

IN THE VALLEY OF DEATH.

Nothing to Decrease the High Estimate of the Loss of Life.

RELIEF WORK UNDER WAY.

The Child Victims of the Pennsylvania Horror—Sad Scenes and Incidents of the Rescue Work.

JOHNSTOWN, June 5.—Conservative men are of the opinion that the number of people lost will reach from 12,000 to 15,000. This view is based on many fragments of evidence obtained from over one hundred of the best citizens. They were asked to estimate the percentage of loss to the total population, to tell how many people of their acquaintance have disappeared, how the gatherings of residents on the streets, and in public places, compare with the same in former times.

By ten o'clock this morning 15,000 people were fed and about 600 families were furnished with provisions. Five carloads of clothing were distributed, and now almost every one is provided with clothing. At the different registration places, 18,000 residents of the devastated district had registered as alive and well. The total population of this district was between 40,000 and 50,000.

At eleven o'clock this morning, Adjutant General Hastings sent the following telegram to Governor Beaver:—'Fully three thousand men are at work clearing off debris; bodies are now being reloaded in large numbers. The citizens' committee is organized and the work is systematized. A detachment of twenty men of the Fourteenth regiment was detailed last night to guard the supply trains. Provisions are pouring in and it is difficult to take care of them. There is no suffering from want of food or shelter. Contributions of money are more desirable than anything else.'

Mr. Klein criticizes the city council of Johnstown for not taking steps to prevent the vandalism, which, he says, is going on night and day. Chairman Moxham, of the citizens' committee, tells of frightful descriptions of the dead, and of the looting of houses. One-fourth of the councilmen are believed to have lost their lives in the flood, and there is scarcely one of the living who has not met with some terrible loss.

The emanations from the half mile of debris about the bridge are but little more offensive than yesterday, and should this cool weather continue a few days longer it is possible hundreds of bodies may yet be recovered from the wreck in such a state of preservation as to render identification possible. Over 6,000 men were at work in the various portions of the valley, each gang of twenty men is directed by a foreman, who is under orders from the general headquarters. As the rubbish is gone over and the bodies and scattered articles of value are recovered, the debris is piled. In this way the valley is assuming a less devastated appearance. In twenty-four hours more every mass of rubbish will probably have been searched, and the investigation will be confined to the smoking wreck above Johnstown bridge.

The Fourteenth regiment, ordered here, will do guard work. Martial law will not be declared, as there is no necessity for it. There were no depredations last night and everything is quiet this morning. The stories about riots and lynchings are exaggerated. This morning 1,100 men arrived, and Hon. Mr. Flynn took charge of the work, and by 11 o'clock they had succeeded in doing more work at clearing away the debris than has been done heretofore. Seventy-five carpenters and twenty carloads of provisions came up with the laboring men. Another delegation of working men came from Bradstreet. Thirty doctors arrived from Philadelphia this morning. The doctors were thanked for their willingness to help, but their services were declined, from the fact that there was no sick to take care of. In the Prospect hospital, on the hill top, there is not one patient. At 1.15 this afternoon fifty bodies were taken from the debris in front of the Catholic church in Johnstown borough. About forty of the bodies were those of women. They were immediately removed to the morgue for identification.

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at work and has called for 2,500 more, to whom he promises work for six days, at \$2 per day and board. In an interview today he said he proposed to clear the town of all wreckage and debris of all descriptions, and turn the town site over to the citizens. The work of reconstructing the road bed and relaying the tracks of the Pennsylvania railroad is being pushed forward vigorously and already trains are running down to the passenger station, while construction trains are able to go considerably further. By tomorrow the high embankment at the big band of the river, which deflected the river from its course on the fatal day, and which was finally washed away itself, will be reconstructed. Although the loss of the Cambria Iron Company will foot up into the millions the destruction of their plant is not as bad as was feared, and officers of the company say they expect to resume operations within thirty days. While the greater part of the valuable buildings had their still more valuable contents in the way of improved machinery, damaged beyond repair, there is a complete set of machinery in the Bessemer mill unharmed, and the manufacture of steel rails may be resumed within two weeks. Hundreds of Cambria employees are at work to-day clearing away the wreckage.

LATEST FROM JOHNSTOWN.

JOHNSTOWN, June 5.—Later.—The atmosphere here to-day was damp, the air keen and penetrating. This was favorable to the workers, but most unpleasant for the homeless sufferers and thinly clad women and children. Long relief trains are rolling into Johnstown almost every hour. From east and west, north and south, come whole train loads of clothing and provisions, accompanied by special messengers having hands and large corps of volunteer physicians. Several hundred destitute people are being well cared for at Camp Hastings, on the Eberstadt road. Visits to several registration offices to-day, and enquiries among survivors who come in to register disclose that the proportion of saved and lost is about equal. The falling off in the registration to-day leads the authorities to apprehend that their worst fears may yet be realized and the death toll will amount well up into the five figures. Where Johnstown's principle stores stood last Friday, are now pitched 1,000 tents, and before to-morrow night this number will probably be doubled. Under this shelter are accommodated the members of the militia and thousands of workers, who are trying to clear the streets. Over 5,000 men are now thus employed in Johnstown proper. Contractor Flynn, who has charge of the army of laborers, said to-day: 'It will take 10,000 men thirty days to clear the ground, so that the streets are passable, and the work of rebuilding can be commenced.' The volunteers are doing noble work; nearly every town in Western Pennsylvania is represented by from 10 to 100 men, and many towns in Ohio and New York have also furnished their quota.

JOHNSTOWN, June 5.—There were a thousand funerals here to-day. In most cases there were no religious rites. The graves of the unknown already number several hundred. Almost every stroke of the pick in some portion of the city to-day resulted in the discovery of another victim, and although the funerals of the morning relieved the morgues of the crush, before night they were as full of dead as ever. Wherever one turns, the melancholy view of a coffin is met. Every train into Johnstown was laden with them, the better ones being generally accompanied by friends of the dead. Men could be seen staggering over the ruins with shining magony oaskets on their shoulders. Several stumbled and fell into the abounding man pits, while the coffins went bounding over the stones. Over one hundred men were all day engaged in an effort to clear a narrow passage from the death bridge upward through the debris. Dynamite was used and gradually a few of the heaviest timbers were demolished, and the fragments floated downward through the narrow arch. At nightfall, however, the clear space above the bridge did not exceed 60 feet in length by 40 feet in width.

NEW YORK, June 5.—Despatches from various sections indicate that the subscription for the relief of the Pennsylvania flood sufferers already aggregating nearly \$1,500,000. The money is still pouring in. The contributions here to-day amounted to \$100,000, Gov. Beaver, of Pennsylvania, telegraphs that all the money likely to be received will be needed. He states that the situation at Williamsport is distressing. Thousands of people are homeless and provisions gathered from the surrounding country are almost exhausted. Seven carloads of material will reach them to-night. Lockhaven to the Governor says is in a deplorable condition.

PARIS, June 5.—The municipal council has donated 5,000 francs to the Johnstown sufferers. A meeting was held at the American legation to-day and about \$8,000 were subscribed to aid the Johnstown sufferers.

NEW YORK, June 4.—The Sun's Johnstown correspondent says: The investigation yesterday shows clearly that the major part of whatever responsibility may belong to human agencies for the calamity that has decimated the Conemaugh valley must be placed upon the South Fork Fishing and Hunting club, the association of wealthy Pittsburgh gentlemen that has for four or five years past been endeavoring to establish a sportsman's paradise at Conemaugh lake. When they leased the lake they closed the waste gates through which all the water that had before accumulated in Conemaugh lake had found a safe and speedy exit. It is measurably certain that had the waste gates been maintained the dam would never have given way. They were removed, it is said, because whenever they were opened the game fish, with which it was being stocked, would escape. The fish have escaped and the lives of 8,000 human beings have gone with them.

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., June 6.—The waters in the Conemaugh valley have subsided almost to their usual level. With the receding waters the scene of desolation becomes hourly more woe and picturesque. The work of recovering the dead goes on without diminished vigor, and as the workmen become accustomed to their ghastly finds, and the horrors of the scene become commonplace they apply themselves more diligently to their duty, and labor with a system that produces rapid results. The Altoona gang, by the use of dynamite, have located the dyke express, which was swept away, at Conemaugh. The rails of the train lie about one hundred feet from the fourth buttress from the western end of the stone bridge. Part of the parlor cars have to-day been found, as well as traces of the passengers. About 9 o'clock the baggage of Miss Annie Ohlen, of Nashville, Tenn., was found. She was a missionary, on her way to Brazil for the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist church. It is evident many lives were lost on the train, more than at first was supposed. The whole scale affair is still a mystery.

This morning it was stated 5,000 men were at work, and it is expected that by to-morrow 10,000 will be employed, but even this large force will not be able to remove the debris in less than two or three weeks. About 2,500 bodies have thus far been found, 2,000 at the lowest calculation are in the burned debris in

the river, 4,000 are in unsearched sand banks around the Cambria works, from one to two thousand are scattered in the valley from Woodville to the bridge, and a thousand or two below the bridge, between Johnstown and Bolivar. Hundreds were carried down to the broad river in the tremendous current and may never come into the hands of the living. Adjutant-General Hastings said this morning:—'In my opinion the loss is greater than we can now show figures for.' The statement that 18,000 persons had registered at the registration bureaus yesterday was incorrect. One of Gen. Hastings' aides said to-day that so many persons had registered twice or more that the list had to be revised, and that the total was not more than 13,000, and perhaps 12,500. This registration not only comprehends the population of Johnstown and adjoining towns, which was about 33,000, but embraces further areas in the flooded regions, the total population of which was at least 45,000. Chairman Hicks of the Altoona delegation, who has been all over the district, says the loss is 12,500 to 14,000. At noon the roughs of Johnstown and the adjoining boroughs, or what is left of them, practically passed under martial law. It is probable the 18th regiment will be ordered out from the fact that it takes so many soldiers to cover the ground. Special guards will have to be put at Kernville, Millville and Cambria City, and other points. It is said the only reason for calling out the troops is to relieve the Pittsburgh and Johnstown policemen, who have had little or no sleep for several days.

The man who rode ahead of the flood and warned the people of Johnstown to run for their lives was Daniel Perilton, son of a Johnstown merchant. He was overwhelmed by the current at the bridge and drowned. A party of searchers found his body Tuesday night, and his dead horse. He was still in the saddle.

Up to noon to-day, 723 bodies had been embalmed at St. Columbus Catholic Church, Cambria City. The real work of ascertaining who the living and dead of Johnstown are, was started this morning. A corps of clerks, under the direction of the relief committee, started out and will go to every house in this vicinity and secure the names of the living. Another corps of men will endeavor to find out who the missing are, and in this manner it can be nearly definitely known just how many lives were lost. A revision of the registration list shows that only 13,000 people registered up until 1 o'clock this afternoon at the different registration stations. By this list it is plainly apparent that a large number of the survivors will not take the trouble to register. It seems almost incredible that so many bodies remain unidentified. Thousands of people from the different sections of the state have seen them, yet they remain unidentified. At Nineveh they are burying all the unidentified dead, but in the morgues in this vicinity no bodies have been buried unless identified.

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Among the gifts they bring to the Holy Father is a quantity of native gold in the rough.

The ruins of the Tower of Babel have been made to serve as a pedestal for a statue of the Blessed Virgin.

From four members in 1844 the society of the Christian Brothers in the United States has increased to 1,154.

Mrs. Tetu and Marois, of the Cardinal's palace, have been raised to the dignity of domestic prelates to the Pope.

Rev. Father Wendelin Meollers, with several Franciscan nuns, has gone to minister to the poor lepers at Molokai.

Cardinal Lavergne has entrusted to Mgr. Merzillo the organization of the Catholic Anti-Slavery Congress at Lucrena.

The American Pilgrims have visited the Holy Places in Palestine, and been most hospitably received by the Superiors of the Franciscans in Jerusalem.

Seventy-four priests were lately ordained at St. John Lateran by His Eminence Cardinal Parocchiali, and a very large number of the other orders were received.

The Uruguayan Catholic Congress has been a great success. It affords one more evidence

News of the Week.

EUROPEAN.

Mr. Richard, governor-general of French Indo-China, has died of cholera.

A hurricane and waterpout at Relbach Germany, on the 5th inst., have caused great loss of life and property.

Her Siegel, editor of the Vaterland, a clerical paper of Munich, has been sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment for libelling the late dowager Queen.

PARIS, June 5.—A number of customs officers have been arrested for complicity in a scheme