

# Fatal Stroke

**Lightning Kills Two Laboring Men Early Saturday Morning on Farm N.W. of Here.**

During the thunder storm which passed over this section early Saturday morning Clarence Phelps and John Gronberg, two men working on Fred Widlund's threshing crew, were struck by lightning and instantly killed. The men were standing in front of the barn door on the A. G. Erickson farm, twelve miles northwest of here when the fatal bolt struck. It was 6:30 a. m. and the men had just had breakfast and were getting ready to take to the field when the storm struck. The bolt struck the top of the barn and divided right over the door, killing one man on one side of the door and one on the other, also one of the horses just inside the barn door belonging to Mr. Widlund. The men standing between those killed also had a narrow escape. Peter Peterson, Joe Thomas and Frank Larson were knocked over and were unconscious for some time while three others, Earl Cooper, Kirbie Siltman, Charley Daniels and Gust Nordstrom were shocked to a lesser degree. Fred Widlund only stood four feet away from the others and was stunned for a minute or so. Peterson's legs were paralyzed for some time but he is now about all right again. Joe Thomas seems to have escaped miraculously. The lightning stroke bored holes through his clothes and in the side of his body about the size of a 22 rifle ball, in fact it looks just as if some one had shot him with a small rifle. The hair was also burned from the front of his body. He had a narrow escape. Peterson had some hair burned off his neck just back of the ear. Clarence Phelps was a married man and had a wife and one child living at Krainersville, Wis. John Gronberg was a single man and his home was at Marion Mills, Minn. Both were good men and came up here to work during the busy season. Dr. Almklov was called out to attend to those who were injured. Dr. Westley, coroner, went out in his official capacity to view the remains and decided that no inquest was necessary. The bodies were brought into town Saturday afternoon to John Syverson's undertaking establishment and were embalmed and got ready for burial.

The remains were shipped by express, to their former homes, Monday.