

severely 300 years ago, under the homely description of "kneeling and knocking."—*Manchester (Eng.) Herald, June 17.*

SCENE ON BOARD THE PEGASUS.

The wreck of this steam-vessel is one of the most melancholy occurrences which have been recorded in the list of steamboat disasters. It took place on the 20th July, off the harbor of Holy Island, one of the Fern Islands, within a few miles of the spot which was the scene of Grace Darling's heroic exploit some years ago. The *Pegasus* left Leith Harbor about five P. M., on Wednesday night, having on board the captain and crew, thirteen in number, and about sixteen cabin and twenty-three steerage passengers. Shortly after midnight she struck on the Goldstone Rock, about two and a half miles from the land, which, during high water, is entirely covered. She sank almost immediately, and of all the persons on board only six appear to have been saved. The following is the account given of this disaster by one of the men who was saved:—

"I think it was about twenty minutes past twelve when the vessel struck. When I found that the vessel had struck I ran on deck, and, having seen the state of things there, I told the passengers below that I believed the ship had struck. Some of the passengers (chiefly the ladies) were in bed. When I reached the deck, I saw the crew in the act of lowering the boats. As soon as the starboard quarter boat reached the water, I sprang into it. There were then about nine of us in the boat. At that moment the engines were set in motion; and the boat, being hooked to the ship astern, but unhooked from it at the bow, the back-water raised by the paddles filled the boat, and upset her, throwing the passengers into the sea. I got hold of the ship's rudder chain, and, the chief mate having thrown a rope to me, I got into the ship again. Seeing the danger increasing, I undressed myself to prepare for swimming for my life, and hid my clothes upon the companion. Looking around me while undressing, I saw the Rev. Mr. McKenzie on the quarter deck, praying, with several of the passengers on their knees around him. Mr. McKenzie seemed calm and collected. All the passengers around him were praying too, but Mr. McKenzie's voice was distinctly heard above them all. I saw a lady with two children, close beside me on the companion, calmly resigning herself to the Almighty. The children seemed unconscious of the danger, for they were talking about some trifling matter. When I found the vessel fast filling, I leapt overboard, and the engineer and I were at first drawn into the sea by the suction occasioned by the vessel sinking. I soon got up again, however, and got hold of a plank, and the steps which led to the quarter deck. By this time the scene was a most dismal one. The surface of the water was covered with the dead and the dying. The screeching was fearful. One little boy kept himself afloat for about three hours on part of the sky-light covering, and made great exertions to save himself, but he sunk at last. His body was warm when picked up. I was once wrecked before, about twenty years ago, off the coast of St. Domingo, when I was three days and three nights on a reef. It was the experience I learnt then which gave me the idea of taking off my clothes before leaping into the sea."

One of the most affecting circumstances connected with this disaster is the fact that the Rev. Mr. McKenzie was calmly praying in the moment of death, with several of the passengers kneeling around him—and it is not a little remarkable that this same gentleman preached the funeral sermon of Messrs. McLeod and Perston, of Glasgow, who perished in the *Forfarshire*, in September, 1838, along with about forty of the crew and passengers, near the same place where the *Pegasus* was lost. His text on that occasion was, "And the sea shall give up its dead."—*Mer. Journal.*

GENERAL PEACE CONVENTION IN LONDON.

The reading community are already aware that a convention of the friends of Peace, from different parts of the world, has recently, (June 22—6) been held in London. I had the privilege of being present through all its deliberations; and thinking that such a movement in behalf of an object so important, ought to be as widely known as possible, I will give, in the hope of your being disposed to publish, a brief sketch of its progress and most important results.

The Convention, first suggested two years ago by the Hon. William Jay, of New York, was called, after mature and anxious deliberation, on the basis, "that war is inconsistent with the spirit of Christianity, and the true interests of mankind," and for the purpose of "deliberating upon the best means, under the divine blessing, of war, and to promote universal and permanent peace;" a basis and a purpose to which the Convention adhered with an unusual degree of strictness.

Of the delegates appointed, 6 were from France, Switzerland and other parts of the continent, 37 from America, and 294 from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; in all, 337, of whom about one half were present, besides an equal number of spectators. There were 18 from this side of the Atlantic; and the attendance throughout seemed to me about the same as the great Anti-slavery Convention which immediately preceded it.

It may not, perhaps, become me to sit in judgment upon the men assembled on that occasion; but I must own I was deeply impressed with their general excellence and weight of character. I have attended many conventions, but never one which seemed to embody a larger share of moral and Christian worth. To say nothing of the delegates from America, or the Continent, there was gathered in Freemason's and Exeter Halls, a fair specimen of the moral elite of the United Kingdom; such men as have been wont to lead the van in her best movements, men whom all parties in religion and politics spontaneously respect. The known character of its English, if not its foreign members, produced at the time a marked impression in its favour; and of so much importance was it regarded, that all the leading papers in London had their reporters present, to report its proceedings as they would those of Parliament itself.

The officers of the Convention were CHARLES HINDLEY, Esq., an influential member of Parliament, and a Christian of the Moravian Church; and for Vice Presidents, Joseph Brotherton, Esq. M. P., and Joseph Sturge, Esq., Birmingham; the Marquis de la Rocheffoucauld Liancourt, Pre-