A TERRIBLE CLOUD BURST

Almost Sweeps from the Map the Towns of Hepner, Lexington and Ione.

ESTIMATED THAT MORE THAN THOUSAND SOULS PERISH IN THE RAGING VAPORS OF WILLOW CREEK.

A Disaster Without Parallel in the History of the Northwest.

The most terrific disaster ever known in the Northwest swept over the hills of Oregon and Washington last Thursday and left in its wake a long procession of names and a trail of woe.

The towns of Hepner, Lexington and Ione are all that remain of what was once a beautiful valley and a thriving trade center.

Almost a Century Ago, a Great Epic.

The town of Hepner was established in 1854, and it soon became a busy little town with a population of 2,000. It was the center of a rich wheat belt, and its flour was celebrated throughout the Northwest.

During the years that followed, Hepner grew and prospered, and its population reached a peak of 6,000. It was a thriving little town with a prosperous business district and a thriving agricultural community.

But all of that was to change in a single moment.

A Terrible Cloud Burst.

Early last Thursday morning, a huge cloud of dust and debris rolled down the valley of Willow Creek. In its path, it left a trail of destruction.

The town of Hepner was completely destroyed, and its streets were filled with the ruins of houses and buildings.

Many lives were lost, and the survivors were left to pick up the pieces of their lives.

The town of Lexington was also hit hard, and its population was reduced to a fraction of its former size.

The town of Ione was the hardest hit, and its population was reduced to a mere handful.

A Devastating Loss.

The loss of lives and property in the disaster was immense. It was a terrible blow to the people of the Northwest, and it left a lasting mark on the region.

For those who wish to learn more about the disaster, there are many books and articles available that provide in-depth coverage of the event.

End of an Era.

The town of Hepner, Lexington and Ione were once flourishing communities with a rich history. But all of that is now gone, and the only reminder of their existence is a trail of destruction.

To those who wish to honor the memory of those who lost their lives in the disaster, there are many commemorative events and tributes that provide an opportunity to remember those who perished.