

Lightning Strike

A house at Bremhill, Wilts, was struck by lightning on Thursday evening, the chimney being shattered and a wireless aerial destroyed. The house is occupied by Mr R Townsend and Mrs Townsend was sitting by the empty grate reading with her baby aged three playing on the rug beside her. There were also in the room her husband and a little boy visitor from London. Suddenly there was a terrific crash, and quantities of soot came down the chimney. Mrs Townsend seized her baby and rushed out of the house, thinking it had caught fire. Going to their nearest neighbour (Mrs Lewis) through torrential rain. Mr and Mrs Townsend saw that the chimney had crashed down. The electricity had apparently followed the wireless aerial, smoked the window, and damaged bricks beside the door, and then gone to earth. Plaster had fallen down in a bedroom upstairs.

A neighbour described it as a ball of fire, which burst and struck the chimney.

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