

Constant Upham, grocer at 1299 Barrington street, and whose store was almost directly up from the pier, saw the flames shooting up from the steamer as she drew near the pier. He went to the telephone and phoned to the fire station and an immediate response was made by Chief Condon, Deputy Chief Edward Brunt, Engineer Peter Broderick and Firemen Hennessey and Spruin, who arrived in the motor Patricia and the chief's automobile. They arrived at the entrance to the pier just as the explosion occurred and are believed to have been killed instantly.

Martin Upham was at his brother's side when the latter telephoned for the firemen. He and his brother and the young lady employees in the store, not knowing the nature of the steamer's cargo, had no fear of danger. Martin left the store to continue his deliveries of groceries and had only proceeded up Kaye street a short distance when the explosion occurred. Those who remained at the store were killed.

Martin Upham was directly in front of his own home when the house collapsed, killing his own wife and burying in the debris two children whom he managed to get out without much injury.

Alonzo Bezanson, reported killed but whom his brother assured me is quite alive, tells a graphic story of the explosion. In common with many men working in this section, Mr. Bezanson saw the Mont Blanc on fire before the explosion occurred. He told his brother he noticed puffs of smoke coming from the Mont Blanc. It was not a raging fire but intermittent gusts of flame, blue and black, as if oil were burning. The men began to think of running for safety, but they had no warning of the fearful contents of the French steamer. The next he remembers he was flying through the air and blown clear over the sugar refinery fence and back towards Pier No. 6. A tidal wave of which little has been written, followed the explosion and Mr. Bezanson can just remember the salty water splashing his face. He came down near a huge log. He put one arm around this and remembers floating with the timber held in close embrace. One finger on the hand which grasped the log had been blown away, but his grip was sufficiently strong to hold him from being swept back with the receding tide, and when found two hours later it was some time before the crippled hand could be pried loose.

A naval officer just stepping into a boat on the water front, was blown half a mile by the explosion and recovered to find himself stark naked in a field.

The tidal wave was one of the most curious phenomena of the explosion and has been almost overlooked in the record of