	0	3	500
Kemper.....	(e)	2	6	5,000
Marion.....	(g)	2	15	2,000
Lamar.....	(g)	60	391	540,000
Forest.....	(g), (h)	11	75	150,000
Perry.....	(g), (h)	10	108	140,000
Greene.....	(h)	0	1	500
Wayne.....	(g)	19	75	50,000
Total.....		155	970	1,024,000

This information was obtained from 63 cooperative observers of the Weather Bureau, who are well distributed throughout the State, and from 55 postmasters located in or near the paths of the tornadoes.

TORNADOES IN ALABAMA, APRIL 24 AND 30, 1908.

By FRANK P. CHAFFEE, Section Director. Dated Montgomery, Ala., May 3, 1908.

Two destructive tornadoes past over portions of Alabama during the afternoon and evening of April 24, 1908.

The more destructive of the tornadoes extended thru portions of five counties in northern Alabama, and traveled a distance of about 125 miles in about one hour and thirty-five minutes. It began near Dora, Walker County, about 2:40 p. m., past over Warrior, Jefferson County, at 3 p. m., was next felt at Royal, Blount County, 3:30 p. m., at Wynnville, Blount County, 3:40 p. m., at Albertville, Marshall County, 4 p. m., at Tenbroek, DeKalb County, 4:10 p. m., and seems to have ended a few miles northeast of Sylvania, DeKalb County, about 4:15 p. m., as shown in fig. 1.

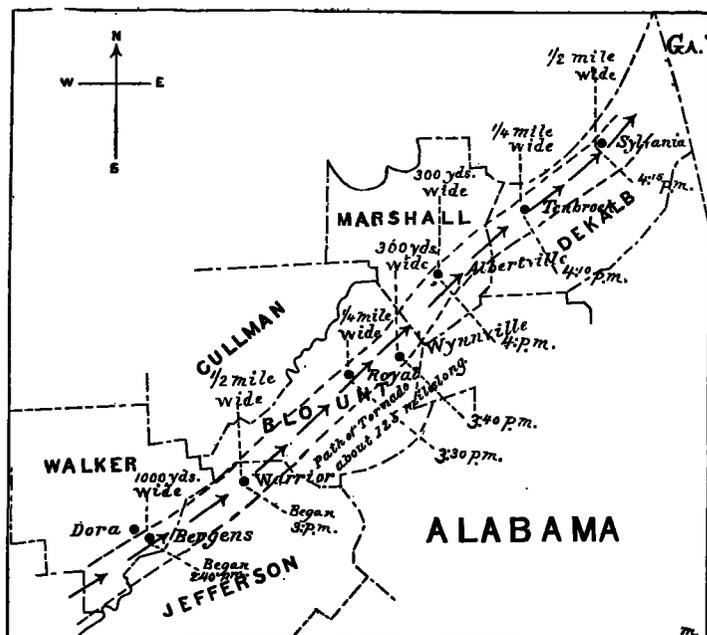


Fig. 1.—Path of tornado in northern Alabama, April 24, 1908.

The path of the storm varied in width from about 200 yards to half a mile, the greatest destruction being wrought where it was most constricted. While the storm was of destructive force along practically its entire path, the greatest loss of life and damage to property occurred at Bergens, near Dora, and at Albertville, half of which was practically destroyed.

A funnel-shaped cloud swept along the entire path of the storm. The cloud is reported to have had a bounding and whirling motion, and to have swept everything from its path where it touched the ground. A loud, rumbling noise was heard from the cloud, which emitted brilliant lightning. A noteworthy fact is that the rainfall, while heavy during the passage of the storm, was not nearly so heavy near the track as it was at points 50 to 100 miles to the southward, where it was generally excessive. Heavy and damaging hail also fell at points to the south of the storm's path.

At Albertville, a 9-ton oil tank was picked up and carried about a half mile, and a train of 9 freight cars was overturned and the cars torn from their trucks and destroyed.

It is understood that the official in charge of the Birmingham office will render a detailed report on the damage done by this tornado at Dora and Bergens.<sup>1</sup> Reports from reliable sources show the loss of life and damage to property at the places named, to have been as follows:

Place.	Killed.	Injured.	Buildings destroyed.	Value.	Other damage.
Dora and Bergens.....	12	16	27	\$25,000	\$25,000
Warrior.....	5	11	15	6,000	10,000
Royal.....	1	6	10	8,000	25,000
Wynnville.....	2	0	4	4,000	5,000
Albertville.....	15	150	150	250,000	100,000
Tenbroek.....	0	0	1	1,000	5,000
Sylvania.....	0	5	30	50,000	75,000
Totals.....	35	188	237	344,000	245,000

There was doubtless much other damage, and possibly some additional loss of life and personal injury of which no report has been received. It is conservatively estimated that the total damage to property by this tornado approximates \$650,000.

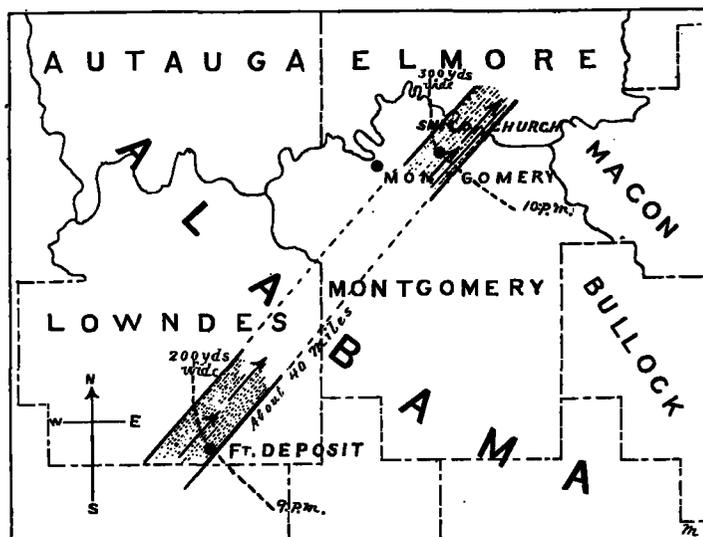


Fig. 2.—Path of tornado in south-central Alabama, April 24, 1908.

Another tornado swept over portions of Lowndes and Montgomery counties in south-central Alabama during the evening of April 24. This tornado made its appearance about 3 miles southwest of Fort Deposit, Lowndes County, at 9 p. m. and ended about 40 miles to the northeast, in the northern portion of Montgomery County, and about 8 miles northeast of the city of Montgomery, at about 10 p. m. The path (see fig. 2) was not continuous, and had an average width of 250 yards

<sup>1</sup>The report by Mr. Lehman appears elsewhere in this issue.—EDITOR.