

## LIGHTNING SET FIRE.

### C. Marson's Barn, Horses, Colts, Chickens and Other Property Burned.

Sentinel: Lightning struck C. Marson's large barn on the farm south of town during the storm last Saturday evening, and it burned to the ground. Two horses, two colts, about one hundred chickens, fifty dollars worth of hay, a load of feed and all the harnesses were also burned.

The barn was 38x48 feet in size. The loss is estimated at \$1500 and there was no insurance.

The loss is a heavy one, but fortunately Mr. Marson is so situated that he can rebuild and replace everything at once.

### Geese Bother Farmers.

The number of wild geese seen throughout the country around Devils Lake at this time is the source of considerable comment. About the big lakes it is said they are more numerous than ever before, thousands and thousands feeding in the fields near by thru the day and flying to the water at night. The reason advanced is that the small lakes and ponds of the Canadian country have dried up, and the geese are turn-

ing back from the north on this account. Growing crops are being damaged a great deal from the immense flocks, and it is said late sown seed is being eaten by the geese; that they follow a drill row cleaning the field as they go. In some places the farmers are compelled to herd them off their land in order to protect their crop. The geese seem to be growing bolder and several instances are reported where it became necessary to use a shot gun in order to make them fly away, and it frequently happens that some of the birds get hurt, owing to their obstinacy in getting out of the way.

Usually there are no geese to be seen in this section at this time of the year, and this is the first time complaints have been made of damage to growing crops on this account. What ever the reason for the vast number of the big birds, it certainly is phenomenal.

### The Merry Case Affirmed.

The supreme court last week handed down a decision affirming the verdict of the Stark county court in the case of Charles F. Merry, charged with obtaining money under false pretense in