POOR DOCUMENT

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH

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Demi-Weekly Telegraph

THE WITNESS AND LORD DUN-

should have departed from a good usage the service in reprobation of his own superiors. For his lordship certainly mis militia, and that they are the superior officers even of the General Officer Com-

"We cannot pardon Lord Dundonald for forwarding his letter of explanation to parliament through a member of the oppo-sition. This was an insult to the government apart from the fact that it could only be taken as meaning that he had fear of the letter being uncandidly suppressed, should it get into the hands of a minister. should it get into the hands of a minister. It does not add to our people's sense of his wisdom that the member chosen for this purpose should be one whose letters from South Africa during the war kept the whole of Canada laughing, being handed round by the press for the amusement of readers. Colonel Hughes forced his way obstreperously to the front, and, though when there he was assigned to duty in the Griqua and Bechuana wilderness, as far as was easily possible from ness, as far as was easily possible from the scene of events, he was evidently sincerely of opinion, from the moment that he got on horseback, that he was managing the whole war, and that all successor were directly due to his advice and diplo macy. Lord Dundonald is the idol of our wolunteers and we do not wish to see him any less their hero than he is; but we are sorry that he has, by failing to apprehend his subordination to the Canadian government, given an advantage to those who are seeking to loosen the im-perial relationship which his office implies Canadians are altogether with the comtics out of the militia. On the other nand they are not prepared to transfer auto-cratic power to any officer, and they will quite side with a minister who, when im-purped over the telephone with regard to a matter of administration involving per-sonalities, should refuse to discuss these

with an angry man in such a manner. "Lord Dundonald says he made appoin ments with the minister, which the ter failed to keep. If this means that he asked the minister for appointments, and, having a time set for visiting the minis-ter's office, found him out, he has good ground for complaint. But the conditions would be somewhat altered if his lordwould be somewhat after a minister in this matter as in the case of the officers of the new regiment. His attitude with regard to appointments is untenable. It means nothing less than that all military appointments should be made absolutely by him and not by the government at all, a position in which the Canadian people could not at all sustain him, however much they love him."

Lord Dundonald's position, in short, was untenable from the first. The support he receives will be the support of newspapers bent upon making political capital out of the unfortunate incident which terminated the commanding officer's usefulness in Canada. Canadians are not ready to dele gate to any officer the degree of authority Lord Dundonald sought to exercise.

THE SUBMARINE.

a greater steaming radius, and armed with torpedoes like her prey. But what marine torpedo boats in the hands of daring men. to be tested in actual warfare, but from ed by seamen of such courage and cool intelligence as were possessed by the Japnnese who operated at Port Arthur might render the position of any hostile fleet

ANOTHER SIX HUNDRED.

More awful and more sorrowful than the ed when the Russian flagship and all her tune of war. The Burgogne disaster, and the sinking of the British battleship Vic toria, rammed by the Camperdown, presented some of the features of yesterday fatality. Nearer yet was the burning of in the very Hell Gate water where th as lends a crowning sadness to the end of the Slocum and her freight of Sunday shool children.

A great vessel with several decks, buil to carry excursionists in the smoother waters, the Slocum could accommodate lation of some our provincial towns. Te thronged women and children. On these first glimpse of the real country. To man it promised a renewed acquaintance with green fields almost forgotten in the year lapsing since the last visit to the fairyland of city bred little ones. It was to be a day of harmless, unselfish delight, on which all were to be wholly happy.

Frequent accidents in the waters about New York have caused periodical flurries steamers. Talk about life-preservers, fire extinguishing apparatus and life boats ha always subsided without leading to effect tive precautions. With such passengers a she carried yesterday, and with her usua found insufficient and the crew wholly unequal to the work of saving the panio razed and pain-maddened company of

Of fire-fighting apparatus every steam carries some, but whatever the Slocum had ness of terror and struggling flight from the fire. The fact that children and patkin's left flank about Haicheng. women made up most of the crowd leaves This retreating force must be a source

shows that to entrust such a freight to

THE ORDER-IN-COUNCIL.

Had Hon. Mr. Fisher's course been

Frederick Borden. If politics is men by Liberals. The changes he made contemplated additional efficiency. Lord Dundonald could not object to them on any ground other than that the minister was going over his head-which the Minister of Militia has a right to do at any

The only question raised by the con manding officer is, Who rules the militia It is a question which has been answered ment of this country he cannot give place

BLOW FOR BLOW.

The war news of yesterday might be of their soldiers. But while the reports the side of the Japanese, the meaning of the land operations described in the despatches is more important than appears at first glance. In the fighting of the last few days the

Russians, who had already lost more than

were abandoned. The world heard that The most imporant feature of the fighting just reported is its bearing upon the Liaotung peninsula and upon General Kuropatkin's main body farther north. neck of land at Pitsewo and took Kinhow, they cut the railroad running north rom Port Arthur and held it as far up as Pulantien, about thirty miles north of Kinchow. The Russians held the rail post having been Vafangow, from which entrenched position they have now been forces aiming at the railroad from vent the Russian brigade crumpled up at Vafangow from joining General Kuro-

of the Russian army in Manchuria would

ALL HANDS TO REPEL

already conquered? They hold all that

really was in dispute. If they continue to

hold it Russia is beaten.

want Hudson Bay, which we have, but the Pole, which we have not. Here is the evi dence, found in the editorial columns of the

territorial jurisdiction over the North Pole may be set up by the Dominion of Canada. Captain J. Elzear Bernler, of Quebec, who has just brought over from Germany vessel designed for Arctic exploration, and who will shortly set out on his expedition declares stoutly that the North Pole ough to lie within the boundaries of Canada and that he means to find it there. If i happens to lie outside the lines, he will bring it inside by hoisting the flag of the Dominion and thus establishing the claim. This is a matter calling for grave consideration at Washington." The Boston Post talks as though the

Pole were something good to eat. Its call to arms in this matter is a re-assertion of the common American doctrine that the of claim to everything ashore, afloat and President Roosevelt's attention to the captain's polar designs and pointed out the tend his sucessful dash to the N. P., the administration which bought the Filipinos South America, may be expected to assemble its strategy board and take from the Dominion and its fearless navigator that which is no man's and is destined to ecome the property of the nation whose

As this is recognized in Boston as "a Washington," the fate of the Pole may be regarded as sealed. It is impossible to guess how American sovereignty will be stablished, but perhaps the American 'impartial jurists of repute," consisting of Senator Lodge, who represents the New England conscience; Senator Turner, the Northwestern hold-up man, and Lord Alverstone, whose idea of pacific negotiation it under the door, and steal softly away Another commission of this kind might well settle the Pole question. But if any matter of gravity were at stake it would be useless to suggest any "impartial jurist" ousiness to Canadians. "Cap." Bernier had better convert his ship into a whaler and steer for Hudson Bay. The Pole i not for him or for us. The American have always owned it.

THE WATER SYSTEM.

St. John may as well make up its min It may escape up the railroad to Hai- Loch Lomond in reporting upon the situ ation. There is no reason for deciding that To Number 1.000. them say he made a most thorough investi gation not only of the present supply pressure and distribution but of the water

every part of the city. Such a supply, it is

anxious to "share her prosperity with Steamer Was Well Canada." Hear the Boston Globe, for in- Supplied Say Owners.

oundland is imperatively needed by Boson. Boston is the 'ice-free' port of a the whole country, would be immensely ciprocally inclined. Our splendid developent of domestic trade might be shared

with her." If Canada stiffens her already inde pendent trade attitude there is no telling what our New England friends will offer lower their tariff to the level of ours And St. John as an ice-free port answers all Canadian requirements.

DEATH LIST NOW 700 IN N Y. HARBOR HORROR.

(Continued from page 1.) nore than ten minutes, yet that tim sufficed for deeds of heroism which make rending story. Brave men, devoted mothers, and even maidens and yout of tender years each contributed their part to the roll of heroic acts. There were rescues in the face of almost cer-tain death, and useless but exalted selfsacrifice for the dear one. The credit for wrapped steamer until driven off by awful heat, scorched and choking.

and Cowardice.

But there is a darker side hinted at along the river front, where are told stories that seem to be the inevitable accompaniment of all great calamities. acter specific enough to fasten it upon individuals and permit of punishment, but survivors and eye-witnesses say that some brutal acts of selfishness and cowere seen, and that distress signals from the burning boat were disregarded by passing craft. One man avers that a big white yacht passed the Slocum when the bodies of women and children were going overboard and did not even slacken spec According to this man, the yacht flew the pennant of the New York Yacht Club and a flag indicating that the owne was not on board, and after passing the Slocum she steered over to the western eyes watched the vessel burn.

ilar acts of incredible callousness is the story of Miss Martha Weierk, who says that while she struggled in the water a other jewelry, pushed her back into the water. The body of the steward had be dollars he was supposed to have had in his pockets not a cent was found.

Dead Believed

The loss of life by the burning of the steamer General Slocum yesterday, will approximate 1,000. This estimate is based upon the belief of the chief of the fire department, coroner's office, and the police.
At 1 o'clock this afternoon 504 bodies lington, to whom he gave directions to had been recovered, of which 155 had have all the bodies which are burned be of the country.

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een identified. Four hundred and sixty- yourd any hope of identification, buried at seven persons are reported missing, and the hospitals have 117 injured. The fact that 24 hours after the disas

authorities have used every source ir command to locate all who escap Mayor McClelland has announced the will ask for subscriptions for the bial of the dead and for immediate relations.

President F, A. Barnaby, of the Knick erbocker Steamship Company, the owners of the steamer General Slocum, made a general denial today of the reports that the steamer was equipped with worthless g to the north and west hose and life preservers, and that the life ble of the city of New York with their

> the boat at the time of the accident was of the very best that money could buy," said Mr. Barnaby. "The boat was thoroughly overhauled early this year; and we spent more than \$30,000 on her, refitting machinery, hose, extinguishers, pumps and machinery, as well as for life preservers We did all and more than the law requires The hose was all new this year, and was all right. The fact that the vessel was rated as an Al risk is the best evidence that everything had been done that human foresight could provide.

The story that boats and rafts wer The story that boats and raits were tied down with ropes and wires, the former so covered with dried paint that they resisted a knift, is absolutely false. Ine life rafts were simply laid on the deck, and could have been thrown overboard by any-

"The boats were simply lashed with thin rope that was not covered with paint, and which could have easily been cut. No wires were used whatever. I venture to say that many people were killed simply in the effort to get at the boats. A hundred failed in doing what one man could easily have done. We had more than 500 life preservers more than the legal capacity of the boat, something like 1,000 or 1,500 having been put in this year. The allega-tion that they were old, rotten and worth-

ess is not true."

Mr. Barnaby said the company was making an investigation of the disaster on its own account, but added that their own employes who were on the boat cannot agree as to where the fire started, and all disclaim any knowledge of its cause. Mr Barnaby said that he believed the fire started from spontaneous combustion in

Hose Worthless Says Chief Officer. Edward Flannigan, chief officer of the Slocum, when questioned by Assistant District Attorney Garven today, denied that it was impossible to get water where the fire hose was attached. The supply of water was plentiful, but the hose, which was new, he said, burst in many places almost as soon as the water was turned on, and became useless. Among the messages of sympathy received by Mayor McClellan, is one from Sir Thomas

Lipton and offering \$1,000 towards a re-lief fund if needed. Police Patrol

Shores for Bodies. The Long Island shore is being patrolle by the police in boats today in search of bodies from the wreck. Many bodies are expected to be washed ashore at the turn of the tide. So many of the bodies of the dead are being found charred and burned beyond all possibility of identification, tha interment in a general burial plot has been suggested. Mayor McClellan today ordere all flags half-masted. He also said he ha public memorial service.

The officers of St. Mark's church hav requested that the functals of the victims be deld as quietly and unostentatiously as possible. No funerals will be held in the church. The undertakers in the neighbor hood whence the victims came were over-whelmed with work, and could not care for all the cases sent.

A large undertaking corporation today

of those persons whose relatives might b ompany extended the use of its plant

completely prostrated by shock, rallied to night and was reported to be convalescin ance, were tenderly broken to Dr. Haas by his brother, Dr. J. A. W. Haas. Mayor McClellam visited the scene of the wreck with Health Commissioner Dar-

Fathers, frantic with grief, representing nore than two 'score Brooklyn homes, spent today searching the morgues and hospitals in Manhattan for wives and children, who had attended the excursion and have not since been heard from In a number of instances Brooklyn families were almost entirely wiped out.

Relief Fund.

Mayor McClelland today issued the fol-

lowing proclamation:
"To the Citzens of New York:
"The appalling disaster yesterday, by children lost their lives by fire and drown demal today of the reports that mer was equipped with worthless life processors and that the life.

Knowing the keen sympathy of the peomittee of citizens to receive contributions to a fund to provide for the fit and proper

lief as may be necessary.
"The following gentlemen have been asked to serve on the committee:
"Morris K. Jessup, Jacob H. Schiff,
Herman Ridder, Charles A. Dickey, Robt. A. Vancourt, Erskine Hewitt, Joseph C. Hendrix, Thomas Mulroy, George Ehret, John Fox, John Weimacht, H. B. Schar-

"Until the committee has had an op-portunity to organize I shall be glad to receive contributions at the mayor's "As a sign of mourning, I have ordered

Among the many messages received by Mayor McClellan was one from Mayor Carter H. Harrison, of Chicago, proffering sympathy and assistance.

The mayors of most of the cities throughout the country also sent con-

Archbishen John M Farley, of the liocese of New York, sent a message of sympathy to Dr. Haas in behalf of the atholic clergy and laity as follows: ou and yours in this their dreadful hour

serrow. Society for the Prevention of ruelty to Children has issued an official tatement through its counsel, that the ociety will take determined action to ix the responsibility for the deaths of the little ones who were burned to death or drowned in the Slocum disaster.

Might Have Saved All.

New York, June 16-Charles L. Storms, who owns the lumber yard at 134th street and East river, says that the loss of life on the General Slocum could have been averted had the captain steered for shore when he first discovered the fire.
"I saw the flames on the boat as she

passed 128th street," said Mr. Storms, and I signalled for her to come ashore. and almost immediately there were engines Slocum had turned in then not a life would have been lost.
"Later, when I saw how badly off the

Slocum was and saw the people running around on her decks and jumping over-board, I saw a big steam yacht go right past her and make no effort to a-sist those

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The U. S. cruiser Detroit is now on er way from San Juan, Porto Rico, to Annapolis. The French cruiser Foudre s at Digby, and both will come to St.

The French "etranger" means both "foreigner" and "stranger." Sir Wilfrid may have been thinking in French, and in translation used the less fortunate word for the perfectly unobjectionable "etranger."—Toronto News (Ind.).

It should be explained, however, that the French word foreigner, "otranger." has not the same meaning as the English word. It simply means a man from another country. This was, no doubt, ail that Sir Wilfrid-Laurier intended to say.

—Montreal Witness (Ind. Lib.).

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, speaking in a language which is not his mother tongle, word "foreigner" in speaking of Lord Dundonald. The word was instantly obanged to "stranger," which was obvi-ously the word Sir Wilfrid intended using, the context referring to Lord Dun-donald's lack of personal knowledge of the eastern townships.—Montreal Herald

The foregoing explanation is gener accepted by the fair-minded newspar