

*Sunday Times* says:—"The shocking intelligence has reached us that in the dire catastrophe at St. Louis, Wednesday morning, our dear friend and brother George Frank Gouley lost his life. The accounts are very brief, but the terrible story needs not many words to tell. Roused from his first sound sleep by the tell terror of the night, he joined that group of agonized humanity, on the upper floor of the blazing hotel, and from the dizzy height, dazed and blinded, his senses swam in the difficult descent, and, reeling from the rope, he fell to the earth, mangled and already dead. It is not ours to cry blame on those who should have guarded that sleeping inn, not ours to use a strong sentiment of outraged humanity against the criminal negligence, which, in the centre of a great city—almost within reach of those who were anxious to save—caused a human holocaust dire and horrible. While they, whose near duty it is, shall see that those, to whom the great offence against their local civilization can be brought home, shall not escape the penalties due, we can only mourn and cry, alas! alas! What care we whose fault it was—our brother has been cruelly done to death! What reck we that the authorities are to make a thorough inquest into the foul affair—he whom the Masonic fraternity of the whole Mississippi Valley honored and loved, and whose learning and services commended him to the craft throughout the world, is lost to us forever! We could not, were the materials at hand, in the present moment of unrealizing shock at the tidings of his untimely taking off, attempt to prepare a bald biography of R. W. Brother Gouley, which would even do justice to an obituary notice. We can only say just here, and perhaps at a future day, when our calmer senses return, we may say more calmly, and with greater precision and definiteness that in everything constituting the upright man and Mason, Brother Gouley had few equals, and no superiors. As a Masonic jurist, his opinions gave law to more than one jurisdiction of the great West. As an administrative officer, his Secretaryship was among the most prominent on this continent, and he was the invaluable adviser and assistant of successive Grand Masters. As a Masonic Reviewer, his productions take high rank among those of the ablest, and many a rule of procedure has worked its way into the polity of our Grand bodies, which first found expression from his pen. As an Editor, he has been indefatigable in his efforts to place Masonic journalism on a high and enduring plane, and the more notable periodicals, devoted to Masonry, have been for many years enriched by his freshness, vigor and wisdom. Our black lines, then, are but weak types of the darkness which brings gloom to thousands of hearts to-day, from New York to the Mississippi, and thence across the Sierras to the Western Sea. We do indeed mourn, our loss, not in set phrase, or with the formal words of sorrowful hope, but in the lurid glare of that fierce Moloch, we tremble at the fearful sacrifice the death-dealing scourge has demanded at our hands. Our sympathy with all who have suffered is rather intensified than overshadowed by the great especial grief we are called to bear; and until the moment comes when we may be able to sit down calmly and consider our brother's many excellent and lovable qualities, and tell them to the world, let us cherish him in our hearts, saddened by his fate, but trusting that our God "who doeth all things well," hath reserved for our brother, in the hereafter, a place where his large heart and responsive sympathies will find boundless scope for that development which his philanthropy sought in this lower world."

Another contemporary, the *Voice of Freemasonry*, gives the following particulars, which are of mournful interest:—"Mrs. G. F. Gouley escaped unhurt, and owes her safety to her coolness and presence of mind in the hour of imminent peril. She and Bro. Gouley had spent the evening pleasantly together,