

## FLORIDA AGAIN A SUFFERER.

### Great Damage Done by the Storm at Cedar Keys and Appalachicola.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Oct. 11.—Communication has been re-established with all points on the west coast visited by the storm which raged Monday night and Tuesday morning, and the dispatches tell woeful tales of the destruction caused by the wind and water.

Appalachicola and Cedar Key were directly in the storm's path, and the damage at those places is almost incalculable. Communication with these points has been cut off until to-day.

The following dispatches have been received:

Cedar Key has just experienced the most disastrous storm which has visited her for twenty-five years. The main business street is piled from one end to the other with debris, consisting of wreckage from boats, wharves, fishhouses, and logs.

The storm began at 8 o'clock Monday morning, with a heavy wind from the east, gradually shifting to the south and then to the southwest, increasing in violence, and continuing until daylight Tuesday morning.

The damage and loss of property is very great. The Florida Central and Peninsular Railroad is a heavy sufferer. Almost the entire track to the main land, a distance of three and a half miles, is either destroyed or badly damaged. From the mainland to Sumner, a distance of four and a half miles, there are nearly 100 wash-outs. The mail train got in Monday night, but is caught between two wash-outs, and cannot move either way.

The Town Improvement Company is a heavy loser, as a number of business and dwelling houses were swept away. The fish and oyster houses adjoining the railroad, and occupied by Dopson, Clarke & Daniel and W. H. Anderson, are demolished and all the contents a total loss, amounting to several thousand dollars. The E. Faber Cedar Company loses the steamer Media, valued at \$3,500, and had swept away 30,000 logs of cedar, which it will be weeks in collecting. The cedar mill just started up by W. H. Anderson was badly damaged, and 15,000 logs of cedar scattered for miles.

The City Hall, a two-story concrete building with offices below, had the tin roof blown off and one side knocked out by logs. The city jail cannot be found. The five bridges to the Shell Road, leading to the mainland, are washed away. A great many small boats were wrecked and fish camps washed away. One sloop came in Tuesday morning with five men who had clung to a single palmetto tree since Monday night. Another came in this afternoon with three men who were wrecked Monday night, and had been on a shell bank ever since without food or water. It is reported that five sponge vessels went ashore during the storm, and were driven seven miles into the woods.

From Cedar Key the cyclone traveled up the west coast until it reached Appalachicola. It was even more severe at Appalachicola than at Cedar Key, as the following dispatch from there indicates:

Never before in the history of this town was such havoc and destruction played by storm and tide as on Monday night between the hours of 7 and 10. Water, Commerce, and Market Streets were a mass of logs, boats, lumber, and dead fish. So far two lives are reported lost. Two houses were carried half to three-quarters of a mile, and placed in the marsh near Cypress Mill, uninjured; one of them had just been completed for a newly-married couple. All the docks were totally destroyed, houses were unroofed, and fences scattered everywhere. Murat's wholesale fish house was laid flat, and thousands of dead fish line the streets.

Families sought safety on the hills, only to be routed by the terrific gale. The water is six feet deep on Water Street, and some of the best dry goods and grocery stores were battered by floating timber and shattered to destruction, and soft mud and brush line the floors and shelves.

Five barges loaded with lumber were blown from East Pass and lodged in the marsh, two miles north of this place. The Kimball Lumber Company is the principal loser. Its loss is about \$10,000. Murat's loss is about \$4,000.

At present it is impossible to get an estimate of the loss on goods or buildings. Fish houses, oyster factories, and shanties were literally demolished. The loss in the aggregate will be fully \$20,000. The people are dismayed, and an appeal for aid will be sent out.

From many other points in West Florida come reports of the storm's destructive work, but Cedar Key and Appalachicola seem to have been the principal sufferers.