

MAGNETIC STORM ON THURSDAY.*From the Hartford (Conn.) Times, Aug. 12.*

A very curious electrical phenomenon was witnessed this morning at the office of the American Union Telegraph Company in this city. Shortly after 9 o'clock the strange working of the wires indicated trouble of some kind. Tests were made as usual, in order to locate the trouble, but the chief operators were for a time utterly at fault. The tests made indicated the presence of a current on the wires from some foreign source. It was first supposed that the battery came from contact of the wires with those of some other line; but further tests showed that this could not have been the case, as all the wires were more or less affected. The wires were then disconnected from the main battery at Boston, and signals were sent and received between Hartford and Boston and intermediate stations. The current was continuous, but intermittent in strength, at one moment being strong, then gradually decreasing in strength until the instruments barely showed the presence of a current. At 11 o'clock the wires were working as usual. The cause of the phenomenon witnessed is not known, but is supposed by some electricians to have some connection with the aurora borealis, and if the disturbance had occurred in the night season it would probably have been accompanied by a brilliant display of "Northern lights." So wide-spread and long-continued an electrical storm as that of this morning is seldom witnessed, and one of equal intensity has not been known before for several years, Mr. J. H. Lounsbury, of the American Union Line, informs us.