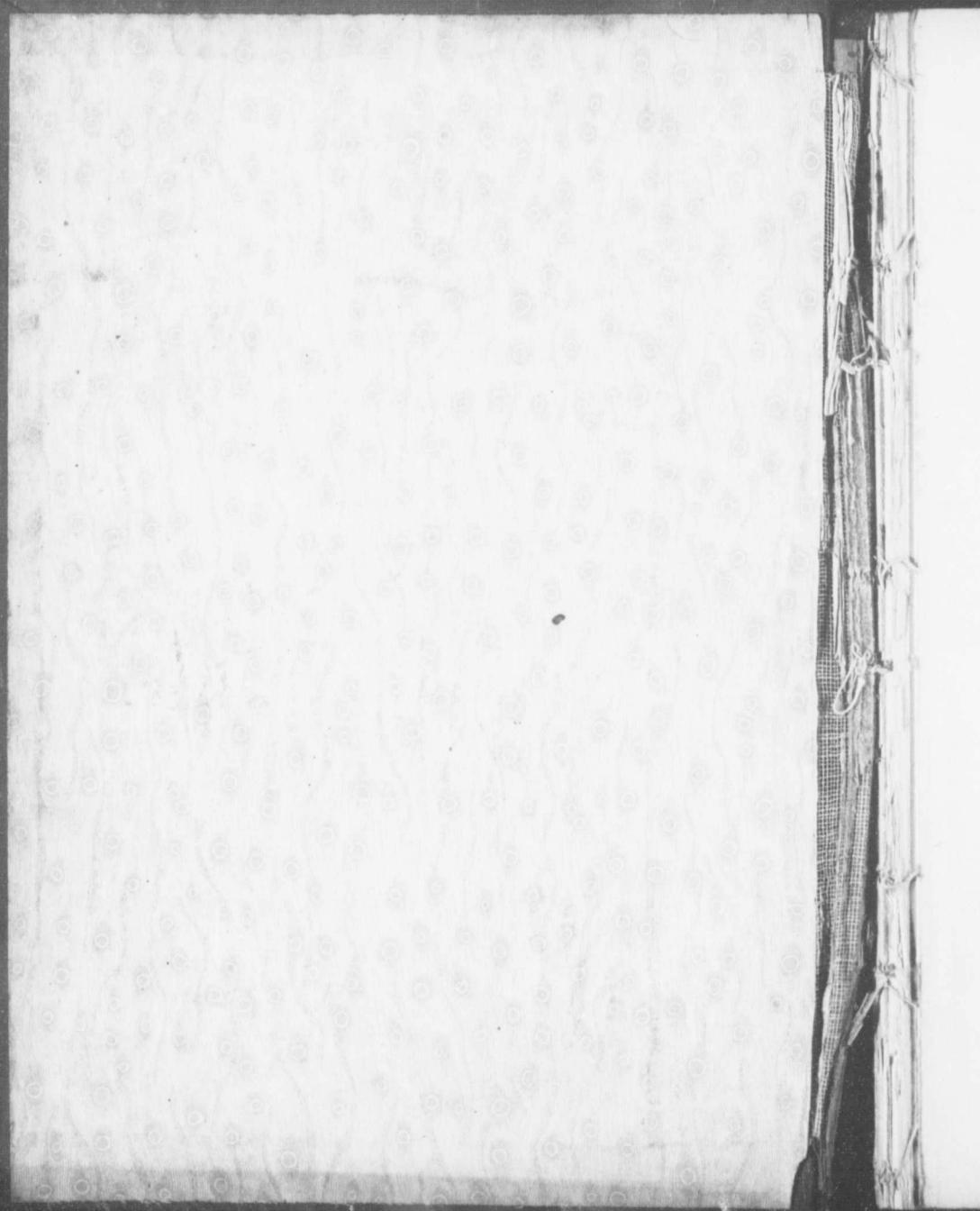
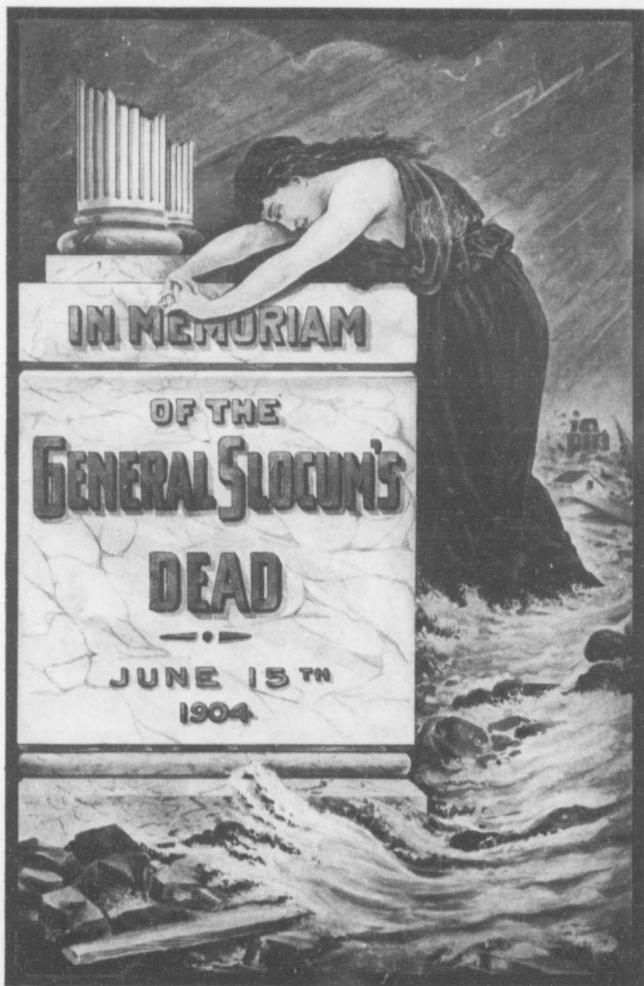


NEW-YORK'S AWFUL
SPECTACLE



AND OTHER
DREAFFUL TRAGEDIES





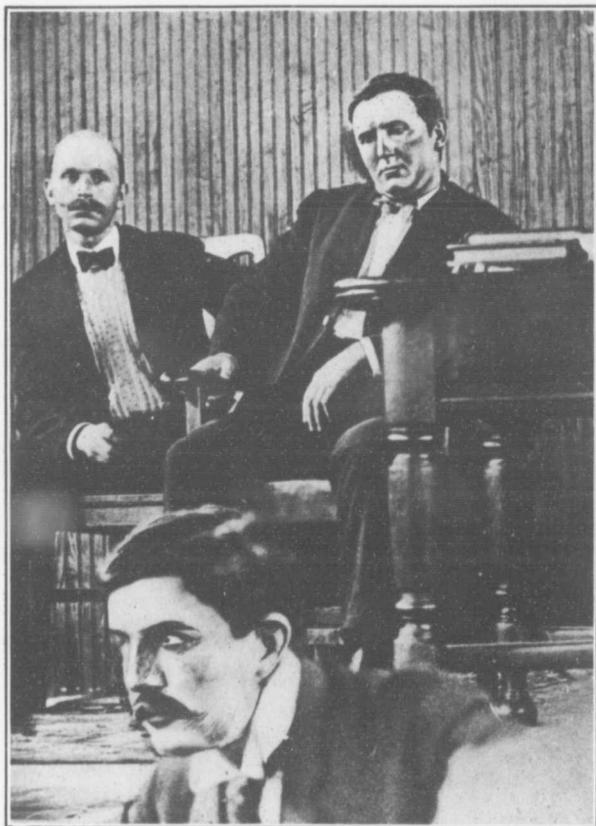
IN MEMORIAM

OF THE
GENERAL SLOCUM'S
DEAD

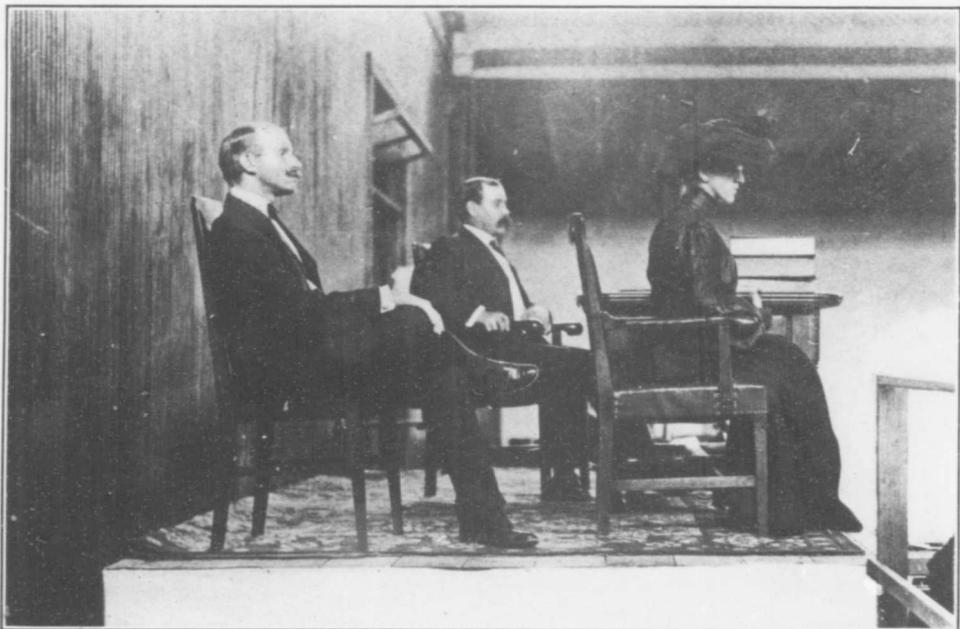
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JUNE 15TH
1904



THIS PHOTOGRAPH SHOWS THE CORONER'S JURY INQUIRING INTO THE CAUSE OF THE BURNING OF THE EXCURSION STEAMER "GENERAL SLOCUM."



INSPECTOR HENRY LUNDBERG, WHO IS LEANING AGAINST THE TABLE, REFUSED TO TESTIFY AT THE CORONER'S INVESTIGATION CONCERNING HIS INSPECTION OF THE GENERAL SLOCUM'S LIFE PRESERVERS.



JOSEPHINE HALL, THE KNICKERBOCKER STEAMBOAT COMPANY'S BOOKKEEPER, WHO TESTIFIED BEFORE THE CORONER THAT SHE ERASED THE WORDS "GRAND REPUBLIC" FROM A BILL FOR 350 LIFE PRESERVERS.

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MUSEUM
July
1892

MEMORIAL EDITION
NEW YORK'S AWFUL
STEAMBOAT HORROR

HUNDREDS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN
DROWNED AND BURNED TO DEATH

WITH GRAPHIC DESCRIPTIONS OF FLAMES SWEEPING MANY
SOULS TO ETERNITY WITH RESISTLESS FURY;
PANIC STRICKEN MULTITUDES JUMPING
TO SURE DEATH, ETC., ETC.

AND CONTAINING THRILLING STORIES OF THIS MOST OVER-
WHELMING CATASTROPHE OF MODERN TIMES

TO WHICH IS ADDED VIVID ACCOUNTS OF HEARTRENDING
SCENES WHERE HUNDREDS WERE BURNED AND
DROWNED IN THEIR EFFORTS TO ESCAPE

COMPILED FROM THE DESCRIPTIONS OF EYE WITNESSES AND
SURVIVORS OF THIS TERRIBLE DISASTER

By H. D. NORTHROP, the well-known author

Profusely Illustrated with a Great Many Photographs of
Thrilling Scenes in this Fearful Catastrophe

TO THE ABOVE IS ADDED AN ACCOUNT OF ALL GREAT FIRE
HORRORS FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS

R. A. H. MORROW
ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK.

IN THE OFFICE OF THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS, AT WASHINGTON, D. C. U. S. S. A.

D. Z. HOWELL

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PREFACE.

THE appalling steamboat horror in New York Harbor is even more terrifying than the Chicago Theatre Fire, for this catastrophe resulted in the death of hundreds by both fire and water. It has sent a thrill of dismay and terror throughout the whole world. A crowd of excursionists were made victims of this dire calamity. All on board were anticipating a day of pleasure, and never dreamed that a disaster so shocking was near. In an instant the merry company was turned into a frantic struggling crowd, all making desperate efforts to save themselves and their friends. No language can describe the heartrending scenes, or convey any adequate idea of the awful holocaust on the "General Slocum."

Crowds of children were on board, and their mothers were driven by the fury of flames to leap with them into the water. Family parties prepared for a day's picnic, were on the doomed boat, and were hurled to death, as it were, in the twinkling of an eye. In the wild confusion, mothers were separated from their little ones, never to look again into their loving faces.

The accident occurred in the East River, opposite the upper part of New York City. The banks are steep and rocky at this point, which has been given the suggestive name of "Hell Gate." It has long been considered a dangerous place, and many small vessels have gone down in the swirl of these waters.

When the fire was discovered the awe-stricken officers and passengers stood paralyzed and helpless to stay the ravages of the devouring flames. The seething

furnace gathered new materials for its remorseless devastation, and mocked all efforts to stay its onward progress. Clouds of smoke enveloped the sky, through which the ascending jets of fire shot with the fierceness of lightning.

There was a noise like an explosion down in the steamer's hull, and red starry loads of sparks and smoke and flames flew up, and the greater part of the superstructure plunged forward into the flames. How many hundreds of lives were snuffed out at that instant nobody will ever know.

From the shores could be seen writhing figures in the burning wreck, slipping down further and further into the flames until they disappeared. As bees cling to a branch when swarming, there was a thick clustering of women all screaming; and boys and girls around the edges of as much of the railing of the boat as was left standing.

Mothers threw their children overboard and leaped after them. The majority of them went down to a watery grave. All kinds of boats that were near hurried to the rescue, and many a sailor proved himself to be a hero by risking his life to save the drowning and those who were frantic and in agony from the all-enveloping flames.

A full and intensely graphic account of this appalling disaster is contained in this memorial volume. The book has a fascination that cannot be resisted. This calamity stands out in bold and terrible outlines in the history of great disasters.

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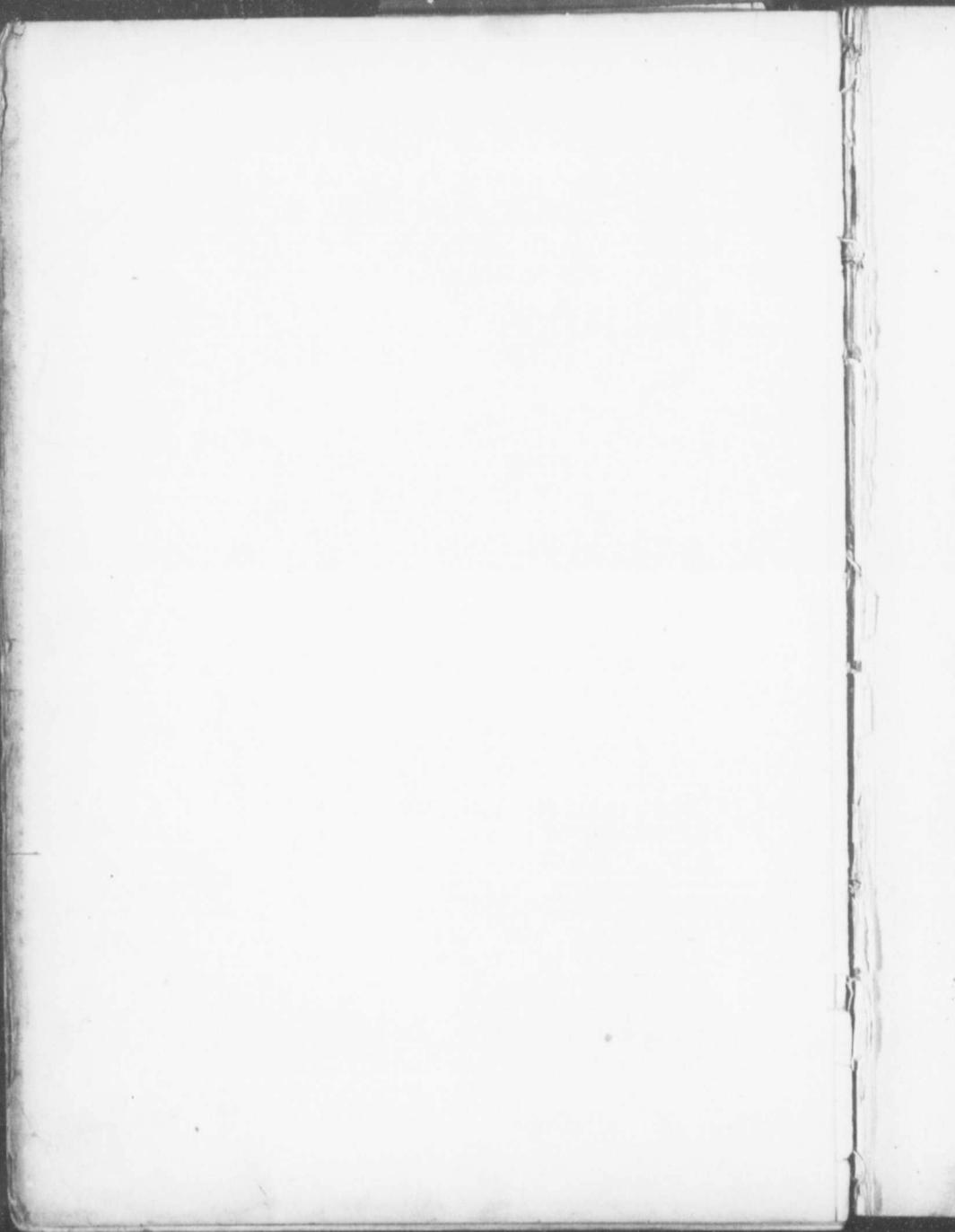
SCENE IN FRONT OF THE MORGUE AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC CHARITIES AND CORRECTION. UNDERTAKERS' WAGONS WAITING TO REMOVE THE DEAD.



DEAD BODIES BROUGHT TO THE SURFACE OF THE WATER BY CANNONADING AND EXPLODING DYNAMITE NEAR WHERE THE EXCURSION STEAMER WAS SUNK.



A PIER USED AS A MORGUE—DEAD BODIES IN COFFINS WITH ICE PACKED AROUND THEM, AWAITING REMOVAL BY THEIR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS.



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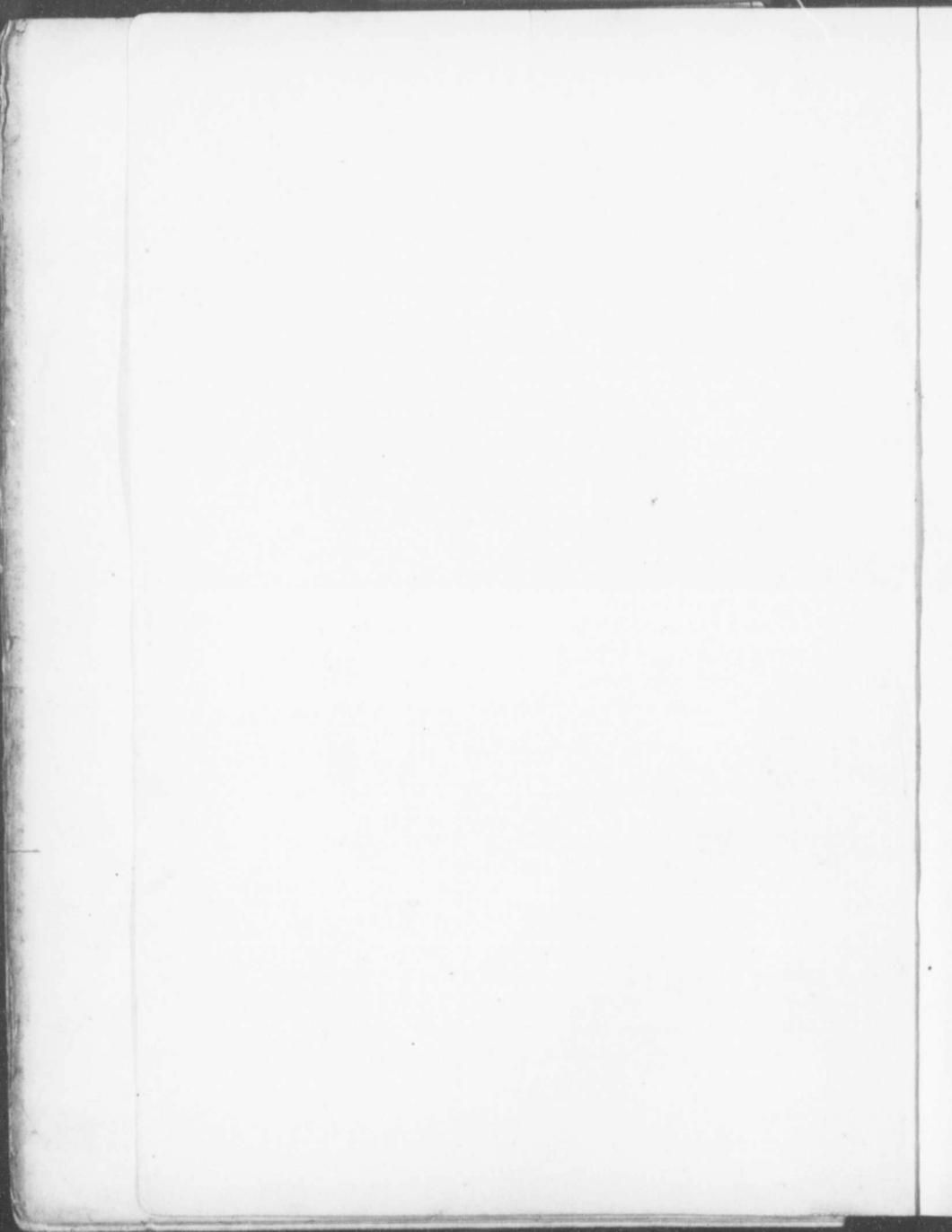
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APPALLING HORROR

IN

NEW YORK BAY.

CHAPTER I.

FRIGHTFUL CATASTROPHE BY FIRE AND WATER.

NOTHING approaching the great calamity of June 15th ever before happened in New York waters. In the midst of such an awful destruction of life, the exact number of those who perished is immaterial, but it is certain that on day of the calamity more than 1000 souls were sent to their long homes without a moment's warning to prepare for death. The list of the missing has reached an appalling length.

"How did such a thing happen?" That was the question that was reiterated up and down the length and breadth of the city. People read that the captain found his boat with its living cargo was on fire at 110th street, and yet did not drive it to the shore until he reached 138th street, a mile and a half from the place where the cry of "Fire!" first reached his ears.

Capt. William H. Van Schaick of the "Slocum" explained as best he could how such a horrible disaster had come to a steamer under his care and direction. He is a man 61 years old, and has had long experience in commanding pleasure craft in the waters around New York. Capt. Van Schaick said that, though he heard the alarm of fire early, he made up his mind at once that there was

no certain place where she could be beached in shallow water south of North Brother Island. The tide was running east to the Sound with terrible velocity, and the captain feared that he would lose time trying to turn his boat into a proper beaching place to beach her west of North Brother Island. He stuck to his post, although the flames scorched his clothing, until the boat was hard and fast ashore. Pilot Van Wart stayed with him.

Rivermen generally are divided as to the good judgment shown by Capt. Van Schaick in trying to go so far. It was nearly an even division. The captain himself admitted that it was not until after the fire had been burning some time that he realized its fierceness and its rapidity. Capt. Van Schaick and Pilots Van Wart and Weaver were arrested and were sent to the prison cells of Bellevue Hospital. All of them were badly burned.

GRAVE QUESTIONS TO BE SETTLED.

District Attorney Jerome sent his assistant, F. P. Garvan, to the scene of the wreck to determine whether a crime had been committed. It was stated that if it could be shown that Capt. Van Schaick used his best judgment he would not be held responsible. But there were other questions which would call for a criminal investigation, as, for instance, the quality and condition of the life preservers on the "General Slocum" and the facilities which she had for fighting fire.

It was proven that a man could rip many of the life preservers on the ship wide open with his thumb-nail and that some of them were filled with granulated cork, which quickly becomes water soaked and loses buoyancy. Former Fire Marshal Freel was

retained by the District Attorney to make an investigation into the circumstances of the starting of the fire.

There was a compartment in the hold of the "General Slocum" known as the second cabin. It was forward, just aft the forecastle. In this room were kept the lamps and the oil for filling them; the gasolene and the brass polishing liquids and all the other inflammable supplies. It is thought that the fire started in this cabin. But it was known that the flames were fed there to reach their greatest and most murderous intensity. From that cabin the fire swept back through the boat with a fierceness that no fire fighting apparatus could hold in check.

STEAMER SPOUTING FLAMES.

There were scenes of horror on the "General Slocum" and on shore such as it would be impossible to put on paper, even though any chronicler had the ability. It was a boat load of women and little children. For the last mile, when the steamer, spouting flames high into the air, was shooting swiftly out to the Sound with the tide, people on shore and on other steamers could see the women and children fluttering over the sides into the water in scores. The river is swift there at flood tide. The waves dash forward one over another with white foam. A strong man would have but little chance in those waters. The women and children had no chance for their lives.

There were heard many such stories as often come out after a disaster—stories of cruel selfishness by members of the crew, of cold disregard of the distress signals and most evident need by pleasure and business craft in the harbor. In the end came the story that

there had been looting of the bodies of the dead. Some of these stories may have been true.

HEROIC WORK OF RESCUERS.

But there was a glorious record of self-sacrifice and of bravery to be set over against all that was evil or unmanly. Of such were the bravery with which the old captain and his pilots stayed at their post; the noble efforts of Policemen Kelk and Van Tassel, who were on the burning boat, to save the lives of those entrusted to their care; the beautiful recklessness of the women nurses and the convalescent patients from the hospitals on North Brother Island, risking their lives to dash into the water around the burning boat to pull out drowning children and women; the brave deeds of the men on the city's boats, the "Franklin Edson" and the "Massasoit," and on the tugs "Theo" and "Wade."

Some day some one will fittingly write of the deeds of that little man, Capt. Jack Wade, and his daredevil crew. There was no time for the glorifying of heroes. For every one whose deeds were seen and mentally registered in the flying moments of horror and peril, there were hundreds of others in which the rescued were too much scared to appreciate what was being done for them and the rescuers were too busy to take note for themselves.

Ambulances and patrol wagons from nearly every corner of the city were sent to points along The Bronx shore nearest the wreck. Physicians and nurses came by hundreds, not only from hospitals, public and private in all the boroughs of the city, but singly, from their private offices, from as far away as Newark and Paterson.

Bodies were sent down to the Bellevue Morgue from

North Brother Island as fast as they were recovered, until there was no more room there. Most of them were unidentified. At about five o'clock when the tide was low, there was a sudden increase in the rapidity with which bodies were recovered. They were brought out of the water near where the "Slocum" had been grounded at the rate of about one a minute. A temporary morgue was established on the island. The systematizing of the work of identification went on and it was hoped that nearly all the recovered bodies would be recognized. Some of them were so badly burned that they will never be recognized. All the afternoon and at night great silent crowds, thousands and thousands of people, stood in front of the church in Sixth street, in front of the Morgue and the Alexander avenue police station, and along the East River shore opposite North Brother Island—wherever the bodies of victims were laid or where news of them could be learned.

EXCURSIONISTS GO ON BOARD.

The "General Slocum" which was built of wood, spent Tuesday night at the foot of Fiftieth street. She started around the Battery at 7 o'clock next morning. Her crew of twenty-seven men were aboard. She reached the foot of Third street, in the East River, where there is a recreation pier, at about twenty minutes past 8 o'clock.

There were several hundred excursionists already on the pier when the "Slocum" arrived. There were mothers full of pride in their lusty German-American babies, and full of anxiety for fear some of them would fall overboard in their haste to get on board the "Slocum" before anybody else did. A band came and went to the after deck and began booming out melodies dear to the German and East Side New Yorker's heart.

The mothers and children came pouring across the gang plank and hurrying for "good places" about the decks. The Rev. G. C. F. Haas and his assistant, the Rev. J. S. Schultz, stood on opposite sides of the gang plank and welcomed the mothers and the scholars. Policemen Kelk and Van Tassell, full of experience in the handling of Sunday school excursions, took posts on the off shore side of the steamer, ready to dive after any tow-head who, by mischance should fall overboard. It was as fine a day for a picnic as ever was. The sunlight made the blue water seem as bright as though it lay anywhere but between the piers of the biggest city of this nation. The ugly factory walls were set off by masts and flags, and big boats and little boats seemed rather to be skittering over the river for their own amusement than for any purpose of sordid profit.

BIG FAMILY PARTIES.

The excursion was late in starting. Lutherans are great folk for going to family picnics in big family parties. Greta and Wilhemina and August's wife gather from the corners of Manhattan and Brooklyn and bring all their children, and combine their luncheons so that it shall be served to ten or fifteen hungry mouths in proper proportions. And if any one of the whole family circle was late, then all the rest went to Pastor Haas and besought him, by all that was dear and sweet, not to let the boat go until sister and her little ones came. Pastor Haas was good natured, and it was well along towards 10 o'clock when the "Slocum" started, the band on the upper deck playing "Ein Feste Burg Ist Unser Gott."

The children tugged at their skirts, held down by their smiling mothers and big sisters and grandmothers,

and cheered at the departing pier. There was not a chill in the air. There was not a cloud on the blue sky. Pastor Haas went up and down the decks, and the matrons loudly communicated their congratulations to him.

Hell Gate, where the tide was rushing out to the Sound with the utmost violence, was passed safely. There isn't a steamer captain in this harbor, no matter though he be as old as Capt. Van Schaick, who is not glad when he has passed through Hell Gate without a collision and without being slewed out of his course against its rocky sides.

DANGEROUS STOREROOM.

Though Capt. Van Schaick did not know it, the steamer must even then have been on fire. Just back of the crew's quarters, up in the bow of the steamer under the main deck, is what is called the second cabin. On the "Slocum" this cabin has been used as a sort of storeroom. Spare hawsers and paint and oils were kept there. Gasolene was kept there, and it was there that Albert Payne, a negro steward, kept the ship's lamps when they were not in place and cleaned and filled them. Payne, his face ashy with the horrors he had been through, swore that he had finished cleaning all the lamps before the boat left her dock at West Fiftieth street early Wednesday morning and that he had not been in the room except to see that everything was all right. He swore that just before the boat left East Third street the second cabin was all right.

Along the Astoria shore, where there are many yards for the building of small boats, the trouble was known sooner than it was on the steamer itself. As the "Slocum" passed Broadway, Astoria, John E. Ronan, a

Dock Department employee, was struck with the gayety of the steamer, with her flags, her music and her load of hilarious children, and called to a companion :

"Look at the 'Slocum!' Don't it make you hate to work when you see a crowd having as good a time as that?"

But a quarter of a mile further on, William Alloway, the captain of a dredge, saw a burst of smoke puff out from the lower deck of the "Slocum" just forward of the smokestacks. He let off four blasts of his dredge whistle. At the same moment other boats on each side of the river began to toot shrill warnings. Alloway and his men could see a scurrying on the decks of the "Slocum." They wondered why Captain Van Schaick didn't back his boat right into the Astoria shore.

"It seemed to me," Alloway said, "as though he was having some trouble with his wheel and as though she wasn't minding it, and as if he couldn't get his signals into his engine room. But anyway, he went right ahead."

ALARM AT LAST GIVEN ON BOARD.

From the best understanding of the situation which could be gained from those who were left alive when everything was over, it was quite a while after the "Slocum" was first found to be on fire that the seriousness of the situation was understood by all of her officers and crew. Very few of the passengers knew anything of the real danger they were in until the burning and drowning had begun.

Eddie Flanagan was the "Slocum's" mate. On excursion steamers the safety and comfort of the passengers are delegated to the mate, while the captain is in

the pilot house as he is, very properly, always while the boat is in motion. To Flanagan there came a deckhand and Steward McGann. He caught Flanagan by the shoulder and said :

"Mate, there's a fire forward and it's got a pretty good headway."

Flanagan jumped down through the dark space in the middle of the boat and turned the lever of the fire drill alarm. He sent McGann to warn Captain Van Schaick. The crew was not enough to handle so many passengers. The fire crackled up through one deck after another, licking out far on the port side. There was a rush for the stern. Some of the children thought that the whole alarm was a joke and laughed and pummelled one another as they ran. The mothers didn't. They lumbered after, trying vainly to keep hold of some one garment on the bodies of each one of their youngsters.

GETTING OUT THE HOSE.

Captain Van Schaick ran back from the pilot house and saw that Flanagan had two lines of hose run from the steamer's fire pumps toward the second cabin, and that the water was already spurting through them. The fire drill on the "Slocum" was always well done. It was held, without any requirement of law, once every week. But this fire was beyond any mere fire drill. It took Captain Van Schaick only a minute to see that he ought to get his passengers ashore as soon as ever he could. He determined on the north shore of North Brother Island.

It takes time to read of all these things. It took almost no time at all for them to happen. The yells and screams of the few people who were caught on the decks

below the hurricane deck forward were ringing horribly across the water. The roar and crackle of the oil-fed flames shut these screams off from the frightened mass of Sunday school people aft.

Kelk and Van Tassel had leaped into the crowds when the firegongs rang. It was due to them that more women and children were not caught forward of the fire. They herded the people back like sheep until nearly the whole company were huddled together on the broad after-decks. The fire was eating its way back steadily. The people were getting more and more frightened. Mothers whose children had been separated from them in the rush were getting frantic and dashing madly through the crowd. Confusion grew almost as fast as the fire at the other end of the boat was growing. Van Tassel took to the rail.

TRYING TO QUIET THE CROWD.

"Now, everybody keep quiet!" he shouted again and again, waving his big arms reassuringly at women who were grasping the rail and already leaning over and trying to make up their minds to jump.

Pastor Haas had found his wife and his twelve-year-old daughter Gertrude and had put them near the back of a companionway, where he was sure he could find them. He, too, tried to calm his people. He might as well have tried to calm the whirling tide that was bearing the burning steamer along to its end. They were fighting now. Mothers who had started side by side with an endless fund of sympathy for domestic difficulties were fighting like wild beasts.

Screams came from the water. A woman looked over and saw three children floating by on the starboard

side. The head of one of them was covered with blood where a blade of the paddlewheel had wounded it. The woman screamed just once, so loud that for a moment all the other horrible sounds of the boat seemed hushed. She pointed a finger at the little bodies that were floating back from the forward decks.

"Frieda!" she screamed. "Meine Frieda!"

Before a hand could be raised to stop her, if indeed there was any one there at that moment cool enough to raise a hand, the mother jumped on the seat and threw herself over the rail. She sank, whirling over and over in the swift current. So did the children. But other bodies came. As the flames worked upward and backward more people were driven to jump to escape being burned. Mercifully, the pilot house, being forward and up in the air, was in a position which the flames found it hard to reach. The captain and his pilots were able to keep steering.

It seemed to be the captain's purpose as he came up past 130th street to try to find a berth on The Bronx side of the stream. There are a number of coal and wood yards along there and some factories. Rivermen said that he might well have carried out his plan. The land forces of the Fire Department could have reached him there. But he said that a tug warned him off, telling him that he would only be setting fire to the shore buildings and would not be helping his people in the least, if he ran in there.

CHAPTER II.

OUR COUNTRY AGHAST AT THE TRAGEDY.

THE "General Slocum," observed now by hundreds of horror dazed people on both sides of the stream and on the islands, turned again towards North Brother. Steamers and tugs from far down stream were making after her. The Department of Correction boat "Massasoit" was on the far side of the Brother Island. Her captain lay in wait for the "Slocum," not knowing through what channel she would come. From downstream came the slim, white "Franklin Edson," the Health Department boat. Thence, too, came the sturdy little "Wade," with her tough talking, daredevil, great hearted little captain, Jack Wade. There came also the tugs "Theo" and "Easy Time," tooting their whistles, headed for the burning steamer.

On board the "Slocum" horror was being piled on horror too fast for anyone to keep track of them. The fire, leaping now high above the frame work of the steamer's hog back, and roaring with a smoky glare of red tongues up thirty feet over the tall brown smoke-stacks, had begun to scorch the edges of the compact mass of women and children who were crowding back out of its way at the rear end of the boat.

The greater number of these people by far were on The Bronx side of the decks. They seemed to feel, poor creatures, that, small as their chance for rescue was, when it came it would come from the thickly-populated shore rather than from the bleak, rocky, bare spaces on the islands on the starboard side. The "Slocum" was now

opposite 138th street, heading partly across the river toward North Brother Island.

With a crack and echoing volley of screams that set on edge the teeth of men hardened to almost any form of death or evidence of pain, the port rail of the "Slocum's" after-deck gave way and all the people near it slipped and slid, one over another, into the water. She had hardly gone 200 yards further on—indeed, by ones and threes and twos and sevens, gaily dressed women and little tots all in white were seen whirling down from the deck into the racing tide—when worse came. The steamers and tugs in pursuit were catching up one woman here or a child there, but it was not much they could do. The tide was too swift, and there was too much work to be done ahead to warrant any delay over individuals.

CLOUD OF SMOKE AND FLAMES.

There was a puff like a great cough down in the "Slocum's" inwards. A red starry cloud of sparks and smoke and flames shot up and the greater part of the superstructure aft plunged forward into the flames. How many hundreds of lives were snuffed out in that one instant nobody will ever know. Outsiders could see writhing, crawling figures in the burning wreckage, slipping down further and further into the flames until they were gone. As bees cling along a branch when they are swarming, there was a thick clustering of women, all screaming, and boys and girls around the edges of so much of the superstructure as was still standing.

At the very back Kelk, the policeman, was standing catching up some of the smallest children, and hurling them out at the decks of the nearest following steamers.

Mothers threw their children overboard and leaped after them. When the stanchions burned out and the superstructure fell families were separated.

Thus it happened to Dominic Haas. He had given up as hopeless any effort to get the people quiet, and had just found his wife and daughter. The crash came and he lost them.

BIG STEAMBOAT ALL ABLAZE.

Now the the big steamer, ablaze for more than two-thirds of her 250 feet of length, was rounding the point of North Brother Island. The flames were reaching out for the pilot-house. The door toward the fire was blackened here and there and the paint blisters were bursting with little puffs of fire. But the hundred nurses and the tuberculosis patients—all the others had scarlet fever and other contagious diseases and were kept indoors—gathered eagerly on shore waiting a chance to help, saw old man Van Schaick and his pilots at their wheel, straining forward as though by their own physical efforts they could make the boat go faster.

The captain and Van Wart are both of scrawny, hollow-cheeked build. Both have sandy side whiskers, cropped close. Van Wart is taller than the captain. Weaver, the other pilot, is of heavier build. They made a wonderful picture, the three of them. Afterward, when the horrors were all over except the most ghastly horror of all—the piling up and labelling of the dead—men spoke of the picture. It was at no moment certain that the pilot house would not shrivel up and vanish in a puff of smoke. If it did the "Slocum" would never get close enough to the shore to make it possible for help to be given to the passengers who were still living. And the

two old men and the younger, with never a look backward, whirled their wheel and braced it, and with their teeth set close together and never a word kept their eyes fixed on the one little stretch of rocky beach where it was possible for a steamer as big as the "Slocum" to be beached accurately and safely.

They succeeded in the fight that they had been making all the way from the Sunken Meadows, where the "Seawanhaka" was beached years ago. Captain Van Schaick was past the Sunken Meadows, he said, before he knew that he had a fire on his boat, and the tide was too strong to let him turn back to beach her there, even had there been any way of rescue out there in the middle of the river.

SWAM TO BURNING STEAMER.

The only heartening incidents of the whole horrible half hour began happening as soon as the "Slocum's" bottom scraped on the North Brother Island shore, about twenty-five feet from the sea wall.

The "Massasoit," which was the closest boat behind the "Slocum" when she struck, drew so much water that it was impossible to get her bow within fifty feet of the "Slocum." It didn't make any difference to Carl Rappaport, her coxswain. He took a running jump forward over the bow and swam toward the burning steamer. Like a big red-headed St. Bernard, he grabbed two babies and swam back to his own boat. Meantime the captain of the "Massasoit" was putting boats overboard as fast as he knew how. When these were out picking up people from the water wherever they could, Rappaport was floundering around helping from the water side.

The "Franklin Edson," with her new clean coat of

white and gilt paint, drew less water than the "Massasoit," and went right up to the "Slocum's" side so that people jumped from the burning decks and were dragged back to safety. For safety was not on the forward deck of the "Edson." Her forward windows were cracked by the heat and there are the marks of flames for the forward thirty feet of her superstructure.

Jack Wade, master and owner of his little tug, cursing like a truckman stuck in the middle of a Broadway jam, was pitching his life-preservers over, turning loose his boats and pushing up so close to the burning decks that the hair on his brawny arms frizzed and his men had their shirts burned off their backs. It wasn't worth while afterward to attempt to get this crew to tell how many lives it saved. They had been too busy to count.

SHOVED HIM OVERBOARD.

Ruddy McCarroll was plain beaten out for the first time in his life. The effort which finished him had been getting a very heavy German woman over the side, single handed. When she was aboard she began to scream. Ruddy laid himself out flat, face down along the rail, and was sure he was going to die, he was so exhausted. He heard the fat woman say :

"Wake up, you ! wake up !" but he didn't know she was talking to him.

"There is my Claus in the water," she screamed. Without more ado she shoved Ruddy overboard. He floundered around, caught the boy, and managed to get aboard again. The fat woman grabbed Claus and started down the boat with him. Ruddy shook his head with a look that was almost a smile, and then fell on his face in a faint.



MARGARET SMITH



WINIFRED CRAGER

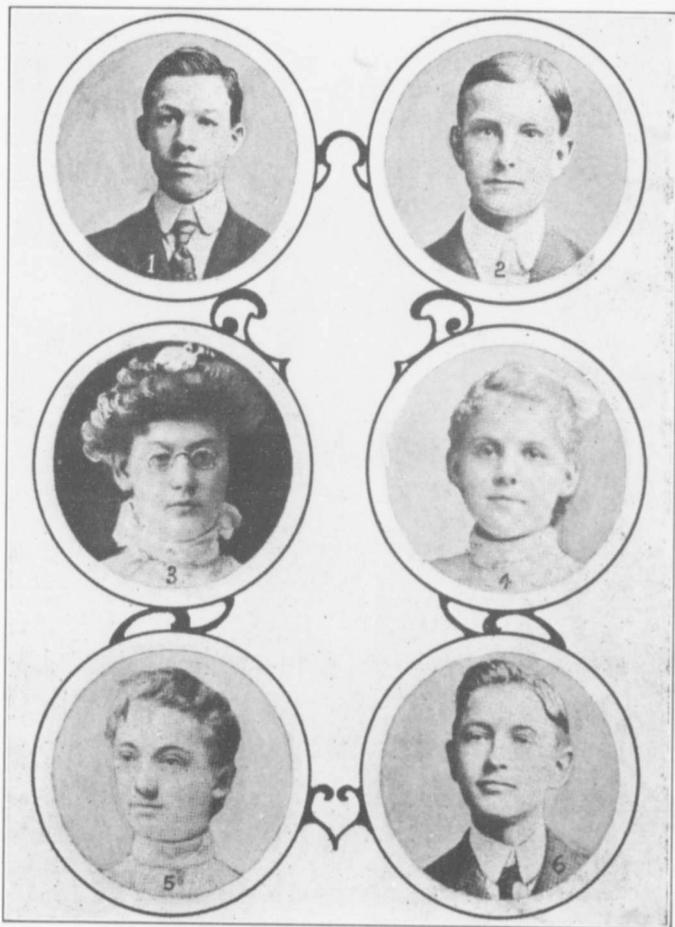


OTTO BOENHARDT

LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE BURNING OF THE GEN. SLOCUM



THIS GROUP SHOWS THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF TWENTY-EIGHT WOMEN AND CHILDREN WHO WERE ON THE ILL-FATED STEAMER "GENERAL SLOCUM."



1. ANTONIO SCHWARTZ

SAVED 22 LIVES

3. LUCY BORST

SAVED

5. ROSIE ASCHE

MISSING

2. CHARLES CORDES

SAVED

4. TILLIE HANFT

MISSING

6. CHARLES KUNSTNER *

SAVED

EXCURSIONISTS WHO WERE ON THE ILL-FATED STEAMER GEN. SLOCUM



ELLA BOENHARDT



MARGARET GIBBONS



MISS M. BRIDA

LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE BURNING OF THE GEN. SLOCUM

All along the shore, as the burning steamboat had come along the stream on the breast of the tide, fire alarms had been rung. One alarm at the foot of 138th street was rung three times. There was nothing the firemen could do when they came, except just one thing, which was done at once. The captain of the first company to arrive at the river's edge telephoned for the fireboat "Zophar Mills." She came up the river, screaming, with a voice that outscrambled all the other whistles which were being blown in every factory and yard from which the blazing steamship could be seen. The captain of the "Mills" saw that the "Slocum" was beached and that rescuers were more needed than pumpers of water. He ran into 138th street and took aboard Captain Geohegan and all the reserves of the Alexander avenue station and took them over the river to help in the work of picking people out of the water from rowboats and tugs. There is a big marble works opposite North Brother Island. The boss, when he saw the "Slocum," knocked off all work and sent his 150 men across in any and every sort of a craft that they could lay their hands on.

HUNDREDS OF RESCUERS AT WORK.

Meantime the hundred nurses and the tuberculosis patients were doing wonderful things. Delicate-looking young women, in the dainty white uniforms which nurses wear, ran down to the water's brink and waded in up to their necks and formed human chains, along which struggling half-drowned refugees were passed. Miss O'Donnell, the assistant nurse in charge, went out and brought in seven dead people and eight living. Every other nurse in the place was doing nearly as well. Dr. Watson, the head of the hospital, was out in the water

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with them, cheering them on. Mary McCann, a sixteen-year-old, a ward helper, just over from Ireland, swam out four times and each time brought a living child to the shore.

Even though relieved by these evidences—but one or two out of hundreds that happened unrecorded—of the working of good and brave human hearts, the misery and the horror were going on almost undiminished. The great hulk was still burning like a furnace on top of the water. Living men and women were still rolling out from her decks. Hundreds sought shelter from the heat under the paddle boxes, which seemed slow to burn. In there, among the wet paddle blades, the rescue boats were filled again and again.

BOY CLIMBS FLAGSTAFF.

Long after every one had given up any idea that there was a human life in the forward part of the boat, except those of Captain Van Schaick and his two pilots, there was a shout of surprise and agony on shore. A small boy—he seemed about six years old—climbed up to the flagstaff and began to make his way up as though to get away from the deck, which was burning under him. He climbed a little higher and a little higher with each jump of the tongues of flame from below, until he was almost at the top.

He was a sturdy looking little chap, and each time he found he had not gone far enough, he would shake his yellow curls determinedly and work his way a few inches more. It was a brave fight. He lost it. The flagstaff began to tremble, just as a boat was getting around in position to get at the child. The staff fell back into the floating furnace, and the boy with it.

As fast as dead and living were brought ashore, the weaker of the convalescent patients took them and carried them up on the lawn. There was a constantly increasing number of physicians coming over from the mainland, some of them in row-boats. Every burnt woman or child who showed any signs of life was carried into the buildings. The nurses' quarters and the doctors' quarters and the stables and every place that had a roof where cots could be erected was filled—except those in which there were contagious diseases.

DEAD LYING IN ROWS.

The dead were laid out in long rows on the grass. The living walked or were carried by them. Heartrending recognitions were there; women throwing themselves on the bodies of their children, children catching at their mothers' hands and begging them to "wake up," and screaming inconsolably when they realized that there would be no waking up.

There was too much to be done at once for any list to be kept of those who were rescued. The Rev. Mr. Haas was pulled out of the water in which he had fallen soon after she beached, and found to be not very badly injured. But it was more than an hour before he could be found and identified.

On many of the bodies which were recovered were life preservers which seemed to have been perfectly worthless. Assistant District Attorney Garvan's attention was called to a collection of the "Slocum's" life-preservers which had been made by Captain Jack Wade. These life-preservers were covered with such flimsy, rotten stuff that they could be ripped open by a scratch with one's thumbnail. They were filled with ground-up

cork instead of with solid chunks which would retain their buoyancy. Captain Wade, who threw away a hundred dollars' worth of really good life-preservers to the "Slocum's" passengers, was highly indignant over the matter.

"Look what they let a boat of 2,500 passengers carry," he said, "and then look at what they make me buy, when I'm only licensed to carry eighteen."

The work of recovering bodies went on steadily from the time when all hope of saving more lives ended. Nearly a hundred policemen, assisted by men from all the hospitals and morgues, went out in small boats and waded out and worked from the shore and from the decks of the tugs with grappling hooks, dragging up all that was left of victims of the disaster. The bodies of some of those who were burned were in indescribably horrible condition, and only with the greatest difficulty could be singled out and identified.

A SHOCK OF SENSIBILITIES.

In the rush and confusion there were many things which in the face of a disaster less appalling would have shocked the sensibilities of the most hardened man who witnessed them; such, for instance, as the sight The Sun tug encountered on one of its trips across to North Brother Island—a rowboat, with two men at the oars, and a small boy, who was holding a line by which were towed the bodies of three women, dressed, all three, in flimsy white dresses. Nobody was to blame. The boat would have been swamped with the three bodies inside.

At 10.30 o'clock at night 415 corpses had been recovered and tagged at North Brother Island. Fifty had been recovered at other points. They included a dozen

that had first been landed at Oak Point. More were coming at the rate of twenty an hour.

The police of the harbor squad, assisted by volunteers, were wading and rowing about the shore picking them up with grappling hooks. So numerous were the corpses that early in the evening bodies were recovered at the rate of one a minute.

All the boats used by the police and other workers were equipped with lanterns. In addition lights were hung on poles that had been stuck in the mud along the shore of the island. The police boat "Patrol" stood by constantly with a big searchlight played on the waters. The employees of the hospital rigged up temporary lines of incandescent lights along the lawn to aid those at work in tabulating and searching the bodies.

LAIID IN GROUPS.

As soon as the bodies were taken from the water they were laid in groups of four each. They were first tagged and then searched. All jewels, papers and valuables taken from the bodies were thrown into huge bags. Each batch of valuables taken from a body was tagged with the number corresponding with that on the body.

After the searching and tagging of the bodies had been completed photographs were taken of the groups of four. This was done by the use of flashlights.

Dr. Darlington, president of the Health Board, arrived early in the afternoon and was still seen superintending his men and hustling with his coat off at midnight. Coroner O'Gorman was also still there at that hour. Police Commissioner McAdoo had left shortly before 9 o'clock.

Before leaving Mr. McAdoo said he would in the

near future confer with the Dock Department concerning a plan to have the police hereafter inspect every steamer, excursion or otherwise, before it leaves a dock. In this way the Commissioner says he thinks another terrible disaster as that which befell the "Slocum" might be averted.

Just as he was leaving the island some one called Mr. McAdoo's attention to the fact that the work in caring for the dead was made doubly difficult owing to the lack of proper light. As soon as he was told this the Commissioner hurried to a telephone and called up the office of the superintendent of the Metropolitan Street Railway. "Will you help the city of New York out?" asked Mr. McAdoo. "In a minute!" was the reply. "Well, then send up six of those gasolene flare lights you folks use when repairing the tracks at night," said the Commissioner.

MANY WILLING HELPERS.

"We will send twenty-six if you want them," said the representative of the street railway company. Mr. McAdoo said that six would be enough. It was just fifty minutes later that a boat containing the requested lights reached the island. Two were placed on the lawn, where the bodies were being tagged. The other four were stationed along the shore and greatly aided the men at work in the water. The powerful lights illuminated the faces of the dead on the lawn most plainly.

Everybody praised the doctors, nurses and employees of the hospital on North Brother Island. All hands there pitched in and worked unceasingly from the time the burning boat was first seen until late at night. Then many of them, especially the women, actually

fell from exhaustion. Dr. Darlington ordered all hands to retire, but some insisted on working.

At 11 o'clock at night Diver John Rice returned from the wrecked steamer with four bodies of children. They had been found in the afterhold of the vessel. Rice said that the divers had decided to make no more descents into the wreck, as it was plain to them that their labor would be useless.

"We searched the forward part of the boat," said Diver Rice, "and could find no bodies. She has settled down with a crash into the middle and we couldn't explore that part. I suppose there are a lot of bodies there, but the wreckers will have to get in their work before anyone can get in the centre of the vessel.

"The working crew are going to work on that part and they say that if necessary to clear it they will split the boat in two parts. We divers will go out in the morning again."

EXACT TIME OF THE DISASTER.

The watches on all the dead recovered early in the afternoon had stopped at 10.20 o'clock. The watches taken out at night had stopped at 10.25 o'clock.

Dr. Darlington was reinforced by a large number of inspectors from the Health Department late at night. They devoted their time entirely to tagging the bodies and arranging for their transfer to East Twenty-sixth street.

The only one of the ten members of the Erckling family of Nutley, N. J., who was saved was a two-year-old baby. She was saved by the nurse, Louise Gayling. The Gayling girl is twelve years old and was hired to watch the baby. She had the baby when the crowd

rushed panic-stricken to the rear of the boat. When she saw that they couldn't live aboard the boat the little nurse and her charge jumped overboard.

"I went down under the water, but I still kept hold of the baby," said the Gayling girl. "I went down twice, and the second time I came up beside a board. I held on to the baby with one arm and grabbed the board with the other. I didn't know whether the baby was alive or not. Finally some men came in a boat and took us in. When they told me the baby was alive I couldn't believe it."

John Ansel of 103 East Fourth street, whose wife and two young sons were on the "Slocum," picked out one after another of five bodies at the Alexander avenue station as that of his wife. The man was crazy with grief.

He told the police that early in the day he had received a message from Germany telling of the death of his father, and within five minutes heard of the disaster to the "Slocum," on which were his wife and children.

Coroner Berry got from Ansel the initials on the inside of his wife's wedding ring, and a body which was not one of those picked out by Ansel, but which had already been identified by the dress as that of Mrs. Elizabeth Diehl of 905 East Fifth street, was found to be Mrs. Ansel's. The ring was all that made identification possible.

CHAPTER III.

SCENES OF OVERWHELMING GRIEF.

The following telegram was received at St. Mark's Lutheran Church on the night of the disaster:

George C. F. Haas, Pastor.

Accept my profound sympathy for yourself, church and congregation.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

The Rev. Haas, who was prostrated at his home, was too ill to receive the message. It would have required nerves of steel to bear up under such a sudden and fatal bereavement. President Roosevelt's message was given to the public through the press, and showed how profoundly he was moved by the great calamity, offering his heartfelt condolences for the bereaved.

All day long, from sunrise until darkness shut off even the melancholy satisfaction of watching for the dead, anxious searchers kept up their unceasing vigilance, and at midnight there had been recovered 561 bodies, for the great part women and children—mothers, who weeks before had planned that outing for their children; little ones who had longed for the coming of the happy day.

As time lapsed the disaster swelled in sickening burden of overwhelming tragedy, more dramatic in detail than any playwright's genius has conceived of horror, and soul-bereaving in its pathos, because of the innocent years and hopeless helplessness of its victims.

Human sympathy, "swelling like the Solway tide," could scarce grasp the all-pitiless desolation which laid waste the flower of scores of homes and rent to inconsolable bleeding hundreds of hearts.

Messages of sympathy flowed in a steady stream from all parts of Europe and America, all attesting alike the inconceivably appalling immensity of the catastrophe.

The East Side had its human sympathies aroused to the full, and down by the river, where the boats unloaded their dead, thousands gathered throughout the day. Streets leading to the Morgue were blocked, and only with difficulty could the police keep clear the passages leading to the long rows of coffins for those who came to search for the missing.

DIVERS SEARCHING THE WRECK.

Up the Sound, where the hulk of the "General Slocum" lies submerged, showing only a paddlebox, scores of small craft aided the tugs in grappling for the victims. Divers went down time and again, and when their work ended for the day they declared there were no more bodies in the wreck.

A score of times a diver reappeared after his plunge with the body of a woman or a child. Two of them coming to the surface together on one occasion had in their arms two little girls—sisters—clasped in each other's embrace, and their mother, it was thought, whose dead hand tightly clenched the skirt of one of them.

As far as it was within their power the divers searched the wreck from stem to stern, but there were masses of broken timbers through which it was almost impossible to explore, and it may be that some will find

a grave under those sunken timbers until the hulk is raised or the waters of the Sound wash away the last trace of the wreckage.

There were a number of places where the living might have landed, and it was believed that many who were reported missing were safe, and eventually would be heard from by the officials who had the rescue work in hand. Indeed, a surprising number of persons reported missing were found to have been saved, thus cutting the list of missing down considerably as well as the probable mortality list.

Many persons were injured in the panic that followed the originating of the fire on the "General Slocum," and at least 200 persons were taken to the hospitals.

LIVE BODY TOWED FOR MILES.

Perhaps the most remarkable case in the many appalling experiences of those who were on the "Slocum" was that of Miss Clara Hartman, who was picked up for dead, towed behind a boat for several miles, wrapped in a tarpaulin and tagged as dead, and then recovered consciousness at the Alexander Avenue Police Station. It was believed she would recover.

Although many of the bodies taken to the Morgue were very badly mutilated, and the clothing in many cases almost entirely burned off, valuables were taken from them and were in the keeping of city officials, to the extent of \$200,000 or more. Several of the men and women had the savings of a lifetime on them when they perished. Much jewelry, it was reported to the police, had been lost, but an explanation may be found in the fact that it was destroyed by fire rather than stolen.

Mayor McClellan, after receiving messages of condolences from many sources, visited North Brother Island and later visited the Morgue. He issued a proclamation to the citizens of New York and appointed a relief committee of prominent men. And relief was sadly needed in that little East Side territory which the vast majority of those that perished were accustomed to call home.

Among the people who had miraculous escapes were Florence Weiss and Mrs. Nicholas Schumacher. Some one threw them from the "Slocum" upon a tug, and dozens of others came tumbling down on top of them. They were not hurt. They said the boat burned like a paper box.

JUMPED AND CAUGHT A WOMAN.

Minnie Weiss, 13 years old, was on the bow of the excursion steamer. She saw smoke and then a tongue of flames eating its way along the top deck toward where she stood. The crowd made a rush forward. She climbed down the side and got to the first deck, where there was no fire. She jumped into the water and caught hold of a woman who had a little boy in her arms. A rope was thrown to them from the "Massasoit," and they were dragged on board. Minnie was with her mother, Mrs. Otto Weiss, and her brother George, who was 15 years old. She thought that both were lost.

George Kirschner, 13 years old, jumped from the "Slocum" and swam ashore. His mother, brother, sister, grandfather and two cousins were with him. He said he thought they were all lost.

From out of the wreck off Hunt's Point and from the Sound the bodies of forty-one more victims of the

"Slocum" tragedy were recovered next day after the disaster. Two of this number only came from the wreck itself—the charred remains of an infant and another of a girl perhaps thirteen. The remainder, some so burned by fire that they might never be recognized, came from out the eddy off North Brother Island.

It was a day of persistent, systematic search, with the police and all other departments working harmoniously on the water or anywhere and everywhere their mournful duty called them. It was a day that saw the pier heads of The Bronx for hours black with morbid humanity; that saw the water alive with small craft, kept in check only by the most vigilant police supervision, and, strangest of all, it was a day that saw steamboat after steamboat, jammed to the guard rails with excursionists, pass and re-pass the scene, bands playing, children and young people dancing, while the elders rushed to the side to see the wreck.

TRYING TO USE SEARCHLIGHTS.

Work around North Brother Island proceeded slowly after ten o'clock on Wednesday night, although the tired policemen and the score or more boatmen were ready and willing to continue the work of grappling. During the night a city tug came up and tried to play a searchlight over the narrow stretch of water where it is thought the majority of the lives were lost, but this only blinded the men at work and gradually the number of searchers was lessened until after two o'clock, when the work was practically at a standstill.

Coroner O'Gorman and his assistants, who had worked valiantly, handling nearly four hundred and eighty bodies in little more than twelve hours, went home

for some needed rest. Dr. Stewart, in charge of the island, prevailed upon his staff of surgeons, nurses and attendants, and even convalescent patients, to try to take a few hours' sleep.

Only along the seawall was there any sign of life, and there the lanterns of the police in one section lighted up a half dozen men separating and sorting the odds and ends of wearing apparel, while in another section near the little red brick morgue, were men working on coffins of rough pine against the certain need of the morrow. All night long, too, the police patrol steadily followed the water's edge for the entire circumference of the island seeking for other bodies.

MANY BOATS ON HAND.

It was just daybreak when the search was renewed with vigor. So soon as the men could see Captain Dean, of the police boat patrol, had three boats, each holding four men, out with grappling hooks. By Inspector Albertson's orders three other boats manned by policemen joined them. Within an hour a dozen boats in which were watermen of experience specially hired were in the little fleet.

They had not well begun when up through Hell Gate came the Merritt-Chapman Wrecking Company's derrick tug, "The Hustler," drawing three small diving barges. Captain F. J. Risedorf was in command of this fleet, and with him were Albert Blumberg, Henry Heyer and Peter Rice, divers. They did not tarry at the island but went north where the low tide off Hunt's Point showed the starboard paddle box of the ill-fated steamer and a few burnt and charred spars.

About seven o'clock came the Sound fleet making

New York after their night's run. Immediately that the pulsations of the great screws had passed came the harvest of the dead. One after another, in several cases two at a time, the searchers came to the shore with bodies. Now it was mother clasping her infant, now an elderly woman, a young woman, and child after child. Some had but a vestige of their clothing left on them, telling of a death by flames

DROWNED BY MONEY.

One of the bodies found was that of a middle-aged man, and the grappling hooks found him not ten feet from the beach. In his pockets when he was brought ashore was found a bag weighing fully twenty pounds, filled with nickels, pennies and small silver. Who he was was not known at the Island.

S. H. Bergh, one of the citizen searchers, found the body of Mr. Griffing at this time. He weighed nearly 300 pounds, and in his effort to secure him Mr. Bergh fell overboard. A moment later another hook caught a baby carriage. The flames had sadly burned this, but still inside, as if some mother had rolled it overboard, was found the body of a child, unrecognizable.

It was nine o'clock then, and Coroner O'Gorman, accompanied by his physician, Dr. Curtin; Jeremiah Fahey, chief clerk; Police Sergeant Posthoff, Alderman Dougherty and William Mahoney, returned and found awaiting them sixteen bodies picked up during the morning. These were ticketed and their valuables and other distinguishing marks noted. The Coroner then estimated that he had nearly one hundred and fifty thousand dollars' worth of securities, money and jewelry awaiting identification.

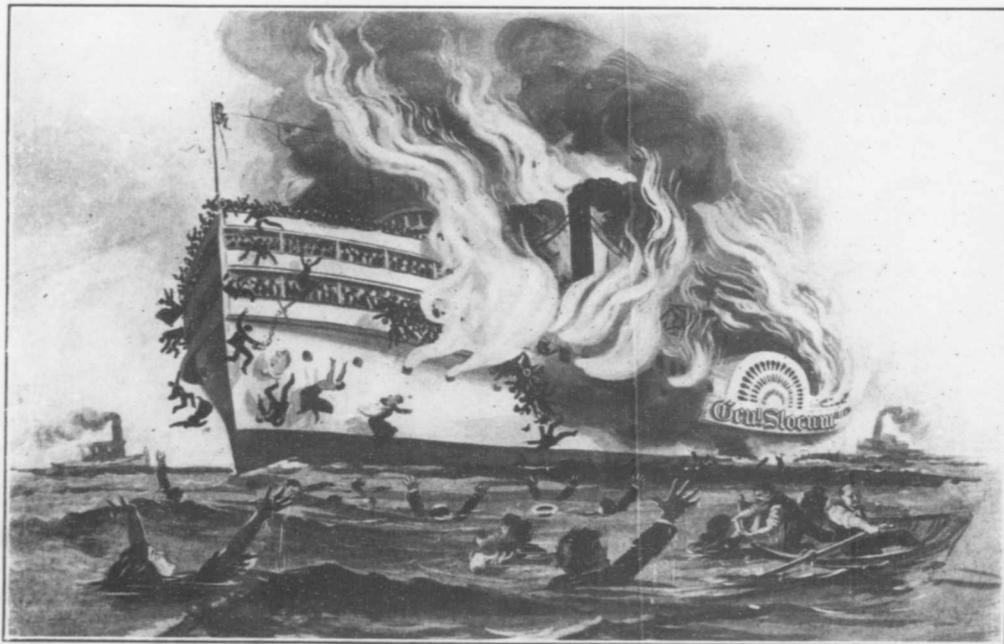
There were watches by the peck, almost, and several hundred rings of all description. From one woman, Mrs. Susie Zinger, \$32,000 in securities, a bank book and valuable jewelry had been taken. The bank book showed that she was a trustee for her daughter. From another woman, still unidentified, six rings, three of them diamond, had been taken.

The rising of the tide then brought more bodies to the surface. One was that of a woman apparently about thirty-five years of age. She wore a gold ring engraved on the inside with the letters "A. F.," then a wide space and the word "Hope." Within an hour the number of recovered dead reached twenty-six.

FIFTY MORE RESERVE POLICEMEN.

By this time the crowd of the curious had begun to gather on the water in small boats, while the pier heads across the channel were crowded. Then it was that Dr. Stewart, representing Health Commissioner Darlington, gave orders that no one but persons having business were to be permitted to land, while Inspector Albertson, with Sergeant Lane, of the West 152d street station, sent out police boats as a guard and landed fifty more reserve policemen on the island.

The regular attendants at the hospital, wearied by their hours of labor on the previous day and night, sought to bring about order on the island. The well-kept lawns were ruined, trampled by many feet and cut up by vehicles and ambulances; clothing was scattered everywhere—here a hat, a skirt, a baby's shoe, a handkerchief, all water-soaked or scorched. Over near the scarlet fever ward was a high pile of coffins for children, made during



AWFUL SCENES—SHOWING WOMEN AND CHILDREN JUMPING OFF THE STEAMBOAT BEFORE SHE WAS BEACHED ON THE ISLAND. THEY FLED FROM THE FIRE TO CERTAIN DEATH.

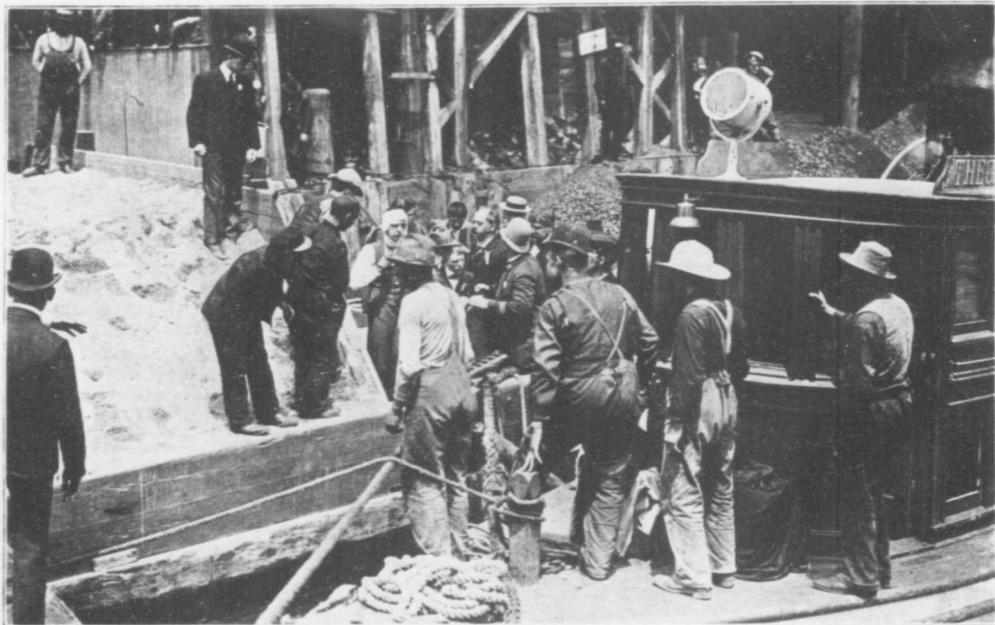


CAPTAIN WILLIAM H. VAN SCHAICK, WHO COMMANDED THE
ILL-FATED STEAMBOAT "GEN. SLOCUM."

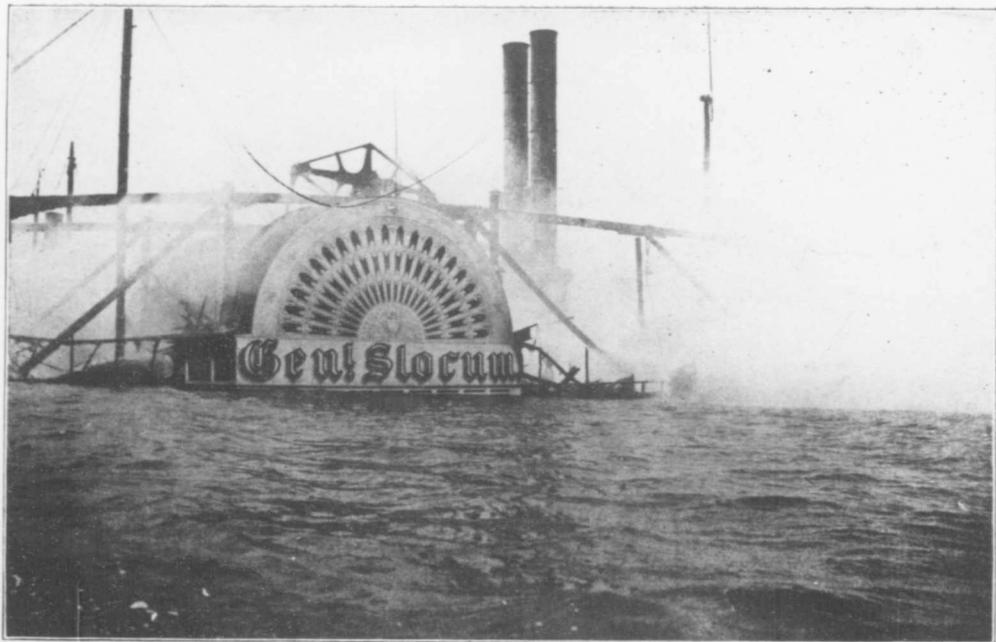
DV



WRECK OF STEAMER AFTER THE TERRIBLE DISASTER, WHICH RESULTED IN THE LOSS OF SO MANY LIVES.



SURVIVORS OF THE GREAT CALAMITY TELLING STORIES OF THEIR MARVELOUS ESCAPES FROM DEATH.



WRECK OF THE GEN. SLOCUM, SHOWING BOX SURROUNDING THE PADDLE WHEEL.
THE DOOR LEADING INTO THIS BOX WAS BROKEN OPEN AND MANY PERSONS
WHO TRIED TO ESCAPE THROUGH IT WERE HURLED TO INSTANT DEATH.



VICTIMS OF THE AWFUL DISASTER SHOWN ON THE BANK, WHERE THEY LAY AWAITING IDENTIFICATION, AFTER THEY HAD BEEN BROUGHT ASHORE IN SMALL BOATS.



SCENE ON THE LOWER DECK OF THE "GEN. SLOCUM" DURING THE TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE.



DEAD BODIES THAT FLOATED NEAR SHORE AND WERE DRAGGED OUT OF THE WATER



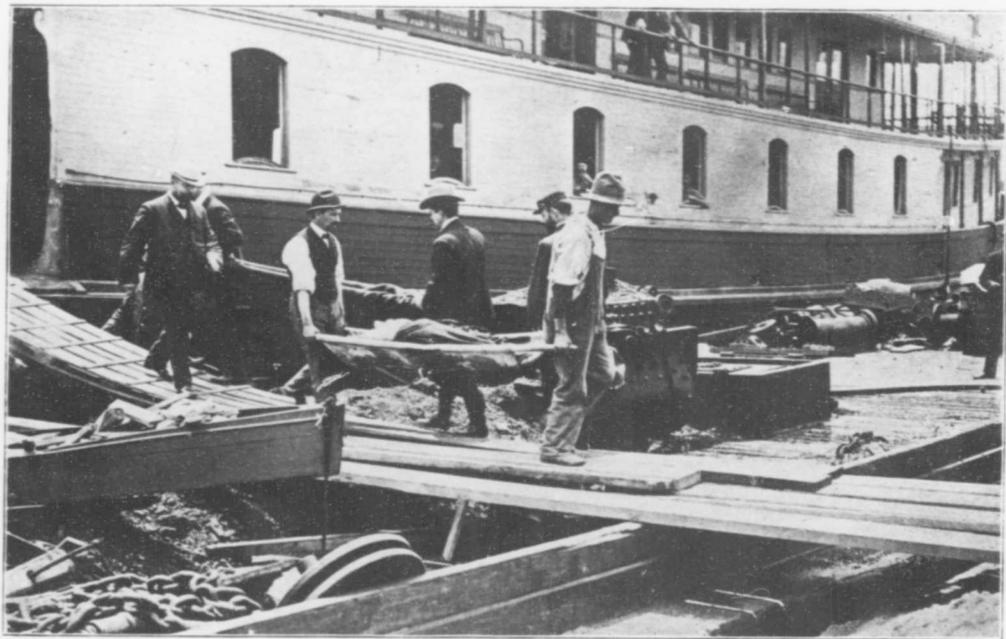
CROWD IN FRONT OF ST. MARY'S GERMAN LUTHERAN CHURCH, WHICH LOST SO MANY OF ITS MEMBERS IN THE GREAT CALAMITY.



SCENE IN FRONT OF AN UNDERTAKER'S ESTABLISHMENT ON THE ARRIVAL OF DEAD BODIES
BROUGHT UP FROM THEIR WATERY GRAVE.



DOCTORS AND NURSES ON NORTH BROTHER ISLAND LAYING OUT BODIES OF THE DEAD
AND ATTENDING TO THE WANTS OF THE INJURED.



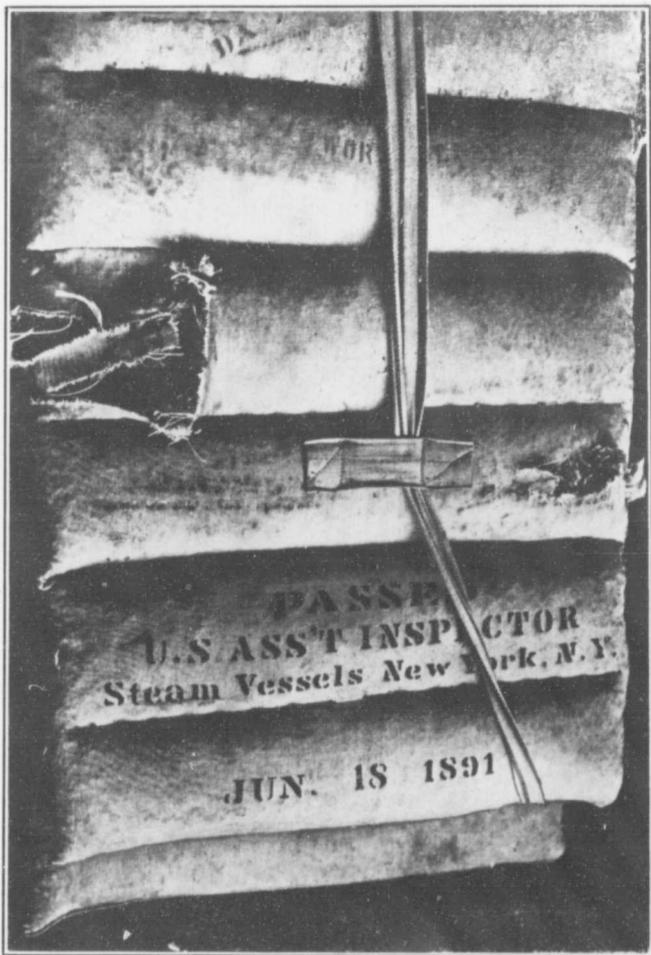
CARRYING DEAD BODIES ASHORE ON STRETCHERS FROM ONE OF THE RESCUE BOATS.



DEAD BODIES ON A RESCUE TUGBOAT SHOWING HOW THEY APPEARED AFTER BEING TAKEN FROM THE WATER.



APARTMENT HOUSE IN NEW YORK CITY—MEMBERS OF FOURTEEN FAMILIES LIVING IN THIS HOUSE WERE LOST IN THE TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE.



ROTTEN LIFE PRESERVER TAKEN FROM THE WRECK OF THE
ILL-FATED STEAMER "GENERAL SLOCUM." SHOWING STAMP
OF DATE OF INSPECTION.



SEEKING INFORMATION ABOUT LOST RELATIVES AND FRIENDS AT THE MORGUE.

the night, and not far away, against another ward, was a similar pile for adults.

Dr. McLaughlin, after he had made his rounds, said that so far as he could tell, not one of the tuberculosis patients who assisted in the work of rescue on Wednesday was suffering any ill effects. The nurses, too, were recovering from their hard labors. Several swam or waded out to pull in drowning and had administered to the injured for hours.

Mrs. Kate White, the matron, whose entire staff of cooks and waiters had been busy far into the night making coffee and cooking for the searchers, were better for a few hours' rest. Mrs. White had not ceased working at night, and with her assistants had fed every searcher several times during the day.

GREAT FLEET OF SMALL BOATS.

Around the wreck of the steamer, where the Merritt-Chapman Wrecking Company men were at work, a great fleet of small boats, untrammelled by police rules or regulations, gathered early.

Blumberg and Heyer were the first to go beneath the surface, and for two hours they went slowly over the wreck from bow to stern. Only once did a helmet appear, and that was when one of them came slowly to the top, and in his arms bore little more than a fragment of a baby burned to a crisp. The helmet was not removed and no word was said. By signs he made it understood that the body had been found forward, wedged in against a stanchion of the upper deck. At noon the men reappeared.

"She lays," said Blumberg, "in the mud on her port side. There is eighteen feet of water at low tide aft and
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a little more forward. So far as I can see, the hull of the 'Slocum' is intact, and unless they have been warped by heat, the engines and boilers are in fairly good condition."

"Only the upper deck is gone," said Heyer. "I went from one end to the other on the lower deck looking for a hatchway in which bodies might be found. The 'Slocum' was shallow and there is no hatchway, I believe. I am sure there are no more bodies in the boat." His partner shook his head in corroboration.

"There may be some about the wreck," added Blumberg. "Of course, if they were burned when she listed they slid off to port and the tide may have wedged them underneath, but they are not so many as some people believe. I couldn't find any when I walked around her."

EXCURSION STEAMERS VISIT THE SCENE.

The tide was full then and the men did no more diving until it was slack again. It was at this time that the fleet of excursion steamers began to pass. First came the "Sirus," of the Iron Steamboat Company, bound up the Sound. So great was the rush of her fifteen hundred or more of passengers that the steamboat listed so badly to port that the captain turned her head away.

Before the "Sirus" had reached North Brother Island a band had been playing a popular air, but there it became silent, nor did it play while the boat passed the few remaining spars which marked the resting place of the "Slocum."

Not half an hour later followed the "Cygnus," of the same line, also crowded to the guards. She, too, listed under the rush of persons eager to see the wreck. After-

ward along came the "Favorite," bearing the F. J. Goodwin Association, its band playing and flags a-flying. A Starin line barge followed then and an hour later came another barge.

Work, although uninterrupted, was little rewarded at high water or immediately after the tide had turned, but about three o'clock body after body was recovered, when the "Massasoit," of the Health Department arrived, there were awaiting on the pier for a journey to the Morgue just thirty-six bodies. Piled tier on tier, the coffins reached from bow to stern on the boat.

COMMENT OF HEALTH COMMISSIONER.

Mayor McClellan arrived in the afternoon. He was accompanied by Health Commissioner Darlington and Deputy Corporation Counsel Breckenridge. As the Mayor landed on the pier policemen passed before him along the little path bearing the body of a young girl on a stretcher. The little procession paused and the Mayor sorrowfully shook his head.

"It is awful," he said to Dr. Darlington.

The Mayor's stay was not of long duration. He went to the home of Dr. Roberts, where he congratulated the staff on its work, and inquired as to the health of the nurses and patients who had worked on the day before. Charles and Fred Barclay, who, in the auxiliary sloop had picked up more than fifty persons the day before, were brought before him, and warmly commended. Then the Mayor visited the beach, where he could see the grappling men at work.

Before he returned to the city the Mayor interviewed Rice, one of the divers, who assured him that there were no more bodies in the boat. He was of the opinion that

some might be held down by the boat, but he was satisfied there were not many of these.

With low water and change of the tide the number of bodies found increased. Around six o'clock five bodies were brought out in as many minutes. There were two boys, a girl, woman and a man. The woman had a plain gold wedding ring on her finger, but it was without initials or lettering. There was nothing in her pockets or that of the man to lead to their identity, but in the pockets of one of the boys was a note, evidently an "excuse" which the lad was to have presented at school Thursday morning. It was sent with the other effects to the Morgue.

FOUND BY DIVERS.

A launch from the wreck brought the second body down. This was half the body of a girl of about 15. Rice, the diver, in groping through the mud under the port side of the "General Slocum," had found it there. There was absolutely no mark of identification.

Emblems of mourning appeared on hundreds of doorways down in the old German colony that clusters about the little red brick Lutheran church in Sixth street. Here hung a streamer of black, and across the street a cluster of white flowers all but hid the streamer of white that told of the death of a baby or of a child of tender years.

Down the street a little further perhaps two badges of black hung side by side, nor was it infrequent that place had been found for one of black and another of white in the same street door.

Walk where one would, from Third avenue to the river on the east and from First street in the south to

Tenth street to the north, the scenes of death, of mourners seeking their dead or wailing over their lost ones' bodies, of remnants of families all but obliterated, with those left behind scarcely able as yet to realize the "Slocum" tragedy, were constantly before one.

From the front windows of little, old-fashioned brick dwellings and from the tiers of stories of more modern apartment houses flags hung at half mast. Men and women swarmed in the streets all day and night, and little children talked in whispers of the horror that had taken away some of their playmates. It was no unusual sign to see a group of women on the sidewalks drying their eyes as they consoled with one another.

With more demands upon them to take care of the dead than they dare promise to fulfil, the undertakers in that section of the city found their establishments besieged by relatives of the victims of the catastrophe, begging of them that they arrange for the burial of "just one more." Turned away by one undertaker, another was sought, and so on until perhaps a mile from the desolate district, an undertaker was found, one who would be able to make the arrangements.

UNDERTAKERS IN CHARGE.

Four undertakers within a radius of four blocks of the little Lutheran church had 145 bodies in their charge in the middle of the afternoon, and still they were pleaded with to accept more. In the establishment of Jacob Herrlich fifty-two bodies had been cared for, and around the corner in avenue A, Philip Herrlich had charge of thirty-one, and could handle no more.

There are about thirty-five undertaking establishments between Grand street on the south and Tenth street on

the north, and it was these that were principally concerned in the burial of the "Slocum's" dead. Hurrying the bodies from the Morgue as soon as the indentifications were made and the permits of removal issued, they were taken to the various undertaking establishments for preparation for burial. Men who had been working all through Wednesday night were in readiness, and the bodies were carried away to the homes, where relatives or friends awaited them.

It was impossible for those whose duty it is to prepare the dead for burial to care adequately for all. Thus it was that in a few isolated cases bodies lay in rough boxes on the sidewalks until room could be made within doors for their accommodation.

TEMPORARY BOXES IN USE.

With this unprecedented demand for their services, the undertakers called for assistance upon establishments in Brooklyn and throughout Manhattan. Temporary boxes were all in use early in the morning, and wagon loads of them were brought from Brooklyn and from the northernmost part of the city.

The undertakers told the afflicted families that arrangements could not be made to furnish at the most more than four carriages for the mourners.

In order to provide hearses it was found necessary to draft these vehicles from every establishment in New York City, and it was expected that a few would have to be brought from New Jersey. There were many of the families who wanted to delay the funerals until Sunday. They were told that it would be impossible to fix upon that day as all would likely arrive at the same decision

and it would be impossible for men or horses to convey the dead to their last resting place.

As matters stood it was believed that some few small undertaking establishments entered into contracts that they would be unable to fulfil simply because they were not equipped with sufficient hearses and other necessaries. Some of the larger establishments expected that at the last moment they would be forced to take up those contracts and carry them through.

Throughout that section of the city the black wagons that precede the hearse in the undertaker's duty, were rolling through the street and down the avenues weighted down by the dead. Wherever one stopped it was surrounded by throngs of men, women and children.

STREET FILLED WITH PEOPLE.

Until late into the night the street in front of St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church was filled with people. Men trooped up the front steps of the church and into the vestibule to inquire for loved ones, their countenances portraying a night of sleeplessness and hours of anguish. Men and women, their hair whitened and their forms bent by age, trudged into the church asking for information.

In the vestibule of the church a long table had been placed and at it sat men to note the name of each visitor and the names of those inquired for. This "information bureau" had been established the day before, but it had been run regardless of any system and the records were practically valueless. This was changed when Commissioner McAdoo sent two young policemen there to keep official records and transmit them to Police Headquarters.

To the right of the steps leading into the church the Rev. Frederick Holter, of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Jersey City, placed a small table and a placard announcing that subscriptions would be received to a relief fund. Browning, King & Co. sent \$100, Magistrate Flammer the same amount and Henry Guecker contributed \$100. By nightfall \$700 had been recorded in the book of contributions. But this sum was made up by amounts that ranged from three cents to \$100.

The smallest amount was contributed by a poorly dressed aged woman, who walked up to the little table and, laying down three pennies, said:—"It's all I have, sir, but I want to give it, sir. God bless you, sir." Three workingmen passed her as they walked to the table and each of these laid down a five cent piece, the first saying:—"We want to give something toward your fund." They did not wait to receive the "thank you" that was their only receipt.

PASTOR'S GREAT AGONY.

Directly in the rear of the church, lay the pastor of St. Mark's, the Rev. George C. F. Haas, suffering mentally and physically. All day long respectful groups stood in front of the little private residence, eager for word from the patient's sick room. The body of Mrs. Haas was delivered at the house early in the day, but her husband was not in a condition then to be told that his wife's body had been found and identified but that no tidings had come of his little daughter Margaret.

It was nearly six o'clock in the evening after his wounds had been dressed, and the Rev. Mr. Haas was thought to be in a condition to learn the sad news that he was told by his physician, by the afflicted man's

brother, the Rev. J. A. W. Hass, and the Rev. Mr. Lock, assistant pastor of St. Mark's Church. The patient received the news quietly and only replied:—"It is as I feared, and only as I was prepared to hear."

So many false reports as to his patient's condition had been circulated during the day, and all of an alarming nature, that Dr. Senken made this statement:

BULLETIN CONCERNING DR. HAAS.

"Dr. Haas in the beginning suffered a shock. He has improved greatly since and is now convalescing rapidly. He is now in full possession of his faculties, and we hope in a few days to have him again among the workers. The news of his wife's death and the uncertainty as to his daughter's fate was broken to him this evening and he bore up as a brave pastor should."

There had come to the house of the Rev. Mr. Haas during the afternoon this letter from Archbishop Farley:

THE REV. MR. HAAS:

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR:—I beg to tender you and your afflicted people my most sincere sympathy in the presence of the appalling calamity that has fallen upon them and you through the burning of the "General Slocum"; and I know my feelings are fully shared by the whole body of the Catholic clergy and laity of New York.

May the Giver of all strength comfort you and yours in this their dreadful hour of sorrow. Believe me, my dear sir, very respectfully yours,

JOHN M. FARLEY,
Archbishop of New York.

Great was the band of heroes who rendered courageous service in the work of rescue, suggesting the following pertinent lines by our national Secretary of State :

JIM BLUDSO, OF THE PRAIRIE BELLE.

BY JOHN HAY.

Wall, no ! I can't tell wha' he lives,
Because he don't live, you see ;
Leastways he's got out of the habit
Of livin' like you and me.
Whar' have you been for the last three year
That you haven't heard folks tell
How Jimmy Bludso passed in his checks
The night of the Prairie Belle ?
He weren't no saint—them engineers
Is all pretty much alike—
One wife in Natchez-under-the-Hill,
Another one here in Pike.
A keerless man in his talk was Jim,
And an awkward hand in a row,
But he never funk'd, and he never lied—
I reckon he never knowed how.
And this was all the religion he had,
To treat his engine well,
Never be passed on the river,
To mind the pilot's bell ;
And if ever the Prairie Belle took fire—
A thousand times he swore
He'd hold her nozzle agin the bank
Till the last soul got ashore.
All boats has their day on the Mississip,
And her day come at last ;
The Movastar was a better boat,
But the Belle; she wouldn't be passed ;

And so she come tarin' along that night—
The oldest craft on the line—
With a nigger squat on her safety valve,
And her furnace crammed, rosin and pine.
The fire burst out as she cleared the bar,
And burnt a hole in the night ;
And, quick as a flash, she turned and made
For that willer bank on the right.
There was runnin' and cursin', but Jim yelled out
Over all the infernal roar :—
"I'll hold her nozzle agin the bank
Till the last galoot's ashore."
Through the hot, black breath of the burnin' boat
Jim Bludso's voice was heard,
And they all had trust in his cussedness,
And knowed he would keep his word ;
And, sure's you're born, they all got off
Afore the smokestacks fell—
And Bludso's ghost went up alone
In the smoke of the Prairie Belle.
He weren't no saint—but at judgment
I'd run my chance with Jim
'Longside of some pious gentlemen
That wouldn't shook hands with him.
He seen his duty, a dead sure thing—
And went for it thar and then ;
And Christ ain't a-going to be too hard
On a man that died for men.

CHAPTER IV.

SYMPATHY FROM ALL QUARTERS.

MAYOR McCLELLAN, as soon as he arrived at the City Hall next morning after the tragedy, set the official machinery of the municipality in motion to aid the afflicted survivors and relatives of those who perished to recover and bury the bodies of their dead. His first act was to confer with Commissioners McAdoo, Tully and Darlington, of the Police, Charities and Health Departments, and to instruct that no expense be spared in giving assistance wherever necessary.

He directed Commissioner Darlington to arrange without delay for the burial in the Luthern Cemetery on Long Island of those bodies which were burned beyond hope of recognition. He explained to Commissioner McAdoo that the chief necessity for the present was to relieve the suffering, and that investigation as to the cause of the disaster would come later. Then the Mayor issued a proclamation appointing a committee of twelve well-known men to act as a relief committee, and announcing that contributions to aid the survivors might be forwarded to him at the City Hall.

Mayor McClellan said he had no idea as to the amount of money the committee would require to assist those who are suffering.

"That will be a matter for the committee to determine," he continued. "I hope to hear from the men whom I named on this committee by to-morrow, so that I can arrange for the first meeting. I shall probably call the committee together myself and then allow it to take whatever course it deems best."

As soon as he had completed his arrangements for the relief work, the Mayor dictated a letter to the Rev. George C. F. Haas, the pastor of St. Mark's Church, expressing his own sympathy and the condolences of the city at large as its official representative, as follows :

"On behalf of the people of our city and myself I express to you and to your stricken flock the sentiments of sorrow which pervade the community at the awful calamity which has come upon you.

"In the hope that we may lessen, in some degree, the anguish which you and your people suffer, I have appealed to the generosity of our fellow citizens to render financial aid to those who may need it to care for their sick and to decently bury their dead.

"We all hope that courage may be given to you to bear up under your great affliction."

The prompt message from President Roosevelt is contained in the preceding chapter.

MESSAGES OF SYMPATHY FROM ABROAD.

Even before the Mayor reached the City Hall telegrams from mayors of many of the principal cities of the United States expressing sympathy and offering assistance had arrived. Messages were received also from cities abroad and from private individuals and associations in various parts of the world. The first to be received was a message from Carter Harrison, Mayor of Chicago; the next was a cablegram from London, from Sir Thomas Lipton, who begged to be allowed to contribute \$1,000 to a relief fund. The Mayor cabled immediately in reply, thanking Sir Thomas for his offer and assuring him that the contributions of the citizens would be ample to meet the necessities of the situation.

Other messages were received from Bailie Sorley, acting Chief Magistrate of the Corporation of Glasgow; Mayor Weaver, of Philadelphia; Mayor Holtzman, of Indianapolis; the Polish National Alliance, of Chicago; Bishops Derrick and Arnett, of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and the School of Engineers, of Mexico.

At the suggestion of the Mayor Charles V. Fornes, President of the Board of Aldermen, called a special meeting of the Board for the purpose of taking action to lessen the suffering among the survivors and the relatives of those who lost their lives.

At noon the Mayor boarded the tug "Manhattan," of the Department of Docks and Ferries, at the foot of Fulton Street, East River, and made a personal investigation of the scene of the disaster.

PRESIDENT LOUBET'S MESSAGE.

President Loubet, of France, sent the following message to President Roosevelt:

Profoundly moved by the awful catastrophe of the "General Slocum," I have it at heart to address to your Excellency my sincere condolences, and to send to the families of the victims the expression of my sorrowful sympathy.

EMILE LOUBET.

President Roosevelt replied as follows:

I profoundly appreciate the friendship and sympathy which prompted your Excellency's telegram of condolence, and I beg you to accept in behalf of the afflicted families and the people of the United States my sincere thanks.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

The following telegram was sent by Mayor Harrison to Mayor McClellan:

Chicago sends to New York her heartfelt and keenest sympathy on account of the terrible calamity which has just occurred. Our own recent catastrophe makes us mournfully appreciative of the sorrow into which your city has been plunged. Please command us if we may be of any assistance whatever.

CARTER HARRISON.

Telegrams and letters of sympathy to the congregation of the church are pouring in fast. The following message came from the British Sunday School Union, London :

The Sunday School Union, representing two and a half million workers and scholars in Great Britain and Colonies, assures church and relatives of their profound sympathy at the time of this appalling disaster. Heartfelt prayers that the Father may vouchsafe comfort and sustaining grace.

Also the following message from the Sunday School Chronicle :

British Sunday school workers deeply grieved at sad calamity. Heartfelt sympathy.

Mayor Weaver sent the following message to Mayor McClellan, of New York, yesterday :

Philadelphia is horrified by the news of the fearful accident to the school children on the "General Slocum." Our most sincere sympathy is extended to the parents and friends, and we are most anxious to do something to help you in this great affliction. Will you let me know if there is anything we can do?

There seemed to be no end to the stories of personal experience on board the "Slocum" and in the river. Every one was a tale of woe.

Andrew Ottinger, a clerk in the Street Cleaning Department, stood at his door almost bewildered. Of

six of his family but one returned, Ottinger's son Willie, thirteen years old, scarred by flames. Willie told his father that when he last saw his mother she was fastening life preservers on Andrew and Arthur. She wished to put one on Willie, but he said, "Never mind me, I can swim." Then someone, the boy believes it was his mother, pushed him overboard, and later he was picked up by a tugboat.

A CHILD'S PATHETIC RHYME.

One of the visitors to St. Mary's Church gave his name as N. W. Dillon. The visitor said he was a brother of Mrs. Katherine Diamond, whose children, May, eight, and Frank, four years old, were not to be found. Mr. Dillon was nearly prostrated as he called for "May, May," and in one hand he carried a piece of paper on which was written in a child's handwriting :

She meets me on the corner
At the closing of the day,
And tells me that she loves me,
My golden haired May.

The grief stricken man read the verse over and over, sobbing as he showed it to others.

Young Christian Schoett, the organist of St. Mark's Church and one of its Sunday school teachers, was identified among the dead on the pier. Two women a moment later became hysterical over the body of a young girl in the third coffin from that of the young man. She was his sweetheart. Young Schoett was nineteen years old. He had gone on the excursion with his mother, Josephine, his sisters, Katie, ten years old, and Helen, five, and his cousin, Henry Seidewand. All of them lost their lives.

Mrs. Schoett was identified by her son-in-law, Edward Yost. He said that the father of the family, Christian, was its only survivor. Two friends were guarding him constantly for fear that he would end his life in his grief. Young Schoett, the church organist, was a gifted musician. His affianced bride was his Sunday school and music pupil. They had not yet made public their engagement, but the fact was known to their intimate friends.

Mrs. Catherine Diamond fell on her knees before a box in which lay the body of a white haired woman about sixty years old. Brokenly she made it known that the dead woman was her mother, Mrs. Catherine Birmingham. Leaning over the box, she cried :

A HYSTERICAL WOMAN.

"You didn't want to go, did you, mother? But I insisted on it. I'm responsible for this. I killed you. I thought you'd have a fine day's outing. All may be right."

Hysterical the woman rose and looked about her. She walked to the first entrance to the pier on the south side, where she cried: "Mother, I'm coming," and started to plunge in the river. One of the Bellevue nurses, who was standing there, caught the woman in time. She struggled and fell to the floor and was taken to Bellevue, where she was quieted.

Out of one party of eleven merrymakers aboard the "Slocum," all members of one family, only two were saved. One was Mrs. Henry Kassebaum, the other being her daughter, Annette. Mr. Kessebaum, who visited the pier in an effort to identify some of the bodies, said of his wife's experiences on the steamer:

"My wife was on the upper deck, a member of a party of eleven, all of our family. Henry C. Schnude, one of my sons-in-law, was head deacon of St. Mark's Church. He was paying teller for a banking house in Broadway. He was there with his wife and their two children, Grace, four and one-half years old, and Mildred, who was a year and a half old. Mr. Schnude's father and mother were also with them. My other daughter, Mrs. Frieda Toniport, had with her her two children, Francis, four, and Charlotte, two years old.

"They were all sitting together, listening to the band in the stern of the upper deck, my wife says, when she heard some children scream. She thought at first that a child had fallen overboard. Then they all saw flames near the centre of the boat.

THEY STUCK TOGETHER.

"'Stick together! All of us stick together!' cried my wife, but the crowd rushed toward them and pushed half the members of the band overboard. Among those she saw fall was George Maurer, the band leader.

"And then she found herself separated from the rest, while the fire was creeping along the deck toward her. She told me she saw the pastor, Mr. Haas, his wife and daughter, leap overboard, and she thought that he was a man who would know when the time had come to jump.

"So my wife plunged into the water. She sank twice, but when she came to the surface she hung on to the paddle box of the steamer. She clung there as long as she could and then a man in a sail boat came up and rescued her.

"He took her ashore, where a woman put her in a

carriage and took her to her home, in 138th street. This stranger gave her dry clothing and sent her home. She didn't get there until half-past ten o'clock at night. I can tell you, that was a happy moment when I saw her enter. I had given her up for lost.

"Our daughter Annette, when she was separated from the party, ran to the hurricane deck and jumped on the deck of the tug boat Wade, which came up just as the fire was closing around her. She broke her leg in the jump and was taken to Harlem Hospital."

FOUND MOTHER AND TWIN BROTHERS.

Mrs. Katherine Ottinger, and four children, two sets of twins, Charley and Emma and Arthur and Andrew, were aboard the "Slocum."

Her husband, accompanied by his two remaining daughters, Lillian and Catherine, respectively eighteen and nineteen years old, visited the pier, where they came across a box in which lay a woman with two little boys beside her.

The younger girl burst into tears as she recognized her mother and her twin brothers, Arthur and Andrew.

Her father went further down the line, where he came across the body of an old man whose arms clasped a little girl and a little boy. They were Charley and Emma.

Henry Heintz, 12 years old, who lost his mother, his aunt and his sister, was dumb because of the ordeal. He and his brother George were saved. They stood on the middle deck, until it became too hot, when they jumped into the water. Henry held on to the paddle wheel and was rescued by men in a tug. When he recovered from the first great shock he could not speak.

George declared his mother's and aunt's bodies were robbed of diamonds and jewelry. He said his mother had a valuable brooch and his aunt two diamond rings, all of which were missing when the bodies were found.

Fully 90 per cent. of the victims of the disaster were insured in the three leading insurance companies handling what is called industrial insurance.

Unbroken lines of men and women streamed through East Twenty-sixth street all day on their way to the Morgue. They filed past the rows of bodies laid out on the long, covered pier of the Department of Charities and endeavored to identify their missing loved ones.

IMMENSE CROWD AT THE PIER.

More than twenty thousand persons visited the pier. The police complained that at least two-thirds of these were morbid curiosity seekers, but they shrugged their shoulders and said they were powerless to exclude them. It was on the whole an orderly crowd, and the work of identification progressed rapidly during the afternoon, so that by six o'clock the number of those unidentified had been greatly reduced.

Twice, however, the throngs became unmanageable when the police tried to restrain them from invading the pier while bodies were being unloaded from steamers. Police were thrown from their feet and women were trampled underfoot. No one was seriously injured.

Pathetic and tragic scenes were repeated time and time again as the identifiers recognized the faces of friends and relatives. Mothers cried out and fainted beside the boxes containing bodies of their husbands and babies, and one despairing woman tried to throw herself into the East River, but was prevented by a Bellevue nurse.

One feature of the scene was the invasion of the pier by hundreds of young and fashionably dressed women. Many were accompanied by escorts, others went unattended, but nearly all were unmistakably idle sensation seekers.

Two of these women drove over in an automobile. The police at First avenue at first refused them permission to pass. But the women begged actually with tears in their eyes to be allowed to see whether any of their friends were among the dead. They smiled later when they had gained their point, and walked over to the pier. Several other women came in carriages, but the majority sauntered over from the Twenty-third street shopping district.

CURIOUS WOMEN THERE.

Police Captain Shire, of the East Thirty-fifth street station, groaned over the continuous influx of curious women shoppers.

"What can we do?" he exclaimed. "We can't order them away. We can't exclude them from the legitimate inquirers. It's woman's way, I guess."

Through the excellent management of the police and the authorities of Bellevue and the Charities Department, the crowds were kept moving and congestion was prevented. Charities Commissioner Tully asked Michael J. Richard, assistant superintendent of Bellevue, to take charge of the pier and the landing and disposition of the bodies as they arrived. Mr. Richard was assisted by registrars and clerks from the hospital.

"One of our serious problems," said Mr. Richard, "was that of providing a sufficient number of coffins overnight to hold the bodies. The supply on hand at

the Morgue and the Charities Department was far below our needs, so the stocks of coffin manufacturers in the city were practically bought out."

Besides the pine boxes of the Morgue were others of stained wood, cloth covered or zinc lined, indicative of how the emergency had been met.

Inspector McLaughlin and Captain Shire had charge of the police arrangements. A line of policemen kept back the hosts of morbid spectators at First avenue. Others guarded the doors of the Morgue and the pier. At least eighty policemen were on hand during the earlier part of the day. The crowds became larger and more demonstrative late in the afternoon.

WHOLE FAMILIES WIPED OUT.

According to Mr. Richard, one reason why the progress of the work of identification was so slow on Wednesday night and early next morning, was that entire families had been wiped out and nobody was left to identify them. Friends and relatives appeared on the scene later, made known the identity of the dead, and scores of undertakers' wagons bore the bodies away.

Bodies in a line four deep covered the floor of the pier. Ten policemen with pencils and writing pads took down the names of the identified and identifiers and the records were kept by Coroner's clerks and also at a temporary office improvised in the old waiting room on the pier. There Coroner Scholeer issued permits for the removal of bodies.

Mayor McClellan, accompanied by Assistant Corporation Counsel Breckenridge, visited the pier shortly after noon. Removing his hat, the Mayor walked the length of the pier between the lines of bodies.

A woman, who had identified the body of a child, fell in a faint nearly at his feet, and further on four men, carrying a coffin, scraped his shoulder with their burden. Before leaving the Mayor inspected all the arrangements made for the disposition of the bodies.

Four bodies arrived at the pier on the Charties Department steamer "Fidelity" during the morning. The "Massasoit," with thirty-nine more dead, reached the pier shortly before three o'clock in the afternoon. It was then that the visitors were all ordered off by the police, so that the work of unloading bodies could proceed rapidly.

MOB BROKE THROUGH LINES.

There was a long wait, during which the grief-stricken men and women became uncontrollable. A mob, held up at the First avenue corner, broke through the lines and was subdued with difficulty. A second one, impatient at being held up at the pier doors, pushed them aside and swept the police guards down the narrow passageway at the entrance.

A panic seemed impending for a moment. Two aged women were thrown and trampled upon and their screams caused other women to become hysterical. The policemen promptly controlled the situation.

After the bodies had been unloaded from the "Massasoit" deck hands trundled out two big wicker go-carts filled to the brim with children's straw hats, decked with red, blue and vari-colored ribbons.

They followed with two barrels filled with sunshades and umbrellas and three or four barrels of clothing. At the last came two barrels filled with women's handbags,

purses and pocketbooks, filled with money and valuables. These were taken in charge by the police.

Many offers of assistance in burying the unidentified dead were made to Commissioner of Charities Tully. One undertaker offered to bury all the bodies remaining unidentified. Two well-dressed women, who said they were Mrs. Chandler and Miss Mason, called on Commissioner Tully to offer to pay for all the mourning, needy persons who had lost relatives in the accident, wanted. They also offered to furnish clothing, food and other provisions for those needing them, and they said they would like to look after destitute families in instances in which the breadwinner of such family had met death in the disaster.

FEW ENTERED AT A TIME.

The crowd around the Morgue and the Department of Charities pier in East Twenty-sixth street in the evening was much greater. By 8 o'clock the line of people waiting to be allowed to enter and look upon the rows of bodies ranged within extended for many blocks. About 200 were allowed to enter at a time, and as they thinned out, some with their fears turned to terrible certainty as they had come face to face with the cold forms of their loved ones, and others, roused to faint hopes by their failure to find what they dreaded, they were gently shown out into the street and another party admitted to undergo the heartrending ordeal.

At one time at least 1500 people were in the long line awaiting admittance, besides the hundreds of morbidly curious persons who lined the adjacent streets.

Despite the many curious ones, the crowd was reverent. Often, as the groups standing in Twenty-sixth

street stood and talked in low tones of the catastrophe, from the interior of the pier shed would come a despairing cry, which told that another one in the silent rows of bodies had been identified.

"Another one," the crowd would murmur, and there would be speculations among the subdued groups as to whether it was father or mother or daughter or son.

The body of a girl of 8 years, which was declared by neighbors to be that of the little daughter of Henry Heintz, of Front street, was washed up against the side of a pier at the foot of Clinton street, in the East river, hardly a block away from the girl's home. The tide by a strange vagary had carried the little body from the scene of the calamity of North Brother Island down through the narrow channels of the river to this point so near her home. The girl's mother, Mrs. Annie Heintz, was among the dead.

KISSED THE COLD LIPS.

Jacob Michael identified the body of his daughter Carrie, 12 years old, late in the afternoon. He was slowly walking along the line of coffins, when he suddenly halted, and with a moan, fell to his knees in several inches of water, and reaching into a coffin, raised the head of a child and began to kiss the cold lips fervently.

Earlier in the day the man had been to the Morgue and identified the charred body of his married daughter, Mrs. Catherine Cohrs, and that of his year-old grandson. The bodies of his daughter and grandson had been burned almost beyond recognition, but Michael did not seem to be as much affected by that awful sight as he was when he saw little Carrie's body in the coffin. He had to be

dragged from the coffin by the police and was forced to leave the pier.

The body of Lena Ackerman, 16 months old, was identified by her father. Mr. Ackerman was walking out on the pier, when he saw some photographers slant a coffin against the side of the pier and attempt to take a picture of two bodies therein. He recognized the features of his baby and, rushing forward, tore the body from the coffin. It was some time before the police could persuade him to give it up.

HOSE BROKE IN MANY PLACES.

Assistant District Attorney Garvin examined Edward Flanagan, first mate of the "General Slocum." Flanagan declared that while he was playing water on the fire his hose broke in many places, making it useless. He then made his way to the upper deck, and tried to restore order among the women and children, who were jumping overboard. The mate remained at this post, he declared, until the boat grounded. Then his clothes were blazing, so that he jumped into the water to extinguish the flames. He spent two hours in the work of rescue, until he collapsed, and was taken to the hospital.

Mr. Garvin received word that Chief Engineer George Conklin, of the "General Slocum," was alive, and immediately took steps to find him.

Mate Flanagan told a straightforward story of the disaster to Mr. Garvin. He was standing on the main deck, he said, talking to a deck hand when he was told of the fire. He hurried to Engineer Conklin with the news, and then went to Captain Van Schaick. He ordered full speed ahead and made for North Brother Island, blowing his whistle for assistance. Flanagan ran

back to the scene of the fire and attempted to extinguish the flames, which in the meantime had reached serious proportions.

Failing to accomplish anything with the hose, the mate rushed to the upper deck and tried to quiet the panic-stricken women and children who were leaping overboard. He stayed on the upper deck until the boat went aground. When he leaped to save himself he found two women and a baby in the water, and they cried to him for help. He could not keep the three afloat, and they were lost.

After the women and baby disappeared, Flanagan said he next saw Michael Graham, the steward, who was trying to save the ship's money. It was mostly in silver, amounting to more than \$1000, and was in a bag. Graham found the weight pulling him under and let go of it.

INSPECTORS TRY TO ESCAPE.

In a statement issued over the signatures of Captain R. A. Sargent and Christopher Vert, United States Inspectors of Steam Vessels at the port of Philadelphia, the New York inspectors were exonerated from all blame in connection with the accident to the "General Slocum." They said :

"From accounts of the accident, we cannot see that it can in any way be attributed to the steam vessels inspectors in New York, this particular vessel having been inspected last May. What we have read in regard to the life preservers being so badly decayed and of such faulty construction that they are useless, we cannot look upon as correct, and think that these preservers must have been damaged by fire, as it is the custom of inspectors at this port, and at New York also, we believe, to carefully exam-

ine all life preservers at each annual inspection and to see that they are of approved type and are located in accessible places. This vessel was, no doubt, equipped on either side of each deck carrying passengers, with hoses of such length as to reach all parts of the deck connected to the steam fire pump main; also with two efficient hand fire pumps with hose attachments, also leading to different parts of the deck. It is evident from accounts that not only the captain, mates, pilots, and engineers, but also the unlicensed members of the crew, heroically remained at their post and did all in their power to avert this fearful catastrophe."

Secretary Cortelyou ordered a rigid investigation of the "General Slocum" disaster, under the direction of the Steamboat Inspection Service.

CORTELYOU'S CIRCULAR LETTER.

Realizing the importance of having exercised the greatest care in the management of steamboats, especially excursion boats, Secretary Cortelyou, on May 23, of this year, issued a circular letter to the inspectors of steam vessels, warning them to guard against just such a disaster as that which occurred at New York.

Supervising Inspector General Uhler received from Robert S. Rodie, Inspector of the Second District, at New York, a preliminary report of the accident. Inspector Rodie, as soon as he learned of the fire, went to the scene in the wrecking boat "Chapman." In his report to General Uhler he says:

"While viewing the wreck I noticed some clothes near the forward side of the paddle box and called Captain Turner's attention to it. It proved to be the body of a woman, and on close inspection it was found that three

other bodies were inside the paddle box, all of which proved to be women.

"At the time we first went alongside the wreck there was no one in the immediate vicinity except a small boat with a man in it some distance off. A short time after we noticed that a police boat was approaching the wreck. We turned over to them the work of taking the bodies out, which they did. We provided them with axes, and they cut away part of the open woodwork in order to remove bodies."

PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR.

Mayor McClellan issued this proclamation:
To the Citizens of New York:

The appalling disaster, by which more than 500 men, women and children lost their lives by fire and drowning, has shocked and horrified our city. Knowing the keen sympathy of the people of the city of New York with their stricken fellows, I have appointed a committee of citizens to receive contributions to a fund to provide for the fit and proper burial of the dead, and for such other relief as may be necessary.

The following gentlemen have been asked to serve on the committee: Morris K. Jesup, Jacob Schiff, Herman Ridder, Charles A. Dickey, Robert A. Van Courtlandt, Erskine Hewitt, Joseph C. Hendrix, Thomas Mulry, George Ehret, John Fox, John Weimacht and H. B. Scharman.

Until the committee has had opportunity to organize, I shall be glad to receive contributions at the Mayor's Office.

As a sign of mourning, I have ordered the flags of the City Hall to be put at half-mast.

That the fire hose on the "General Slocum" was so rotten that it burst in several places as soon as the water began to flow through it, permitting more to spurt through the holes than came out of the nozzle, was the statement made by Edward Flanagan, the first mate of the vessel. He made this assertion calmly and deliberately, fully appreciating its significance.

"I was amidships," said Flanagan, "when a deck-hand ran up to me and told me the vessel was afire. I did not wait to investigate, but ran up to the captain and told him about it, first stopping to tell the engineer. When the captain heard me he ordered full steam ahead and made for North Brother Island blowing his whistle all the time. Then I ran down to the main deck to take the fire apparatus, and some of the deck hands and I began to get out the hose. We got out three lines in all.

SCARCITY OF WATER.

"But as soon as the water was turned on I was surprised to see each line burst at different places and it was impossible to get enough water from the nozzles to be of the slightest use in quenching the flames. It seemed that the hose was new, and what put it in that condition I am at a loss to explain.

"Abandoning this work I ran to the stern where the women and children were, and shouted to them to keep calm and not to be afraid. But it seemed to me that most of them were Germans who did not understand English—whether it was this or that they were so frightened that they did not hear me—but they paid not the slightest attention to me. I do not know how the fire started and I don't believe any one does, but it is my opinion that it started in the lamp room."

His voice trembling and his eyes filled with terror at the remembrance of the scene on the "Slocum" George Heintz, seventeen years old, told how deck hands had deserted the passengers and left them to the mercy of the flames.

He spoke in high terms of the captain, who, he said, had called upon him to quiet the fears of the women and children. Stepping upon a rail of the boat, the boy talked to the panic stricken excursionists until he was forced into the water by the rush which they made for safety.

"I was standing on the upper deck near the pilot house when the fire started," said Heintz. "With me were my mother and my two sisters, Louisa and Diana. I told them to stay by my side when the fire came toward us. My brother Henry was there, too, but he and my mother and sisters were lost when the crowd began to rush toward the sides. Henry was saved, the rest are missing.

RAN FROM THE FLAMES.

"When the flames leaped toward us the deck hands jumped into the water. Only one remained and he made a feeble attempt to put out the fire with water. I stood on the rail entreating the crowd to allow the women and children a chance for safety, but when the flames began to play about the dresses of the women and the smoke became thick they ran away.

"I stopped talking long enough to look around for my brother, mother and sisters. I could not find them, but a short distance away I saw the figure of a little girl kneeling in prayer. I started toward her, but before I had gone two steps she was enveloped in flames and I was swept over the side by frightened passengers.

"My head seemed to strike in a mud bank after I

went under the surface of the water and, struggling to look about, I saw the figures of half a dozen children, boys and girls, in the weeds and mud. Some way, I don't know how, I got to the surface of the water and was picked up by a tug."

One of those who escaped from the "Slocum" was Louise Gailing, the fifteen-year-old daughter of Christopher Gailing, a laborer, who resides in Nutley, N. J. The girl jumped from the burning steamer with the two-year-old child of a Hoboken family, by whom she was employed.

At the home of the Gailings the mother said she had heard nothing from her daughter and knew little about the disaster. The girl would easily pass for seventeen years of age, and is an excellent swimmer

PUPILS DEEPLY MOVED.

Soon after roll call in the various schools throughout the city, and especially in those adjacent to or in the district principally affected by the disaster, there were signs that the pupils were deeply moved by the great loss of life.

Superintendent Maxwell sent out a circular to principals in schools, in which he expressed the sympathy felt by all public school children and teachers, and instructed that flags be displayed at half-mast on all public school buildings throughout the city.

Dr. Maxwell pointed out the lessons of the disaster, urging teachers to admonish their pupils to remain cool and collected in the presence of sudden danger, to learn to swim and always to be ready to lend a helping hand to those weaker than themselves.

A heavy pall of sorrow hung over Public School No.



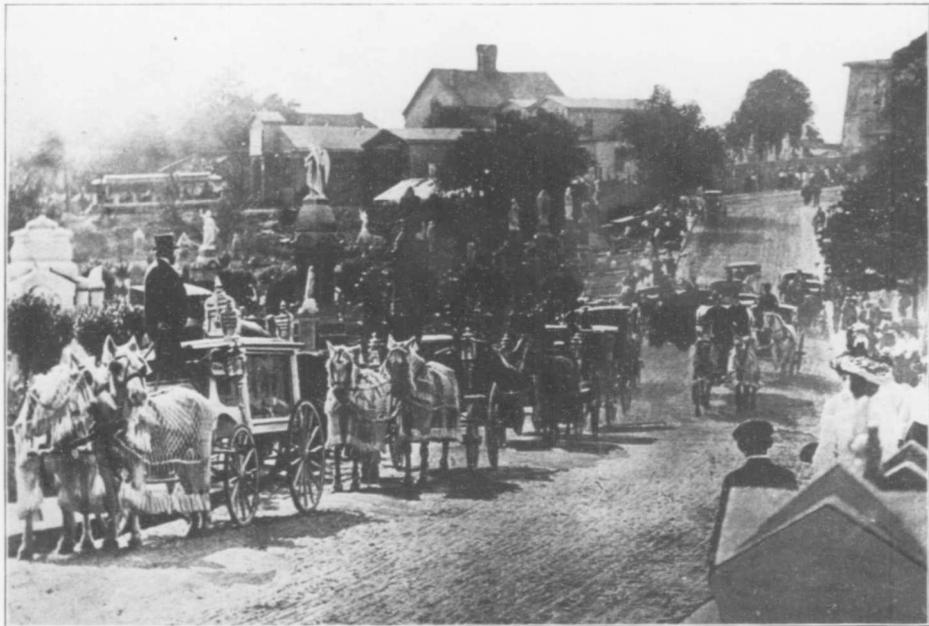
CORONER O'GORMAN WHO CONDUCTED A RIGID INVESTIGATION
AS TO THE CAUSE OF SUCH GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.



SUBMARINE DIVER WHO RECOVERED MANY BODIES FROM THE WRECK OF THE GEN. SLOCUM.



HUNDREDS OF EMPTY COFFINS IN WHICH TO BURY THE DEAD.



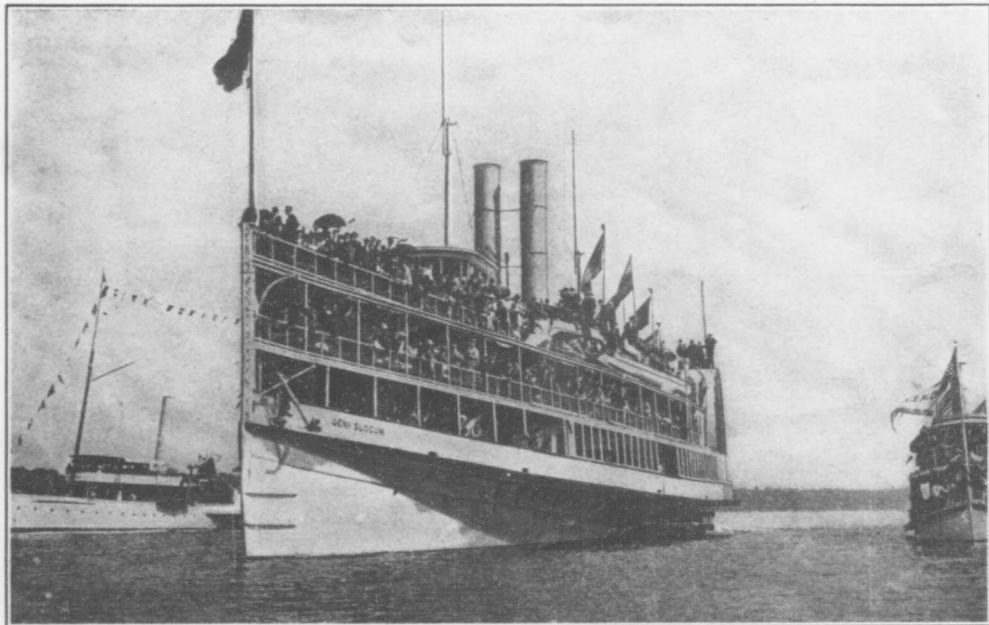
HEARSES BEARING THE EIMER FAMILY, OF No. 84 STOCKHOLM STREET, BROOKLYN,
ENTERING THE LUTHERAN CEMETERY.



HALF-CRAZED SURVIVORS OF THE CALAMITY ON NORTH BROTHER ISLAND.



POLICEMEN CARRYING THE DEAD ABOARD A RELIEF BOAT.



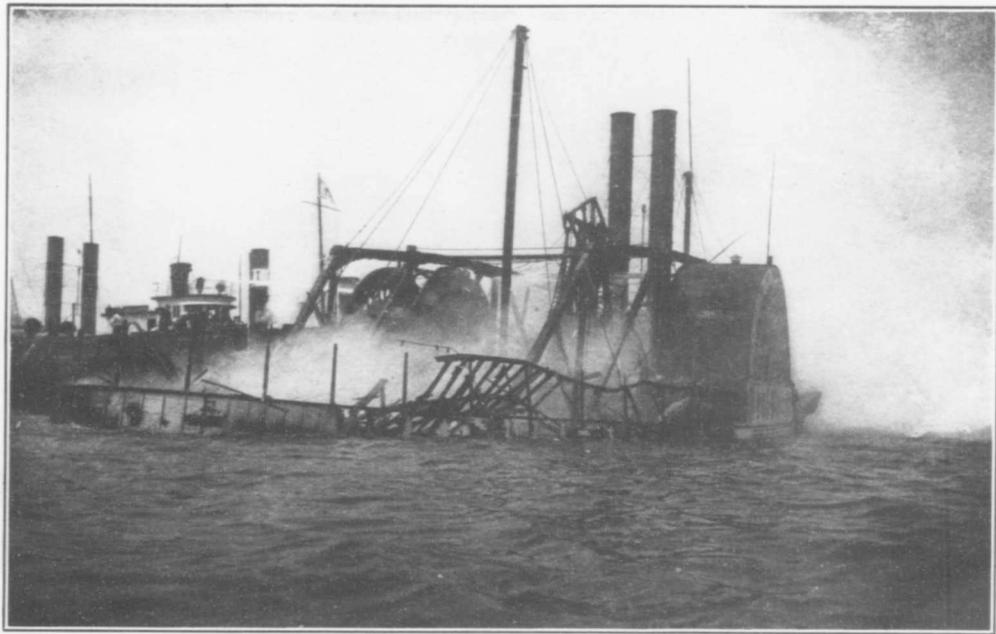
THE "GENERAL SLOCUM" IN THE EAST RIVER, JUNE 15TH, AS SHE APPEARED WHEN CROWDED WITH GAY EXCURSIONISTS, JUST BEFORE THE FIRE BROKE OUT.



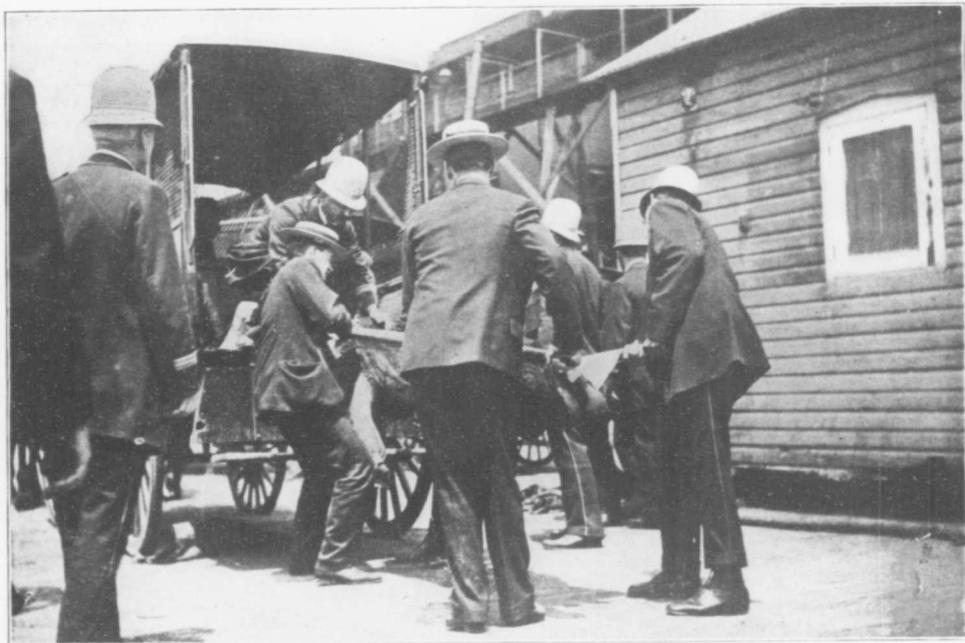
SCENE ON NORTH BROTHER ISLAND DURING THE DAY OF THE GREAT CALAMITY—THE DEAD ARE SEEN LAYING IN A ROW.



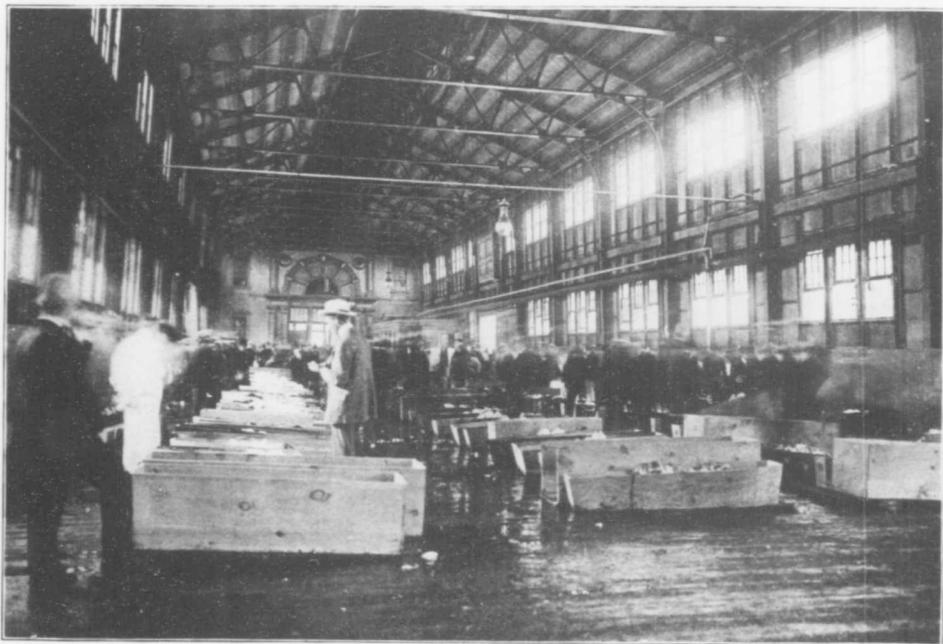
GHASTLY GROUP OF VICTIMS OF THE DISASTER THAT WERE TAKEN FROM THE WATER.



BLAZING WRECK OF THE EXCURSION STEAMER AFTER VESSEL HAD BEEN RUN AGROUND.



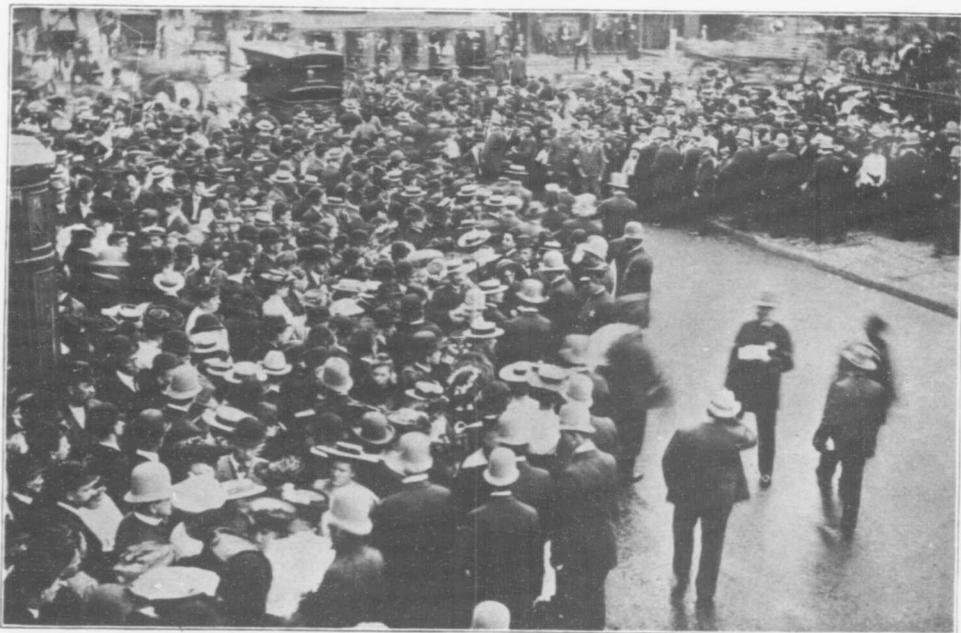
PLACING A LIFELESS BODY IN AN AMBULANCE TO BE TAKEN TO THE MORGUE.



PIER AT EAST 26TH ST. TURNED INTO A MORGUE—COFFINS FILLED WITH THE DEAD.



RELATIVES AND FRIENDS WAITING OUTSIDE OF THE MORGUE FOR PERMISSION TO GO IN AND IDENTIFY THEIR DEAD.



DENSE CROWD SURROUNDING THE MORGUE IN SEARCH OF RELATIVES.



UNDERTAKERS' WAGONS WAITING TO CONVEY THE DEAD TO THEIR HOMES AS FAST AS THEY ARE IDENTIFIED BY THEIR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS.



DOCTORS AND NURSES TRYING TO RESUSCITATE THOSE BROUGHT ASHORE MORE DEAD THAN ALIVE. THEY WERE NOT ABLE TO SAVE MANY THAT WERE TAKEN OUT OF THE WATER.

25, in Fifth street, near First avenue. Of the 2,000 pupils a large portion were relatives of the excursionists, and between two hundred and fifty and three hundred of the regular attendants did not appear in their classes. Of this number the principal, Mr. Robbins, said one hundred and ten had obtained permission on Tuesday to be absent Wednesday.

Scores of boys and girls appeared in their class rooms, their eyes red with weeping, and asked to be excused because a brother, sister or relative had been lost. The school flag hung at half-mast.

COMMENTS BY THE PRESS.

Commenting on the great calamity, one of our prominent journals said editorially :

"After every great disaster there is a general disposition to hold somebody responsible. It is always assumed that the blame can be and must be exactly fixed, and that justice requires some individual expiation. Certainly it is well to hold all persons engaged in the transportation of passengers to a strict accountability, but the 'lesson' which seems most forcibly conveyed by the East River horror is one of man's helplessness against the elements, the utter futility of all ordinary human devices under extraordinary conditions.

"The 'General Slocum' was a large and capacious steamboat, and, as it had been not more than twelve years in service, it could not be considered old. Of course it was combustible, but so are nearly all steamboats. Fire-proof construction has been found sufficiently difficult on land; completely fireproof steamboats, if not impossible, are at least not yet in common use.

"There are few boats, upon any American river, that
N.Y. 6

might not burn as rapidly as did the 'General Slocum' if a fire started in the bow while the boat was steaming against a high wind. It is likely that, a little earlier or a little later, this fire might have been extinguished, or the boat might have run ashore with safety; occurring just when it did, all the conditions were combined for a horrible catastrophe, and it is not evident that the 'General Slocum' was more liable to this than any similar excursion boat.

"It may be said, of course, that a fire could not occur upon a steamboat without gross carelessness. That is true of fires generally, even in a dwelling house. We do not certainly know, in this case, how the fire originated. We do know that, in the present stage of human development, there is no certain precaution against accident, and the only way to be absolutely assured against fire on a steamboat is not to go upon the boat.

BOATS MADE OF STEEL.

"It is wiser not to look upon the 'General Slocum' as an exceptional 'death trap,' because if there are any practical lessons to be drawn from this experience they must be of general application. A form of steel construction has lately been introduced for river steamers that will make them less easily combustible, but the builders of this boat are not to be blamed above all others because they followed the forms in common use. Nor can they or the officers of the boat be blamed for the inevitable panic which increased the loss of life, and added untold horror to the tragedy.

"How could panic have been prevented or allayed under such terrifying conditions? That is one of the perils inseparable from a large crowd, especially of women and

children, and the best drilled crew must have been helpless in this case to stay it.

“One count in the indictment against the ‘General Slocum’ deserves particular consideration. It is said that the life-preservers were old and unserviceable. That is probably true of the life-preservers on many steamers, which naturally deteriorate with age and exposure. Yet, as a matter of fact, how many passengers on any steamboat would know how to reach a life-preserver or to put it on under the excitement of imminent peril?

“Official inspection can and should assure a sufficient number of these appliances in good condition, but unless each passenger were fitted with a life-preserver on going aboard the proportion of lives preserved by them is likely to be small. In a crowd of terrified children any such reliance must be futile.

“For the remainder of this season steamboat excursions will be unpopular, though the immediate effect of this disaster will be to enforce greater care and vigilance than have been known before. As this effect wears off and the vigilance relaxes, the dread will also wear away and everything will go on as before—until the next time. Really, when we consider the extent of the traffic and the many sources of danger, great river disasters have not been numerous in this country, and we may reasonably regard that of Wednesday last as exceptional. We shall profit more by it if, instead of trying to find some one on whom to wreak vengeance, we turn attention to possible improvements in steamboat construction and management, while frankly acknowledging that there are forces in nature against which all the pride of science is powerless and catastrophes that teach man only his own littleness.”

CHAPTER V.

STARTLING TESTIMONY OF EYE WITNESSES.

ON the third day after the disaster it was stated that, of the 559 bodies recovered from the "General Slocum" disaster, 512 had been identified. There were still 462 persons unaccounted for, so that the final death list would probably be almost a thousand. Of the forty-seven bodies not yet identified, thirty-one were unrecognizable, and their names will never be known.

Preliminary to the inquest to be held, Coroner Berry summoned before him witnesses who were expected to testify at the formal inquiry. Inspector Lundberg, one of the Government inspectors who certified to the adequacy and efficiency of the life saving and other equipment of the "General Slocum," appeared before the Coroner, accompanied by a lawyer, and refused to testify, giving as his reason for this action that his testimony might tend to incriminate him.

It was asserted by a deckhand that warning of the fire was given while the vessel was abreast of the northern end of Blackwell's Island. This places the first warning much earlier than had previously been stated.

As a token of the city's mourning for the dead of St. Mark's parish the suggestion was made that church bells all over the city be tolled between the hours of two and three o'clock on Monday. This suggestion met the approval of many churches.

Investigation of the disaster was fast taking shape. Urged by President Roosevelt's order to make the inquiry

thorough, Secretary Cortelyou spent the morning outlining the mode of procedure.

Coroner O'Gorman, conducting an investigation at North Brother Island, declared that what he had discovered convinced him that the crew of the excursion steamer had made no attempt to save the passengers, and were guilty of cowardice.

Sections of standpipes and hose brought from the wreck by divers showed that no effort had been made to fight the fire from the side furthest from the flames, and that not all of the apparatus had been used.

From St. Mark's parish the first funerals of the victims were held. Twenty-five were buried in one cemetery, in many instances several members of the same family being laid at rest in a common grave. The work of burying the dead went forward and arrangements were made for more than one hundred funerals from the stricken district.

GRIEF IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

From ten public schools in the vicinity came the record of eighty-three dead, sixty-six missing, thirty injured and sixty-eight saved. In these public schools, which include all in two districts, no graduation exercises were held, the children receiving their diplomas without ceremony.

With "Slocum" victims being buried by the hundreds and with charity being dispensed with free hand, the municipality of New York bent its utmost energies to investigating the causes which led up to the frightful disaster by which nearly one thousand human beings perished, with a view to punishing those responsible.

Coroner Berry began an unofficial investigation,

which resulted in unearthing a few of the primary causes of the disaster. They are these :

There were two barrels of dry hay, in which glasses had been packed, in the lamproom, where the fire is said to have originated—probably by some one smoking.

A standpipe, with a piece of burnt hose attached, brought to the surface by a diver, showed that the valve had not been turned and that the pipe had not been used.

The fire was discovered at Eighty-sixth street, opposite Blackwell's Island, fully two and one-half miles below North Brother Island.

The crew made no effort to launch the lifeboats, because the boats were surrounded by a maddened, frenzied mob, which would have required a hundred men to drive aside.

The boat was newly painted and burned like tinder.

DOOMED TO HORRIBLE DEATH.

From the moment the unlawful smoker dropped the spark into the barrels of hay illegally placed in the lamproom, the victims were foredoomed to horrible death. The Man with the Scythe went at the helm and had made careful preparations for his harvest. The fire hose was rotten, and burst the moment the pumps began to work ; the life preservers were filled with powdered cork and could not sustain their own weight in the water, much less that of a human being ; the lifeboats and rafts were fastened to the decks with wire cable—it seems almost like a prearranged scheme at wholesale murder.

The witnesses called by Coroner Berry were Mate Edward Flanagan, Walter Payne, a colored porter ; John J. Coakley, Elbert Gassga, an oiler ; George Owen, a steward, and Martin Guyer, a deckhand.

The Coroner examined the witnesses separately, and, as they emerged from the examination room, they discussed the matter freely.

"Before we left the pier at Third street," said Coakley, "a couple of barrels of glasses were brought aboard and stood alongside the bar. These glasses were packed in what I took to be salt meadow hay, that fine stuff you always see glassware packed in. In a little while these barrels were put in the forward cabin, or the lamproom, which is between decks. The barrels were put there because it was feared that the children might pull out the hay and scatter it around the boat.

THE FIRST ALARM.

"I was on the hurricane deck, having gone there with a policeman to quiet some children. I went below. When I left the hurricane deck Blackwell's Island light was abreast. The bartender asked me to have a drink. As I finished drinking a boy came and told me he thought he saw smoke in the forward cabin.

"I ran aft—the cabin is aft of the bar—and into the cabin, where I encountered a heavy smoke, such as comes from burning hay. The fire at that time amounted to very little. It was dark in there, and I could not see much, but I thought I could put out the fire with little difficulty. There were two bags of charcoal outside, and I seized one of these and dropped it on the fire. That did no good, so I ran out and notified the mate. I got the hose and tried to get it rolled out and working with the assistance of Gassga.

"We had 200 feet of hose, and only forty feet to stretch it in. The hose was new, having been put on the boat this season.

"As we pulled the hose off the reel the flames increased and broke out, and the passengers became panic-stricken. We tried to straighten the hose, which kinked up, and we tried to pull the kinks out. Just then the water was started.

"The water forced itself through several lengths of hose, and when it came against one of the kinks the hose burst. It could not stand the pressure."

The other members of the crew who were present corroborated the statement made by Coakley. Mate Flanagan said:

STATEMENT BY MATE.

"I was standing in the amidships gangway when Coakley came up and told me there was a fire in the forward cabin. I ordered the crew to get to work with the hose. As we tried to unreel the hose the passengers interfered with us greatly. The hose had several kinks in it.

"We tried to get these kinks out but were unable to do so up to the time the water was started. When the water was started a coupling came loose."

"What did you do then?" was asked.

"We couldn't do anything. After that everything went to —. The assistant engineer and I were the last to leave the boat at our end."

Second Mate Corcoran said:

"A sight I saw on that boat I will remember a long time, I guess. I saw a woman give birth to a child and then jump overboard with the babe. They both died. I could not get to her, the crowd was so great, and she had no help at all—people were crazy.

"The fire was all around her, and she picked up her

babe in her arms, wrapped a piece of her clothing about it, and, sick and frightened as she was, looked about for a way to escape. There was none. It took only a moment for her to realize this. Then she climbed on the railing and leaped out into the water."

It was stated by divers who went down into the wreck at dawn that there were many bodies still under the entanglement of timbers and paddle wheels, and that it would be necessary to dynamite the hulk or raise it before they could be reached. To this end city officials communicated with a wrecking company, and an announcement was made that the company would undertake the work of bringing the wreck to the surface.

STORY OF CHIEF ENGINEER.

Chief Engineer B. F. Conklin, of the "General Slocum," who was wanted by Coroner Berry, of The Bronx, to tell the story of the disaster, arrived at his home in Catskill. He was ill from the effects of the terrible experience through which he passed. Speaking about it, he said:

"I would like to forget that fearful thing if I could and thus far have made no statement about it. The boat was comfortably filled, though not packed, as we were licensed to carry 2500 and there were about 1600 aboard. About 10.30 o'clock, when we were opposite 138th Street, the first mate approached me as I was standing in the engine room talking to my assistant, Everett Brandow.

"He said that a fire had been discovered forward, and I at once ordered him to lay the hose while I went to the pumps, first notifying the captain, who was in the pilot house.

"In less than a minute water was being poured on the flames, but it did not seem to check them in the least. Two minutes or so later the fire alarm sounded and some one on deck cried 'Fire!'

"Instantly there was a roar as the terrified passengers arose like one person and made a rush for the stern. There was no checking that frenzied crowd. Mingled with the smell of burning paint and wood was the sickening odor of burning flesh. The women and children rushed about as though bereft of their senses. I saw several children with their clothing on fire and their mothers vainly trying to put out the flames with their hands.

"The boat had been newly painted, and this, of course, made it burn more readily.

PREVENTED BY CROWD.

"We had eight lifeboats and two rafts aboard, but it was an utter impossibility to get near them, for the crowd was so dense about them that it would have taken a hundred men to push the frenzied persons aside and launch the boats."

A pathetic story was contained in the report made to the St. Mark's Church Information Bureau by Miss Helen Goldstrum, a teacher in a public school in the heart of the stricken district. Miss Goldstrum gave instructions to a class of twenty little girls and six boys.

After the accident she made a canvass of their homes and found that nearly twenty members of her class were dead or missing with no hope of any being found alive. The bodies of twelve of the little girls have been recovered. Five of the six boys were saved.

Secretary of Commerce and Labor George B. Cor-

telyou, who had a long conference with Robert S. Rodie, inspector of the Second District of New York, said that he would give his personal attention to the Federal investigation of the "Slocum" disaster.

"As Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor I am the head of the Federal inquiry into this affair, and I propose to give it my personal and in so far as possible my undivided attention until the matter is finally settled. As soon as practical the Board of Inspectors will get together and take testimony.

NO ONE WOULD BE SHIELDED.

"I want to correct an impression that seems to have gone abroad that this investigation will be left to subordinates in the department. I will hold the inquiry myself."

Mr. Cortelyou said that if it was found to be true that employees of the Government had been criminally negligent in their inspection of boilers in New York harbor the public could rest assured that no one would be shielded, but that the blame would be placed where it properly belonged.

It developed that a new horror had been added to the terrible condition resulting from the "Slocum" disaster through the over-officiousness of some person at the Morgue.

When the bodies were taken by hundreds from the water and laid in rows on the grass at North Brother Island each was tagged with a number. That number was carefully recorded and the papers, valuables and trinkets which would have served to identify positively the bodies were removed and placed in separate packages, each package bearing a number corresponding to the

number on the body from which the articles were taken.

These packages then were placed in the custody of the Coroner.

When the bodies were taken to the Morgue they were placed in numbered boxes, but in many cases these numbers did not correspond with the figures the bodies previously had borne. As a result, the plans were completely upset, and the numbered packages of valuables became practically worthless as a means of identification.

The life preservers marked "Edwin Forrest" found on some of the victims of the "Slocum" disaster, were part of a lot that were bought and shipped from Philadelphia in 1898.

SAID TO BE IN GOOD CONDITION.

How old some of them were at that time or what care was taken of them afterwards is unknown, but it is claimed that all were in fair condition when they left Philadelphia.

Frederick Craemer bought the old "Forrest" from the Upper Delaware River Navigation Company, in 1898, and broke her up at Rickenback's Shipyard at Cramer Hill, N. J. Mr. Craemer said :

"I took the life preservers off the "Forrest" and while I can't say that I carefully inspected each one, I know that they were in good condition. Some were apparently nearly new, but I have no means of knowing how old the others were. They were of the ground-cork-filled type, which, of course, are useless as soon as the canvas covering gives way.

"I shipped in all nearly 3000 life preservers to New York about that time, selling them to several different

parties, and doubtless some of these were the ones found on the ill-fated "Slocum."

Many illustrations were supplied during the "Slocum" disaster of the crazy actions which panic-stricken people will perform, but that of the purser of the boat, Michael Graham, which cost him his life, is the most remarkable of all.

The story was told by Chief Mate Edward Flanagan, of the "Slocum," when testifying before District Attorney Jerome. He said in part:—

SUDDENLY WENT TO THE BOTTOM.

"Purser Graham was a good swimmer, and I had no fear for his safety when I saw him leap from the boat into the river. To my surprise, instead of striking out for the shore, he flung his hands up, and, with terror on his face, called wildly for help. Then he went to the bottom like a stone.

"The mystery was solved when I learned that, before leaving his office, he crammed his pockets with bills and silver, about \$1000 in all. The heavy coin had carried him to his death in an instant."

Steamboatmen discussing the question of saving life in case of an accident such as befell the "General Slocum," were largely of the opinion that the provisions made were inadequate. All the boats plying on the harbor, river and bay have been inspected and given certificates of safety.

The law regarding the life-saving appliances calls for a proper number of small boats, to be kept in good condition, and for life-preservers sufficient to equip every soul aboard. This latter rule is always complied with, so far as the numbers go, but it was admitted at the

office of the inspectors that no bouyancy tests are applied.

Inspections are made once a year, but may be made oftener at the request of vessel owners. It was believed that many of the owners would seek the services of the inspectors again and ask for a thorough test.

It was pointed out by shipping men that excursion steamboats carry small crews in comparison to the number of passengers, and that while a fire drill is practiced on most of them to some extent, boat drills are not. Some vessels do not have their boats lowered away once in a season and fouled tackle, the mariners say, is a natural consequence.

REFUSED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

Henry Lundberg, United States Steamboat Inspector, refused to answer questions put to him about the last inspection of the "General Slocum," taking the stand that any reply that he made might tend to incriminate him. Coroner Joseph T. Berry had summoned many witnesses to his headquarters, at the corner of Third and Tremont avenues, to obtain their informal statements before examining them at the inquest, to aid him in his investigation.

Inspector Lundberg went to the Coroner's office in obedience to a summons. He was accompanied by a lawyer. He entered the Coroner's private room and answered some questions put to him concerning his official duties.

"When did you last inspect the "Slocum?" inquired Coroner Berry.

"I respectfully decline to answer that question by advice of counsel," returned the inspector.

' On what ground?' pursued the Coroner, who was surprised by this attitude of a United States official.

"On the ground that an answer might tend to incriminate me," said Inspector Lundberg, who was then excused. Coroner Berry communicated these facts to the District Attorney's office.

Coroner Berry obtained during the day from members of the "Slocum's" crew statements which he deemed of vital importance, not only as tending to settle the question as to the part of the steamer in which the fire originated, but also as indicating that the flames were discovered much earlier than had generally been supposed.

There was some conflict between the witnesses about various details, but several points were made clear. One of the deckhands had his attention called to the fire and tried to smother it before summoning the mate. The hose was then attached, but for some reason it did not work, and the panic followed.

CONFLICTING STATEMENTS.

Although officers of the boat placed the first discovery of the flames at a time when the "Slocum" was passing the sunken meadows, John J. Coakley, a deck hand, who was admittedly the first to report the fire, swore that the "Slocum" had been much further down the river and that, consequently, the complete destruction had not been effected as rapidly as supposed.

Coakley was the first one admitted into the private examination room, and his testimony was taken by a stenographer. He told his story without hesitation, attributing the origin of the fire to some person who had smoked in the dark storeroom filled with inflammable

materials. The inference drawn by those who heard him was that some member of the crew who had tried to escape observation while he smoked, was responsible for the disaster.

He had left the upper deck to accept the invitation of the bartender to take a drink. On his way down he noticed the Blackwell's Island light and he believed that the boat was about opposite Eighty-sixth street. After he had poured out his drink and swallowed it, a boy ran up to the bar and told him that there was a lot of smoke coming from the forward cabin. C. Oakley hurried to the place and found a dense smoke, such as might come from smouldering hay. Two barrels of glasses had been taken on the "Slocum" at the Third street pier and had been placed in the cabin used as a general storeroom. The glasses were packed in what C. Oakley assumed to be salt meadow hay.

TRYING TO SMOTHER FLAMES.

"The fire didn't seem to amount to much then," continued the deck hand. "It was dark, but I thought I could put out the fire without much difficulty. There were two bags of charcoal outside and I seized one and put it over the hay with the idea of smothering the flames. This did no good, and so I notified the mate and he instructed us to get out the hose. We had about two hundred feet of hose and only about forty feet of space for stretching it. There were kinks in the hose, and while we were trying to straighten them out, the flames increased violently and passengers rushed about and interfered with us.

"There were a lot of kinks left when the water was turned on; the water forced its way to one of the kinks .

and then the hose burst, as the pressure was too great. Then we could do nothing."

Coakley admitted that for a time he was as much excited as the passengers as the flames continued to spread. He ran up on deck, and saw a boy of about fifteen climb on the side rail and drop into the water near the revolving paddle wheel, which sucked him up. Coakley helped to loosen the wire which held the life preservers and they fell to the floor.

GRABBED BABY AND JUMPED.

As the "Slocum" struck he grabbed a baby and jumped overboard. He was almost drowned by a woman who seized him, but he managed to shake her off and to reach land with the baby. He was convinced that the captain had not erred in beaching the "Slocum" at North Brother Island. Coakley had little rest after the disaster, as he was haunted by visions of burning and drowning masses whenever he tried to sleep.

Mate Flanagan's story differed from that of Coakley in several respects. He was under the impression that the "Slocum" was about opposite East Ninety-seventh street when he was notified of the fire. While he was having the hose prepared for use a coupling became loose, and when the water was turned on it escaped at this joint. Before the hose could be properly arranged the panic had occurred. He said he and an assistant engineer were the last to leave the hold. He jumped into about ten feet of water and was exhausted when he reached shore. The other members of the crew who were examined substantially agreed with this version.

Coroner Berry kept a staff of clerks busy issuing subpoenas for the inquest. He wished to obtain the testi-

mony of as many adult survivors as possible, and of all who were in a position to throw any light upon the destruction of the "General Slocum." He believed that the investigation before him should be as thorough as possible.

"Evidence before me so far indicates an appalling failure on the part of the crew of the 'General Slocum' to assist the helpless passengers during the tragic half hour. I have examined eye witnesses of the disaster, none of whom remembers to have seen any efforts made by the crew, although the witnesses themselves were among those to risk life in rescue work. Stand pipes for the fire hose, taken from the wreck to-day, show that on the side of the boat farthest away from the flames no attempt was made to use the fire fighting apparatus. Valves are found unturned and caps are still in place. There is nothing to show that the crew did not look out for itself alone. Only one member appears to have perished and that one was a steward."

CREWS CALLED AS WITNESSES.

In the foregoing words Coroner O'Gorman summed up the results of an important part of his day's labor on North Brother Island, and around the wreck of the "Slocum" off Oak Point, nearly two miles away. The Coroner had in fact devoted every minute he could spare from the task of attending to the eight bodies recovered to the preliminary investigation.

Early in the day he had called before him the crews of the tug boat "Wade" and the "Franklin Edson," the island ferry. Blistered paint and woodwork on both boats showed where they were while the fire raged, and of each member of the crew the Coroner asked what work,

if any, was done by the crew of the "Slocum." What he found was expressed in his utterance to the press.

Following this he called before him the staff of the North Brother Hospital corps, including every one from Dr. Stewart to the humblest orderly. Physicians and nurses, as well as patients who had risked their lives wading and swimming out into the swift tide, were asked to tell of their observations. Not one of them could relieve the impression first produced by the testimony.

EVIDENCE OF STAND PIPES.

At the wreck the Coroner had John M. Rice, a diver employed by the Department of Docks, busy at work collecting the silent evidence of stand pipes, reels, nozzles and the like. Rice had not been working an hour on the starboard side of the boat aft of the paddle box when he came up with a section of a stand pipe, the cap of which had not been removed.

"It shows that no attempt whatsoever was made to attach the hose," was the official comment on this startling evidence.

Later in the day Rice brought up another stand pipe twelve feet long, to one end of which was a wheel valve. Burnt shreds showed that a hose had been attached to this pipe, but further investigation showed that the valve had never been turned. Then too came a reel with shreds of unbound hose, and a nozzle which had not been removed from its place.

"That an effort was made to use hose has been told," said the Coroner, "but that an effort was made to use it on the safe side of the boat away from the flames has not yet been shown. With discipline or practice it would appear that the vantage point for the crew would have

been to the starboard away from fire, but they were never there so far as I can see."

Of the bodies found on the third day only one, so far as known, was identified at North Brother Island. That was the body of August Well, fifteen years old. Young Well went to the picnic with his brother Charles, two years younger. Charles escaped, but two months before August had broken his leg, which was still incased in plaster of paris. The weight dragged him to the bottom. Of the others found one, a girl eleven years old, wore a ring of rubies and pearls on her left hand and a turquois ring on her right. Another, a girl of fourteen, had a long gold chain around her neck, to which was attached a locket which had for a monogram "W. A. C."

MERRIMENT ON A SISTER BOAT.

With flags flying, bands playing and nothing but jollity and merriment aboard the steamboat "Grand Republic" passed the wreck bearing the thousand and more who were attending the outing of the 120th street Methodist Episcopal Church. The "Grand Republic" did not slow down as she approached, as the police require when divers are at work, and whistles on tugs and launches had to be blown vigorously to compel the action. Patrick Gilligan, a diver, was under water then and the booming of her big paddles brought him to the surface in a hurry.

As the steamboat swept by the shores of North Brother Island the crowds rushed to the side nearest the island to get a good view of the work of rescue going on there. According to the police and other witnesses of the scene, the excursionists waved handkerchiefs.

When the roll of those who risked life to save pas-

sengers of the "General Slocum" is made up no names will stand higher than those of eleven members of the Bronx Yacht Club. In three small launches the eleven men in the space of a half hour drew from the water 110 drowning persons. Within six hours afterward they had recovered 127 bodies from the tide and from the beaches.

The Bronx Yacht Club is a small organization, with headquarters at the foot of Willow avenue, which face the Bronx Kills, by which the burning steamboat passed. Its members are all rivermen, owners of small launches and sailboats. All of them know the treacherous currents of Hell Gate and the swirling tide rips that strike off from the many islands thereabout. They were all about the club when the "Slocum" passed, and three minutes later were in pursuit.

MANY BODIES DRAGGED ASHORE.

H. Burgi, owner of the auxiliary sloop "Elsie," hastily gathered with him Charles Wetzel, steward of the club; Rudolph Zimmerman, Frank Barky and Robert Start. They pulled from the water alive, sixty-two men, women and children, and landed them on North Brother Island. Later they found thirty-two of the dead.

Policeman Andrew Woods, of the Alexander avenue station, was on strike duty near 138th street. Running with all his might he soon had with him Peter Jansen and John Rau in the launch "Peter." Twenty-three living persons were pulled from the water by the three men and later thirty-eight dead were found.

In the launch "Surprise" went Reuben Tudor and Granville Gibbons. They found three women alive floating in the current. Policeman Herbert C. Farrell, of the

Alexander avenue station, was at a fire, but he hastily collected some men, strangers to him, and they seized the small boat of the tug "E. A. Bayliss." Twenty-two living persons were saved by them and sixteen dead were picked up.

The Chief Engineer said:

"I saw several children with their clothing on fire and their mothers vainly trying to put out the flames with their hands. I never saw fire spread with such rapidity, and in less time than it has taken for me to tell you this the whole front part of the vessel was in flames.

TRAMPLED TO DEATH.

"Those who were on the lower deck rushed aft and many children were knocked down and trampled to death. I can yet hear those agonizing and piercing screams and feel the scorching flames.

"I realized that our only safety was to beach the boat, and I knew that North Brother Island was the only place to do it. We could not turn back and beach on the meadows, for we were above them, and I was fearful that we might strike a rock in Hell Gate.

"Had this happened the loss of life would have been greater, for no one, not excepting a good swimmer, could have kept afloat in that swift water.

"It all happened so suddenly, and the fire spread with such rapidity, that in less than fifteen minutes after it was discovered the boat was in flames from stem to stern.

"When the boat was beached and I left the engine room they were still working.

"Just before the "Slocum" was beached the engine room was in flames, and the large mirrors in it fell with a

crash. I looked for Brandow, and he was still standing near the throttle, with the flames all about him. The heat was intense, but I did not seem to feel it much.

"When the boat grounded there was a terrible crash as the upper deck gave way, and for a moment I felt sick, for I knew that many people were caught beneath it. Brandow stopped his engine, and we made our way with difficulty aft.

"Here there were a number of women and children, who beseeched us piteously to save them. I did my best to calm them, and told them they must jump overboard. Just then a tug came up alongside, and a rush was made for it.

"I was carried over with the rest, and fell underneath the struggling mass."

Second Mate James Corcoran told the Coroner Conklin was among the first to hurry off the vessel to a tug.

ENGINEER FLED FROM DANGER.

"The first engineer (Conklin) was not at his post at the time of the fire," Corcoran declared. "He was one of the very first to leave the boat."

The district surrounding St. Mark's Church was one of mourning. Clubs, churches of all denominations, stores, schools and restaurants were draped in mourning. Scores of funerals were held.

A Methodist church and Baptist church were used for several of the funerals, but the majority were held at the homes of the victims. Fifty Lutheran clergymen appeared at St. Mark's Church and were sent around through the district to conduct the funerals.

Several pastors held funerals over as many as six bodies. Sixth street, in the vicinity of the church, was

packed from early morning till late at night. All business in the street and in the surrounding streets was suspended; in most places a card in the window said: "Closed on account of death."

Late in the afternoon a carriage drove slowly past the church with a corpse sitting upright on the back seat supported by cushions. The body was wrapped in a sheet and was alone in the carriage. The driver had brought it from the Morgue.

FIRST FUNERAL OF A VICTIM.

The first funeral of a victim of the disaster was that of Miss Agnes Bell, 19 years old. The policemen guarded the hearse as it moved toward the Twenty-third street ferry, and hundreds of mourners walked after it. The burial was in the Lutheran Cemetery, at Middle Village, L. I.

Following Miss Bell's funeral, others were held as fast as possible, and at night the hearses and processions of carriages were going through the streets.

The body of a man was taken out of the water, and clasped in his right hand was a big bag of coins, dimes, nickels and pennies. The man was clutching the bag with such a grip that it took some strength to loosen the hold. The money caused his death. Had he dropped the bag and used his hands he undoubtedly could have kept afloat. A policeman put the bag on a pair of scales, and found that it weighed twenty-six pounds. It dragged the man to the bottom, without a show for life.

Mayor McClellan issued a formal appeal to aid through the relief committee.

More than \$16,000 was contributed on the third day for the relief of survivors of the wreck. One of the first

big gifts came from H. H. Rogers, the Standard Oil millionaire. It was a \$1000 gold certificate, which was pinned to a slip of paper bearing the sender's name.

In order to ascertain if there was any basis for the accusations which are being made against the captain of the "Slocum," or if on the other hand there was any basis for the vigorous defense which his friends were making on his behalf, a newspaper chartered a vessel and sent it over the course which the steamer took.

On board were photographers equipped with cameras, experts who were to note where a vessel of the "Slocum" type could or could not be beached, and lead lines to verify the depth of water as given by harbor charts.

ALARM ON THE STEAMBOAT.

It appears that the fire was discovered by a deck-hand just before the "Slocum" entered Hell Gate. He told how he first tried to smother the blaze and then gave the alarm to the mate, who transmitted it by tube to the captain in the pilot house.

Going through Hell Gate with a flood tide vessels habitually travel at their best speed, as in that narrow swirl of water a vessel must answer her helm quickly, which she would be unable to do if she were going slowly. The "Slocum" had the tide with her, and this, with her own speed, must have been carrying her along at fully eighteen knots.

As only a few minutes elapsed from the moment when the fire was first discovered to the time when the captain hurried from the pilot house to make investigation, it indicates that the position of the "Slocum" then was about midway of Ward's Island.

Giving him one minute to make his way from the

pilot house to the "forward cabin," as the witnesses speak of the compartment where the fire was discovered, and another minute to make his way back to the pilot house, the "Slocum" then would have reached the sunken meadows, that long, wide shoal, where she might have been beached, broad off her port bow.

No one except the captain himself can know what his estimate of the danger was. Steamboat captains, like railroad engine drivers, must needs have active brains and decision, and action must come at once. Estimating the time which the newspaper boat made over this particular part of the route—the difference in speed and state of tide being noted—it is figured that the captain of the "Slocum" had between one minute and a minute and a half in which to decide if the blaze which had broken out forward was serious enough to warrant his seeking the sunken meadows as a place to beach.

NO PLACE TO LAND.

It had been urged that the "Slocum" could have been beached on the opposite side of the stream. The expedition found no place on that side where this was practicable, the banks being "steep to," like sea walls in other words.

The chance of beaching on the sunken meadows having passed—the "Slocum" being an unwieldy vessel and the tide with her—the next place where the vessel might have gone was to the pier of the Health Department at the foot of East 132d street. The steamboat "Edson," lying there promptly vacated the berth and seems to have done all she could with her whistles to call attention to the berth.

Captain Van Schaick does not say that he saw this ;

he says though that he did sheer in to make the pier six blocks further up, but was warned away.

The captain, in his statement, adds that he then stood for North Brother Island, intending to beach there. Scores of witnesses have said that the forward decks caved in before the "General Slocum" went aground.

As the fire had broken out forward and as the wind was driving the flames straight aft, it has been urged that the pilot house had been made untenable before the vessel grounded, and that the tide drifted her to the point where she went aground.

Summed up, the men on the vessel chartered by the newspaper found no place in the route taken by the "Slocum" where the vessel could have been earlier beached except the sunken meadows. That is, no place where she could have slid her keel after the captain had made his return to the pilot house.

STEEP AND ROCKY SHORE.

The Long Island shore is steep and rocky and above the meadows on the other side there was no place which the newspaper boat investigators could find where a vessel could have been beached with any chance of saving life.

South Brother Island was a bit nearer than the North Brother, where she finally went ashore, but the preponderance of evidence is that the "Slocum" was not under control after her sheer in toward the 138th street wharf, and from which her captain says he was warned away.

One of our leading journals commented on the disaster as follows :

"The announcement of Secretary Cortelyou that he will personally conduct the inquiry into the disaster

to the steamboat 'General Slocum' will give general satisfaction. There is certain to be a thorough investigation, as the Coroner will conduct a separate one. Such a catastrophe could not happen without some one being at fault. There is a disposition to blame the steamboat inspectors, who are under Secretary Cortelyou, but they may not be to blame. And yet if the facts are as represented, the steamboat owners and the inspectors are both responsible.

LIFE PRESERVERS ROTTEN

"The assertion that the life preservers were rotten is repeated so often, and so few persons appear to have been saved by the use of the preservers, that there is reason to believe the charge to be true. If so the inspectors are to blame and also the steamship owners. The fire hose on board the vessel was of no advantage apparently, and is said to have been decayed and leaking. No use was made of the lifeboats, and much that might apparently have been done was seemingly neglected. Perhaps there may be some excuse.

"With plenty of good life preservers, properly adjusted, there should have been few lives lost where the steamer was beached. The crew was clearly not trained for an emergency. That should be made compulsory and a Government officer should be provided to inspect such performance of duty on every passenger vessel of the size of the 'General Slocum.' The laws are now deficient in that respect. A bill to provide a partial remedy was passed by the Senate at its last session, but it failed in Conference Committee.

"There is insufficient legislation to regulate vessels carrying such a large number of passengers. This

disaster might easily be repeated almost any day in the vicinity of New York. Fireproof paints, and even fireproof wood will probably be used on all such vessels in time. But it should not be possible for a steamboat to be so quickly consumed as was the "General Slocum," causing such an enormous loss of life. Such casualties in Europe are unknown. Both on the steamboats and on the railroads in this country there is a much greater waste of life, proportionately, than in Europe, while there should, if anything, be less. There is too much eagerness to save expense and make greater profit.

INSTANCES OF GRAND HEROISM.

"As is almost always the case when a great disaster occurs, the East River tragedy was attended by many instances of unselfish heroism. The plucky way in which the nurses and many of the patients from the hospital on North Brother Island rushed into the sea and fought with the waves to save life when the burning boat was beached deserve to be recognized. The captain and pilots of the "General Slocum" in sticking to their posts until the craft reached shore, although the pilot house in the fore part of the boat was threatened by the flames, seem to have had an adequate realization of their responsibilities.

"Whether Captain Van Schaick acted in the wisest manner has yet to be determined, but he showed at any rate that he was not a coward. Some of the crew are said to have become panic-stricken, and no intelligent attempt to launch the boats and life-rafts seems to have been made. There is also the charge that ghouls in the shape of robbers made their appearance, and that a yacht near the scene failed to render any assistance.

"But while certain of the viler qualities of human nature were in evidence, the zeal and bravery of the boatmen, nurses and hospital attendants who did their best to rescue others proved once more that there is heroic stuff in a pretty large proportion of mankind.

"The pity of it all is that their efforts could do so little, for fuller information has swelled the number of the victims far beyond that given in the first reports. If the allegation is true that Federal laws are insufficient in their application to the inspection of excursion boats, the lack is one which should be promptly remedied when Congress meets again. As a matter of fact it is a question whether all large craft used for this purpose should not be required to be built of steel or iron. Such vessels might sink, but they would not burn."



CHAPTER VI.

FUNERALS ATTENDED BY SOBBING THOUSANDS.

ON Friday the region in the vicinity of St. Mark's German Lutheran Church, in East Sixth street, was the scene of 114 funerals, representing the burial of nearly 200 bodies, almost all those of women and children. Enormous crowds thronged the streets of the quarter, and a large force of police was necessary to prevent disorder and keep clear a passage for the long lines of hearses and carriages. Funeral services were held in no fewer than thirty-seven churches of various denominations in this section.

Sixteen more bodies recovered during the day were brought from the scene of the wreck to the temporary Morgue at the foot of East Twenty-seventh street this afternoon. So great was the clamor for admission to the pier that all control of the crowd was lost, and on the entrance to the pier being thrown open a rush took place, during which many persons were knocked down and trampled upon.

Twenty-nine of the unidentified dead were buried on Friday by the city in the Lutheran Cemetery, leaving but eight bodies still awaiting identification in the Morgue.

As the fourteen hearses carrying these twenty-nine unknown victims of the disaster passed an unusually large crowd stood respectfully on the sidewalk, making a line extending several blocks to the pier, whence the ferry carried them over to the Long Island shore. The

men stood with bowed and uncovered heads, and by far the greater portion of the women and children gathered along the street knelt. Even those who are ordinarily phlegmatic and undemonstrative were affected by the sorrow that all seemed to feel, and sobs shook the frames of the women while tears streamed down the cheeks of the men. The cortege continued through the streets lined with mourning thousands until it became a part of the long procession of funerals that were wending their way to the cemetery.

One carriage only followed the hearses, carrying officers of the Health Department, who were ordered to make an accurate map of the great grave prepared for the bodies, so that if any are identified later by means of the clothing, the coffin containing the remains may be readily found.

HOME IN THE CEMETERY.

Out at the beautiful Lutheran Cemetery, that Garden of Sleep, where the dead will rest until the Day of Judgment, 160 grave-diggers had prepared little earthen homes, well toward the southern slope of the cemetery, where the winter sun shines lovingly and the summer wind sings lullabys of sorrowing intonation. Simple were the ceremonies of burial—a few words from the Bible—a few words of Scriptural consolation, and—a life of heart-break for the surviving relatives and friends.

Through the streets of the stricken St. Mark's parish on Saturday passed the bodies of 156 men, women and children, victims of the "Slocum" catastrophe, on their way to graves in the Lutheran Cemetery, at Middle Village, L. I. One hundred and twenty-six of these bodies came from eighty-eight homes of the neighbor-

hood, and the Morgue added thirty of those whose names in life will never be known.

Services, as a rule, were most simple. Only a prayer, the reading of the Scriptures and the benediction were used in most cases, even where the minister faced three and even four caskets containing members of one family. It was the general wish that this should be so. The grief of the German district does not find outlet in ceremonial of an elaborate character.

MORBIDLY CURIOUS CROWD.

Throughout the day streets in the vicinity of St. Mark's Church were crowded. Many of the crowd were of the morbidly curious kind, but as many more were mourners, weeping women and children, and silent, heavy-eyed men were there to behold the last of lifelong friends and acquaintances. Evidences of mourning were everywhere. From almost every house, not alone the crepe on the door told of grief, but black-draped American and German flags and long streamers of black and purple and white swung from windows. In the windows of shops were black bordered cards bearing in German and English the legend: "We mourn the loss of our beloved," or "We mourn our loss."

The police arrangements were perfect. Early in the day Inspector Schmittberger, having under him twenty-three sergeants, ten roundsmen and four hundred policemen, divided his force into squads of eleven—ten men and an officer—and there was a squad for each funeral during the day to keep back the crowds and to force passageways for the processions as they wound in and out of the streets.

But there was no hard work for them to do. The
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crowds were most easily handled. It seemed as if all who came within the borders of the territory were transferred into solemn, awestruck men, women and children. Silently the spectators lined curbs and sidewalks by the hour to see the hearses pass and repass. Only occasionally would a policeman have anything to do, and that would be perhaps when some man or woman would step out from the crowd, muttering incoherent words which told of evertaxed nerves. They were easily soothed and led away by friends. There were no nightsticks used by the policemen; they carried none by command of the inspector.

FUNERAL OF PASTOR'S WIFE.

Chief of the funerals perhaps was that of Mrs. Haas, wife of the pastor of the little church which had suffered so much. The old fashioned parsonage in Seventh street, just back of the church, was crowded at one o'clock by friends and representatives among the clergy. The floral decorations were profuse, tokens from ministers of every denomination of the city, as well as friends.

Mr. Haas, whose nervous condition, was such that fears were entertained for his recovery, was led into the parlor, and a moment later Miss Emma Haas, sister of the minister, herself still suffering greatly from the effects of her experience, was carried down stairs on a stretcher and placed beside the chair on which her brother sat.

The Rev. Dr. Alexander Richter, of St. Matthew's Church, Hoboken, was in charge of the services and preached a sermon that dealt with resignation. The Rev. Dr. Jacob Loch, of Brooklyn, read the Scriptures,

and the Rev. Dr. Heischmann, president of the Ministerium, and the Rev. Dr. Hugo Hoffman offered prayers.

Only once were the services interrupted, and that was when a messenger called one of the ministers present aside, and after a whispered consultation it was announced to the brother and sister already stricken that but a moment before a body at the Morgue had been identified as that of Mrs. Tetamore, Mrs. Haas' sister. With the authorities assisting in every way the body was at once brought to the house, and an hour later, when the funeral procession started there were two hearses, and the sisters were buried together.

PICKPOCKET CAUGHT.

Outside in the other streets, before the Haas funeral and afterward, funeral services were being conducted on every hand.

In the crowd that assembled was Benjamin Lieberman, seventeen years old, whom the police knew. He was charged with having snatched the pocketbook from the hands of Mrs. Rosie Fischer.

At the woman's scream the crowd turned and saw her struggling with the man. Detective Ross, of Inspector Schmittberger's staff, was on the man at once, and there was another brief struggle. Then Ross had another problem confronting him. The crowd had turned toward the prisoner, with "Lynch him! Kill him!"

Men struck and kicked at the prisoner, and one man struck him above the eye, inflicting a severe bruise. The screams of the women and the shouts of men could be heard for blocks. Luckily other policemen came to the aid of the detective and his prisoner.

Not a half hour later came another shock to the crowds and this perhaps was the greatest of the day. Down Second avenue, moving slowly, came a procession of fourteen hearses, followed by one carriage only, containing two men. At the head a black hearse bore a black casket of an adult and at its side a tiny white one. At the Morgue the ticket had read: "Unidentified woman found with child clasped in her arms."

Behind this came several black hearses and then one of white in which side by side were three white caskets. Another interval of black and another white casket bearing two, a black hearse bearing two, another mother and child, and so on through the fourteen.

MOURNING BY SILENT CROWD.

Straight down the avenue from the Morgue the procession had come slowly, and just as slowly it turned through Sixth street. If the crowd had been silent before it was now almost immovable. Only here and there as the procession passed could be heard a half-stifled "Ah!" as some woman or man sunk on the pavement in prayer or in a fit of weeping. Through Sixth street to First avenue went the procession; down First avenue to Fifth street, and so on east and south to Delancey street, where was the entrance to the Williamsburg Bridge. It was almost the climax of the day's strain, but the police anticipated even more distressing scenes, for many more remained to be buried throughout the district.

In one instance, that of the Ritcher family for instance, there were six bodies awaiting the coming of the hearse. There were three in some other families, four in one instance. The crowds would be greater the police feared because of Sunday, but there would be six

hundred policemen to preserve order and prevent congestion.

The bodies on Friday were buried in the Lutheran Cemetery at Middle Village, L. I., and the way for all the processions was across the new Williamsburg Bridge. From nine o'clock till five the processions were almost continuous across the structure, and the sight was witnessed by thousands of the east side who filled Delancey street and other thoroughfares.

GRAVES FOR THE UNKNOWN.

Out at the cemetery during the night one hundred and fifty men had been busily engaged in digging graves. For the unidentified dead and for the poorest, the cemetery trustees had provided a plot 250 feet square, and in this the twenty-nine bodies were buried. The others were scattered all over the cemetery. There was profusion of flowers everywhere, for societies, churches and individuals had been most generous. The order at the cemetery was perfect. There was no confusion. There were no services there.

Five members of one family in Williamsburg were buried from the home of William Blohm, Williamsburg. They were Blohm's wife, Anna, twenty-eight years old; his married sister, Mrs. Annie Smith, twenty-four years old, and her two-year-old daughter, Mildred, and his two sisters, Margarett and Dora Blohm, eighteen and fifteen years old.

Another child of Mrs. Smith, which perished on the ill-fated steamer, Beatrice, two months old, had not been recovered. Mrs. Margarett Blohm, fifty-three years, the mother of Blohm, was the only one of the family on the excursion to be saved. So great was the throng of

mourners in and around the house that Police Captain Becker, of the Hamburg avenue station, was obliged to turn out the reserves.

The five bodies, in separate caskets, were in the front room of the Blohm house. They were taken in five hearses to the Lutheran Cemetery. Before the funeral cortege left the house a Lutheran minister officiated at a brief service. Hundreds followed to the cemetery.

An immediate and thorough inspection by the Federal authorities of all excursion boats plying about the harbor of the city was demanded by Mayor McClellan.

The Mayor further directed Police Commissioner McAdoo to contract with the Merritt-Chapman Wrecking Company to raise the hull of the "Slocum" as quickly as possible. This action was to be taken regardless of legal complications as to whether the sunken hull of the "Slocum" was within the jurisdiction of the Federal or municipal authorities, in order to release the bodies of victims still confined in the wreckage.

RELIEF BY CITY GOVERNMENT.

The Board of Aldermen held a special meeting and authorized the Board of Estimate and Appointment to issue \$50,000 in bonds to meet the expenditures made by the Commissioners of Health, Police and Charities during the last few days in assisting the survivors and relatives of the victims to recover the bodies of their dead.

In calling upon George B. Cortelyou, Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor, for an inspection of excursion craft, the Mayor pointed out that the city authorities were without jurisdiction and unable, therefore, to protect citizens from such dangers. In closing, the Mayor said that anticipating Secretary Cortelyou's

compliance with his request, if a modification of existing regulations should be undertaken, the experts of the Fire, Health and Building departments of the city would, if desired, be placed at his service to facilitate the work.

With regard to the raising of the hull of the "General Slocum" the Mayor was acting at the suggestion of Police Commissioner McAdoo. In his letter to Commissioner McAdoo, authorizing him to raise the money, the Mayor said:

"I agree with you that in order to recover any bodies that may be therein, and to obtain any physical evidence which may throw light on the cause of the disaster, the hull of the "Slocum" should be raised without delay.

COST OF RAISING WRECK.

"As the underwriters are unwilling to expend more than \$6,000 for the work, and as you inform me it will cost \$12,000, I hereby authorize you to contract with the Merritt-Chapman Company to raise the hull at an expense not to exceed \$12,000, the work to be done as soon as possible; you to take entire supervision of it."

With the discovery of from thirty to fifty more bodies of "Slocum" victims in a pocket nearly a quarter of a mile from where the boat was beached on North Brother Island, it became evident that the grewsome total would be greatly enlarged.

A diver, who renewed the search for victims, found a deep hole in the bed of the river practically filled with bodies. Within an hour after the search was begun eight bodies had been brought to the surface, and when he was forced to abandon work for a time because of the swift current, he stated that between thirty and fifty bodies still remained in the hole.

The diver was searching along the river bottom and had reached a point near the foot of the sloping lawn on North Brother Island where the bodies of the first victims of the tragedy were laid on Wednesday, when he found several bodies lying together, and at first supposed there were no more than half a dozen in the pile, but upon removing several, he found a great hole in the river bed literally packed with dead.

Supervising Inspector Robert S. Rodie, of the Steamboat Inspection force, was asked to send an inspector to the excursion boat "Grand Republic," a sister boat of the "General Slocum," for the purpose of testing the life-saving appliances on her, and thus proving, for the benefit of the public, both the safety of the boat and the efficiency of the force of inspectors. He refused to grant the request on the grounds that red tape was in the way of an immediate compliance, and also said that the request would not be heeded anyway.

ORDERED TO SAY NOTHING.

He would not discuss the question further, saying that he was under orders from Secretary Cortelyou to say nothing until the investigation into the accident by the Department of Commerce and Labor had been completed.

It was ascertained that no less than 70 per cent. of the life preservers on the "General Slocum" were thirteen years old; that only some four hundred of these had ever been repaired; that in thirteen years the company owning the "General Slocum" had bought only 1500 new life preservers, while 5100 life preservers were required on the two boats—"Grand Republic" and "General Slocum"; that the life-preservers on the ill-fated

boat were passed only this spring by the steamboat inspectors.

What was ascertained in regard to the Steamboat Inspection Bureau of the Department of Commerce and Labor was a revelation. It showed the bureau to be a cumbrous machine, bound into a state of ponderous slowness by red tape, unable to do much, if anything, of its own inclination; dependent upon other departments not allied with it in the first instance in all cases; at best but perfunctory in the discharge of its duties and possessed of about all the short-comings and defects that Government departments are heir to.

TO RESTORE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE.

Supervising Inspector Rodie was asked first if he would consent to send one of his inspectors to the "Grand Republic" to make a public test of the life-saving appliances on that steamboat. It was explained that the purpose of the request was to restore public confidence, if possible, in the protection afforded by the Knickerbocker Company for the passengers on its boats, and in the efficiency of the steamboat inspectors.

Inspector Rodie resented the request and replied, in part:

"All such applications must be made in writing on a printed form to the local Board of Inspectors, and before anything will be done it must be duly considered."

"In your opinion would anything result from such a request?" was asked.

"No."

"A citizen, then, no matter how grave his reasons for desiring such an inspection of a vessel might be, would be unable to secure an inspection?"

"In my opinion," replied Supervising Inspector Rodie, "the board would not act on such a request. All such requests must be made by the owners or masters of vessels, and the board does not devote its time to attending to the wants of the public."

"Does not the system afford the owners and masters of vessels full opportunities to do about as they please, and is not the system arbitrary and extremely faulty at least?" was asked.

"I do not understand it to be so."

NO INSPECTION CERTAIN.

"Is the bureau in a position to keep surveillance over the craft of this harbor and make inspections on its own initiative regardless of the requests of captains and owners?"

"The functions of this department are executive, not punitive. The Collector of Customs notifies us of much regarding vessels, and we get information in other ways, but no inspection may be made. I am not going to discuss the law that creates this bureau. The law and the book of rules governing the bureau will furnish all necessary information."

Mr. Rodie produced copies of the law and the rules, and dismissed the subject. He was then asked about the life preservers purchased by the Knickerbocker Company for the "General Slocum," and said that all he knew was that his inspectors had inspected all life preservers sold to that company. With a view to ascertaining the names of the inspectors who inspected the life preservers sold by the manufacturer who supplied the Knickerbocker Company at the time that the company made its last purchase of 300 new life belts and had 200

old ones repaired, Mr. Rodie was asked to open his books. He gave the names of the inspectors as John F. Walsh, Henry Lundberg, Peter C. Petrie and Cornelius H. Smith. Mr. Rodie was asked to produce these men.

"You will have to hunt up your own men," he replied.

Application for interviews with these men was made at the proper department, where an aged clerk, whose appearance was strongly suggestive of a pensioner, answered:

"You wouldn't be allowed to interview them if they were in. The bureau reserves the right to make its own investigation, and it can do so if it wants to, hey?"

Thus were all avenues to a public investigation of the "General Slocum" closed.

"I have absolute confidence in every inspector in this bureau," said Mr. Rodie, in conclusion.

TEST A FEW SAMPLES.

"In the face of the fact that rotten life preservers on the "General Slocum" were passed by them as good?" was asked.

"Sir," he said, "I have."

In regard to this particular section, the statements of Supervising Inspector Rodie were aglow with light. In regard to the methods of the inspectors in looking over life preservers Mr. Rodie said:

"They select a few samples promiscuously from a pile of the material to be inspected and test them and then, if these stand the test, on the assurance of the maker that those in the pile are all right, the inspector stamps them as passed."

"He does not see, then, that every one is all right?" was asked.

"No," said Mr. Rodie, "He can't."

"Why?"

"Well, it would take too much time and too much labor. The inspectors haven't the time to do it."

There were two standpipes on the big excursion steamship, one on the port and one on the starboard side. That which was brought up by Diver Rice was from the port side.

Commissioner McAdoo ordered Captain Divilin, chief wrecker of the Merritt-Chapman Wrecking Company, to take Divers Greenberg and Hine, who have had long experience with manipulating machinery under water, to go down at the earliest possible moment and bring up the standpipe on the starboard side. If this was locked also the commissioner thought that he could prove without a doubt that the assertion that water was poured on the flames by the crew was untrue.

A MASS OF RAGING FIRE.

But there was another and a more conclusive way in which to establish the fact that water was or was not used as the "General Slocum" went up the river a mass of fire. In the keel of the boat are two sea-cocks, one of which controls the flow of water to the boilers, the other to the pumps. The cocks were built in the keel on either side of the engines. If the divers found that one which admits the water to the boiler was open, as it undoubtedly was, nothing whatever would be proved for or against the theory that the crew's tale of fighting the flames was not based on facts.

But if, on the other hand, they found that the sea-cock which controls the flow of water to the fire pumps was locked, there could be no doubt that no water was

used to extinguish the fire. The account of bursting hose and desperate struggles to make what water was obtained most effective would be discredited and the investigation started on another track. It would mean also either that the engineer was deceived in his belief that while his assistant was standing by his post and driving the blazing boat ahead as fast as every ounce of steam could push her, he himself piled the hose, or that he in the excitement of remembrance of the horror somewhat exaggerated the real condition of things.

Life-preservers were found on five of the bodies dragged from the water off North Brother Island. These bodies, instead of floating close to the surface, were found in the mud of the river bottom.

LIFE PRESERVERS A WEIGHT.

Coroner O'Gorman made a careful examination of the bodies, and declared that in each case the so-called "life-preservers" had acted as a weight to drag the wearer down.

Each of these five life-preservers was outwardly in perfect condition. The canvas was unbroken and the straps were in proper position. But the pulverized cork that formed the filling of each "preserver" was waterlogged and as heavy as stone.

There was not a particle of buoyancy in any of the five. On the contrary, each was a dead weight, under which even a strong swimmer would speedily tire.

Coroner O'Gorman made no concealment of his opinion. After a close inspection of these life-preservers, he said:

"They prove a point that I have assumed from the first hour of my work in this appalling case—namely,

that the life-preservers on board the 'General Slocum' were in reality life-destroyers.

"These exhibits will figure prominently at the coming inquest. The District Attorney will also be keenly interested in them."

The startling fact that the number of persons unaccounted for in the destruction of the "General Slocum" was much greater than was generally believed was brought to light through the effort of a newspaper to verify the list of the missing. It was expected that the reporters who were assigned to the duty of making a house to house canvass for the purpose of correcting the lists would be able to show a reduction of the number believed to have perished.

WHOLE FAMILIES MISSING.

That expectation was based on the supposition that many who, during the early anxiety of friends, had been reported as missing, had returned home and that then the formality of reporting them as having come back had been overlooked.

Just the opposite proved to be correct. In many cases whole families were still missing, and had not been mentioned in the missing list at all, and in other cases incomplete reports had been made were more than one of a household had not returned.

This proved particularly true in First, Second, Third, Fourth and Seventh streets, though it applied in a measure to the entire locality. In several instances the reporters had their lists of missing one-third lengthened instead of reduced, indicating that the extreme estimate of the magnitude of the accident would prove in the end to be correct.

Instances were found where thirty persons reported missing had returned, but at the same time it was discovered that twenty missing persons had never been reported, so that their disappearance was not suspected by the authorities. It was also found in many instances where it was thought only one child was missing in a family several were unaccounted for.

SCARCITY OF COFFINS.

Another sad feature revealed by the visitations was the discovery that because of the great demand made upon East Side undertakers the funerals were delayed, and coffins could not be furnished fast enough. In one of the homes so distressed a funeral was set for the afternoon. The mourners all collected, and were sitting in the rooms adjoining the little parlor, but had to be informed that the funeral could not take place until next day.

Something more distressing still was revealed. A band of thieves was working among the distracted mourners. Several homes were robbed, in at least one instance the thieves having taken articles which were in the room in which the body lay.

It was a noticeable fact that the homes of the victims of the accident were generally neat and comfortable, typical in many ways of the care of the German housewives, in some instances now lying dead in the rooms they took such pride in keeping tidy.

Willie Kepple, 11 years old, was believed to be among the missing, but he reached his home late Friday night.

"As soon as I hit the water," he said, "I started to swim out toward the centre of the stream, but the tide

was so strong I went back five strokes every time I took one, so I made up my mind that I would not tire myself out, so I just turned over on my back and floated. That's what we used to do down at the docks. You see, if a fellow wants to stay in the water longer than some one else, he must just hold back his strength.

"So while I was a floating they were a-jumping over the side of the steamer. Twenty would jump at once, and right on top of 'em twenty more would jump. Then there would be a skirmish of grabbing at heads and arms, and the fellows what could swim would be pulled down, and had to fight their way up.

PULLED OUT OF THE WATER.

"Two women who got near shouted for me to help them, and I tried to, but they were too big, and I had to break away to save myself. When I was in the water about half an hour they pulled me out on a tugboat and chucked me up on the deck. I was so scared that I might get a licking for going on the excursion without being let go that I stayed up in Harlem and slept in the park. Yesterday when I picked up a newspaper I saw my name among the missing, so I thought I'd come home and get the licking instead of breaking my mother's heart. So I'm home, and my mother only kissed me, and my father gave me half a dollar for being a good swimmer."

Coroner Berry continued his preparations for the inquest into the causes that led to the sickening disaster on the "General Slocum."

The allegations made before the Coroner by Coakley, the deckhand, who definitely established where and when the fire originated, and by Second Mate Corcoran, who said Engineer Conklin shirked his work and got away

"without getting his feet wet," produced a sensation, and these two men were to be among the principal witnesses examined by the Coroner.

The Coroner obtained another interesting witness in the person of John Engleman. Engleman said that he worked for years on a New York, New Haven and Hartford tug, knew the river thoroughly and knew that when he first saw the fire the "Slocum" was opposite Ninety-second street. The man said he knew what to expect when he saw that the crew was making no effort to subdue the flames, so he and his wife and son jumped into the river not long after he discovered that the boat was on fire.

THIN FIRE HOSE.

One of the witnesses examined by Coroner Berry was William A. Ortman, who was in charge of the ice cream booth. He said he was near the wheelhouse when the fire was seen. He saw several of the crew trying to fasten a section of hose to the stand pipe, but they had to give up the attempt, as the threads on the hose were so much worn that when the water was turned on the hose was thrown several feet away from the stand pipe.

Coroner Berry obtained another piece of evidence in the shape of a five-foot piece of the fire hose used on the "Slocum." It is of thin canvas, without rubber lining, and experts say that on the slightest pressure of water from within it would leak like a sieve. The hose was brought up by the wreckers, and within an hour was in the Coroner's hands.

General Daniel E. Sickles, member of the Board of Aldermen, sent the following communication to President Roosevelt :

N.Y. 9

"I have just returned from a meeting of the Board of Aldermen, it being in reference to the awful calamity which came to us last week—the loss of the steamboat "General Slocum," in which nearly 1000 of our women and children perished.

"This misfortune has touched every heart in the municipality, and has brought sympathy to us from every part of the world. Of course, you have already taken such steps in the right direction as becomes your office, but I trust you will not regard it amiss to receive a suggestion or two from one of the 'city fathers.'

OFFICIALS CHARGED WITH NEGLIGENCE.

"There is an impression here that the Federal officials charged with the duty of inspecting steamboats have been negligent and inefficient, and that they are gravely at fault, in not having done what they might have done to avoid what has happened.

"Pray see that the steamboat inspectors shall be competent and trustworthy, and if further legislation be necessary to provide safeguards for the future, ask Congress to provide for them.

"You will agree with me, I am sure, that a prompt and thorough investigation of all the facts is of prime importance, as well to fix responsibility for the past as to provide a guarantee for the future.

"Sincerely yours,

"DANIEL E. SICKLES."

Inspector General Uhler, of the Steamboat Inspection Service, came to New York to take up the investigation of the "Slocum" disaster.

Mr. Uhler had a long conference with his subordinates, and a preliminary report made on the

disaster for the President's guidance, and then a vigorous campaign of inquiry made all over the country to enforce the laws and prevent a repetition of the "Slocum" horror. Inspector General Uhler was to remain in New York until the inquiry there was completed.

"The tragedy has caused this office to be swamped with correspondence," said General Uhler. "Thousands of letters are coming in from persons in every part of the country who have theories or inventions that they claim will prevent or make impossible such awful occurrences. Inventors of life-saving apparatus, pumps, hose, diving belts and chemical fluids for rendering wood fireproof are writing here, demanding that their schemes be adopted by the government. I do not know whether any of them are useful. It is not my province to decide. It seems to me, though, that the only way to prevent such horrors as that in New York Harbor is to require all the boats to be built fireproof. Time and experiment may prove that this is possible."

THICK WITH HEARSES AND CARRIAGES.

All lanes in St. Mark's parish led to the cemetery on Sunday. The narrow streets on the East Side were congested with hearses and carriages from 8 o'clock in the morning until night.

Swarming over the sidewalks, men, women and children followed in the wake of the solemn corteges and on out to the cemetery, where thousands witnessed the last chapter in the disposition of the dead.

Superintendent Avenus, of the cemetery, said that 150 persons in all were buried there on that day. All were "Slocum" victims from the various boroughs.

Professional funeral-goers, shorn of sentiment for the dead or sympathy for the stricken living, invaded St. Mark's parish. Women were the greatest offenders.

Seeking a "free ride," they forced their way into the carriages halted before the houses of the dead, and defied the mourners to dislodge them. Only when the police charged them were they routed.

Blocking the sidewalks before the houses from which the dead were being borne, these women brushed the mourners aside, taking their places in the waiting carriages. At several funerals the police surrounded the carriages, driving the crowd back with drawn clubs, and thus made way for those who were entitled by relationship to occupy the seats.

THOUSANDS IN ATTENDANCE.

Nearly 50,000 persons jammed the cemetery roads, overflowing on to the lawns and mounds, fighting for vantage points. One woman fainted in the crush and was trampled. Her arm was broken.

The exterior markings of mourning in the parish began to disappear. A few flags floated, but the crepe that gave the district a cloak of black following the disaster was noticeably absent.

Little children played half-heartedly in the streets. Their elders seemed to be endeavoring to lay aside the sorrows of the present to better meet the hopes of the future. On every hand were evidences that the cloud of gloom was lifting.

This was emphasized by the impressiveness of the Sunday morning service in St. Mark's. It was the first since the disaster.

The services at St. Mark's at all times are simple.

The interior of the church suggests simplicity. The people who worship there are simple people, practical in life, moderate in mind.

In the morning a remnant of the congregation gathered to pay tribute to those who had been taken to their Maker. A week before they had gathered there, every pew filled, men, women and children in the full flush of health and happiness, thrilled with the expectancy of delight as the pastor announced the excursion that would be taken on the "General Slocum."

CAME FROM STRICKEN HOMES.

The flock had been decimated by death. Every person there came from stricken homes. Some pews were empty—the pews of families the disaster had exterminated.

There were no greetings at the door, no gossip in the aisles, not even a sob or a sigh. The fountain of tears had run dry. Men who had not been in church for years came to take the place of wives who had gone to their graves—mothers who had always taken the little ones to Sunday school and church. In many cases the children had also gone to the grave.

The Rev. Dr. John H. Holstein, former pastor of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, mounted the pulpit. As the service was about to begin the vestry door opened.

The congregation stood up. Suppressed sorrow was released and a pitiful sob came in unison from the lips of all as the bowed figure of the pastor, the Rev. George C. F. Haas, supported by his brother and son, filled the frame of the door.

Trembling with sobs, his hands and face in band-

ages, he was led to a seat. As he stood in silent prayer for the wife and daughter who had been torn from him and the hundreds of his flock who had gone to death, the remnant of his people remained standing. It was the first time the pastor had entered the church since the disaster.

Extreme simplicity marked the service. There was no sermon; no music. Dr. Holstein read a poem, "Who Knows How Near Is My End." Then he read in succession the 14th chapter of John, the 39th Psalm, the first epistle of St. Peter, chapter 5, verses 6 to 11; the seventh chapter of Revelation, from the ninth verse to the end.

PASTOR'S PATHETIC FIGURE.

Prayers for the afflicted were then recited and the congregation silently filed out after the pathetic figure of the pastor had been led back to his home through the vestry door.

The undertakers began early in the morning searching Manhattan, Brooklyn, and even New Jersey, for hearses and carriages. A sufficient number could not be had, and many families who had prepared for funerals in the afternoon learned that the processions to the grave must start in the morning.

The first cortege was started at 8 o'clock. The hearse had to return for others of the dead. Inspector Schmittberger was on hand with 450 policemen. Long before noon a score of funeral processions were wending their way through the East Side streets toward the Williamsburg bridge.

There was no music in the van. Alongside the white hearses which marked the funerals of children,

youthful pallbearers marched. Some hearses carried two or three little ones. And in some of the black hearses, on top of the caskets of adults, could be seen tiny boxes containing infants. Frequently a white hearse followed a black one in the same line. And occasionally came a black hearse and several white ones. Thus the silent processions indicated to the spectators the extent of the loss to those who followed in the mourners' carriages.

Wreaths and flowers covered the coffins. In some cases an open carriage filled with flowers led the way; again, a florist's wagon carried the offerings. The humblest victim had not been forgotten.

GREAT QUANTITIES OF FLOWERS.

The cadets from Old St. Mark's Church, on Second avenue, formed in line, after Sunday school, and, bearing great quantities of flowers, marched through the stricken district, distributing wreaths to the home of each of the victims.

In the afternoon the entrance to the Williamsburg Bridge was jammed with carriages. A black line over the north drive marked the procession, and was noted for miles up and down the river. It was unbroken all day.

It was not until late in the afternoon that the police lost patience with the "funeral ghoul's." These thoughtless persons had been more or less active all day, but not until the last few funerals were making up and the chance of a "ride" was growing less did they lose all semblance of decency.

The most flagrant offence was at the funeral from the home of Edward and Charles Schmidt, in East Ninth street, where the wife of Edward and the mother of Charles and the latter's wife and son, lay dead. More

than 5000 persons crowded into the block. The relatives and friends of the family had difficulty in gaining access to the apartment.

There were three hearses at the door and a score of carriages. As the pall-bearers carried the three coffins out of the house a hundred women pressed forward to get a seat in the carriages.

Sergeant Fennell and twenty policemen drove them back, but they rushed again. Some of them obtained seats, and only relinquished them when threatened with arrest. As each carriage drove up to the door it was surrounded by a score of policemen.

UNBLUSHING AFFRONTERY.

"What do you want to get in these carriages for?" Sergeant Fennell asked a woman and her two grown-up daughters, whom he had driven out for the third time.

"Oh, it's a nice day for a ride," replied the mother, unblushingly.

The same trio was dislodged from a carriage later. They had entered from the off side while the driver was making his way through the crowd.

The most conspicuous funeral was that of Mrs. Clara Klein, wife of Edward Klein, a liquor dealer. His mother and two of his children were also lost on the ill-fated steamboat.

In Klein's wine room, the services were held. Under a cloak of black crape every vestige of the wine room had been obliterated. Edward Klein, Jr., seventeen years old, who had his kneecap broken on the "Slocum," sat beside his mother's coffin, propped in a chair. He fainted during the services, but when revived insisted upon going to the cemetery and was lifted into a car-

riage. Inspector Schmittberger led the funeral procession to the bridge at the head of fifty policemen.

Mingled with the East Side funerals was one that came from St. Thomas's Church, at Fifth avenue and Fifty-third street. It followed to the bridge in the wake of some for whom there had been no service at all. The Lutheran pastors, like the hearses, were not numerous enough to go around. They had been summoned from every point within reach of New York. Some of them conducted six and eight services.

FUNERAL OF A CHOIR BOY.

The funerals of Mrs. Elizabeth C. Schrupf, wife of Jacob Schrupf, a retired mounted policeman, and her two sons, John Edward and William Walter, fifteen and seventeen years old, respectively, were held from their home.

The youngest son had been a choirboy at St. Thomas's, and his tragic death proved a hard blow to his choirmates. The full choir sang at his funeral service in St. Thomas's in the afternoon. His mother and brother were borne to the church beside him. The three hearses standing in front of the church attracted the regular Sunday afternoon paraders on Fifth avenue, many of whom entered the church for the services.

One chapter of the tragedy had its setting in Harlem, at an undertaking establishment. Mrs. Dunn and Miss Irwin had been identified with the Harlem branch of the Salvation Army. Colonel Milce and Captain Green conducted the services over their dead bodies in the morning. The undertaker's room could not hold all the mourners, who overflowed on to the sidewalk, where the police kept them segregated from a vast throng of

curiosity seekers. Of a party of eleven on the excursion, only three survived.

Miss Mary Abendschein was buried from her home. She was assistant superintendent of St. Mark's Sunday-school, and had been one of the promoters of the excursion. It is said she gave up her life in endeavoring to save some of her youthful charges. W. H. Pullman, treasurer of the parish, was buried from his home, a few doors away.

There was no music at either service. A member of the church said that the choir had been practically exterminated.

The last funeral did not leave the Manhattan end of the bridge until dusk.



CHAPTER VII.

THE PULPITS RING WITH INDIGNATION.

IN practically every church in Greater New York the "Slocum" disaster was made the theme of the Sunday morning or evening sermon, and the universal grief over the great loss of life was expressed, coupled in many instances with outspoken denunciation of the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company and the officials who were charged with the responsibility of insuring perfect life saving appliances on the ill-fated steamboat.

In accordance with the instructions of Bishop Potter, a special prayer for the victims was said in all the Episcopal churches.

There was particular pathos in the message of sympathy which was adopted by the Sunday school of the People's Methodist Episcopal Church, in East Sixty-first street. Children's Day was observed there and by a rising vote, the young people of the church, at the afternoon session, adopted resolutions of sympathy for the sister church which was almost completely depopulated of its Sunday school children by the burning of the "General Slocum."

Rev. Dr. James Oliver Wilson, of the Nostrand Avenue Methodist Church, Brooklyn, severely rebuked the steamboat company.

"Sin did it," said Dr. Wilson, "sin in the individual, and sin in the corporation. But for sin in the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company, the sin of greed and covet-

ousness, the boat would not have been burned. Four firemen properly stationed with hose that was not rotten could have extinguished any fire that might have broken out. But these four firemen would have cost the company \$10 a day and that would have affected the profits and dividends and must not be thought of.

“What if nine hundred souls do perish—we must not imperil the dividends. Thus the sin of greed in the company overreached itself and destroyed nine hundred lives.

“And hundreds of rotten life preservers are chargeable to the same sin.

A FEARLESS CHARGE.

“I charge this appalling disaster, these rotten life-preservers and rotten hose and lack of firemen, not to God's account, but to the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company. And if this be not enough, then bring in the steamboat inspectors for their shameful share in this slaughter of the innocents. Sin in the corporation, sin in the inspectors and sin in the cowardly crew occasioned this awful tragedy.”

Rev. Dr. John Lloyd Lee, at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in West Twenty-third street, also made the “Slocum” disaster a text for his sermon. Dr. Lee dwelt especially upon two points—the responsibility that attaches to individuals, and the instances of heroic self-sacrifice that were observed at the time of the catastrophe.

“With the growth of corporations,” said he, “there is a tendency to eliminate the individuals, so that no one person can be held responsible when something goes wrong. A special effort should be made to meet the circumstances growing out of this situation, and those

who should see to it that steamboats are in proper condition should be held to a strict accountability."

St. James Lutheran Church, at Seventy-third street and Madison avenue, half a score of whose members perished in the disaster, also extended sympathy to St. Mark's Church the pastor, Rev. Dr. J. B. Remensnyder, who is also president of the Lutheran Synod of New York, delivering a sermon, in the course of which he said:

"Our first thought in this dreadful calamity should be for the sufferers. Pity for those who were lost, gratitude to God that they were Christian people, and trust that they were not unprepared for the instantaneous leap into eternity. Practical sympathy and charity to those who survive, prayers for the orphans that God will raise up friends and helpers for them. Prayers for all that their wounds may be gently bound up and their grief assuaged by a Heavenly hand. And then we should take to our heart this lesson of our text, 'Surely there is but a step between us and death.'"

SOLEMN MEMORIAL SERVICE.

In the Middle Dutch Church, Second avenue, near Sixth street, from among whose members or their relatives seventy-three were lost in the "Slocum" disaster, the morning's service was made a memorial for the victims.

Before attending the service the pastor, Rev. John C. Fagg, officiated at a number of funerals in the neighborhood, being assisted in the melancholy task by Rev. Alfred Myers, of the Marble Collegiate Church; Rev. E. G. W. Meury, of the Knox Memorial Church, and Rev. Edward Niles, of the Dutch Reformed Church of Bushwick, L. I.

There was no prelude on the pipe organ, and the usual anthem by the choir was omitted, the choir singing softly the hymn, "A Few More Years Shall Roll."

Before beginning his sermon the pastor read the names of those of the church who perished. From the Sunday school six were dead and five missing. From the Industrial School of the church ten were dead and three missing. Forty-one children connected with the school went on the excursion, and of these twenty-four were lost.

Rev. Mr. Fagg delivered a sermon of touching sympathy for those who went down in the wreck.

CASE OF CRIMINAL FAULT.

Rev. Merle St. Croix Wright, preaching at the Lenox Avenue Unitarian Church, on "Interpretations of Providence in the Face of Disaster," said, in part:

"It seems to be an issue between man and his Maker. But this is not entirely so. This has not been misfortune only; the fault lies elsewhere. It is fault, abominable fault of a third party. Did the simple, innocent people who went to their destruction have any hand in it? Did God have a hand in it? Yes, He has in everything. But the culpability lies with those who failed of their antecedent duty, who slacked and skimmed what they should have done.

"This thing was long gathering. It was not the work of an instant. We can find in this an indictment in which all are concerned to some extent, though not equally. Society is responsible at least through its agents and inspectors in view of the fact that it was necessary to be waked out of its miserable, sleepy negligence by an appalling horror."

At the Little Church Around the Corner Rev. Dr. Houghton asked for prayers for the victims of the disaster and their families. Rev. Dr. C. D. Case, of the Hanson Place Baptist Church, Brooklyn, said during the course of a sermon on the "Slocum" affair:

"There never was a time when so much individual responsibility rested upon men. The complexity of civilization demands greater responsibility, and every man amounts to much in a crisis. There never was a time when we demanded so much unselfishness as now.

ABSENCE OF ALL CONSCIENCE.

"And there never was a time when society needed so much conscience in business. We wonder at times whether many a corporation does not do the least possible and not the most for the good of the people. If a corporation can prove that it simply obeyed the law, it feels morally free."

Rev. Dr. Huntington, of Grace Church, in his sermon on the disaster, said:

"It has been by such bitter experiences as this that we have learned of self-protection against the violence of nature. These poor sufferers have not died in vain if following upon their dreadful pains there come better ship-building regulations, more rigid inspection of steam vessels and stricter discipline aboard vessels carrying human life."

As a result of the loss of the "Slocum," Calvary Presbyterian Church, Fourth avenue and Twenty-first street, abandoned the excursion planned for July 20.

"The first idea," said Superintendent Newton, "was of sympathy for the stricken congregation of St. Mark's Church. Then the committee felt unwilling to accept

the great responsibility involved in taking children out in steamboats evidently not safe."

By direction of Archbishop Farley, masses for all those who lost their lives on the "Slocum" were said in all the Catholic Churches in the city. On Wednesday a meeting of the vicar-generals throughout the Archdiocese was to be held with a view of adding to the relief fund for the benefit of the victims of the disaster.

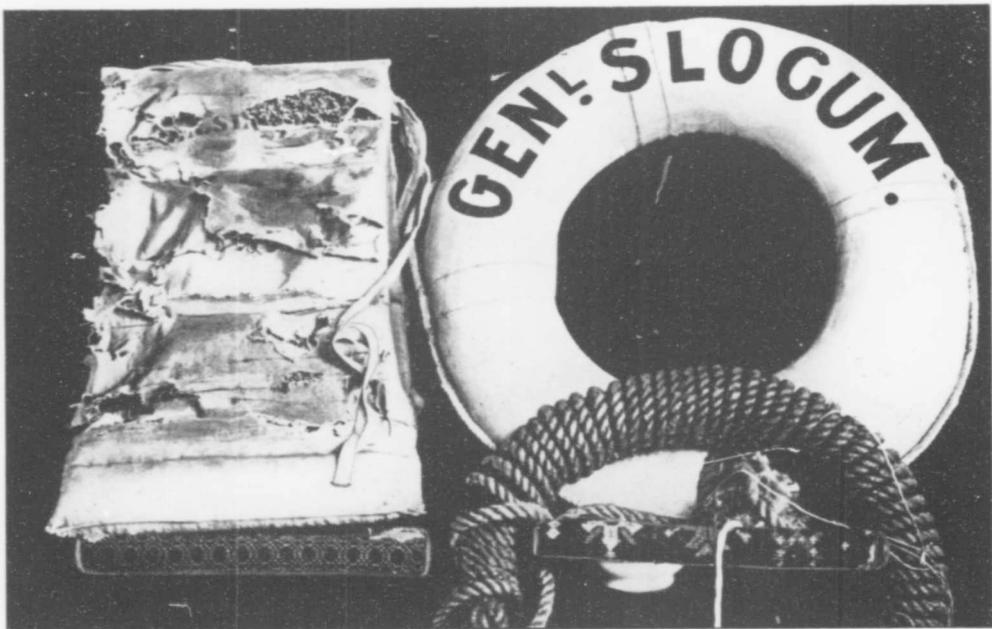
All day long enormous crowds thronged the Morgue. At one time it was estimated that fully ten thousand persons waited outside the building for a chance to view the bodies within. From North Brother Island thirty-eight bodies were brought to the pier at the end of East Twenty-sixth street, and many of these were identified before they had been long in the building.

SCENE IN TEMPORARY MORGUE.

Nothing could have given a clearer impression of the vast extent of the catastrophe than the scene in the improvised Morgue. Although four days had elapsed, the stream of friends and relatives looking for their dead was almost as great as on the first days, while the crowd of morbidly curious visitors called forth was greater than has ever been seen on an occasion of any sort at the Morgue.

It was believed by Dr. Darlington, of the Health Board, that fully 1,200 lives were lost on the "Slocum," and he feared that hundreds of these would never be recovered. He pointed out that thirty-eight bodies brought to the Morgue had fallen into a depression; he added that hundreds had undoubtedly been swept away by the tide.

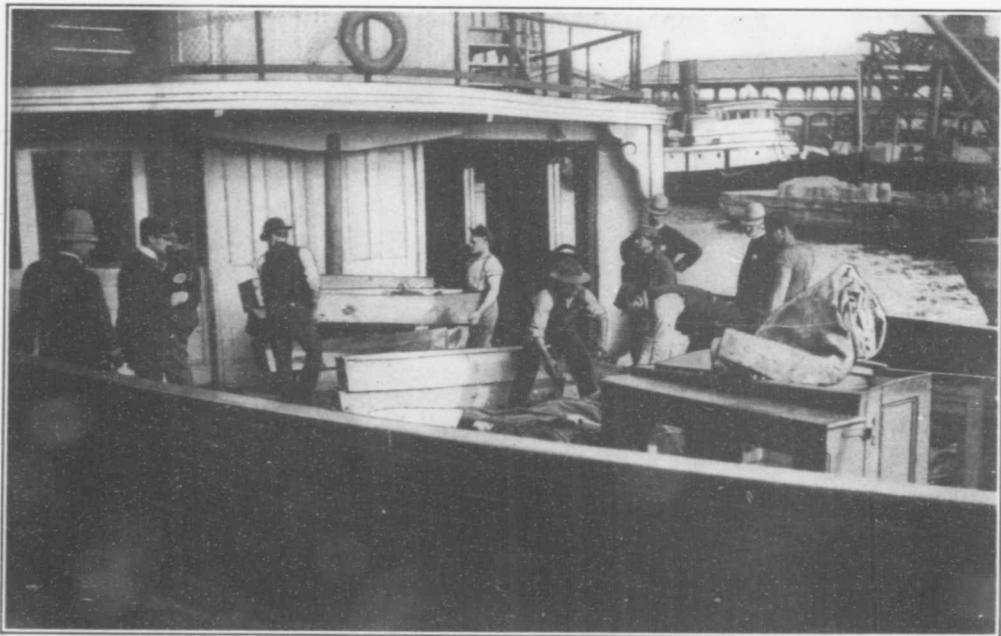
"I am certain that fully as many bodies are strewn



BOTH OF THE ABOVE ROTTEN LIFE PRESERVERS SANK WHEN PUT INTO A TUB OF WATER AT THE INVESTIGATION BEFORE THE CORONER.



UNKNOWN BABY—DEAD WHEN FOUND FLOATING IN THE
WATER BY THE MAN WHO HAS IT IN HIS ARMS.



SCENE ON BOARD A RESCUE TUGBOAT—PLACING DEAD BODIES IN COFFINS TO BE TAKEN TO THE MORGUE FOR IDENTIFICATION.



BURIAL OF THE VICTIMS—FUNERAL SCENE IN THE LUTHERAN CEMETERY.



GRACE GADE
405 EAST 5TH ST., NEW YORK. LOST.



EVA SCHNEIDER
326 6TH ST. N. Y. MOTHER LOST WITH HER



JULIA WORTMANN
178 AVENUE A, NEW YORK. LOST.



ANNIE BLUMENKRANZ
LOST. WAS WITH MISS WORTMAN.



LOTTIE LINK
76 AVENUE A, NEW YORK. LOST.



JULIA HECKART
88 AVENUE A, NEW YORK. LOST.



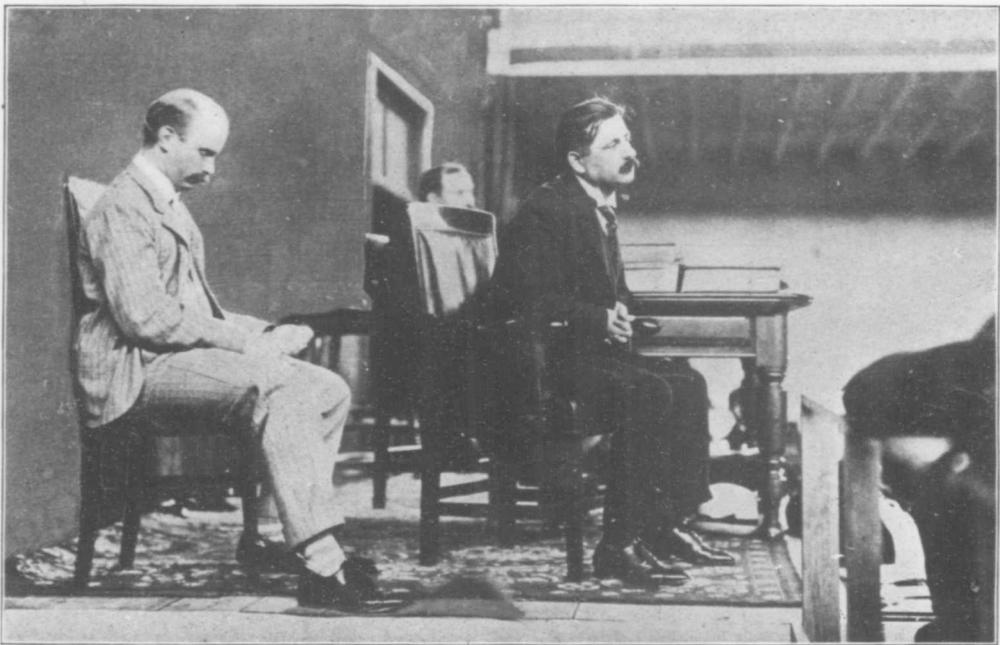
ANNIE HECKART
88 AVENUE A, NEW YORK. LOST.



MAGGIE HECKART
SAVED BUT BADLY BURNED



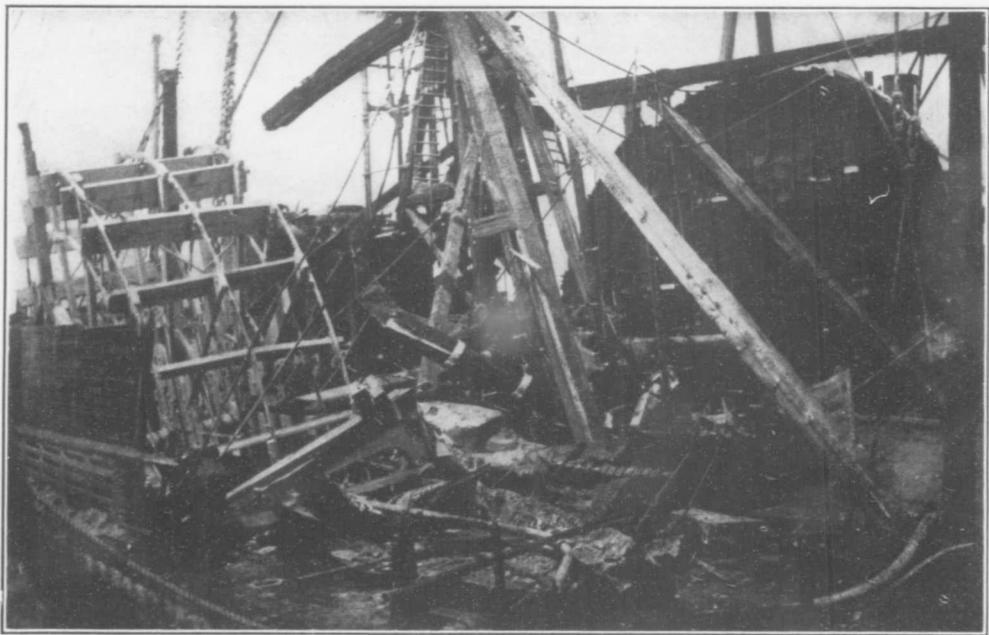
CITY HALL, NEW YORK DRAPED IN MOURNING FOR THE DEAD OF THE STEAMBOAT DISASTER.



FRANK BARNABY PRESIDENT OF THE KNICKERBOCKER STEAMSHIP CO., TESTIFYING AT THE
INVESTIGATION BEFORE THE CORONER.



REV. GEO. C F. HAAS
PASTOR ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



WRECK OF THE GENERAL SLOCUM, SHOWING INTERIOR OF THE VESSEL AFTER HAVING BEEN RAISED TO THE SURFACE OF THE WATER—MANY BODIES WERE FOUND WEDGED IN THE PADDLE WHEEL.



HENRIETTA AND HEDWIG TIMM
211 EAST 5TH ST. NEW YORK.



MISS LOUISE HEINZ
97 AVENUE A, NEW YORK. MISSING.



HENRY SEIGWART, 225 EAST FIFTH ST., NEW YORK
AND HIS TWO DAUGHTERS WHO WERE DROWNED--AGES 6 AND 9 YEARS



CARRYING BABY TO CEMETERY IN A COFFIN—UNDERTAKERS WERE TOO BUSY TO FURNISH
HEARSEs TO CARRY ALL THE DEAD.



FIVE VICTIMS OF THE DISASTER IN ONE HOUSE AS INDICATED
BY THE FIVE PIECES OF GRAPE ON THE DOOR.



POLICEMAN PLACING NUMBERED TAGS ON BODIES AS THEY ARE TAKEN OUT OF THE WATER UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE CORONER.

along the bottom of the river," he said. "So far we have recovered only those that fell or were thrown into the water while the boat was moving and that the falling of the hurricane deck and the breaking of the after deck rail precipitated into the river all in that part of the boat.

"Many of the women and children who were thrown into the river while the boat was rushing for Ricker's Island, were clad in heavy clothes, and their bodies will not come to the surface for several days yet. Until the river and Sound begin to give up their dead we can have no adequate idea of the total loss, and even then only a comparatively small part of the total number will be recovered.

GONE, WITH NONE TO MOURN.

"It must also be remembered that at least a hundred of those will never be reported. They have dropped out of sight with none to mourn them or to report them as missing. They are the girls who have been in this country but a short time who were living as domestics, occupying furnished rooms, and with no close personal friendships. In many cases husbands and wives with no children, living alone in furnished rooms, have also disappeared, and no report has been made of their absence."

Divers were finding bodies in all parts of the wreck, and the full extent of the horror was just beginning to be appreciated.

The crowd at the pier began to gather before the doors were opened at 6 o'clock in the morning. Toward noon the report reached the Morgue that sixteen more bodies had been recovered and the crowd waited outside

until these bodies reached the pier at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and the long procession again moved through the doors in the same dreary parade. Some waited until nearly eight o'clock when the "Fidelity" arrived, bringing twenty-two coffined corpses.

At one time 10,000 gathered outside the Morgue, while at least 3,000 are believed to have been in the building in one body. Several of the men who had been haunting the place had become mentally unbalanced, and it was believed in their grief and intense suffering had made false identifications, although fully convinced that they had at last recovered the bodies of their lost ones.

INSANE THROUGH GRIEF.

Several affecting scenes marked the identifications. Charles Timm, who went temporarily insane through grief, was one of the first at the Morgue, and when told he would have to take his place in line became violent and attacked the policeman who tried to keep him out. The captain of the precinct, who was personally in charge of the police on guard at the Morgue, recognized him as a man who had lost his entire family and gave him a card admitting him to the pier at any time ahead of all others. A policeman was also detailed to accompany him. He identified among the bodies that of his daughter Hedwig, eleven years old, and became frantic with grief when he saw her. His wife and two other children were still missing.

Gustave Burfiend, whose entire family in a party of ten died in the disaster of Wednesday, also became mentally deranged while examining the bodies in the Morgue and a policeman was also detailed to accompany him.

Alfonse Ebeling also gave way to his despair to an extent that left him insane during the greater part of the day until he found the body of his wife Emma. When he identified her body from the jewelry taken from it he fell headlong across the coffin in a dead faint and nearly an hour was required to bring him back to consciousness.

His screams when he finally recognized his wife shocked a number of women into hysteria, and the Morgue officials began to realize that now that the overstrained nerves of the seekers of the dead had begun to give way their work would be much harder than before.

CAPTAIN'S SWORN STATEMENT.

In the following sworn statement of Captain William Van Schaick he declares that those in the pilot house first learned of the fire when the "Slocum" was half way between the Sunken Meadows buoy and North Brother Island. The total distance is fourteen city blocks between these points.

Assistant Pilot Weaver pointed out to the officials a point one city block north of the buoy as the place the boat was when the danger signal came.

To the United States Local Inspectors of Steam Vessels, Gentlemen :

I hereby report that upon the 15th day of June, at about 9.33 A. M., I left East Third street, East River, with the steamer "General Slocum," of which I am master, bound for Locust Grove, Long Island.

I am informed that the ticket indicator showed that there were 982 adult persons on board the "General Slocum." Besides the adult persons were four or five hundred children, under the age of twelve years.

The "General Slocum," I am informed, was chartered by the St. Mark's Lutheran Church Society, and that and the Sunday school connected with the church, and their friends were aboard.

Locust Grove is on Huntington Bay about forty miles from New York.

The wind was southeast, moderate breeze and a flood tide.

After leaving the above pier the course of the "General Slocum" was shaped up the East River to the westward of Blackwell's Island.

The first and second pilot and myself were in the pilot house; the mate was below, on the main deck. All the members of the crew were on board. The "General Slocum" carries a crew of twenty-three, besides the two police officers who were on board, and who usually attend excursions of this kind.

BOAT WAS ON FIRE.

Nothing unusual occurred until the "Slocum" was nearly half way between the red buoy, upon the southerly side of the reef known as Sunken Meadows, and North Brother Island, when the mate informed me through the speaking tube that the boat was on fire.

At this time the "Slocum" was making about twelve knots through the water, and on account of a flood tide was making probably fifteen miles over the land. Immediately I conferred with the two pilots, relative to what course we should pursue under the circumstances. As we were heading for North Brother Island we agreed that the best and only course to pursue was to beach her on the north side of North Brother Island.

I gave orders to Mr. Van Wart, the first pilot, to

hold his course, as he was going directly for the beach, and I left the pilot house to go downstairs and investigate the fire.

Immediately upon receiving word through the tube that there was a fire below the first pilot gave the fire signal, summoning all the crew to the regular stations, and immediately after giving the fire signals, alarm signals also were given by the second pilot, by the whistle of the "General Slocum."

INTENSE EXCITEMENT AND PANIC.

On the promenade deck I found the whole forward part of the "Slocum" afire, and found it impossible to go there or any further in that direction, toward the main deck. There was intense excitement and a great panic among all the passengers, and I saw that the only course that was left was to beach the boat as soon as possible, in order that the passengers might escape to the shore, and so went back immediately to the pilot house to see that the boat was put in the best possible shape upon the shore for the escape of the passengers.

When the "General Slocum" reached a point abreast of the North Brother Island dock a slow bell was given and then a bell to stop, and she grounded immediately after. Just to the eastward of the North Brother Island dock there is a beach, free of any large rocks, which would permit the "Slocum" to get close to the shore. The "Slocum" grounded sideways to the shore.

At this time the hurricane deck had fallen in, about midships, and the whole boat was entirely ablaze, with the exception of some distance from the stem toward the forward gangway, as near as I could observe.

The pilot house was so hot it was impossible to re-

main in there, and the first and second pilots jumped out of the windows on the starboard side and rushed forward to the bow of the boat on the starboard side and jumped into the water.

I jumped overboard from the hurricane deck, on the starboard side, through the flames and got ashore.

I am informed that of the crew one fireman, the steward, Michael McGran, and the barkeeper were lost.

During the Spring the "General Slocum" was put in first-class condition, and, in my judgment, was in every way seaworthy ; the bottom had been recaulked, the decks recaulked, new life preservers had been put aboard ; all the life preservers had been overhauled and put in good condition. The boats and life rafts likewise were in good condition.

A great many lives were lost, how many it is impossible for me to say. I am disabled at the Lebanon Hospital, and have been unable to make any investigation as to the origin of the fire, or as to the number of persons that have lost their lives.

I am informed that immediately after the discovery of the fire streams of water were played upon the fire, without success. The fire hose upon the "General Slocum" was good, of first quality, and some of it was purchased this Spring.

Whatever aid it is within my power to render to you in your investigation of this calamity I will render willingly.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. VAN SCHAICK, Master.

Sworn to before me this 18th day of June, 1904.

J. K. SYMMERS,

Notary Public, New York County.

Edward Van Wart, the first pilot of the steamer "General Slocum," states that he has read the above statement of Captain William H. Van Schaick, and knows of his own knowledge the facts therein stated to be true, except those stated to have occurred during the absence from the pilot house of Captain Van Schaick.

EDWARD VAN WART.

Sworn to before me this 18th day of June, 1904.

J. K. SYMMERS,

Notary Public, New York County.

From the depths of the water off North Brother Island there was drawn by a grappling hook a section of the upper railing of the "General Slocum," thirty feet in length, to which four women were clinging, their fingers gripping the interlaced wire roping between the upper and lower brace bars of the rail proper.

RAILING SNAPPED AND FELL.

These women, just before the steamer was beached, were clinging to the railing, and a sudden surge of the crowd, caused by a spurt of flame, forced the railing to bend outward and then with a snap fall into the water.

Holding desperately to the netting, the women were carried down into the water and drowned with scarcely a struggle. Survivors of the wreck have told how in the excitement of the fire the upper railing of the steamer gave way and 100 were precipitated into the water.

The work of the recovery of bodies commenced at 6 o'clock. In an hour thirteen bodies had been found. Of the thirteen there was one man, six women, two boys three girls and one baby. Three of these bodies were found floating.

Locked in each other's arms and telling a story extremely pathetic a woman of thirty and a girl of eleven years were brought up to the surface of the water by George Start. Soon his line became taut again and when he pulled it up he found the bodies of a boy nine years old and a girl of eight in each other's arms.

From eleven o'clock to four o'clock twenty-three bodies were recovered, making a total for Sunday up to that hour of thirty-six.

Nine more bodies were found by nightfall, making the total for the day forty-five. Three bodies were found in the wreck by divers. They were the bodies of a woman, a girl and a boy, all burned beyond recognition. From their investigations the divers were able to state positively that there were many more bodies in the wreck.

CROWDED ON SHORE SIDE.

Nineteen bodies were found on the beach running from the island down to the channel.

The finding of the railing of the boat, with bodies attached, so far inshore, pointed out the fact that the people had crowded on the shore side of the boat. S. I. Berg, who was working the improvised grapple, said that when he first saw the white railing coming up he was preparing to release it, thinking that it was simply a piece of driftwood.

Just before sunset the crew of the four-oared barge of the Metropolitan Rowing Club, near Riker's Island, found a body. A passing launch took the rowing boat in tow and the body in turn was pulled along by a line from the boat. The strange procession attracted much attention on the way to North Brother Island.

The body was that of a woman between forty and

forty-five years of age. A diamond breastpin and four rings were on the body.

All day long the river was crowded with excursion steamers, boats and launches filled with curious people.

On Sunday for the first time the big steamers passing up the river slowed down and the divers underneath the water were able to work without danger to their lives. William B. Leeds' big steam yacht went by at a snail's pace, with flag lowered at half mast. Early in the day, however, the yacht "Helenita" went by without any apparent slackening of speed.

In the basement of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, since the edifice was erected in 1847, there has been conducted a primary school and kindergarten for the young children of the parish. John Holthusen has been principal of the school for the last twenty-seven years. He taught the upper class, while an assistant had charge of the kindergarten. Being fifty-eight years old, he decided, a few months ago, that he would retire at the end of the present school year. He went on the ill-fated excursion of the church, intending that the trip should end his career as an official of the parish.

SCHOOL BLOTTED OUT.

"There is no need for me to resign now," said the veteran schoolmaster that night at his home. "My school is no more. I had thirty-one pupils on the roll of the upper class, and the average attendance was about twenty-five. Nineteen of my boys and girls are dead. In the kindergarten we had twenty-six little children, and and nearly all of them perished in the wreck of the 'General Slocum.'

"The two classes comprised all the young children

of the parish, and there are none to take their places. The school is dead, and I am afraid the church itself will be wiped out."

A leading journal discussed the disaster as follows:

"In hundreds of churches echoes of the 'General Slocum' disaster will be heard. Many preachers will make it the basis of their sermons, while others will be quick to use its obvious lessons. In most worshipping congregations prayers will be made for the bereaved. One consideration which makes Christian people peculiarly sympathetic is that the victims of the terrible accident were representing a church when overtaken by the dread calamity.

WHY GOD PERMITTED IT.

"This horror, with its slaughter of innocent babes, prattling children and defenseless women, has stirred many questionings in people's minds. 'Why did God permit such an awful fate to befall this light-hearted company of His friends?' men and women are asked one another. Some are writing the same query to newspapers. Divine accountability is undoubtedly troubling many. A visitation upon offenders against moral principles would be more easily explicable, but this causes an undefined feeling of reproach against the Infinite to spring up in many hearts. These dead were the professed friends and followers of the Almighty; why, then, did He not guard them from harm?

"The question is one with the great riddle of life. Philosophers have wrestled for centuries over the problem of the existence of evil. About the nearest they have come to the solution is that human quality is more desirable than human comfort. It is better to have a race

of men made strong by self-dependence and courageous conflict with evil than to have one composed of characterless creatures safe from struggle. Man's sin and man's blunders are the price he pays for his manhood.

"It seems a terrible thing that by the incompetence, carelessness or cowardice of a few men the lives of hundreds should be sacrificed. Yet only thus can men learn the lesson of responsibility. Fearful as is the price paid for man's independence, the latter is worth the price.

HEAD YIELDS TO THE HEART.

"But the present concern is not to find a solution of the vexing problems presented by life's great tragedies. This is an hour when the head yields to the heart. The sorrows of the bereaved are not to be philosophized over, but to be comforted. And it is undeniable that the present calamity will have only the effect of turning the afflicted ones more trustingly to the consolations of religion.

"The human heart, in all its deepest experiences, instinctively looks up to the Power beyond itself. St. Mark's Lutheran Church, New York, will be crowded with men and women whose search is not for light upon intellectual perplexities, but for balm for bruised and bleeding spirits. The 'Slocum' disaster will not create infidels; on the contrary, it will intensify the religious nature of the people most bereaved."

Many and terrible as have been the tragedies attending life at sea within the limits of recorded history, there have been few exceeding in horror that of the "General Slocum," which shocked the entire country.

Some of the most famous marine disasters and loss of life are here recorded :

Prince George, Apr. 13, 1758, 400; Royal George, Aug. 29, 1782, 600; Halsewell, Jan. 6, 1786, 386; La Tribune, Nov. 16, 1797, 300; Sceptre, Nov. 5, 1799, 291; Abergareenny, Feb. 6, 1805, 300; Acenas, Oct. 23, 340; Athenian, Oct. 27, 1806, 374; Minotaur, Dec. 22, 1810, 360; Saldanna, Dec. 4, 1811, 300; St. George, Defence, Hero, Dec. 24, 1811, 2000; Seahorse, Jan. 30, 1816, 365; Harpooner, Nov. 10, 1816, 200; Lady Sherbrooke, Aug. 19, 1831, 273; Exmouth, Feb. 19, 1847, 240; Avenger, Dec. 20, 1847, 200; Royal Adelaide, Mar. 30, 1850, 400; Birkenhead, Feb. 26, 1852, 454; Anne Jane, Sept. 29, 1853, 348; Tayleur, Jan. 20, 1854, 380; Favourite, Apr. 29, 1854, 201; Lady Nugent, May, 1854, 400; City of Glasgow, summer, 1854, 480; Arctic, summer, 1854, 562; John, May 1, 1855, 200; Pacific, 1856, 200; Le Lyonnais, 1856, 260; Central America, 1857, 427; Austria, Sept. 13, 1858, 475; Pomona, 1859, 400; Royal Charter, 1859, 446; Hungarian, 1860, 206; Anglo-Saxon, Apr. 27, 1863, 237; London, Jan. 11, 1868, 220; Cambria, 1870, 296; Northfleet, Jan. 22, 1873, 300; Halifax, 1873, 564; Atlantic, Apr. 18, 1873, 560; Ville de Houre, 1873, 230; Cospatrick, Dec. 6, 1874, 471; Great Queensland, Aug. 1876, 569; Eurydice, Mar. 24, 1878, 300; Princess Alice, Sept. 3, 1878, 600; Victoria, May 24, 1881, 300; Teuton, Aug. 30, 1881, 200; Kapunda, Mar. 29, 1887, 293; Shanghai, Dec. 25, 1890, 300; City of Columbus, 1884, 100; Cimbria, 1883, 421; Utopia, Mar. 1891, 564; Namchow, Jan. 14, 1891, 509; Naronic, 1893, 93; H. M. S. Victoria, June 23, 1893, 400; Elbe, Jan. 1895, 380; La Bourgoyne, July 4, 1898, 550; Portland, Nov. 27, 1898, 129; Stella, Mar. 30, 1899, 75; General Slocum, June 15, 1904, more than 1000.

CHAPTER VIII.

HEROES SAVE MANY LIVES.

DEEDS of heroism and devotion by the hundred followed upon the disaster. Of the few hundred who were saved most owed their preservation to the courage of unselfish men and women. Boys and girls scarcely more than children themselves bore their parts nobly, as witness the youthful apprentice who saved twenty-two lives and the nurse girl intrusted with two babes who swam for the first time in her life and brought her charges safely to the shore.

Hell Gate had a Jim Bludso of its own, who risked his life and all that he had, a smoky little tug.

There were experienced pilots and captains who went about the work of rescue like trained life savers; firemen leaped into the waters in their heavy clothing and policemen from stations far and near rowed in whatever boats they could find to help in the work of rescue. Heroes in every walk of life may be found on the roll, and the record of the darkest day in the history of New York harbor is brightened by golden letters which tell of high courage and supreme devotion.

Twenty-two lives saved is written opposite the name of Charles Schwartz, Jr., machinist's apprentice, eighteen years old. His rescues were performed, too, with a breaking heart, for he knew that while he was aiding others his mother and grandmother were lying dead on the beach of North Brother Island.

Schwartz is light of frame, yet his skill in swimming has made him well known throughout the East Side.

"There was not much time to think," said he, "and as soon as I saw what was up I did what I could. I was on the hurricane deck of the 'General Slocum' and when I knew that there was a fire the first thing I did was to put a life preserver around my little brother Louis, who is ten years old, and I got him to stand by me. Then I saw that there was going to be a panic and I thought that in the water was the best chance for him, so I threw him overboard. Louis is all right.

"I made a trip down below to see if I could be of any help, but I saw that the fire was beyond control and that nobody would work in any kind of system. I noticed that two or three boats were coming, and I backed up against the rail calling out that there was a good chance and pleading with the passengers to keep cool and not shove. The rail went, though, and I tumbled over backward into the water.

LOST MOTHER AND GRANDMOTHER.

"The first person that I saw was Mrs. Addicks, who keeps a candy store, and she called me by name and I went over and helped her by keeping her chin above water and towering her a little. She got to shore all right and was not much hurt. She threw her arms around my neck and kissed me. I got into the water again and helped Miss Emma Haas, the sister of the pastor, until a boat came to take her, and then I saw my mother and grandmother. They were floating face downward. I got them both ashore and helped the doctors with them on the lawn. 'It's no use,' said the doctors 'we can't do anything for your people, my boy.'

"I felt as though my heart would break, and then I looked out upon the water and saw that there were yet

men, women and children who might be saved. A man came along in a little boat and I swam out to him and worked with him. I went overboard whenever I could and swam up with people and helped them into the boat. Many of them grabbed at me, but I was able to keep off enough to prevent being dragged down. I felt hands way down in the water holding at my feet. Hands caught me everywhere, and above me was the fire raging and roaring. I wish that I had been stronger and could have done more.

"The stranger in the boat and I brought four or five ashore at a time and took them upon the beach. I had my clothes off and was able to swim easily, for I kept as cool as I could and saved my strength. I learned to swim in the public baths, and if it had not been for the practice that I got there I would not have been able to do anything.

BOY SAVED TWENTY-TWO.

"We brought ashore many bodies, too, and not until there was no chance of saving anybody did I quit. Counting those I either got into the boat or swam out for I saved twenty-two. If I had been a stronger fellow I might have done a good deal more, but I'm light. I weigh only 123 stripped. Rather too light, don't you think?

"Hero? Oh, I'm nothing like that. I happened to have the knack of swimming a little better than some other persons and so I thought it was my duty to do the best I could. Besides, I'm not thinking much of that kind of thing with my mother and grandmother lying there in the room. I did all I could for them, but the

smoke must have suffocated them before they were in the water.

Another medal which will serve as a companion piece to the one received last year will perhaps be awarded to Fireman Joseph J. Mooney, who nearly lost his life in saving a woman.

Mooney attracted the attention of the public on June 6, 1903, when he received the William L. Strong gold medal for saving the life of a little girl, Gertrude Schwenneger, at a fire at Madison avenue and Sixtieth street. Mayor Low presented the medal while the child stood by the side of the gallant fireman.

MOONEY'S VALIANT EFFORT.

Mooney was transferred to the fireboat "Zophar Mills," and when she steamed up into the East River, dotted with the drowning, Mooney could not devote his energies to using lines and boat hooks. He went into the water and brought two women to the side of the "Zophar Mills."

In effecting the rescue of the third woman, who weighed two hundred pounds and was all the more unmanageable on account of her heavy, water-soaked clothing. Mooney made a valiant effort to reach the side of the fireboat. His plight was noticed by the other firemen, who threw a rope to him. Mooney had strength enough to hold it and was drawn over the side of the vessel.

Restoratives were administered both to the woman and her rescuer. Mooney was able in the course of a few minutes to resume his duties, but he did not again venture into the water. George Lawlor, another fireman, saved a woman by swimming after her. Only four living

persons were taken on board the "Zophar Mills." There were seventeen dead bodies on her deck.

Firemen attached to Bronx fire companies took an active part in saving the drowning, and many cases were reported of their leaping into the water without removing any clothing, so eager were they to be of assistance. Policemen from all stations aided in the rescue when the opportunity offered and many of them rowed out to the vessel in whatever boats they could obtain.

Efficient service was rendered by the charities boat the "Massasoit," of which Captain Frederick W. Parkinson is the commander. The captain was trained under his uncle, Captain Henry Rick, a veteran Hell Gate pilot. Not only did he direct the work of rescue from his post, where it was so hot from the flames of the burning wreck that it was almost impossible to remain there, but he helped bring the helpless aboard when opportunity offered. Whenever he could leave the wheel he sat in the loop of rope swung over the side of the "Massasoit," aiding in drawing up those who were struggling in the water.

PLAYED HOSE ON HIM.

The captain speaks in terms of highest praise of the conduct of his crew, mentioning especially his mate, James J. Duane, and Albert Rappaport. Duane went out in the lifeboat to within a few feet of the burning "Slocum" and was able to work because the captain ordered hose to be constantly played on him. He brought in ten persons in all. He was in constant danger, owing to the possibility of portions of the burning superstructure falling upon him.

Rappaport went over the side of the "Massasoit" and at great personal risk saved seven persons. He

brought them to the side of the steamboat and they were lifted aboard by the engineer and deck hands.

"The first one I got," said Rappaport, "was a boy who clung to me after I got back on board, begging that I would not leave him. He said he did not know where to go as his mother was drowned.

"I was clad only in underclothes, and in a struggle to save another boy about thirteen years of age my clothing fell about my feet and it was with great difficulty that I was able to get within reach of a heaving line."

HER FIGHT WITH FIRE.

Everywhere on the "Massasoit" were the evidences of her fight with fire. The paint on the upper works of the vessel was sadly blistered and the windows of the pilot house cracked. The "Massasoit" saved in all forty persons.

No account of the work of rescue can be complete without the story of the deeds done by the modest captain of the "Franklin Edson." Not content with directing the efforts of his crew while he stood in a scorching pilot house, he went overboard after a woman and nearly lost his life in doing so. Henry Rick is his name, and for thirty years he has held a pilot's license. All of that time has been spent in the service of the city, either in the Health Department or the Department of Charities. The captain is now fifty-eight years old, but he looks like a man of forty-five.

"It is difficult to tell what to do in such an emergency as that which confronted us in the "Slocum" disaster," he said. "I had just left the "Edson," which had come in at the Board of Health pier at 132d street, when I heard five whistles from my boat. I was down there in

a moment, and as I was going across to the "Slocum" the engineer yelled up the tube that he had water in three lines of hose. We soon saw that water wasn't needed, but quick work to save lives. Everything in the way of the life-preservers we had went overboard and then the heaving lines.

"Fifty feet was as near as I thought it safe to go, for although the windows of the pilot house were down in their frames I could hear them cracking and the paint was blistering on the woodwork.

DIED AFTER DRAWN FROM WATER.

"It was hard work in many cases, for there were several large and heavy women, whose weight was increased by their water-soaked garments. We got all those who came our way. Some may think that we ought to have taken the rescued ashore right away for medical attention, but I considered it best to save as many as we could. I think that we got about twenty-five in all. As to how many lived, I don't know yet; ten I am certain of, anyway. Six died after we got them aboard, although we did what we could to revive them. My crew did splendid work."

"How about the woman for whom you went overboard?"

"She was dead when I got her aboard, as near as I can make out. Too bad. I was rather tired out by the time she was landed, but I think that she had been suffocated before she got into the water. What I was able to do was no more than any city employee should gladly do. I don't want any rewards or any medals. I am too old for that kind of thing. Once, when I was young maybe, I thought of fame, but with the city's boats

the picking up of persons in distress is part of the business."

Many were the expedients which quick-witted rescuers had to bring into play in order to save the panic-stricken passengers on the "Slocum." Policeman Hubert C. Farrell, who saved eight persons, is a subject of a report to police headquarters. He is attached to the Alexander avenue station.

Farrell and James Collins, a special policeman, obtained the yawl of the schooner "Bayliss," which was at the foot of East 137th street. Olaf Jansen and Samuel Patchen, the negro steward, went in the boat with them to the burning wreck. They found several persons hanging to the paddle wheel.

NEAR A FURNACE OF FLAME.

"I will never forget that sight," said Farrell, "for above us was a furnace of flame. There were passengers who had been leaning against the paddle box on the upper part who began to fall off as the fire ate through at their backs. Above us was the fire, and the heat was so intense that we could scarcely remain there.

"Clinging to one of the paddles I saw an old man whose head was just above water. I could see that his life was almost gone. On either shoulder was a little child. They were clinging to his neck. I got out into the paddle wheel, finding a footing in the paddles, and standing in that way up to my waist in water I leaned forward and first took one child and then the other into the boat. The old man could not be drawn up as I had done with the children. I braced myself with my feet and grabbed him by the collar. Then with a quick movement I dislodged his hands. He fought and strug-

gled with all his feeble strength. I believe that he thought I was trying to drown him. Down he went under the water. Then I got him up through the wheel and he was placed in the boat.

"It was hotter about that wreck than I ever believed it possible to be."

Women on North Brother Island, matron, nurses, a telephone operator, patients, helpers, performed many acts of heroism and daring. The sight of helpless babies in the stream nerved them with almost superhuman strength. Several who could not swim at all learned how that day for the first time, so intent were they on errands of mercy.

None took a more active part in the work of rescue than did Pauline Pelz, who was in the employ of Dr. Watson, one of the physicians on the island. She divested herself of her outer skirt and shoes and swam out to the vessel. It seemed as if she had the strength of ten. She made five trips into the water, returning each time with a woman or a child. She started to go a sixth time, but was so weak from her exertions that she found it impossible to leave the beach, and was compelled to give up.

GIRL A GOOD SWIMMER.

Miss Lulu McGibbon, a telephone operator, after she had been relieved from her duties in the administration building on the island hurried down to the beach. She swam out twice to the vessel and brought back on each trip a child. One of the babies was about a year and a half old and the other about three years of age.

"I often go bathing in the summer time off the island," said she, "and the nurses are also accustomed

to swimming. That gave us some practice for such an emergency as this."

Several of the nurses clad in their white uniforms waded out into the water or assisted in placing ladders and poles within reach of the passengers of the "Slocum," and saved many lives.

One of the most remarkable instances of the power of devotion to duty over bodily fear is the act of Louise Gailing, a nurse girl from Nutley, N. J., who was on the excursion with two babies, one two years old and the other three, the daughters of Mrs. Erkling, of Hoboken.

NEVER SWAM BEFORE.

"I had no thought," said she, "of what might happen to me. I had never swum a stroke in my life, and I didn't know the slightest thing about how I should begin. I only knew one thing, and that was that I must save the babies. So I took one in each arm and jumped overboard and kicked out with my feet, and held them up as best I could. I did not care whether I could swim or not. I only knew that if I didn't, I would not save the children. I struggled on through the water and got to the shore. I didn't know how, and I guess I never will, but I saved the babies."

No story of the "Slocum" disaster is complete without that of the Unknown Hero who was everywhere. The roll of those who did the best they could under circumstances which made it impossible to do what they would is a long one. Tugboat men speak of a man who was seen struggling near the shore of North Brother Island with three women clinging to him. He had a life preserver, and he was doing all that he could to keep those who clung to him afloat. As he was nearing the

shore a fourth woman grabbed him and he slowly began to sink with his three charges.

"Don't!" he cried. "Don't. There isn't a chance for us if you do that. I can't swim."

The woman increased her hold.

"All right," he replied, "we'll do the best we can. We will all die together." They were picked up and brought to the shore.

SAVED BY A GRIMY TUG.

His act was on a par with the deeds of scores of others performed about the shores of North Brother Island on that day. There were men who released their hold on floating wreckage to give women a chance, and young girls who calmed themselves in the frenzy of fright to tear life preservers from their own bodies to bind them about babies whose cries touched their hearts in that awful hour. Many a wharf rat whose name will never be known did heroic work, and fishermen who came and went in light skiffs, leaving no record of valorous deeds, will not figure in the books of those who reward heroism with medals and with praise.

He weren't no saint—them engineers
Is all pretty much alike.

Sanctity is not the strong card of James L. Wade, owner and engineer of the "Wade," the blackest and dirtiest little tug in all the river, yet nearly a hundred persons, and more, would hail this man of grime, in overalls once blue, as an angel of light.

He ran the savings of ten years, represented in his tug, ashore and used her as a bridge for the "Slocum's" passengers.

"Damn the tug!" said he. "Let her burn!" For,

like Jim Bludso, Wade does not stop to pick language. "Let her stay where she is. What's a tugboat to a human life?"

Wade goes up and down the East River something after the manner of a cruising cabman on land, doing odd maritime jobs here and there. He was at North Brother Island when he saw the "General Slocum" draw into view with a mass of fire shooting from her forward deck. He dived into the engine room and told the pilot of the little tug, Captain Fitzgerald, to make for the burning steamboat.

BRIDGE THAT SAVED MANY.

On the deck were Edward Carroll, better known as "Reddy," and Antonio Marcetti, otherwise "Tony." The "Wade" went to the starboard side of the "Slocum," getting in between the shore and the steamer. Her propeller was fouled by a rope, and manœuvring was out of the question. Wade ordered that she be run aground, and over this bridge seventy-eight persons found their way to safety. The heat blistered the sides of the deck-house of the tug and only by throwing water over the woodwork occasionally with buckets, was the pilot house saved from burning.

Carroll and Marcetti spent little time aboard, for they were in the water most of the time. Carroll saved three old women, and Marcetti a girl. The Irishman was almost exhausted in bringing the third woman to the side of the tug, but he was finally pulled on board by the captain and the engineer.

Not being able to use his lifeboat Wade presented it to the first volunteer life saver he saw.

"That's a small matter," he said. "What does a

man care for a little thing like a lifeboat? Anybody who needed it was welcome. I didn't expect to be walking about on this tug. I think that I'm lucky."

Several well known lumber merchants were discussing the raising of funds to repair the "Wade." Two women who were saved through the gallantry of Mr. Wade, Mrs. Elusca, and Mrs. Anna Sackman, wrote that they would like to see a fund started to replace the tug's lifeboat, life preservers and other fittings which they understood were lost.

They declared the owner remained at his post until the tug was nearly on fire and that his own arms were severely scorched.

Captain Fitzgerald, who was in the pilot house of the "Wade," also did effective work at the Hoboken fire. The "Wade" was pulled off by the tug "Golden Rod" while the streams of water played by the fireboat "Zophar Mills" kept her from being destroyed.

HE COURTED DEATH.

Brief was the official record of John A. Scheuning, a policeman attached to the Alexander avenue station, who saved the lives of five. There is time, though, to go beyond the plain tale of the blotter, and to relate how he risked his life and courted death under the lee of the burning "Slocum."

Scheuning saw the burning steamboat while on duty near the water front at 138th street. He commanded a soda water wagon, in which he was driven to the foot of East 141st street, where he cut out a boat and pushed into the stream. The "Slocum" was swinging off North Brother Island a floating Tophet, and fanned by the off-shore wind the flames swept far out from the port side.

Scheuning rowed directly toward the side of the steamer, although the tugboatmen called to him that he was going to his death. The heat was so intense when he came within a hundred feet of the vessel that he felt the skin blister on his face and hands. Burning brands fell about him, and dead ahead towered the paddle box, from which the flames were bursting as out of the top of a blast furnace.

Scheuning stopped for a moment, and removing his blouse soaked it in the water. He threw the garment about his neck and shoulders, thus gaining protection from the heat. At the same time Scheuning kept his arms closely to his side as he rowed, so as to protect his body as much as possible from the glow of the fire. Above him the flames were swept out in a sheet which at any time might have been turned downward by a change of the wind, while the falling of blazing timbers were reminders that at any moment the structure above might crash down upon him.

VOICES CALL FOR HELP.

"There were five faces under that paddle box," said Scheuning in telling his story, "that told me that it was my duty to go in there. I heard voices calling out, 'Mr. Policeman, save us!' and I rowed right up to it, although I felt my back blistering and had to stop and throw water over my back to keep from scorching. Once I got right up there, though, the heat wasn't so bad, although the way things were falling showed there was no time to be lost."

Scheuning ran the small boat alongside the paddle box, which was well out of the water, and he was able by placing one foot in the boat and the other on a paddle to

lift into the skiff five persons. They grasped the sides of the small boat at first and nearly swamped it, but Scheuning, by skilful balancing, was able to save three women and two men, whom he rowed in safety to a barge.

Scheuning, "in the line of police duty," then brought ashore thirteen bodies and devoted the rest of the day to assisting the Coroner in tagging 171 of the dead. His exploit of going so close to the "Slocum" was the cause of others venturing to the aid of the distressed, despite the intense heat.

ONE OF THE CREW A HERO.

Those who have seen many brave deeds performed in the waters of New York Harbor say that the courage and devotion of at least one member of the crew of the "General Slocum" exceeded anything which they ever beheld. William R. Trembly was his name, and for a few weeks he had been a deckhand on the vessel. He was not accustomed to the water and he had back of him no experience in the harbor, such as had the veterans of the Hell Gate fleet that did such efficient service.

"I've seen many courageous and devoted acts done in my time," said Captain Parkinson, of the "Massasoit," in speaking of the conduct of the deckhand of the "Slocum," "but the way that man acted should entitle him to all the medals which may be coming his way. The first thing that I saw was his leap from the side of the 'Slocum' right out of a nest of flames. He swam ashore again and again with women, and the way he saved his strength and the cool manner in which he acted were such as to win the admiration of every man who saw him.

"There wasn't much time either to watch others.

His last exploit was to bring in three children at a time. How he did it I'm sure I don't know. He had two in his arms and a woman lowered a third to him.

"He swam with one child in his teeth, steadying himself and gowing slowly to save his strength. I could see that he was pretty nearly gone, and when I got another glimpse of him he was coming into the shore.

FELL LIKE A DEAD MAN.

"A woman clutched at him as he went past and he seemed to be saying something to her. He got the three children to safety and then I saw him staggering on the shore. The woman was still pleading. He was unsteady on his pins by that time and he barely had the strength to stand; but he was still game. He started toward her; then his hands went up and he fell over backward on the beach like a dead man. He had worked to the very limit. I saw him afterward stretched out on the lawn on the North Brother Island and he was about as near a corpse as a man can well be and be alive."

Trembly was then taken later to the Alexander avenue police station, where he told his story and then went to sleep on the station house floor.

He said that he heard the first outcry of fire and did all that he could to allay the panic. Finally, seeing that nothing more could be done, he placed life preservers about two children and started with them to the shore. A woman on the upper deck tore her skirts into strips and with the rope which she hastily improvised lowered her child to him, begging that he take it to shore.

Children unable to reach life preservers above their heads and in many cases left without any older person

near them were active in helping not only those younger than themselves but even went to the aid of their elders.

There, for instance, was Peter Wingerter, a boy of thirteen. He found on the upper deck four babies which had been deserted by their parents. He remained on board the boat, although scores were dropping into the water all about him, and with his own hands passed the two babies to the deck of a tugboat.

Then, with two infants under his left arm the boy slid down a stanchion to the main deck, where he passed his charges to men in a rowboat. A woman threw her baby into the stream and the boy dived overboard after it. As he was going under the water a man who supposed that the boy was drowning pulled him out. Wingerter fought with his rescuer, who restrained him from again risking his life.

SAVED THE LITTLE ONE.

Then there is William McCaffrey, fourteen years old, who tossed a dazed girl aboard a tug and swam to the shore himself. On reaching North Brother Island he went out again into the water and rescued three exhausted men who were about to drown, in the shallows.

Among children who are mentioned on the roll of honor which illumines a dark day of tragedy is Arthur Link. On the upper deck a frightened woman was about to leap into the water with her baby.

"If you can't swim," said he, "give me that baby." She passed the child over to him and jumped.

The boy placed the child on a camp chair, which he braced against a stanchion to keep the infant from being crushed. When he felt that the deck beneath his feet was giving way he tucked the baby under his arm and

struck out for the shore, keeping himself afloat with one hand.

His burden was too much for his strength and he was about to go under when a man in a skiff relieved him of the child.

"Don't mind me," called the boy. "I can keep up all right. Take care of the baby!"

Two policemen of the Harbor Squad, Van Tassell and Kelk, who were trained under Elbert O. Smith, the present inspector, who was formerly in command of the marine department of the police force, did valorous work on the day of the "Slocum" disaster. They had been detailed to look after the safety of passengers, and although the conditions were beyond all control, they acted as though they were in command.

PICKED UP UNCONSCIOUS.

Van Tassell was disabled, and Kelk was among the last to leave the doomed vessel. The two men stood on the second deck. They are strong, and their muscles were well trained by rowing in the harbor. From their position they threw women and children into the tugs which braved the danger and the blistering heat. Van Tassell was knocked unconscious when the hurricane deck fell, for the body of a woman struck him on the head.

He was picked up unconscious from the stream by a mason employed on North Brother Island. As soon as he had recovered the use of his senses Van Tassell, who was in great pain owing to the bruising of the muscles of neck and head, returned to the work of rescue, and later helped in bringing in the dead. Kelk remained on board the "Slocum," although his hair was singed and his mustache was nearly burned from his lip.

He lost no opportunity to give aid. He placed life-preservers upon children and threw them into the flood; he directed the work of tugboatmen who approached the vessel and kept back the panic-stricken who tried to jump into the water when boats which were approaching to their aid were only a few feet away. Though the flames burned his clothing and blistered his skin, Kelk was as calm as though he were on parade.

"As I was standing there," said Kelk, in speaking of the experience of the day, "a woman came rushing to me with her skirts in a blaze. There was a baby carriage standing near, in which there was a heavy blanket. I seized the blanket, threw it around the woman and rolled her on the deck until the flames were extinguished. She jumped overboard then, and whether she was saved or not I do not know." That was only one incident which shows how quickly things were done on that day.



CHAPTER IX.

STARTLING FACTS AT THE INQUEST.

UNDER the guidance of an unlicensed first mate with a very hazy notion of his duties, members of the crew of the steamer "General Slocum" admitted hesitatingly that they had proved almost useless in the great disaster. They insisted that there had not been a fire drill on the boat this season and agreed that they had been unable to use the hose after the flames were discovered.

There was some conflict about the reason that the hose would not work. Some of the men said it had burst when the water got to the kinks, but an explanation which was made for the first time in public was that no water at all could reach the fire hose on account of a false washer of solid rubber or leather placed in the standpipe that supplied it. The small rubber hose used for cleansing the decks was usually attached to hydrants on piers, but when this was not convenient salt water was obtained from the standpipes.

To prevent any of this water from reaching the canvas fire hose and rotting it the washer had been inserted. To get water into the fire hose would have involved unfastening it first and removing the washer, an idea that did not seem to enter the heads of any of the men.

These and other revelations were made at the inquest begun before Coroner Joseph I. Berry and a jury. Edward Flanagan, the mate, seemed dazed when he faced the crowd that had gathered, and he constantly avoided answering direct testimony by pleading that he did not remember. Assistant District Attorney Francis P. Garvan, who examined him at length, wrung from him many

facts that would serve as a basis for future proceedings.

Flanagan was mate of the "General Slocum" at the time of the official visit of the United States inspectors the month before. The inspection of the life-preservers, so far as it came under his personal observation, consisted of walking down the line and poking the canvas covers here and there with a cane or ruler. From ten to twenty of the preservers subjected to this test broke, and the inspector condemned them and directed that they be removed forthwith.

Flanagan squirmed and faltered, but concluded by announcing that all the life-preservers that he had seen on the boat were stamped with the original date of inspection in 1891, the year that the "Slocum" was launched.

FIRE STARTED IN FORWARD CABIN.

The origin of the fire was placed definitely in the forward cabin where a miscellaneous lot of inflammable material was stored, including oil for the lanterns. Men sent to this place to look for materials were in the habit of lighting matches instead of taking lanterns.

There was a wide divergence of opinion about the location of the "Slocum" at the time the captain was notified of the fire.

Before questioning the mate and the deck hands Mr. Garvan had examined two of the officers of the Knickerbocker Steamship Company, Frank A. Barnaby, the president, and James K. Atkinson, the secretary. Mr. Barnaby said that before the "Slocum" had been put in commission this year he had given instructions to have her put in as fine condition as possible and about \$12,000 had been spent.

He had been requested to bring to the inquest the company's books showing all expenditures for life saving apparatus on the "Slocum." Instead of doing so he had had abstracts made from his ledger and had brought five original bills, running back to the spring of 1902, showing that the company had purchased 350 life-preservers this year.

Mr. Garvan's first glance at the bills led him to infer that an attempt had been made to alter them. They had been made out to the steamer "Grand Republic;" the ink of this name had been faded and "General Slocum" had been written above the name of the other boat. The papers indicated that some acid had been used.

BARNABY'S WEAK EXPLANATION.

Mr. Barnaby said he had received the bills in his office exactly as they then were. He explained that supplies for the two boats were ordered by the captain of the "Grand Republic" and were later charged separately on the company's books. Mr. Atkinson could not give any additional information.

Mr. Garvan announced that he wished to have the company's bookkeeper appear at once with the original ledgers. The promise was given that the bookkeeper would appear in the afternoon. It was shortly after twelve o'clock that this notice was given, but when an adjournment was taken at five o'clock the bookkeeper had not appeared with the books.

"It is very curious that the bookkeeper has not been able to get here in all this time," commented the Assistant District Attorney to the Coroner. "I was particularly anxious to have the books marked in evidence to-day."

Mr. Barnaby was the first witness. After he had been sworn Mr. Garvan asked the Coroner to exclude from the court all witnesses except injured passengers and relatives of those who lost their lives. The motion was granted, and half of the men who had been present moved into a rear room, leaving most of the seats to women and children clad in deep mourning, many of them with bandages about their heads to cover injuries.

Mr. Barnaby said he had been President of the Knickerbocker company for twenty years. The company owned the "Grand Republic," built about twenty years ago, and the "General Slocum," built in Brooklyn in 1891. Mr. Barnaby was a stockholder when the "Slocum" was built, and he became a director about ten years before, but took no active part in the management until he was made president.

THE CAPTAIN A STOCKHOLDER.

He and Mr. Atkinson conduct the executive department of the business. Mr. Atkinson has charge of the traffic department, and Captain John Pease, of the "Grand Republic," is at the head of the operating department. Under the system bills go to Captain Pease, who passes on them and forwards them to the office. Captain Pease is a stockholder and owns some of the company's bonds.

The "Slocum" was put in commission in 1904 on May 6 or 7. Mr. Barnaby did not make any examination of her before that time, nor had he been aboard of her since then. It was Captain Pease who made the application for inspection. He had not said anything to Mr. Barnaby specially about either the life preservers or

the fire hose, but the president had been informed generally that the "Slocum" was in a better condition than last year and was in as good condition as when she was built. All that Mr. Barnaby knew about the lifeboats was what the inspectors had reported.

Edward Flanagan, the mate, was kept on the witness stand during the greater part of the afternoon. He seemed depressed and frequently spoke of the ordeal which had completely unnerved him.

STEAMBOAT MASTER IN SUMMER.

He said he was twenty-seven years old. He described himself as a steamboat master in summer and a mechanic in a foundry in winter. This was his second season as first mate of the "Slocum." It was he who had hired the seven deck hands for the steamer. In the forward cabin, which came under his charge, were stored boards, lines and blinds. The porter often went there to clean the lamps.

Q. How many barrels of oil were there? A. One, to my knowledge, containing mineral sperm; we had it three weeks.

Q. Any kerosene? A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. How many barrels did you see? A. I don't know. All of them were empty.

Q. Any charcoal there? A. If there was any it was not known to me. We never kept any.

Q. What supplies were brought on for the excursion? A. They generally take charge of that themselves. I didn't see what they brought.

Q. Whose duty is it to see that they do not bring aboard dangerous articles—fireworks, for instance? A. I don't recollect.

Flanagan thought that the excursionists had brought aboard bananas and it seemed likely to him that these had been packed in hay, though he was not certain. He did not see any barrels of glasses. He said the door of the forward cabin was always left open. He did not know of any arrangements for turning steam into the cabin in case of fire.

There were two standpipes, one aft and one forward. The forward pipe was sometimes utilized for washing the deck, but so far as he knew the fire hose had never been taken for that purpose.

CONCERNING PROVISION AGAINST FIRE.

Q. When the standpipe was used how was the water stopped from entering the fire hose? A. I don't know.

Q. Did you ever see a false washer there? A. No, sir.

Q. How was the hose kept? A. All rolled up small. I don't know who rolled it.

Q. Was the nozzle inside? A. I think it was outside, but I am not sure.

Flanagan looked sadly about and exclaimed:—"I can't sleep. I imagine I see everything in front of me. A man who has gone through what I went through that day"—

Mr. Garvan interrupted him and put further questions about the fire hose. Flanagan did not know whether or not this had been taken down when the standpipe was used for washing the decks. He said he had been standing watching two deck hands reeling off a new line at the midship gangway when Coakley ran toward him.

He had just noticed the smoke himself and he put up his hand to warn the man to keep quiet. He walked

forward and looked down and then returned and called up the tube, "Captain, we're all afire forward!" He did not remember the Captain's reply. He went to the engine room and spoke to the chief engineer, asking the second engineer then to turn on the water for him.

When the hose was cut down it was full of kinks. Some of the men turned one way, some another.

"Gauene said 'Turn the water on,'" continued Flanagan. "Between kinks and everything the hose burst and the coupling blew off, besides I think all this happened together as soon as the water was turned on. I didn't see anyone take out a false washer."

"What did you do next?" pursued Mr. Garvan.

"I told the men to get out the boats or to assist the people."

COULD NOT REACH STANDPIPE.

Flanagan said he had not seen the Captain below at all, and he himself had not gone up to the bridge. He had not been able to get to the other standpipe, although he had tried. He declared that he did not know how far the "Slocum" had gone when the fire occurred.

Q. Did the "Slocum" have any new life-preservers this year? A. I don't know. I was sick and then this happened.

Q. When you got back after being sick did you notice any new ones? A. I did not notice and I did not ask.

Q. Were there any in the stateroom? A. Yes; some bad ones and some good ones. They were extra ones that we had on the boat.

Q. How many were there? A. I never counted them and I do not know.

Mr. Garvan reverted to the official inspection. Flanagan said he had not been around all the time with the inspectors. He was confused, and Mr. McManus, to encourage him, said: "Don't be frightened. There is nothing to conceal."

"I am not frightened," returned Flanagan, in a low tone.

"Then talk up frankly," exclaimed Coroner Berry sharply.

"I am trying to," muttered the mate. He said so far as he knew between ten and twenty life preservers had been rejected by the inspector.

EXAMINED WITH A CANE.

"Did you not tell me in my office that the inspector went around with a ruler in his hand and poked some of the life preservers in sight?" asked Mr. Garvan. Flanagan answered feebly, "I don't know whether it was a ruler or a cane."

"Did you not say that in ten or twenty of them he poked right through the canvas and he made you take them down?"

"He told me to throw them away."

"Did he take down any others?"

"I don't know, sir."

"Did he take down all?"

"I took down only those he said were no good."

"Were any new ones put up in place of those you removed?"

"I can't say, sir; I wasn't there all the time."

"When the inspector came was the fire hose attached to the standpipe?"

"I couldn't say."

"Was there any test of it?"

"Not to my memory."

"As a matter of fact did you ever see a life-preserver on the 'General Slocum' that was not stamped 'Inspected, September 28, 1891?'"

"No, sir."

Flanagan said the "Slocum" was beached when he jumped from the main deck, amidship, starboard side. He did not know whether the rubber hose had been used after the bursting of the fire hose, but he thought that a deckhand had tried to use it.

LIGHTED MATCHES IN CABIN.

He admitted, when the Coroner questioned him, that he had lighted matches in the forward cabin, but he did not believe that it had been necessary for others to do so, and he had heard no complaints on that score. He had not seen the porter on the morning of the fire. He did not know that any of the life preserver racks had been empty, and he had not heard that children had pulled down one rack and that the former contents had been taken to the store room.

John J. Coakley, a deck hand, and the first of the "General Slocum's" crew to see the fire, told a story different in many particulars from the testimony he had previously given before the Coroner. He said he had been employed on the boat eighteen days prior to the fire and received \$6.25 a week and his board. He had also worked on the "General Slocum" as deck hand in 1890.

"Have you ever seen any fire drill on the 'General Slocum?'" asked Mr. Garvan.

"No, sir," he answered.

"Were you at any time instructed what to do in case of fire?"

"No, never at any time,"

Coakley had been detailed to stand at the gangplank and count the excursionists as they went aboard the boat at the foot of East Third street, and said that he counted 982 grown persons and estimated that there were children enough to bring the total number up to 1100.

"I had a counting machine," he said, "and counted all children under fourteen two for one. The best estimate I could make gave about 1100 persons all told. There were 982 grown persons and children enough to make up 1100."

He then described various parts of the ship and said the fire started in a locker forward, in which was kept oil, the ship's lamps, pieces of canvas and other articles that would belong in a general store room.

LAMP KEPT BURNING.

This room was never locked. A lamp was usually kept burning inside. Because of the heat in the room, members of the crew usually put their wet clothes in there to dry. It was a hot place, because it was near the boiler room. It was also near the bar, and Coakley stood at the bar drinking a glass of beer when a small boy ran up to him and tugged at his sleeve and said, "Mister, look at the smoke; I guess the boat's on fire."

Mr. Garvan required the witness to describe all that took place after the boat left Third street until she was beached on North Brother Island.

"After leaving Third street," said Coakley, "I was in different parts of the ship trying to keep the children from climbing over the rail. I got two police officers and

went with them to the hurricane deck and told them how to watch the children. Then I went to the main deck." He then described how the boy went up to him and called his attention to the smoke.

"The smoke came up to about three feet from where I stood," he said, "and out of the forward cabin. I ran to the stairs and saw the room was full of smoke. I went in and tried to get a piece of canvass to smother it, but could not tear it loose. Then I tried to smother it with a bag of charcoal, but the smoke and heat drove me away.

"I couldn't tell exactly where the fire was, there was so much smoke. Then I called three other deck hands and I think they went back with me, but they say they did not. After that I took my knife and cut away the fastenings that held the coil of fire hose."

BURST IN SEVERAL PLACES.

"Had you ever seen water put through that hose?" asked Mr. Garvan.

"No, sir," he said. "After I let down the hose it all kinked up, and when the water was turned on it burst in several places at once."

Coakley explained that the hose was not laid flat in a pile on a shelf, but was in a coil suspended and in such shape that when it was drawn out it curled and kinked in many places. He said the two hundred feet of hose was uncoiled in a space of thirty feet, and there was no time or chance to straighten out the kinks.

"Wasn't the hose forced off the standpipe when the water was turned on?" was asked. He said it was not, but other witnesses testified that it was. He said that

no effort was made to connect the smaller rubber hose used in washing the decks after the fire hose burst.

"The people jammed about us so," he continued, "that we could not do anything. Women grabbed me and the other deck hands, and we went to the upper decks. One of the deck hands thrust a baby into my arms and said, 'You better save this child,' and I went into the water."

The witness tried to relate his experience in the water, but Mr. Garvan stopped him and asked him why he did not make greater effort to save the passengers before jumping overboard.

WILD JAM OF PEOPLE.

"The people lost their heads," he said, "and jammed about us so we could do very little. We got down a great many life preservers and one boat was lowered. It was filled with people and was swamped near the bow. (Later witnesses testified that no boats were lowered.)

"The life preservers that I saw were in good condition, none of them being ripped, and I saw a great many persons putting them on."

"Was any effort made to put out the fire after the hose burst?" asked Coroner Berry.

"No, sir; none that I saw."

"Were any fire extinguishers, water buckets or any other fire-fighting apparatus aside from the hose used when the fire was first discovered or at any time?"

"No, sir."

Coakley could not locate exactly where the "General Slocum" was when the fire started, but said it was shortly after they had passed the Blackwell's Island beacon light. In answer to questions put by the Assist-

ant District Attorney, Coakley said he had taken several drinks on the day of the accident, had taken several the day before and several each day since then. At the close of the hearing Coakley was committed to the House of Detention by order of the Coroner. All other members of the crew were taken back to the Lebanon Hospital under police escort.

Thomas Collins, another deck hand, was called after Coakley. He had been employed on the "General Slocum" only four days prior to the accident. He had worked one day on her four years ago.

NO FIRE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN.

"Did you ever receive any instructions on the 'General Slocum' as to what to do in case of fire, or did you ever see any fire drill on the boat?" was asked.

"No, sir," he said.

Collins stated that he was detailed to stand by the lines, and was near the forward gangway on the main deck when the fire started. His attention was first attracted by the screams of women. He told of his part of the work in getting down the fire hose and said he ran with the nozzle to the door of the locker, but when the water was turned on the hose burst and then all hands ran to the upper deck.

"Did you see any life boats lowered?"

"I did not."

"Did you see any life preservers taken down by the crew?"

"Yes, several; but I didn't see any of them tear or rip."

Both Coakley and Collins were questioned concern-

ing a rubber washer that was placed over the mouth of the standpipe to prevent water from dripping down into the fire hose and rotting it. It was said this washer greatly impeded the work of the men in coupling the hose, but neither of them knew anything about it. Other witnesses described it fully. Collins said the panic was so great that it was difficult for anyone to remember just what happened. He admitted that he was greatly excited, but said he did not jump until the boat was beached.

After handing to Mr. Garvan the bills for fire fighting apparatus, Mr. Barnaby said he understood that all the articles had been bought for the "Slocum," though he had no personal knowledge on the subject.

WORDS RUBBED OUT.

Q. I wish to show you one of the bills and to ask you who rubbed out the words "Grand Republic?" A. I don't know. While the accounts were kept in the name of the "Grand Republic," the supplies were taken in the other boat when needed.

Q. I notice that the bills are made out to the "Grand Republic," and that on all but one an effort has been made to erase the name; can you tell me anything about this? A. I know nothing about what is on the bills.

Q. Didn't you tell me that there were separate accounts for the two steamers? A. Yes, on our books. The bills may have been marked for one or for the other by the sellers.

Q. I understand that life-preservers must bear the name of the ship; who marks them? A. I do not know whether the manufacturer does or the steamboat company.

Mr. Barnaby did not know whether he could obtain a list of the company's expenditures for life-preservers since 1891, but he said he would try to get it. Many of the old ledgers were in storage in Brooklyn. A certified copy of the government inspection, dated May 6, 1904, was put in evidence, with a roster of the crews. The "Slocum" was built from specifications made by Captain Pease. Captain Van Schaick was not a stockholder in the Knickerbocker company.

In answer to Mr. Dittenhoefer's questions, Mr. Barnaby said he had business outside of the steamboat company which occupies most of his time. He does not pretend to be a steamboat man or to have any knowledge of boat building. He relied implicitly upon the reports of the government inspectors and upon information he obtained from Captains Pease and Van Schaick. If any defects had been called to his attention he would have remedied them at once.

NOT IN SAFE CONDITION.

Q. (by Mr. McManus). What conversation did you have with Captain Pease about repairs to the "Slocum?"

A. He called on me in February and told me that the "General Slocum" was not in first-class condition, and she was not as popular as he would like to see her. I said: "Put her in as fine a condition as you can make her." That's all I said.

Q. What was the cost of the repairs? A. About \$12,000, or more.

Q. What was the value of the "Slocum," and how much insurance did you carry? A. I think she cost \$165,000. Our insurance was \$70,000.

Mr. Barnaby said the "Slocum" was considered by

insurance men a good risk, and he was assured that the rates were the lowest possible, four per cent., less a discount and less a rebate. He was then excused and Mr. Atkinson was questioned briefly.

He said that as secretary he had charge of the company's books, but not of the equipment. Captain Van Schaick had charge of this branch of work for the "Slocum," but under the supervision of Captain Pease. Miss Hall, the company's bookkeeper, had handed to him the bills introduced as exhibits, and he had turned them over to Mr. Barnaby. He had not applied acid to them, nor had he altered them in any other manner. He had not even examined them. He had made the arrangements for the excursion of the St. Mark's Lutheran Church Sunday School with William H. Pulman.

CHARGE FOR DAY'S USE.

There was a written contract which was burned with the boat. Mr. Pulman had chartered the "Slocum" outright for the day at the rate of \$350. This arrangement carried with it the right to supply refreshments. One of the stewards asked Mr. Atkinson on Wednesday morning if the Sunday school party would require anything and was informed that nothing had been said on the subject.

"Has the company paid any dividends in recent years?" inquired Mr. McManus.

"It has not paid a dividend in the seven years that I have been connected with it," was the reply.

Promising to send Miss Hall to the armory immediately, Mr. Atkinson hurried away.

James Corcoran came to the witness stand in his shirt sleeves. For four years he had worked as a deck

hand in summer and driven newspaper delivery wagons in winter. He was the head deck hand on the "Slocum," coming directly after the mate.

Q. Did you have any fire drills on the "Slocum"?
A. No, sir, not this season.

Q. What time did you leave the Third street dock last Wednesday? A. About twenty minutes to ten.

Q. Where were you when the fire occurred? A. I was on the midship gangway, port side.

Q. How far was that from the forward cabin? A. About twenty-five feet. I could see it. The first I knew some one yelled, "Fire!" and I tried to go down, but there was no chance, as it was all blazing.

HOSE BADLY TWISTED.

Another deck hand ran by and yelled to the mate and then Corcoran and others returned to stretch the hose. By this time the fire covered the entire front of the forward cabin. The hose had been coiled with the nozzle in the centre. The mate seized the nozzle and pulled; it came out, but the hose after it was badly twisted and with kinks everywhere.

Q. Did any water come through? A. Yes, quite a little stream, till the hose "busted."

Q. How long was that after the water came? A. About five minutes.

Q. Do you mean to say water ran in spite of the kinks? A. Yes, but it had no pressure. It was like water from a faucet, and carried, I should judge, ten feet. When the burst came the men left and I started to pull down life preservers.

Q. Did you close the door of the forward cabin when you left? A. Yes, sir, I closed that door and two others,

Corcoran said he had started for the hurricane deck, but he had not been able to get beyond the promenade deck on account of the crowd about the door. He was positive that no boats had been lowered. He thought that the "Slocum" was then opposite 105th or 106th street, but he was not quite certain, although he is familiar with the river. He did not know whether any new life preservers had been placed on the "Slocum" this year.

He said a false washer of solid rubber had been placed in the stand pipe in front of the nozzle supplying the fire hose. This had been done to prevent the hose from rotting, and to get water to the fire hose would have involved uncoupling the hose and removing the washer. This was not done, so far as he knew. The decks were usually washed by a rubber hose connected with pumps on docks, but when this was not convenient salt water was drawn through the stand pipe and the washer protected the fire hose. There had been some talk about using the little rubber hose on the fire, but it was then too late and nothing was done.

FIRST SUIT FOR DAMAGES.

In the first of the suits for damages which have been brought against the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company for loss of life on the "General Slocum" the interesting point has been raised that as the disaster occurred on inland waters the United States statute limiting the liability of owners to the value of the vessel does not apply.

Jacob Friedman, a lawyer, counsel for Mrs. Kate Mattler, who lost four children on the ill-fated "Slocum," began an action in her behalf for the recovery of \$50,000.

"I expect to obtain judgment against the owners on
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the ground that they failed to provide proper life preservers and proper means to extinguish fire, and that the officers failed to stop the boat so that the passengers could be saved. Section No. 4,283 of the United States Revised Statutes, which has been referred to frequently since the disaster, will not avail the company in seeking to evade financial responsibility, for two reasons: first, the accident happened on an inland stream and Section No. 4,289, of the Revised Statutes provides that Section 4,283 does not apply to accidents on inland streams; second, officers of the company owning the vessel had knowledge or in law will be deemed to have had knowledge of the deficient equipment of the boat."

PLAIN VIOLATION OF LAW.

"In addition it has been decided in cases brought under the State law that officers of a company may be held for violations of law when the violations are due to acts or omissions of acts which they are charged by law to perform.

"I intend also to sue the president of the company individually, as the State law holds an officer liable when a corporation fails to observe the law."

After an examination of the standpipe and hose taken from the wreck of the "Slocum," Coroner O'Gorman declared that he was convinced that absolutely no attempt was made by the crew of the burned steamer to fight the flames.

"The stand pipe," said the Coroner, "had not been unscrewed, and as for the hose, it is all burned on a flat edge. That is to say, it is not burned all around, as it would have been had it been strung out and put in service. Instead, there is a long streak of black along the

edges, showing that the flames scorched it as it lay coiled up and flattened.

"Most of this hose, I find, is made of the cheapest material, and while capable of carrying water, a stream must be run through it for about ten minutes before any effective work can be done with it. It was absolutely useless for an emergency such as that which arose."

Regarding the life ring, which was found at the bottom of the river with four women clinging to it, Coroner O'Gorman said:

"That is the finest anchor I ever saw. Why, it is incapable of sustaining even its own weight above water."

"There is no use reinspecting the steamboats in the harbor," said a steamboat inspector who was among witnesses at the inquest. He spoke plainly, but requested that his name should not be disclosed.

INSPECTORS PASS THE BOATS.

"This order is all rot," he continued, "and every steamboat man knows it. Every boat will be prepared for the inspection, and of course the inspectors will have to give them the O. K. mark.

"We have a pretty tough time of it, as an experience I had the day after the "Slocum" disaster will show. I was going over a boat and hauled down a couple of life-preservers to see what condition they were in. They didn't look right, and I told the owner and captain that all of them would have to come down. They both kicked.

"I tore the covering off one of the preservers despite the protests of the captain. I then told the owner he would have to get new ones. He insisted that they were

good enough, and I said he could do as he pleased about it, but I was going to condemn them all.

"The fire hose was nicely coiled up with a highly polished brass nozzle and looked fine. But when I unreeled the hose I found it was rotten. In case of fire it would have been absolutely useless. I ordered them to get new hose, and I am going back there to see that they do it.

"These so-called fire drills on excursion steamers are farces. I know what I am talking about, for I have worked on boats for years. They have fire drills on the big passenger steamers that run the year round, but on these excursion steamers the crew is changing all the time and they never have drills. The only part of the crew that has any permanency is in the pilot house and engine room. The deck crew is changed two and three times a week, the captain picking up any one he can get. You know they don't pay much.

TWO RIGID RULES.

"There are two points to the "Slocum" disaster to which attention ought to be called. One is that no passenger steamboat should be built with wooden stanchions, If the stanchions on the "Slocum" had been of iron the deck would not have fallen and many lives would have been saved. And if the life preservers were made of solid cork, instead of granulated cork, it would make no difference if the covering was torn. The life preserver would still do its work."

The following statement was made by a responsible journal:—

"The John D. Rockefeller millions have come to the aid of the sufferers from the "Slocum" disaster. It was

learned that a contribution was received which was not registered, but which places the fund upon a foundation of solid rock. It leaked out that a telephone message had been received from the offices of the Standard Oil Company that the great fortune of the richest man in the world was at its disposal to be drawn upon for any deficiency in the fund which might remain after other donations had ceased to come in.

"This renders easy and practicable the plan of the committee to resolve itself into a permanent organization for the future maintenance of the children who have been left orphans and the dependents who have been left without support. It was decided at the meeting of the committee at the St. Mark's Lutheran Church that a permanent organization should be effected, that incorporation papers should be taken out and that a legal name should be adopted in order that the committee might become legal guardians of the children and dependents deprived of their support by the disaster.

LOOKING AFTER ORPHANS.

"It was decided that when the immediate necessities of the sufferers had all been met and the exact dimensions of the fund definitely ascertained an appropriation should be made for each orphan and dependent, to be kept in trust for that child or dependent as long as he or she might need it.

"It was announced that \$5,000 had been pledged to undertakers for funeral expenses, and \$500 expended for drugs, medical attendance, food and mourning clothing, and that the most pressing necessities of the sufferers had been largely cleared away."

The question arose as to how the captains and pilots

of the steamboats in the harbor are licensed. General Dumont, the local United States Steamboat Inspector, said: "These men receive their certificates from this office after rigid examination. They have to prove themselves thoroughly competent before the certificates are granted."

It appears, therefore, that the Federal officials may be held responsible not only for the condition of the "Slocum" and its apparatus, but also for the ability of its captain and pilots.

While Captain Van Schaick was spoken of in highest terms by his confreres on the river front, it was generally acknowledged that the captain of an excursion boat acts largely as a fiscal agent for the owners, and has to keep a keen eye upon money matters. Under the law he is compelled to remain in the pilot house only while passing Hell Gate or other such dangerous points, but for the remainder of the time is expected to stay on the deck.



CHAPTER X.

NEW HORRORS SHOCK THE PUBLIC.

HENRY LUNDBERG, Assistant Inspector of Steamboats, was committed to the House of Detention by Coroner Joseph I. Berry, of the Bronx, when an adjournment was taken in the inquest into the death of the victims of the "General Slocum" disaster. Lundberg seemed nonplussed and stared about helplessly while his lawyer made a vain plea in his behalf. Coroner Berry refused to permit the Federal official to leave the courtroom in the custody of his counsel.

Assistant District Attorney, Francis P. Garvan, who had applied for the commitment of the inspector, said he would not object to having bail set at a sum that seemed to him most reasonable—\$500. Mr. Lundberg gave a sigh of relief when the Coroner acquiesced. After a slight delay the bail bond was signed and the inspector left the court.

Mr. Garvan had described Mr. Lundberg's actions on the witness stand as a "disgraceful spectacle on the part of a United States official." The inspector, by advice of his counsel, had refused to answer almost every question put to him on the plea that anything he said might tend to incriminate him.

Investigation was resumed of the bills for life preservers sent to the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company which were produced at the inquest on Monday, June 20th, by Frank A. Barnaby, president of the company. In four out of five of these bills the name of the steamer

"Grand Republic" had been clumsily erased by means of acid and the words "General Slocum" had been written in its place.

Miss M. C. Hall, who had charge of the company's books, was called upon for an explanation. She said she had been in the habit for some years of making erasures in her books with acid, instead of drawing her pen through an entry. All bills from the firm that sold the life preservers were addressed to the "Grand Republic." She did not enter them in her books at once but kept them until they were paid. To be able to enter them properly she marked some of them for the "General Slocum's" account.

CHANGED NAMES ON BILLS.

Closely questioned she admitted that she had changed the name on some of these bills for safety appliances without knowing to which of the company's boats they had been consigned, but she insisted that she had not altered the bills since the accident.

There was nothing brought out in the testimony to show that one of the 350 life preservers purchased by the company this year had been placed aboard the "Slocum." All had been consigned to the "Grand Republic," and none of the "Slocum's" crew had seen any of them. Three of the crew had been examined and agreed that no fire drill had been held on the "Slocum" this year. Several radical defects of the boat were brought to notice.

Henry Lundberg, Assistant United States Inspector of Hulls, who made the inspection of the life preservers and other equipments of the "General Slocum" had no sooner seated himself in the witness chair than his personal counsel addressed the Coroner in his behalf.

"In a great disaster of this kind," he said, "the public looks for some one upon whom may be placed the responsibility, and, unfortunately for Mr. Lundberg, there seems to be indications that he is the man selected. The press, the District Attorney and others appear to be pointing toward Mr. Lundberg, and therefore we feel that we must refuse to answer all questions at this time on the ground that it might tend to incriminate him."

Coroner Berry struck the table with his gavel. "I must resent the insinuation that any injustice is to be done in this court," he said.

WITNESS NOTHING TO FEAR.

"I also resent these insinuations," said Mr. Garvan. "This witness has nothing to fear. The refusal to answer questions is only for the protection of criminals, and I want this witness to understand that his refusal puts him in a bad light. The spectacle of a United States officer taking this ground is not a pleasing one. If he has done but his duty he has nothing to fear."

Former Judge Dittenhoefer, representing the president of the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company, and Mr. McManus, representing the company generally, said they had no objection to the witness answering any and all questions. There was a long wrangle among the lawyers, and Coroner Berry reserved his decision as to whether or not the witness should be required to answer. Meanwhile Mr. Garvan proceeded with the examination.

To the first preliminary questions Lundberg answered that he was thirty-four years old, lived in Brooklyn, was appointed January 13, 1904, from the Civil Service list by James A. Dumont, and received a salary of \$2,000 a year.

"How many ships have you examined this year?" was Mr. Garvan's next question.

"I refuse to answer," said the witness.

"On what grounds?"

"That it would tend to incriminate me."

"Were you the inspector of the hull of the 'General Slocum'?"

"I must refuse to answer," again muttered Lundberg in low tones.

"On what grounds?"

"That it would tend to incriminate me."

"Did you examine the 'General Slocum' on May 6, 1904?"

"I refuse to answer any questions because I don't know what date it was and it might incriminate me."

Mr. Garvan stepped nearer to the witness and again asked:

QUESTIONS NOT ANSWERED.

"Did you examine the 'General Slocum'?"

"Yes, sir. I sent my report to the office, and that's all I've got to say."

"Did you report that there were 2,550 good life preservers on that boat?"

"I refuse to answer on the ground that it might incriminate me."

"Will you tell this jury what your examination of that boat was like?" (Same answer.)

"Did you, sir, perform an honest inspection of the 'General Slocum'?" (Same answer.)

Failing to get but the one answer from Lundberg Mr. Garvan turned to the Coroner and said: "That is

all, but I think this witness should be detained in the House of Detention."

"I'll place him there," said Coroner Berry.

"I would ask that you place him in my custody," said his lawyer.

"No; I shall send him to the House of Detention," said the Coroner. Mr. Gilbert then asked that he be admitted to bail.

"Fix the bail at \$500," said the Assistant District Attorney, and Mr. Gilbert protested.

"This man will not run away," he said. "It is unfair and unprecedented to treat a public officer in this way."

"He may be a public officer now," broke in Mr. Garvan, "but I hardly believe he will be when it is known that he has refused to answer these questions."

Lundberg was detained in the custody of a policeman to await the arrival of a bondsman.

CREW NEVER DRILLED.

When Daniel O'Neil was called to the stand as the first witness at the Coroner's inquest, the temporary court room in the Second Battery's armory, at Bathgate avenue and 177th street, was well filled.

O'Neil is twenty-four years old. He said he had never worked on a boat until last April, when he obtained employment as a deck hand on the "Slocum." He had never seen a fire drill, and nothing had ever been done in his presence with the life boats or the fire hose. At the time of Inspector Lundberg's visit to the boat he had seen a man using a tape measure on the hurricane deck, but had not noticed that any of the life preservers were removed from their places.

Mr. Garvan had received a communication declaring

that there had been a fire in the forward cabin of the "Slocum" on the day before the accident, but none of the crew questioned had any knowledge of it. O'Neil said he had not been in the forward cabin at all on Wednesday morning, the day of the accident. He had helped to carry five barrels of glasses aboard the evening before, but he did not know where they had been placed. He saw one of them on Wednesday under a keg of beer.

In the forward cabin, O'Neil said, were stored stools, old rope, awning, wood, oil, paint, some life preservers, charcoal and canvas. There was no regular light in the place but the door was left open.

O'Neil was on the port gangway amidship when he heard a shout and saw dense smoke. The mate, Flanagan, came up yelling. O'Neil helped to take down the hose, and after handing the nozzle to another deck hand turned on the water. He then saw the water rushing from the pipe and heard Flanagan call for another hose.

COUPLING DID NOT FIT.

The rubber deck hose was brought, but it could not be used, as the coupling did not fit on the standpipe. At the time the fire was discovered he believed that the boat was through Hell Gate.

Q. What did you do when the rubber hose was put aside? A. With Corcoran, I waved my hat to a tug passing with lighters. Then I tried to pacify the crowd. I saw a rowboat coming to our assistance and I jumped to help the man in it.

Q. Did you capsize the rowboat? A. It capsized and I swam ashore.

Q. Did you wear a life preserver? A. No.

Q. Before you jumped didn't you hear the man in the boat cry that he had enough aboard? A. I heard him, but I wanted to help him.

Q. You are an expert swimmer? A. I don't think so.

Everett Brandow, assistant engineer, testified that he had worked six seasons on the "Slocum." There was on the boat a valve by which steam could be turned into the fire room, but there were no arrangements for turning on steam elsewhere. The "Slocum" left the Third street pier at about twenty minutes to ten, and it was about half-past ten when mate Flanagan reported the fire.

FULL SPEED THROUGH HELL GATE.

He said the boat always ran at full speed through Hell Gate. Before the alarm he had been told that the excursionists did not wish to reach their destination until one o'clock, and the pilot, Van Wart, gave the signal "slow." He inferred that the "Slocum" had passed Hell Gate.

After the fire signal, there came an order for full speed, then one sounded to stop, and later one to go ahead. The next order was to "slow," the final one was "full speed." These directions were so fast that they almost came together. Brandow believed the interval between each one had been four or five seconds. When the boat beached he stopped the machinery.

Conklin, the chief engineer, started for the donkey engine room on the first alarm, the witness said, and Brandow next saw him on North Brother Island.

Brandow jumped just forward of the wheel. The passengers were massed aft, where there was no fire at

that time, as the flames were all forward. The assistant engineer said he had helped to pull out of the shallow water a little girl who was drowning.

Edwin N. Weaver, second pilot, testified that he had been a licensed pilot since May, 1900; that he had served five or six years on the "General Slocum," but had never seen any fire drill on the boat; did not know that any new life preservers had been placed on the vessel during his service and had no knowledge of any apparatus or equipment for turning steam into the hold in case of fire.

"As the second pilot of the 'General Slocum,' asked Mr. Garvan, "did you know of any signals giving the order to turn steam into the hold of the ship in case of fire?"

"I never heard of such signals on the boat," he said.

NO CHANCE TO TURN ON STEAM.

Q. Was there any apparatus for turning steam into the hold? A. Not to my knowledge, sir.

Q. Did you ever see any fire drill on the boat? A. No, sir.

Q. Do you think the Captain could have had such a drill without your knowledge? A. No, sir.

The witness described the hose in use on the "Slocum" and said that at the opening of the season he was sent to purchase 100 feet of hose for the after main deck and bought it in Park Place, paying 16 cents a foot.

The first knowledge of the fire came to him when he was standing in the pilot house with Van Wert, the first pilot, and Captain Van Schaick.

"We were just three lengths past the Sunken Mead-

ows," he said, "when Mate Flanagan called up the tube, 'The ship's on fire forward.' We were then going at full speed. The Captain said, 'I'll go down and see about it,' and within a minute he came back and said, 'Put her on North Brother Island as quick as you can.' I grabbed the whistle and kept it blowing for help and Van Wert rang the fire alarm bells on the decks. In a very short time the flames and smoke were rolling up over the hurricane decks and into the pilot house. I had closed the windows to keep the flames out."

Q. Did you see any effort made to get the lifeboats loose? A. I did not.

Q. Did you see any of the crew on the hurricane deck? A. No, sir.

Coroner Berry then asked:—"If you had been in charge of the vessel, where, in your judgment was the best place to beach her?"

BEACHED IN BEST PLACE.

"The exact spot where she was put," he said with much emphasis.

"Don't you think Locust Point, at 129th street, would have been a better place for the passengers?"

"No sir. She was running at full speed with the flood tide and to have turned her there would have required from five to eight minutes and not a soul would have been alive to tell the tale. By going to North Brother we turned gradually and gave the passengers a better chance to escape.

"The 'General Slocum' was the best equipped boat of the kind I was ever on."

When Miss M. C. Hall was summoned as a witness several bulky bundles of ledgers were brought forward

by court attendants. She began her testimony in so low a voice that persons close to her could not hear. She has been employed by the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company since 1890. She has been sole bookkeeper since 1895. She now acts as bookkeeper, stenographer and cashier.

She said she had handed several papers to the secretary of the company for Mr. Barnaby on Monday morning. She had done nothing to any of them since she was told to get them on Saturday. She remembered that some time before she had erased the name of the "Grand Republic."

SEPARATE ACCOUNTS OF STEAMERS.

Q. Why did you do that? A. I tried to keep the accounts of the two steamers separate and to avoid making any mistakes, so when I believed that supplies for the "Slocum" were billed to the "Grand Republic" I changed the name to keep right.

Q. Is that true? A. (with spirit) Yes, it is true.

Q. How long is it since you changed these bills? A. I do not remember. It has been a common occurrence for me to change the bills.

Q. Did you make these changes within two months? A. I do not know.

Q. How did you find out to which boat the charges should be made? A. By consulting one of the captains, preferably Captain Pease.

Miss Hall became confused when she was asked for details. She had kept separate accounts for the steamers, she said, yet when her books were produced she declared that there was no way for her to tell whether any life preservers had been charged to the account of the

"General Slocum" since 1902. Her system of book-keeping, she then explained, only gives the total amounts for repairs by months.

By searching through the books she found two or three places where she had used acid to erase entries. She was able to find in her ledger charges against the "Grand Republic" for life preservers in 1902 and 1903 covering the amounts of the bills that she had altered. This year's purchases have not been posted in her books, as she only enters them either when the bills are paid or else at the end of the season. She expressed herself as certain that she had not altered the bills since the "General Slocum" disaster.

WHY BILLS WERE CHANGED.

Q. Now, will you tell me why you changed these last bills? A. For my personal assistance when the time came to enter the bills. All purchases from the firm of David Kahnweiler & Co. were billed to the "Grand Republic." I wished to enter them right after speaking to the captains.

Q. But why did you insert the name of the "Slocum?" A. I intended to find out later. I have not inquired yet, because the bills were not paid.

Q. And not knowing for which boat the life preservers were intended, you changed the name on a bill dated May 19? A. Well, you see, when I wanted to make a change I was accustomed to use acid. I did so as a matter of convenience in this case, so I should not charge all to the "Grand Republic."

Q. Do not all bills for supplies give the name of the ship for which they are intended? Yes, but often incorrectly.

Miss Hall declared, with some display of agitation, that she did not know that the 350 life-preservers bought this year had been correctly charged to the "Grand Republic," for which they were intended. She found that her books showed that the "Grand Republic" had received all the life-preservers bought in 1902 and 1903.

"Can you now tell us the reason why you took the name of the "Grand Republic" from the bill dated May 19, 1904?" pressed Mr. Garvan.

"I couldn't give any," replied Miss Hall.

She denied that he had received instructions from any person to alter the bills. She had used acid for erasures since 1891 or 1892. Mr. Barnaby, she said, examined her books very rarely and did not interfere with her system. Even if she changed the title it made no difference, as all went into one account at the end of the season. Several of the jurors questioned Miss Hall. She promised to look for other bills with acid erasures, and left the court room.

LIFE PRESERVERS DELIVERED.

Miss Reba Goldberg, bookkeeper for the firm of David Kahnweiler & Co., was the next witness. She testified that she had made out the bills offered in evidence and that she had written "Grand Republic" where "General Slocum" had been substituted. The order for the life-preservers had been given by Captain J. A. Pease, of the "Grand Republic," and the receipt showed that they had been delivered on his boat.

Oscar Kahnweiler, a member of the firm, said he had sold about 2,250 life-preservers for use on the "Slocum" in 1891. He was quite positive that he had billed none to the boat since 1895. Before selling life-preservers

they must have the government inspector's stamp. Life-preservers that are kept properly may last twenty years. He had seen some on the steamer "Dean Richmond" in good condition after twenty-eight or thirty years' service.

Mr. Garvan brought from a back room a wretched specimen of a life-preserver, with the canvas torn in a dozen places and the granulated cork stuffing falling out whenever it was moved. It was one of those taken from the "Slocum."

"Do you think that this life-preserver's life is over?" he inquired, showing it to the witness.

Mr. Kahnweiler examined it critically and said:—"I would be willing to trust to that in the water now with my arms and feet tied together."

OLD, ROTTEN LIFE PRESERVERS.

"But you could float with your hands and feet tied without this?" suggested Mr. Garvan, tearing an end of the strap.

"Oh! yes," was the reply.

"Then you mean that this would not sink you?"

"I would not float with it, but go into the water face downward."

Mr. Kahnweiler expressed confidence that such life-preservers would be sufficient to support persons in the water. After explaining the regulation test he was excused.

From daylight until midnight the East River continued to give up victims of the disaster. At times the smaller patrol boats were so heavily laden with those recovered that they had difficulty in making the shore. At six o'clock 111 bodies had been taken from the water.

Explosives were used freely in bringing the bodies

to the surface. Heavy charges of dynamite were set off all around the wreck of the "General Slocum," and in addition to this two field guns from the Second Battery were taken out on a float at eleven o'clock and fired at frequent intervals along part of the path of the ill-fated vessel. Launches and other boats followed the float closely, and at times the entire fleet was unable to take care of the bodies as fast as they appeared.

Shortly after noon the guns fired several shots near the wreck of the "Slocum" and sixteen bodies rose to the surface. They had been lying in a deep hole near the sunken hull. Thirteen bodies were found along the shores of College Point. More were found at Whitestone. Most of the bodies recovered were those of women and children.

BODIES IN PADDLE BOXES.

The bodies of two women were chopped out of the paddle boxes of the "General Slocum" during the afternoon and the hulk was raised to the surface and towed to City Island during the night.

Coroner Berry found it necessary to issue a new order for the identification of the dead in order to prevent ghouls from obtaining possession of bodies or the purpose of getting valuables which belonged to them.

The Coroner admitted that in several instances efforts had been made to steal the tags from the bodies and in that way get their hands on the jewelry that belonged to these bodies. "Because of this," said he, "I have instituted a system by which every person who claims a body must himself be satisfactorily identified. We now have at least \$250,000 worth of jewelry and valuables taken from the bodies."

Orders were received at North Brother Island at night that all bodies recovered thereafter should be placed in metallic coffins and sent at once to the Lutheran Cemetery and buried in the plot set apart for the unknown dead.

The location where each body is buried would be carefully marked, so that if bodies could be afterward identified from the clothing or effects, which would be kept and numbered, the bodies could be disinterred and buried elsewhere if the relatives so desired.

Her wedding ring led to the identification of Mrs. Henry Schmidt, whose body was found floating off College Point. There was no clew to her identity except in the inscription "H. S. to E. E., 1903," engraved in the ring, no woman of her description having been reported missing.

LOOKING UP RECORDS.

At the suggestion of the Rev. Mr. Fieldman, who was in constant attendance at St. Mark's Church, application was made to the Bureau of Vital Statistics, and it was there ascertained that the only persons married during the year 1903 having the initials found in the ring were Henry Schmidt and Emma Eckhardt, who were married on March 15 in that year by the Rev. Dr. J. Geyer.

Detective Ross, of Inspector Schmittberger's staff, who obtained the report, found Henry Schmidt, a grocer. Mr. Schmidt said his wife had gone on the picnic and her body had not been found. He had not reported the matter and his wife's name was therefore not on the list of the missing.

"President Roosevelt sent a contribution of \$500 to

the Relief Fund," Mr. Herman Ridder announced after a meeting of the Relief Committee, "and Archbishop Farley sent \$100." In regard to the sum that Mr. Rockefeller was to give, Mr. Ridder stated that no definite promise had been made by him.

"We wish to have it well understood," he added, "that no one is authorized to make collections for this committee. The public is warned not to give money to any one except Mr. Shiff.

"We are having considerable difficulty in learning where need exists. Persons who have been sorely afflicted and who have never asked for aid suffer in silence. They will not let us know of their condition. We have asked the police and public school teachers to help us in discovering needy cases, and we wish to make a public appeal that all such cases be reported at the church, or by telegraph or telephone, at our expense."

STUFFED WITH BULLRUSHES.

Life preservers made of bullrushes which the Brooklyn police believed were a part of the equipment of the "General Slocum" were picked up along the Brooklyn water front. Several of the preservers were seen drifting down the river and some were fished out of the water.

The men were surprised when they opened one of them and saw that instead of cork the so-called preservers was made up of nothing but rushes. The canvas was rotten. The rushes or sea grass were a little larger in diameter than a lead pencil, and the interior was filled with a porous matter, which apparently absorbs water like a sponge, for the water could be squeezed out of the ends.

In memory of the "Slocum's" victims the Alder-

manic Chamber was draped with mourning, and orders were given to drape the entire City Hall.

That the administration at Washington was determined not only to probe the official responsibility for the "Slocum" disaster but so to improve the steamship inspection laws that such calamities would be avoided in the future was shown in a statement issued at the Department of Commerce and Labor. The subject of the disaster and the revision of the laws was the most important topic discussed at the Cabinet meeting. The statement is in part as follows:

"In response to Secretary Cortelyou's request, the President directed the assignment of an officer of the army and an officer of the navy to the commission to investigate the disaster to the 'General Slocum.'

LAW REQUIRES INVESTIGATION.

"The investigation by the local Board of Inspectors, is not made under the order of the Secretary, but it is absolutely compulsory by Section 4,450 of the Revised Statutes, and this investigation is directed solely at the question of revocation of the licenses of the vessel's officers.

"Persons have confused this investigation with the one to be made by the commission just appointed and have supposed that the investigation by the local Board was ordered by the Secretary and intended to cover the whole subject.

"The difference between these two investigations, and the fact that the one by the local Board is required by statute, should be made clear."

A letter from Secretary Cortelyou to Mayor McClellan regarding the Mayor's request for a reinspec-

tion was made public. The Secretary said, "I had already ordered a reinspection," and called attention in that connection to general orders sent to collectors and inspectors on May 23 directing rigid inspections of excursion boats, particularly just before holidays, when there are many excursions.

In conclusion, the department made public a letter signed by Secretary Cortelyou declaring that this investigation would be made thorough and the Federal officers held to strict accountability.

The following was communicated by the Associated Press of Philadelphia:

LETTER FROM ADMIRAL MELVILLE.

"Filed away in the archives at Washington is a letter written by the then chief of engineers of the navy, Rear Admiral George W. Melville, that is interesting reading in view of the disaster on the 'General Slocum.' It is couched in vigorous language and without mincing words, declares the entire system of inspection, the laws and the manner of enforcing such laws loose to such a degree as to be a menace to life. As a result of this letter a commission was appointed to make a thorough investigation.

"Rear Admiral Melville was asked if he would point out where the laws and their enforcement are so inadequate. He smiled grimly. 'I guess I had better not,' he said: 'there will be courts of inquiry and coroners' inquests and investigations enough without my getting into a controversy.'"

"Do the defects that existed then exist to-day?" was asked.

"Certainly," was the reply.

"Are the defects existing due to the law or its manner of enforcement?"

"They are due to a defective law and a non-enforcement of that law. The department to-day has an insufficient number of reliable, responsible inspectors."

A New York newspaper commented as follows on the terrible calamity:

"Bullrush life-preservers and fire hose at sixteen cents a foot formed part of the life-saving and fire-fighting equipment of the 'General Slocum' and explains in some slight degree the fearful loss of life.

PRICE OF FIRE HOSE.

"The bullrush life-preservers were not placed in evidence at the inquest held by Coroner Berry in the Armory of the Second Battery, N. Y. N. G., at Bathgate avenue and One Hundred and Seventy-seventh street, in The Bronx, but a bill from the New York Belting and Packing Company showed that the fire hose had been bought at forty cents a foot, with 60 per cent. off. The lives of the passengers upon the 'Slocum' are thus shown to have depended upon fire hose that cost less than the cheapest garden hose, and was far more worthless.

"This and the strange spectacle of a United States Inspector refusing to answer the questions asked him for fear they might incriminate him formed the most striking feature of the inquest.

"Inspector Lundberg, by advice of his lawyer, refused to answer the questions of Mr. Garvan, and voluntarily placed himself in the position of a defendant. He was placed under arrest as a witness, and ordered detained in the House of Detention for witnesses, but was

later released on \$500 bail. By the investigation was developed fully the fact that there had never been a fire drill on the 'Slocum.'

"A picked up crew of truck drivers, dock laborers, housesmiths and land workers of all classes were entrusted with the lives of thousands of woman and children daily.

"Not one of them had ever been instructed in a fire drill, or had ever learned the station he was to take or the duties he was to perform in case of fire or panic. Only a few of them were in any way familiar with the boat. Not one of them saved a human life when the 'Slocum' burned.

DAMAGING TESTIMONY.

"One, a land laborer, a few days on the boat, testified that he leaped into the lifeboat when it was lowered and swamped it. The captain, according to the testimony of the second pilot, Edwin Weaver, was not in the pilot house at any time after the fire was reported. The engineer, according to the testimony of the assistant engineer, Brandow, was not in the engine room after the fire was reported.

"The mate, Edward Flanagan, a housesmith, acting as mate without a license, in violation of law, did nothing toward marshalling the crew and instructing them as to what they should do after the fake fire hose, at sixteen cents a foot, had burst, and their first futile, senseless effort to use the hose without taking out the false washer had failed of effect. He made no attempt to use the hose attached to the other standpipe forty feet aft of the forward standpipe, and on the starboard side, clear of all flames, according to the testimony of all the witnesses.

"Every member of the crew has sworn that the flames spread along the port side. The after starboard standpipe was clear and there were no flames in that section, and yet the demoralized, panic-stricken crew made no effort to use it, but fled wildly to other parts of the ship, and either leaped into the water or jumped into the only boat lowered and swamped it, drowning a score of women and children.

"And added to these evidences of criminal economy was the unpleasant spectacle of the United States Steamboat Inspector responsible for the condition of the apparatus on board the 'Slocum' deliberately refusing to testify or in any manner aid the Coroner and the Assistant District-Attorney in ascertaining the facts connected with the frightful catastrophe.

EXPERT ON LIFE PRESERVERS.

"In this attitude he is supported apparently by his superior, Robert S. Rodie, Supervising Steamboat Inspector of this division. Mr. Rodie has refused to make any statement whatever concerning the 'Slocum' disaster. He spent much time examining life preservers and in preparing to qualify as an expert concerning them,

"That the fire on the 'Slocum' must be regarded as a national calamity was shown by the appointment of a commission of investigation by Secretary Cortelyou of the Department of Commerce and Labor. The investigation will be entirely independent of that of the local board of steamboat inspectors. The Second Battery of the National Guard fired cannon across the waters near the wreck and thus brought up many bodies."

CHAPTER XI.

THE STEAMBOAT A DEATH TRAP.

AT the Coroner's inquest on the second day an important part of the testimony related to the porter's visit to the storeroom with a lighted lamp. This room was filled with inflammable stuff and it is supposed that in or near it the fire originated. Testimony regarding the inadequacy of protection against fire existing on the vessel and the age and poor condition of the life-preservers was corroborative of what had already been brought out.

While life-preservers that were falling to pieces were being taken from the racks of the steamer "General Slocum" from time to time, no effort was made to replace them and those that were condemned were merely thrown into the forward cabin or under the bunks in the forecabin. Formal admission was made by the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company at the inquest before Coroner Joseph I. Berry, in The Bronx, that no new life-preservers had been bought for the steamer since 1895.

Assistant District Attorney Francis P. Garvan, who examined all the witnesses, showed that the mate of the boat, Edward Flanagan, has never seen a life-preserver aboard bearing a later date of inspection than 1891, the year that the "Slocum" was launched.

Mr. Garvan insisted in the Coroner's court that the bills for life-preservers introduced by Frank A. Barnaby, president of the steamboat company, had been presented in bad faith. Mr. Barnaby was recalled to the witness

stand, and he modified his original statements, not having been able to show that any of the fire fighting apparatus purchased has been placed aboard the "Slocum" for its safety.

In addition to the occasion when a few life-preservers were condemned by United States Inspector Lundberg, at the time of his official visit, in May, when the inspector had poked a cane through several and instructed the mate to remove them, the attention of the mate had been directed by a deck hand before the disaster to a life-belt that was falling apart in the rack. This man pulled down some of the life-preservers at the time of the disaster and noticed holes in them.

PRISONER'S BAIL CONTINUED.

Lundberg, who had been held in \$500 bail as a witness, was not recalled during the day. His bail was continued, so that he would be kept on hand until the inquest was concluded.

Evidence was multiplied that the "General Slocum" was not equipped in any way for fighting a fire. Cheap new fire hose had been provided this year, but it had not been tested in any way, either by the inspectors or the officers of the boat.

When the emergency arose, the hose could not be used; it was kinked and twisted, the coupling to the standpipe slid off and the nozzle could not be attached. According to the testimony of the mate this hose cost sixteen cents a foot. The commodore of the Knickerbocker fleet, Captain J. A. Pease, who had not heard this figure given, declared with emphasis that good hose could not be bought at that price.

Great progress was made during the day, and at the

conclusion of the session Mr. Garvan said he hoped to bring the inquest to an end next day.

The Rev. Julius Schultz, pastor of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, of Erie, Pa., was called to the witness stand when the inquest opened. He told a graphic story of the panic on the "Slocum" on June 15. He had attended the excursion, and his first warning was the sight of flames shooting out of a gangway. There had been up to that time no alarms and no signals, and the children were romping about. Many of them were on the promenade deck, playing bean bag and jumping rope.

He saw the wife of the Rev. George Haas advancing, apparently in great excitement, and he went aft, where there was the greatest crowd, to see if he could render any assistance.

CALLED LOUDLY FOR HELP.

"My first apprehension of real danger," continued Mr. Schultz, "was when I saw a deck hand come running from the cabin. Women and children rushed to him and called to him for help. He brushed them aside and answered their appeals gruffly. He pushed through the crowd, mounted the rail and jumped overboard. Several little children then jumped into the water. I held one girl back and told her to wait for a tug, which was approaching.

"I pulled down a life preserver and as the strap broke with the weight, I thought it was useless and threw it down. All were strapped to the ceiling beyond the reach of the women. I saw but one deck hand besides the one who jumped; this one had a hose, but no water was coming from it."

Benjamin F. Conklin, for twelve years chief engi-

neer of the "Slocum," made several important admissions. He said the only steam pipe leaving the engine room led to the fire room, and there was no valve by which steam could be forced into the forward cabin in case of the outbreak of fire.

Q. Do you know that the law required steam pipes to each compartment in the hold? A. No, sir; I never heard of it.

Q. Were there any hand pumps on board? A. Yes, two, forward and aft?

Q. Were they worked in the fire? A. Not that I know of.

RUNNING VERY SLOWLY.

He said the "Slocum" had been running very slowly up the river at a rate of about six miles an hour, and had been stopped several times on account of passing vessels. The speed was not increased going through Hell Gate. He was notified by Flanagan that there was a fire forward, but nothing was said about pumps. He told the assistant engineer to take charge of the engine. He then went to the donkey engine to connect it with the pump, and he remained there until he was driven away by the smoke. He had no notice that the pumps were not working.

Q. Was the hose attached to the standpipe? A. We always kept it so.

Q. Could you tell if the hose was being used? A. That was my impression.

Q. Isn't it a fact that as soon as you had turned on the water you jumped on a passing tug? A. No, sir.

Q. What did you do after you deserted your post? A. I tried to assist some passengers; some of them after-

ward picked me up and carried me over to a tug or some other vessel.

Q. That was before the "Slocum" reached North Brother Island? A. No; it was after she had struck.

Q. Do you know if any fire drills were held on the "Slocum" this year? A. I do not.

In answer to questions of jurors, Conklin said he had not seen or heard of Captain Van Schaick after the fire began.

The nozzle of the fire hose was $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches; he had not been sufficiently interested to test if the hose and pipe could stand the pressure. He was certain that United States inspectors had not tested the hose. While he had not examined the hose, he knew that it was similar to that used on other steamers.

DECLARES IT WAS GOOD.

"How did the fire apparatus on the "General Slocum" compare with that on other river boats?" asked Terence J. McManus, counsel for the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company.

"It was as good as any I ever saw on any boat I was ever on," replied Conklin.

"Do you think the same of the crew?" inquired Mr. Garvan, with a sarcastic smile.

"So far as I know," was the non-committal answer.

Conklin thought that this year's boiler inspection had been extremely careful and rigid. When he had concluded Mr. McManus, on behalf of the steamboat company, made the admission that no new life preservers had been placed on the "Slocum" since 1895. Former Judge A. J. Dittenhoefer, personal counsel for Mr. Barnaby,

president of the company, said he would make no admission, as he had no personal knowledge.

Miss. M. C. Hall, bookkeeper, stenographer and cashier of the company, seemed distressed when she was again placed on the witness stand to submit to questions about the erasure of the name of the "Grand Republic" from bills for life preservers. Mr. McManus declared that there was no necessity for examining her, in view of his admission.

"It looks as though the officers were trying to shirk responsibility and to place it on the corporation," commented Coroner Berry.

"We are not attempting to shirk," cried Mr. Dittenhoefer. "We are standing on our rights."

"Any officer of any corporation could be placed in this same position," interjected Mr. McManus.

GETTING AT THE TRUTH.

"We wish to get to the truth," continued Mr. Dittenhoefer, "and the Court should not show animus."

Miss Hall had to answer the questions. She said she had been unable to find other original bills from which she had erased the name of an individual boat.

Q. Tell why you made the alteration. A. I took the name off because I am very busy in July and August and I am apt to make a mistake by charging everything to one vessel, so I removed the name to find out what portion should be charged to the "Grand Republic."

Q. (By a juror). How came you to take off the name before you found out? A. I understood that part of the life-preservers were for the "Slocum."

Q. How did you understand it? A. I suppose from something Captain Pease said.

Miss Hall said she believed Captain Pease had said the "Slocum" needed life-preservers. Then she saw him holding a sample and he said he would buy some.

"How do you get your accounts straight by guessing?" asked a juror.

"They are not always straight," Miss Hall replied helplessly.

She could say only that she had understood from Captain Pease that some of the life-preservers were to go to the "Slocum." She had not learned to the contrary until last. It merely had not suited her convenience to alter the names on other bills. She could not explain why she had just told Mr. Garvan that all the alterations had been made more than a year before, while one of the bills was dated May 9th:

CALLED ON TO EXPLAIN.

James K. Atkinson, secretary of the company, was recalled. At the outset he did not wish to identify a list of stockholders which he had prepared, saying: "It has been in other hands since it left mine and I wouldn't want to take any chances now, as there have been so many suggestions made."

Mr. Barnaby was then called upon for explanations of his original testimony. On Monday he said he had been informed by "everybody connected with the boat" that the life-preservers represented by the five bills in evidence had been bought for the "Slocum." With great hesitation he declared that he had not obtained the information from everybody.

Q. Who told you? A. (After a pause). I was told by Miss Hall first.

Q. By any one else? A. Yes, by some one who

had seen Captain Van Schaick. I think it was Mr. Parks. He said Van Schaick had spoken to him about having new life-preservers on the boat.

Q. Can you tell us any one else? A. Miss Hall said they had all been bought.

Mr. Dittenhoefer advised his client not to answer further questions and not to be bulldozed, but Mr. Barnaby continued in the same strain. He had not said originally that only part of the life-preservers had been placed on the "Slocum." His understanding had been that all were intended for that boat.

"On what did you found your understanding?" pursued Mr. Garvan.

"My advice is not to answer," exclaimed Mr. Dittenhoefer.

DOING HIS LEVEL BEST.

Mr. Barnaby seem distressed. Mr. Garvan stuck to this line, saying he had asked for the books and had obtained instead these bills, which Miss Hall had understood to represent in part material for the "Slocum," and which the president had asserted to be wholly for the "Slocum," until there was proof that all had gone to the "Grand Republic." Mr. Barnaby declared, "I am doing my level best to find out."

"Don't you know that men from my office went to the 'Grand Republic' the other night and counted every one of the new life-preservers represented by these bills?" asked Mr. Garvan.

While Mr. Barnaby was answering in the negative, Mr. McManus said:

"Your men also stole our log book."

Mr. Garvan seemed annoyed as he retorted: "I

say that this man came here in bad faith and tried to prove that life preservers bought for the "Grand Republic" had been placed on the "Slocum."

To a juror Mr. Barnaby said he understood his responsibilities, but he had left the purchase of supplies to the captains of the two boats.

"Did you understand that sixteen cent hose would not fight fire?" was Mr. Garvan's last question.

"I know little about hose," was the reply.

"There's something doing up forward," was a remark Charles A. Lang overheard on the deck as the boat was passing Fifty-seventh street, but he told the Coroner he didn't see any fire until Ninety-fourth street, and he couldn't be sure that the remark had any real significance. He was the first of the passengers on the excursion to be placed on the stand. He said he saw no effort on the part of any of the crew to lower the boats or do anything toward protecting life.

FUEL IN THE STOREROOM.

Oil, paint, hay, charcoal, lamps and other inflammable material were kept in the storeroom forward, where many persons believed the fire originated, and the door was not kept locked. This was the testimony of Walter Paine, a negro porter. He filled two dozen lamps in the storeroom while the steamer was at the Third street pier. He said that he then brought up his shoe-cleaning paraphernalia, and was standing near the forward gangway with the mate when someone notified Flanagan that there was something wrong in the hold forward. Both men ran forward and were driven back by the smoke.

"The mate shouted through the tube to the pilot house," said Paine, "and then I saw him at the hose. It

was twisted up and I tried to get the kinks out of it. The water only got three or four feet through the hose when it burst loose from the standpipe. The water was running all over the deck, so I ran to the standpipe to shut it off.'

Paine said he pulled down three or four rows of life preservers and distributed them. He couldn't swim, but he didn't put on a life preserver. He was rescued while clinging to the paddle wheel.

PROBING THE FIRE'S ORIGIN.

He said in the storeroom were two dozen lamps, three barrels of oil, one of machine, one of cylinder and one of mineral sperm oil, two or three barrels of glasses packed in soft hay, half a dozen empty barrels, some charcoal, some old life preservers, old canvas and other things he never examined. This room he said was kept closed but not locked. Two or three other men were in there on that Wednesday morning, but he couldn't give their names.

He said he lighted a lantern in the storeroom to see to clean his lamps, but he was sure that he put out the match before he threw it away.

Thomas Ryan, who worked at the chowder counter, said he had pulled down life preservers after hearing of the fire. He placed one on the steward of the boat, who was carrying a big bag of money. The steward was drowned. Ryan said he had helped a boy ashore.

George Owens, who had charge of the chowder counter, said he had not seen any member of the crew after they had failed to make the hose work.

Mrs. Maria Behrends, of No. 88 Third street, was the first woman sufferer called upon to testify. She said

the "Slocum" had just passed Blackwell's Island when there was a cry of "Fire!" followed by a panic. The officers and employees of the boat did nothing for the passengers, she said. She tried to find her children. She held herself on the rail until a tug came and rescued her. One of her daughters was saved; two others lost their lives,



CHAPTER XII.

WORTHLESS LIFE PRESERVERS.

WILLIAM W. TREMBLY testified that he had been engaged as a deck hand on the "Slocum" on May 20. Before that he was a waiter. There had been no fire drills on the boat. When his attention was called to the fire he helped the assistant engineer to pull down the hose, which was in a spiral. He tried to attach the nozzle, but could not, and no water flowed.

All he knew about the location of the "Slocum" was that she had passed Blackwell's Island. No attempt was made to launch the lifeboats.

A. S. Gilbert, counsel for Inspector Lundberg, drew out some very damaging facts about the condition of the life preservers.

Trembly said he had pulled thirty or forty lifebelts from the racks and thrown them to passengers. He noticed holes in several of them, and he believed with the vibration of the boat the rusty wires had cut through the canvas. Before the disaster he had called Mate Flanagan's attention to one preserver in a particularly torn condition, and he had been told to remove it. He had not reported other damaged preservers that he had seen, because it had not been his business. He could not help seeing the holes when he had handled the life preservers.

Captain John A. Pease, who is quite deaf, said he had sailed on the "Grand Republic" since she was built in 1878. He superintended the building of the "Slo-

cum" and had her put in order this spring. He had nothing to do with the life preservers on board, and he did not know whether any of them were stuffed with bull-rushes. He had obtained three hundred and fifty new life preservers for the "Grand Republic" this year.

Captain Pease said he overhauled the "Slocum" this spring, but supervised only the hull and machinery. Captain Van Schaick, he said, looked after the life saving and fire apparatus. He said positively he never had any talk with Miss Hall about life preservers for the "Slocum," thus contradicting the bookkeeper.

Captain Pease said he never bought any fire hose for the "Slocum," and when Mr. Garvan asked him, "Did you ever buy any good fire hose for sixteen cents a foot?" he replied:

CANNOT BE BOUGHT.

"No, I don't think anybody can."

Sixteen cents was the price paid for the "Slocum's" hose, according to the mate, but a hose which was used every day to fill the tanks was bought at a list of \$1.50 a foot with fifty and ten off, according to former Fire Marshal Freel.

Thomas Henry Barrett, United States Inspector of Boilers for the Port of New York, made the positive statement in the opening of his testimony that the "General Slocum" had no hold, and that consequently the provisions in the United States statutes providing for valves to every compartment in a steamer's hold to flood it with steam in the event of fire did not apply. He said John W. Fleming, subordinate to him, made an inspection of the "Slocum" boilers this spring.

"The Slocum" in my opinion, had no hold," said the witness.

Q. Will you show us anything in the law which says that steamers of this kind have no hold? A. I cannot.

Henry A. Wise, Assistant United States District Attorney, took the witness in hand first.

"Here is a ship drawing seven feet of water, with the engines on the main deck," he said. "Would you say the rooms forward and aft of the fire room underneath the engines were cabin or hold?" He enumerated the rooms—kitchen, dining room, storage room. Mr. Barrett said what he considered the hold of a ship is the part that the cargo is put in and it is sealed by hatches.

WOULD HAVE BEEN A GOOD THING.

Representative Goulden, one of the jurors, asked Barrett what would have been the objection to putting a pipe in that storeroom.

"None at all," said the witness, and he admitted that it would have been a good thing.

Robert Jacob, a shipbuilder, who was one of the jury, then took the witness in hand and caused Mr. Barrett to admit that there was no such thing as a ship without a hold.

Q. By Mr. Jacob:—This vessel carried barrels of glasses and other supplies for her excursions. Where do you put these things? Wouldn't you put them down in the hold? A. Well, I don't know where I'd put them.

Q. Did you ever see a ship without a hold, Colonel?
A. No, sir.

Following his chief John W. Fleming, the United States boiler inspector who inspected the "Slocum" at

the same time as Lundberg came on the stand and announced that he was very deaf. He said he and Lundberg worked separately. He tested the boilers and engines and found everything in first class condition.

Q. Did you put pressure on the fire hose with the donkey engine? A. No.

"Didn't you find any forward compartment in your inspection?" asked the lawyer.

"I didn't go there at all," admitted the witness. "I don't know what is forward of the engine room or aft. I didn't go there."

"Did the 'Slocum' have any arrangement of valves leading from the boiler to any part of the ship to flood it in case of fire?" asked Mr. Garvan.

"No, sir," answered Fleming, his voice rising to a shout, "because if she did it would be a mistake. She didn't need them."

PITIABLE CONDITION OF THE CAPTAIN.

Crippled for life, his nerves shattered and his mental anguish so great that he could scarcely contain himself at any mention of the disaster to his steamboat, Captain William Van Schaick, of the "General Slocum," was in a pitiable condition at the Lebanon Hospital. He was still confined to his bed, and the surgeons regarded his condition as serious.

The veteran river and harbor navigator, who had been in command of the "Slocum" from the day she was launched, had made all his arrangements to retire from sea life at the close of this season. His record had been unmarred up to the day of the great disaster. He had carried 1,500,000 passengers in safety up and down the river during his long service.

Captain Van Schaick had invested all his savings in a small farm near Troy, and there he had planned to make his home at the close of navigation next fall, to remain until the end of his days.

Police Commissioner McAdoo received and made public reports from thirty-six precinct captains as to the general provisions for the safe handling of excursion crowds at the piers in as many precincts.

The reports stated that general conditions were good, but in some instances sharp criticism was made of the narrow stairways on excursion boats and of the class of employes on many of the vessels. Captain Dean, of the harbor police, recommended that the carrying capacity of many boats be cut down and that storerooms for oil, paints and other inflammable materials, as well as the boiler rooms and galleys, be lined with fireproof material.

A TON OF DYNAMITE.

Great charges of dynamite—a ton in all—exploded under the surface of the East River in the vicinity of North Brother Island kept the water churned into a yeasty mass for hours, and brought a few bodies to the surface, although not so quickly as in the case of the cannon fired across the surface of the river the day before.

In all thirty-six bodies were found. As soon as recovered they were placed in metal coffins, hermetically sealed and these will not be opened again. All identifications were now made from the clothing and jewelry of the dead.

The method designed by Police Commissioner McAdoo for ascertaining the names of those still missing as well as all those who have lost friends or relatives by the "Slocum" disaster was put into effect. A force of one

hundred policemen, all of whom spoke German, were sent through St. Mark's parish with instructions to make a house to house canvass and to obtain the names of all who were on board the "Slocum" the day she burned. A complete roll would, it was believed, be obtained in this way.

Several wrangles marked the inquest on the second day. Counsel for the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company started the trouble by saying :

"The officers of this company are trying to shirk responsibility and place it on the corporation."

Counsel for President Barnaby : "There is no attempt to shirk any responsibility."

Coroner Berry : "It looks that way."

ALL ANIMUS DENIED.

Counsel for Mr. Barnaby : "The presiding officer should not show his animus as he has done continuously since this inquest began."

Coroner Berry : "There is no animus, but we want the truth here, and I am giving you every possible opportunity to bring out the truth. It is for the jury to fix the responsibility."

Driven to desperation by the manner in which Assistant District-Attorney Garvan swept aside the trivial and futile attempts of the officers of the company to show that five different sets of life preservers had been bought for the "General Slocum" in and since the year 1892, the lawyers representing President Barnaby, of the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company, those representing the corporation in its interests as distinguished from those of the officers, and the lawyer representing the Government inspector responsible for the condition

of the life saving appliances, fought bitterly among themselves and in united array against the Assistant-District Attorney.

The scenes witnessed at the inquest into the "Slocum" disaster differed from anything of the sort ever seen in New York before. The lawyers who were present, except Mr. Garvan and the representative of the United States District Attorney, were there by courtesy, but their attitude became insolently aggressive, and on several occasions the resulting wrangles were unseemly and decidedly unusual, culminating in the criticism of Coroner Berry by Judge Dittenhoeffer after a series of attacks of like sort upon the Assistant District Attorney.

BITTER AND WITTY RETORTS.

The Coroner acted with great temperance of demeanor and a vast consideration for the "lawyers for the defence," as they are clearly to be considered by their attitude. But Assistant District Attorney Garvan pelted his opponents with retorts bitterly witty at times and always effective.

He was not swayed for a moment from the line of investigation he began, although hampered at every step by the exasperating and filibustering methods of the opposing lawyers, who were evidently attempting to draw the inquest out to a great length.

The reason back of the efforts of the lawyer representing the corporation to prevent the evasion of responsibility by the legal representative of President Barnaby is simple.

Should it be shown that the burning of the "Slocum" was due to negligence on the part of the owners before the ship left her pier on Wednesday, June 15, or

that any lives were lost because of that negligence prior to the boat's departure, the company would be responsible and the entire property of the company could be attached, as well as the assets of the stockholders.

It was for this reason that the lawyer representing the company fenced at the inquest to prevent any "shirking of responsibility" by the president.

In turn they were not unwilling that the entire responsibility should be thrown upon the inspector, as this would free the company from responsibility and save them from financial disaster.

ALL INVOLVED IN A WRANGLE.

The attorney of the inspector watched with hawklike vigilance any attempt on the part of either of the lawyers to shift the burden his way, and the result was a constant bickering which reached a climax when all became involved in a wrangle which lasted for several minutes.

Some skilful generalship was required under such circumstances to lead a combined attack upon the District Attorney's representative, but this was frequently accomplished.

The representative of the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company was forced to admit that no life preservers had been bought for the "Slocum" since 1895.

This was done in order to save Miss M. C. Hall from further torture upon the witness stand. When she appeared she confessed that she had been unable to find any other bills altered by erasures and substitution of names such as had been shown in the bills for life preservers made out in the name of the "Grand Republic," and afterward changed to the "General Slocum."

It had become evident that any further questioning

of the witness would serve only to deepen the impression already made, and the action of the counsel for the company in admitting that no life preservers had been bought since 1895 saved Miss Hall further examination.

Religious questions entered largely into the disaster, as may be seen from the following discussion by one of our prominent journals :

"Very naturally, the question of the origin of evil, brought anew to the front by the awful disaster to a Sunday school party, interests many of our correspondents. It has interested and has puzzled men from the beginning of their reasoning faculty ; yet they are no nearer to the solution of it than was the earliest savage who sought to conciliate the mysterious Power over the universe.

LUNATICS ASKING QUESTIONS.

"In times past men have gone mad in their search for the key to the mystery, and even now the lunatic asylums contain many men and women who imagine that they have cleared away the mystery, and that is why they are there.

"Some of our correspondents complain that in writing of the subject a few days ago we gave up the question, as undeniably we did, and as everybody outside of a mad-house must give it up, if he does not want to get inside.

"For example, a sharp broker of the Cotton Exchange, though good enough to contribute to us 'the possession of ability and intellect,' questions our 'exercise of both or either' in what he said. He infers that we dodged the question in a pusillanimous fashion :

"Did you in that editorial, simply say all you dared to say, or did your comments describe your actual and honest comprehension and belief of the subject matter ?

“‘Did you withhold anything that may have been impressed upon you by your best and broadest thinking?’”

“Certainly, we dared to say no more. We give up the question of the origin of evil. We withhold nothing, for we frankly acknowledged ignorance. The critical broker’s ‘best and broadest thinking’ may go far and dive very deep; but, no more than we, can he get to the bottom of that mystery by any process of reasoning.

DULL PLACE WITHOUT CHILDREN.

“Mr. John Cadman, of Brooklyn, says, very reasonably, that so far as concerns the question of the mercifulness of a personal God there is no difference ‘between a thousand innocent children being burned to death or drowned by the burning of a steamboat, and the same number of equally innocent children dying on that day in a thousand different homes all over the world.’ Without children, continues Mr. Cadman, ‘heaven would seem to most of us a dull, uninteresting place where few would care to go.’

“Besides, he argues, if the children on the ‘Slocum’ had been permitted to live to old age or middle life, who can tell how many of them would have been led into sins and been a cause of greater grief to their parents than was their destruction in that disaster? But if they had never existed at all they would have been saved from torture on that burning boat. If they were more fortunate than others in being saved from the sin of the others, where is justice? The mystery remains.

“A New York correspondent argues that as God gives us ‘intelligence and free will we are ourselves responsible for the neglect of the precautions which would

have prevented the catastrophe. God could not do more unless He suspended all laws to make up for the gross carelessness of the owners, the captain, the crew and the inspectors.' But it was not the negligent who perished. The children burned and drowned had no such responsibility. But, says our pious friend, 'they escaped all the other pains and evils of life,' and the lawful catastrophe may save the rest of us from 'greater evil from another accident.' Is not that rather a selfish view to take of the destruction of hundreds of poor children?

DUE TO CARELESSNESS.

" 'God,' says a new York dogmatist, 'wills no evil, and causes no evil; evil comes from human disobedience of God's commandments.' 'The real cause' he attributes 'to the one man who smoked in the lamp room.' Assuming that he is correct in this, is it consistent with our human idea of justice that the careless and disobedient smoker should escape and hundreds of women and children who did not smoke should be burned as a punishment for his misdoing? That is substantially the question scores of our sceptical correspondents are asking us.

"The theory of one reader is that 'God in taking away the lives of those on the 'Slocum,' chose those who were, no doubt, jewels in His crown' and thereby used His own to warn those who ought to be living better.' A Kingston correspondent takes the directly contrary view that, 'horrible as the 'Slocum' disaster was, its iconoclastic side is immense'—that is, it tends to destroy in men belief in 'the personal God whom the superstitious had set up and of whom they expect interference in the affairs of the world at their asking.'

"Finally, asks a Brooklyn correspondent, 'as none of these dear little children under the age of responsibility will be lost, is it not good of God to call to a lost eternity men and women who have entirely ignored God's invitation to accept Christ as their Saviour?' Besides children, it must be remembered, very many adults were lost in the disaster.

"We give these opinions from among scores which we are receiving on this subject. After all is said, do they leave the mystery any the less impenetrable by man? Either you must take the dogmatic theological explanation, purely on faith, or you must make inexorable natural law the ruler of man's destiny."

The cry of man's anguish went up unto God :

"Lord, take away pain !

The shadow that darkens the world Thou hast made,
The close coiling chain
That strangles the heart ; the burden that weighs
On the wings that would soar—
God, take away pain from the world Thou hast made,
That it love Thee the more !"

Then answered the Lord to the cry of the world :

"Shall I take away pain,
And with it the power of the world to endure,
Made strong by the strain ?
Shall I take away pity that knits heart to heart
And sacrifice high ?
Will ye lose all your heroes that lift from the fire
White brows to the sky ?
Shall I take away love that redeems with a price
And smiles at its loss ?
Can ye spare from your lives that would climb unto mine
The Christ on the Cross ?"

CHAPTER XIII.

VALOROUS DEEDS BY RESCUERS.

IMPORTANT disclosures were made again during the Coroner's inquest regarding the conduct of the crew of the "General Slocum" at the time of the fire and the measures taken by those in control of the vessel to save passengers. Wreckers raised the hulk of the "Slocum" and towed it to flats, where it was beached.

Several bodies were recovered and the work of identification proceeded slowly. Nothing was reported to change materially the estimate of the total loss of life that appeared to be over 1,000. Mr. Jacob H. Schiff, in announcing that the relief fund was now about \$90,000, gave his opinion that sufficient money had been contributed to carry out the purposes of the fund. Members of the jury selected by Coroner Joseph I. Berry, of The Bronx, to investigate the "Slocum" disaster declared that the evidence already before them would enable them to determine the responsibility for the accident.

Captain William Van Schaick, commander of the "Slocum," was carried into the Coroner's temporary court room, at the corner of Bathgate avenue and 177th street. He was on a stretcher and was in great pain from his fractured heel, and Assistant District Attorney Francis P. Garvan did not put a question to him, but had him carried back to the Lebanon Hospital after a short delay.

Martin Cragh, the first witness, was a deck hand on the "Slocum." He said he had never been through a

fire drill and he had not recognized the fire alarm when he had heard it. He had tried to prevent a panic, but as soon as the boat was beached he had jumped overboard.

James Collins, a policeman, attached to the "Morrissania" district, testified that he had seen the "Slocum" afire off the foot of 132d street. The boat was then blazing fiercely, and he called up Police Headquarters and asked to have a fireboat sent at once. He found a rowboat and followed the "Slocum" to rescue the women and children. When he reached the excursion steamer she was ablaze from stem to stern, on all three decks.

"Did you see any life-preservers?" asked Mr. Garvan.

"Yes, sir," was the reply. "Almost all of them were torn and cork was dropping out of them."

MAY HAVE LOST HIS HEAD.

Collins said he thought the "Slocum" should have been beached on the west side of the river some distance below North Brother Island.

"Then the captain beached her in the wrong place on purpose?" suggested Terence J. McManus, counsel for the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company.

"I don't say that," replied the witness, "but he may have lost his head."

Policeman Herbert C. Farrell, who accompanied Collins, agreed that a mistake had been made in not beaching the "Slocum" earlier. There was a good mud bank to run into at 129th street, he said, with mud flats extending fully fifty or sixty feet from shore.

The depth made that location specially desirable, and Farrell insisted that if he had been the captain, that

would have been the place that he would have landed. Farrell has had experience in sailing small boats in the East River for twenty years.

Captain John Van Gilder was called as an expert. He is in the employ of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Company, and he has been a pilot for twenty-seven years, having had charge of several of the big excursion boats in New York harbor. After the disaster he went over the route taken by the "Slocum" with E. N. Weaver, pilot of the wrecked steamer. He was informed by Weaver that the first alarm of fire had come when the "Slocum" was about three lengths north of the Black Spar buoy, on the sunken meadows. Weaver had told him that there was a strong flood tide.

WOULD HAVE LANDED ELSEWHERE.

"What course would you have taken if you had commanded the 'Slocum,'" inquired Mr. Garvan.

"I should have gone from two to two and a half points west," replied Captain Van Gilder, "and I should have landed at Port Morris, about the foot of 130th street, either with the port or the starboard side ashore."

Captain Van Gilder's conclusion was that if the "Slocum" had been beached at that point, with the port side on the bank, the fire would have been driven by the wind forward and ashore and the steamer would have not have been consumed so quickly.

In response to questions put by jurors, Captain Van Gilder said fire drills were necessary on a passenger boat, and that they should be held every day at first. Local inspectors are primarily responsible for all safety appliances, though there must be a general supervision by the master of the boat.

Q. If you sent a mate to buy fire hose and he made the purchase at the rate of sixteen cents a foot, would you assume that it was good without a test? A. I never heard of good fire hose at sixteen cents a foot.

Q. Would you receive sixteen cent hose on your boat? A. Not without a protest.

Q. Would you disregard an order from an assistant United States inspector and appeal to his official superior? A. Oh, no. I would obey any order, as I could not get a license if I did not.

COVERS EASILY MILDEWED.

The captain agreed with a juror that nine-tenths of the life preservers when exposed to dampness have their covers mildewed in one season. With care a preserver may last in good condition for many years, and the ordinary life of one should be seven or eight years. He was surprised to hear that there was any question that all portions of a vessel below the main deck were the hold, although he said the government officials were liable to "find almost anything."

Ruben A. Tudor, captain of a sloop, who followed the "Slocum" and who saved several lives, said he saw many women and children wearing life preservers sink the moment that they struck the water.

Captain Edward Van Woert, first pilot on the "Slocum," admitted with evident reluctance in reply to Mr. Garvan's questions, that the life preservers on the "Slocum" dated back to 1891, when the steamer was launched. When the disaster occurred the lifeboats were not lowered. He did not recall having seen any fire drills. Captain Van Schaick had given orders to beach the "Slocum" at North Brother Island when the fire was

raging and had then disappeared from the pilot house. The pilot had himself ordered the destruction of about fifty life preservers this year when he saw that they were in a bad condition. He thought that the course taken had been the best one possible.

Mrs. H. W. Turner, of No. 2649 Eighth avenue, testified that she had been in the "Slocum" disaster and had tried to use three life preservers, and each of them had torn and she had to throw them away. She jumped to a tug, holding her child in her arms. Her nephew and her sister died.

RIVER STREWN WITH GRANULATED CORK.

Miss Lulu McKibben, who had charge of the telephone at North Brother Island, and who without instructions gave timely orders to hospitals in New York, was called as a witness to establish the bad condition of the life preservers. She said she had seen the river strewn with granulated cork when the "Slocum" was burning. She waded out into the water and saved two persons.

Joseph S. Gaffney, chief engineer at North Brother Island, said he had seen the burning steamer approaching, and he had brought out the island hose to fight the flames. When the "Slocum" beached, blazing nearly from stem to stern, he devoted himself to life saving, wading deep into the water, and using a long fire hook to drag in persons who were afloat. He helped to rescue four or five.

"I went to save a woman," he said. "She was wearing a life preserver, and I saw it break in the middle and float away from her. She was saved."

Capt. Henry Wallabar, chief clerk on North Brother

Island, said he had seized a life preserver around a woman to pull her out of the water and it had torn into two pieces, leaving in his hand what he first believed to be sawdust, but which proved to be granulated cork. The woman was almost dead, but was revived after long efforts. The shore was lined with cork from the life preservers.

Paul Liebenow, with his head swathed in bandages and his hands badly burned, said he had tried in vain to pull down life preservers at the time of the disaster. He knew that others had implored the captain to beach the "Slocum" at the sunken meadows. He heard of the fire when he was between Ninetieth and Ninety-second streets. Among those killed were two of his children, a sister, a sister-in-law, a niece and a nephew.

PULLED DOWN BY LIFE PRESERVER.

Henry Hordkopf, of No. 343 Rivington street, whose mother was lost, said he had noticed the fire as the "Slocum" passed the northern end of Blackwell's Island. Miss Annie Kip, of No. 1894 Third avenue, said she had gone on the excursion with a cousin, who was drowned. She obtained a life preserver but found in the water that it pulled her down, and she clung to one of the "Slocum's" paddles until she was saved.

John L. Wade, engineer aboard the tug "J. W. Wade," which he owns, told with the utmost modesty the story of the rescue of many lives at the time of the disaster. He followed the "Slocum," picking up many who dropped overboard, and he beached his tug under the "Slocum's" stern, so as to pick up as many as possible. He did not stop to consider the risk he ran or the damage to his boat. His instructions to his men were to

look out for the living and not to bother with the dead. He felt certain that one of the engineers had stuck to his post to the end and that the captain and one of the pilots had been among the last to jump.

When he tried to pull aboard a young woman a life preserver that she wore broke into four pieces, though it kept her afloat. He went out of his way to say that the mate of the "Slocum," Edward Flanagan, had done nothing to help anybody. He thought that Captain Van Schaick had beached the boat in the best place possible.

CHEAP PRICE MEANS CHEAP HOSE.

One of the jurors questioned Captain Wade about sixteen cent fire hose. He said he had never heard of good hose at that price. The best he had been able to do for his own boat was to obtain a length of fifty feet for \$25.

Mary McCann, a bright looking girl of seventeen, was the next witness. She was convalescing from scarlet fever on June 15, when she saw the burning boat beached. She swam out five times and brought in six little children in her arms. The last time she started her skirt had been torn off, and as she was near shore she lost consciousness, and she, too, had to be rescued.

Edwin Robinson, a negro, said he had been assistant cook on the "Slocum." He had been specially warned not to light matches in the forward cabin where the fire occurred. All he did when the boat was beached was to save himself.

The following statement from a well-known newspaper will be of interest to the reader. It is dated June 25th, 1904:

"The Federal Grand Jury has been called for Thurs-

day (June 30th) to consider the "Slocum" disaster and to fix the criminal responsibility. Representatives of the government have watched the developments during the Coroner's inquest and are familiar with all the testimony. The hull of the burned vessel was inspected yesterday by representatives of the local and federal government. Conditions disclosed bore out the testimony as to useless fire hose and life preservers.

"One body was found in the hull, and evidence that many were completely incinerated was found in the shape of melted jewelry. The Coroner's jury has heard sufficient evidence, and is ready to fix the responsibility for the disaster. It will visit the wreck on Monday.

RELIEF FUND SUFFICIENT.

"Contributions still continued to come in from sympathizers, notwithstanding the statement of Mr. Jacob H. Schiff that the relief fund was already sufficient.

"After a long conference with District Attorney Jerome, Assistant District Attorney Francis P. Garvan and United States District Attorney Burnett, Coroner Joseph I. Berry, of the Bronx, announced that the plan to close the inquest on Monday in the case of the victims on the 'General Slocum' had been abandoned. Instead of completing the testimony at that time the jurors will spend the day in making a personal inspection of the hulk of the burned steamer.

"The jurors were instructed to assemble at eleven o'clock on Monday in the armory of the Second Battery, at 177th street and Bathgate avenue, where the Coroner has been holding court. Several automobiles will be provided to take the jurors to a ferry boat, which will land them close to where the hulk of the 'Slocum' now

lies. The witnesses subpoenaed for Monday will have to appear on the following day, when the final testimony will be taken and the case will go to the jury.

“Coroner Berry does not believe that much more testimony need be given at the inquest. Substantially all the survivors of the crew have told their stories, passengers have described the cowardice of those from whom they expected aid, scores have explained the condition of the fire fighting apparatus on the boat, and experts have discussed Captain William Van Schaick's actions after the discovery of the fire had been reported to him. Mr. Garvan had a reason for wishing to have the stories of the deckhands all placed on record, but neither he nor Coroner Berry thinks it worth while to pile up cumulative testimony from other sources.

CAN FIX RESPONSIBILITY.

“All of the Jurors are men of recognized ability and the Coroner is convinced that they have heard enough to place the responsibility where it belongs. If they determine that the deaths of the victims were due to the carelessness of anybody criminal proceedings must follow. As the disaster happened on a steamer the Federal court must act. A session of the United States Grand Jury has been called for next Thursday to consider the case, under section 5,344 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which reads:—

“Every captain, engineer, pilot or other person employed on any steamboat or vessel by whose misconduct, negligence or inattention to his duties on such vessel the life of any person is destroyed, and every owner, inspector or other public officer through whose fault, connivance, misconduct or violation of law the life of

any person is destroyed, shall be deemed guilty of manslaughter and, upon conviction thereof before any Circuit Court of the United States shall be sentenced to confinement at hard labor for a period of not more than ten years.

"As the United States District Attorney has had a representative at the Coroner's inquest, the testimony already taken will form the basis of the evidence to be submitted to the federal Grand Jury for indictment. The officials believe that the record of the inquest up to date warrants the indictment of many of those who have been called upon to testify and who have not thus far appeared in the role of defendants.

STILL IN THE HOSPITAL.

"Captain Van Schaick, who has been under detention as a witness since the day of the accident, has not yet been called to the stand in the Coroner's court on account of his physical condition. He is still under subpœna and he will be examined on Tuesday if he improves to the extent that the physicians say, he would sustain no injury by the effort and excitement. He is a patient in the Lebanon Hospital, and while he is said to be progressing favorably he is very weak as a result of his broken heel and his burns. If he continues in the precarious state he has been in throughout this week the inquest will be closed without his testimony.

"Members of the Coroner's jury have not hesitated to say they believe themselves fully conversant with the facts at present, and they are willing to place the responsibility without hearing anything further. They are thoroughly familiar with the condition of the life-saving apparatus on the 'Slocum,' and with the circumstances

attending its inspection before the steamer was put in commission last month.

"Frank A. Barnaby, president of the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company, which owned the 'Slocum,' referred all inquiries yesterday to his counsel, former Judge A. J. Dittenhoefer, who declared that the evidence as it now stands acquits his client of all blame.

"'Mr. Barnaby is a very busy man,' said Mr. Dittenhoefer. 'He is connected with various corporations besides having large real estate interests. He must necessarily depend entirely upon his agents and upon the certificate of the United States inspectors. When the United States inspectors certified to Mr. Barnaby that the 'Slocum' was all right he had a perfect right to conclude that everything was in proper condition, especially as he had no expert knowledge on the subject. The testimony shows that whenever his attention was called to any requirements he had them attended to immediately. He had not been aboard of the 'Slocum' this season, and I believe that he had been on the boat very few times since she was built. He trusted the officers of the boat.'"

HEARD OF IT BY ACCIDENT.

It was hardly thought that there was any person within many miles of New York who had not heard of the "Slocum" disaster, but those in charge of the Information Bureau at the church learned of one man whose wife was among the victims. Frederick Seelig lives at Dundee Lake, Bergen county, N. J. He visited the country store and picked up an old copy of a newspaper. In it, for the first time, he learned of the disaster and hastened to the city to locate his wife,

He told those at the information bureau that about ten days before he gave his wife money to come to the city and open a delicatessen store. At the same time he gave her two tickets for the excursion, Seelig having been formerly a member of St. Mark's Church. He said his wife opened the store somewhere on the East side and undoubtedly was among the excursionists. At the Morgue he found samples of her clothing which he identified beyond doubt.

NOT PROPERLY EQUIPPED.

Rotten timbers, useless fire hose, crumbling life preservers and other evidences of the "General Slocum's" condition were found, when, from the first time water was pumped from her hold and an examination below the main deck was possible. Sections of the timbers, pieces of the hose and other exhibits were procured by Coroner Berry. It was also discovered that the storeroom below the main deck, in which the fire started, had not been very badly burned and that all parts of the ship below were in fairly good condition.

In the storeroom were seven barrels, all full, and supposed to contain oil. In the room were also many camp chairs, some life preservers and dishes. Near the door the floor was considerably charred, showing that the fire had started in the room and had blazed out of the open door, where the flames were caught in the wind and quickly sucked up the hatchways to the upper deck.

When the hull was lifted above the surface of the water the main deck revealed many evidences of the calamity. In a half dozen places were the tangled iron-work of baby carriages. Mixed with the mud and ashes were hairpins, occasional fragments of clothing, metal

buttons and many articles of jewelry. Melted watch cases were found in several places. All told, the police carried away nearly a half-bushel of sealed and numbered envelopes containing melted gold and bits of jewelry. A child's body was found near the starboard paddle box.

Coroner O'Gorman believed that many bodies were completely incinerated on the deck. He was also convinced that there were still bodies somewhere in the hold of the ship hidden in the debris.

VISITING THE WRECK.

Commander C. McR. Winslow, of the United States Navy, detailed by the United States Government to look after the work of investigation, visited the wreck in company with Inspector General George Uhler, of the Steamboat Inspection Bureau, and Assistant Inspector Robert Rodie, of the New York district, and spent some time looking over the hull. They would make no comment upon what they saw. Frank A. Barnaby, president of the Knickerbocker Company, which owned the "General Slocum," his secretary, and Charles Hills, one of the directors of the company, visited the wreck while the work of inspection was in progress.

"It is my opinion there should be a fleet of ten fireboats to protect the water front of this city," said Fire Commissioner Hayes. "The Brooklyn water front should have three fireboats at least. At present the "Hewitt" is devoted to the protection of that district, but one boat is by no means enough. Staten Island at present has none, and there should be at least one placed there. The New York front requires at least six, and we have only five for that section. Since October last the Low and Moody have been out of commission, badly handicapping the

situation. We hope to have the "Low" ready for service in two weeks. In my opinion she should have been sold last October and a new boat built. It has cost the city \$35,000 to accomplish the necessary repairs, and the boat will not be as good as a completely modern one, which could have been obtained for an additional \$45,000.

"It is my intention to bend all my efforts toward obtaining from the Board of Estimate and Apportionment an appropriation of a quarter of a million of dollars to better the Fire Department in this city. Were the people of New York wholly cognizant of the present fire alarm system, which is woefully behind the times, they would be at once astounded and alarmed.

NEED MORE FIRE BOATS.

"I want to say I am wholly in favor of the stand for more fire boats, and I think the time will come when the people will become so aroused they will demand the service that is their due in a city of this size and wealth. For the firemen I have only words of praise. They are a reliable set of men, and always do their best with the means in their power to extinguish fires and save lives."

More than three thousand dollars was realized at a benefit given for the surviving sufferers of the "Slocum" disaster at the Grand Opera House. Every seat and all the boxes were sold at advance rates.

Beethoven Hall, at 431 East Sixth street, was packed to the doors when the funeral of Mrs. Sophia Schueffler, sixty-three years old, of No. 338 East Sixth street, took place. She was known as the "grandmother" to the whole of St. Mark's colony. Mrs. Schueffler weighed about four hundred pounds in life, and the funeral could not be held in the house as it was impossible to get the

especially built coffin into the building. The hall was heavily draped with black.

Following the services in the hall, which were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Krueska, one of the German Lutheran volunteer ministers, twenty-one carriages followed the hearse to First avenue, to Seventh street, to Second avenue and then through Sixth street and past St. Mark's Church on the final stretch of the route to the Williamsburg Bridge.

Practically every child in the neighborhood waited patiently to see the hearse and carriage pass by.

It was the custom of Mrs. Schueffler to take the families of her two daughters and three sons on the annual St. Mark's excursions. This year she went alone for the first time. She said she had grown too old and too stout to take the responsibility of caring for so many children.



CHAPTER XIV.

SWIFT JUSTICE DEMANDED.

IT was testified before the Coroner's jury that members of the crew of the "Slocum" did nothing to save lives. All of the crew except one was saved, and he was drowned trying to save a bag containing about \$1,000 in coin. Testimony was given before the Coroner's jury that no fire drills were held on the "Slocum" this year; that no life preservers had been bought since 1895, and that there was no valve in the compartment in which the fire started from which steam could be turned in in case of fire. These are all violations of the Revised Statutes of the United States. As for the inspection of the steamer, one United States inspector refused to tell what he did by way of inspection on the ground that the testimony might tend to incriminate him.

It was said at the Federal Building that few tighter cinched cases had ever been turned over to a Federal Grand Jury, and the prediction was made that the number of indictments that would be returned would jolt some persons.

Gen. Burnett was particularly pleased with the state in which he found the case. That which pleased him most was the fact that the witnesses to be called to testify before the Federal Grand Jury were all on record before the Coroner, and they could not get away from that record without causing themselves some embarrassment. There were some 800 pages of testimony to hold up before any witness possessed of the inclination to duck.

The new turn which the case took made it possible to tell the story of a pretty bit of legal finesse. It was told in the Federal Building by a person who had been familiar with the case from the beginning. He said:

"Now that this case has been delivered into the hands of the United States, it can do no harm to say that the delivery was the result of a carefully worked out plan and, so far, not a detail miscarried.

"When the news of the disaster reached Washington Secretary Cortelyou of the Department of Commerce and Labor, after consulting with the President, started for New York and laid plans to find out whether anybody was criminally responsible for the awful loss of life.

ORDERS FROM WASHINGTON.

"Gen. Burnett was posted from Washington as to what would be expected of him. Meanwhile Mayor McClellan had got to work and ordered the wrecked "Slocum" raised. Coroners Berry and O'Gorman were working hard, and District Attorney Jerome stood by to give the Coroners all the legal advice they needed.

"As soon as Cortelyou arrived, and while some of the newspapers were printing stories about ill feeling between State and Federal authorities, Cortelyou and the Mayor, who are old friends, and Gen. Burnett and Jerome all got together, and a thorough understanding was arrived at. There was, as a matter of fact, no clash anywhere.

"Jerome pointed out that a Federal investigation must, of necessity, be long drawn out before even the stepping stone testimony would be adduced. He said there was no doubt that it was a case for the United States Courts; but he reminded the others that a Coro-

ner's inquest would have to be held, and he showed that that was the quickest way to bring out the preliminary facts and get evidence, without any delay, on which the Government could proceed. He added that his office was at once at the Government's disposal.

"Gen. Burnett agreed with Jerome. Now, see how prettily Jerome's plan worked out. The inquest was started on Monday. Assistant District Attorney Garvan was instructed to get to the bottom of the business. In four days he got on record a pretty comprehensive story of how the crew of the "Slocum" acted after the fire was discovered; how the steamer was equipped, and how the general business of the company owning the boat was conducted.

PUSHING THE INVESTIGATION.

"Meanwhile Mayor McClellan was carrying out his part of the plan. On Thursday the wreck was raised and ready for the inspection of the Coroner's jury, the Federal Grand Jury, or anybody else. The case will go to the Coroner's jury on Monday, and, unless I am much mistaken, within two weeks from the time the investigation was begun somebody will be indicted for something.

"That something is very serious. Before Garvan had got far into the case he found out that there was much better chance of meting out adequate punishment to the guilty, should guilt be legally determined, under Federal than under State laws. Should anybody be indicted and tried on the charge of manslaughter in the State courts the jury might find the defendant guilty of either one of two degrees of the crime.

"But there is no dodging the Federal law. If the defendants, whoever they may be, are convicted of crimi-

nal negligence the jury must find them guilty of manslaughter, the prescribed penalty for which is confinement at hard labor for ten years."

The work of collecting additional evidence was continued with unabated vigor when, by the raising of the charred hull of the "Slocum," the first opportunity to make a thorough inspection of the hold was presented. The steamer was shoved further up on the mud flat of Flushing Bay at high tide, and at noon two rotary pumps with a combined capacity of 8,000 gallons a minute began drawing the flooded hold. The shattered hulk rose three inches in the first five minutes and two hours later the steamer was practically floated.

GHASTLY FINDINGS ON DECK.

Earlier in the day two bodies, those of a girl of about twelve and a boy of seven were found back of the paddle-box. Inspector Albertson found on the main deck the leg of an adult, and the foot and ankle of a child.

Word that the hull had been raised brought to the scene late in the afternoon many persons prominently connected with the investigation. President Barnaby and his counsel, Lawyer McManus, made their first inspection of the hull. They called attention to the presence in the forward cabin, where the fire is said to have started, of seven oil barrels and a bag of charcoal which had apparently not been touched by the flames. The jute bag was still intact, in spite of its inflammable contents, and the oil barrels were little more than blackened by the cinders from the burned deck above.

"This would seem to be conclusive proof," Mr. McManus said, "that the fire did not start in the forward cabin, as has been the accepted theory up to this time.

The origin of the fire would therefore seem to be a mystery."

The discovery of this condition seemed to afford President Barnaby and his counsel particular satisfaction. President Barnaby waved aside all questioners with the remark: "I am here to work, not to talk."

Commander Cameron Winslow, U. S. N., of the commission appointed by President Roosevelt to investigate the disaster, accompanied by Inspector-General Uhler and Mr. Rodie, inspected the hull. They refused to say anything concerning the results of their inspection, but announced that they would make another visit.

SAFE BROKEN OPEN.

Coroner O'Gorman made a search of the main deck and found a considerable quantity of valuables, including three gold watches and a wedding ring bearing the inscription, "To my wife." He ordered Sergt. Postoff to break open the safe. While this was being done with crowbars and sledge hammers an excited little group gathered. When the steel door was raised and Sergt. Postoff drew forth two canvas bags whose contents jingled there was an excited murmur. The bags proved to be filled with brass checks used by the waiters and bartenders on the steamer. Nothing of value was discovered in the safe.

Darkness fell before a thorough search of the hold for bodies could be made. Coroner O'Gorman penetrated the rear hold as far as possible and because of the odor said he was convinced that more bodies would be recovered as soon as the debris could be removed.

It was evident from the position of the life boats that no effort had been made by either crew or passen-

gers to employ them to escape. Their metal hulls had dropped from the davits to the deck. Coroner O'Gorman took away with him a section of the "16-cent" fire hose, which he discovered in the debris.

The body of Gertrude Haas, the sixteen-year-old daughter of the pastor of St. Mark's Church, it was discovered, had been buried in the grave with a number of other unidentified dead. The fact was established by parts of the clothing that had been saved at the Morgue. Arrangements will be made to disinter the body and have it reburied in the family plot.

PASTOR PREACHES TO HIS FLOCK.

Pastor Haas nerved himself for his sad duties and preached to his flock on Sunday. He said:

"Why, my beloved, has this thing come to us? We know it, and we cannot deny it. It was due to negligence, carelessness and greed and that worship of Mammon which looks only for profit and sends thousands of souls into eternity."

With all the strength that he could put into his voice, the Rev. George C. F. Haas made this declaration in his sermon before his afflicted congregation in St. Mark's Lutheran Church, in Sixth street. The little church was crowded to the doors with friends and relatives of the unfortunates who were lost in the "General Slocum" disaster, and more than once throughout his sermon the pastor's voice was drowned by the sobs that came from every side.

There were many who wondered that the Rev. Mr. Haas was able to preach at all. He had endeavored to address the Sunday School an hour before, but collapsed ere he had hardly begun. He was pale and trembling

when he entered the pulpit, but with a great effort, he seemed to strengthen himself for the ordeal, and presently his faltering tones gave way to distinctness and eloquence.

Only once did he seem to lose control of himself, and that was when he referred to the many evidences of sympathy which he had received from all over the world. There were about eight hundred persons present, mostly in mourning. The Rev. Mr. Haas took his text from St. Paul's Epistle to the Corinthians, xiii., 13—"And now abideth faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is love."

"I have sat by many a casket within the last few days and preached consolation," began the pastor; "I have attended many a funeral and tried to brush the tears away, but never in my life have I felt such deep sorrow as I do to-day, and never before have I felt so anxious to say a few words to you. Let God give me strength to preach that word and to reach your hearts in this dark hour.

OBJECTIONS ANSWERED.

"I can hear the words of many who say :—'What cause have you now for faith in God? Why did God let such things come to you?' And yet even while this has come, I still believe and say it is not God who has done this, but negligence, carelessness and greed. It was due to those who hold life cheap, who look for profit only and whose only God is Mammon. It was due to officers who did not do their duty and to their careless and incompetent agents.

"However, forgive me if I throw stones on this occasion. 'Judge not, that ye be not judged.' We, too,

are to blame. Had we not always been silent, but lifted our voices and cried out against this gross negligence and greed, things would have been different. We are all more or less to blame for it all.

"Yet, see what God teaches us. For a time carelessness and greed and the worship of Mammon may abide, for a time it may flourish and prosper, but after all there sits a God in heaven whose laws and commandments you cannot throw aside. He is always there, and when a calamity like this comes, we feel His power, we see where we have sinned, and we can thank Him for the great lesson taught us.

"But I hear you ask :—'But if this is all so, why then should we poor God-loving people have such a thing come upon us, and why take away these innocent children? Why does it not come upon the evil and sinful?' And I answer even then you can still believe in Him. The ways of God are past our understanding."

VISITATION A MYSTERY.

The pastor dwelt upon the "mystery" of such a visitation falling upon a congregation of God-fearing men and women at the hands of a just and loving Master. He said throughout all that happened his faith in God had not been shaken, although, in spite of the many experiences he had passed through in the past ten days, it had often been difficult for him to bear up under his burden.

"What is to console us now?" he asked. "What can we do? Shall we continue in our work or give up? Answering for myself, and I am sure for the great majority of my people, I can say we will go on. This blow has given me greater strength.

"Negligence, carelessness and greed are responsible for this awful disaster. I thank God that it has opened the eyes of our whole city and the whole country to what is required to save thousands of others from a like fate. No one on that fatal boat died in vain. The laws of God cannot be violated, even if human laws are.

"My people, I call upon you to put your faith in God and to bear up, even though many of our loved ones are gone. Love still lives. Love cannot be killed. We can keep our love and with it the memories of our loved ones who have gone before. In this, our darkest hour, with all our burdens and afflictions still fresh upon us, let us look up to God. What is now an awful calamity may in time prove a blessing. Our cross is heavy, but, thank God, it is not too heavy."

A HEARTFELT TRIBUTE.

Tears dimmed the pastor's eyes and he frequently choked when he paid a glowing tribute to the officers of the church and Sunday school who had lost their lives. When he spoke of his wife and daughter he was near the point of collapse.

It took only two hours for the big pumps of the Merritt-Chapman company to pump dry the hull of the "General Slocum" as she lay on the flats at low tide off Riker's Island. When the tide rose the "Slocum" floated off, and as she lay in the Sound all the afternoon she was the object of great interest to all passing craft. As finally raised, there is nothing above her main deck save parts of her machinery and the two paddle boxes. While the hull was found intact, it was revealed that the fire had burned all through the inside from stem to stern. Chief Wrecker Tom Kivlin said that the hull might be

converted into a coal barge, but that it could be put to no other use. The engines are only old iron.

One body and the fragments of another, together with considerable jewelry, were found in the hull when a systematic search was made.

Some of the jewelry was noticed when the vessel lay on the flat the night before and this led to an order from Inspector Albertson that no one should be allowed on the vessel. What was wrongly construed by some to be a clash between the Federal and the local authorities occurred as a result of this order, for when Roundsman Klute and two patrolmen of the Harbor Squad attempted to go aboard the hull in the morning to get a body which rested on the deck Assistant Inspector Foster, attached to the Federal inspection bureau, ordered them off the vessel.

BODY WITH JEWELRY FOUND.

Inspector-General Uhler happened to be there at the time, and when he was appealed to he said that the matter was for the chief wrecker to decide. Captain Kivlin, the master wrecker, decided that the police could get the body, and after some delay it was removed. It was the charred body of a young boy and was aft of the port paddle box.

When the hull had been entirely emptied, a squad of police under Sergeant Posthoff made a careful search of the deck and parts of the hull that was not filled with debris. They found near the stern an ankle bone and a foot of a child.

Next day with flags at half mast on all the river craft and on the wharves and big factories on the East River water front the hulk of the "General Slocum" was

towed from Flushing flats to Robbins' Dock, in the Erie Basin.

The passage down the river was impressive, and there was a dramatic scene when the hulk of the steamer passed the Third street recreation pier, from which eleven days before she had sailed, with flags flying, a band playing and about fifteen hundred passengers, most of whom met death.

Nearly two thousand persons thronged the pier. "Hats off," cried Policeman Essig, of the Union Market station, who was on duty at the pier. His order was obeyed, and men, women and children stood there with bowed heads as the wreck passed by. Similar scenes were repeated at the other recreation piers on the Manhattan and Brooklyn shores.

WRECK TOWED AWAY.

With the tugboats "Hustler" and "Champion" lashed respectively on her port and starboard side, the "Slocum" was towed from the Flushing flats shortly after eight o'clock in the morning. She was drawn down the river by the tugs "Unique" and "Briggs," whose hawsers stretched back about one hundred yards to the floating wreck.

When the little flotilla passed the point where the steamer sank while burning, the flags were dipped. The course was taken through the west channel, passing between North Brother Island and the Bronx shore. The police steamer "Patrol" and the Dock Department launch "Queens," which had Inspector Albertson on board, took the lead to clear the river and act as an escort.

With the hull well up in the water, but listing slightly to port, the wrecked craft slowly passed North

Brother Island. Part of the starboard wheelhouse was standing, but the port wheelhouse was gone.

At the Market street recreation pier and on the Brooklyn Bridge crowds uncovered their heads as the "Slocum" passed. Just as the flotilla was turning into Buttermilk Channel on the way to the Erie Basin, the "Slocum's" sister vessel, the "Grand Republic," with flags flying at half mast and carrying about a thousand excursionists, cast off from her Battery pier bound for Newburg.

Inspector Albertson arrived at Robbins' Dock at eleven o'clock. He received word later that the hull was sinking and sent the police boat "Patrol" to her assistance. The "Patrol," however, found that she had only about a foot of water in her hold.

CORONER AGAIN AT WORK.

Coroner O'Gorman was again busily at work at North Brother Island. His infected finger was lanced and treated by Dr. Horowitz, who said the Coroner was in no present danger. Only one body was recovered from the river during the day. It was that of a woman about thirty-five years old and was found off the foot of East Fifty-second street.

Committees representing more than one hundred labor unions and lodges attended the funeral services of Richard Gerstenberger and his wife who lost their lives on the "General Slocum." The services were held in Central Hall, No. 147 West Thirty-second street, of which Gerstenberger was a member.

Chief among developments in the investigation to fix the responsibility for the burning of the "General Slocum" was the fact that Captain Van Schaick, worn

by the ordeal of his trip to the Coroner's Court Thursday, had contracted a high fever. So serious was his condition that his nurse after examining his spine, which was injured in his jump from the pilot house, declared he might never be able to appear in court and might die before he could again be summoned before any tribunal.

It was stated that if Captain Van Schaick succumbed before he could tell his side of the tragedy in a court of record, it might so hamper the investigation that most of those who are actually responsible would escape. Coroner Berry was prepared, if necessary, to take an ante-mortem statement.

CAPTAIN DEFENDS HIMSELF.

Although so weak he could scarcely talk above a whisper, the captain spoke briefly to a reporter. The captain was informed that after a consultation of the authorities it had been decided that the District Attorney's office, by reason of legal procedure, would be compelled practically to withdraw from the case, and that all against whom the evidence taken pointed probably would be indicted by the United States Grand Jury.

"Well, I can't help what they do. I did my best with the 'Slocum,'" he replied.

He was reminded that in his first statement he had declared the "Slocum" to be half way between the Sunken Meadows and North Brother Island, while Weaver, assistant pilot, declared they were at One Hundred and Twenty-eighth street. The captain's statement would place the boat at One Hundred and Thirty-second street.

"Weaver told the truth," he said. "We were at One

Hundred and Twenty-eighth street, and it was not possible for me to beach her at One Hundred and Twenty-ninth street, as they say I should have done."

"But how do you reconcile your two statements?"

"I'm not going to. Not now, at any rate. If they ever get me into court I'll be able to clear that up."

"What have you to say about the statement that a boy told you when off Blackwell's Island that the boat was afire."

"Nothing. How could a boy speak to me when I was up in the pilot house with a locked door between us?"

RUMORS OF ANOTHER FIRE.

"It is stated by a number of people that there was a fire on the 'Slocum' the day before the disaster. Was there?"

"That is an absolute lie. We had no fire. They say that the blaze was smouldering over night. When the boat started going she was a wreck in a half hour. That doesn't look much like a smouldering fire." By this time the captain was so weak his hands hung at his side and his nurse insisted that no more questions be asked of him.

"If it becomes a necessity the Coroner can take his statement, but he is in so serious a condition now that I will not risk his life."

While Coroner O'Gorman and Fire Marshal Freely were at work on the hulk of the "Slocum," finding new evidence of criminality, Coroner Berry had a long consultation with Mr. Jerome and Assistant District Attorney Garvan. All testimony adduced at the inquest was summarized and weighed. It was decided that on the strength of this evidence a number of criminal prosecutions could

be started successfully, but the question of jurisdiction resulted in United States District Attorney Burnett being called into the conference.

Mr. Burnett's assistant, Mr. Wise, attended the inquest, and he was able to advise his chief, who then said:

"I have ordered the Federal Grand Jury to assemble, and at the first practicable moment I shall lay all the facts of the disaster before them. I must decline to discuss the evidence or to say against whom it points, but I will say that I shall ask for the indictment of every guilty person."

MIGHT HAVE BEEN AVOIDED.

Although the Federal authorities would not commit themselves, Coroner Berry, after his consultation with them, declared emphatically that it had been determined beyond all doubt that the catastrophe could have been avoided, and that criminal prosecutions certainly would follow. Late in the day he was informed that his associate Coroner had found in the hulk of the "Slocum" seven barrels which had contained oil. He was greatly surprised by this, as the witnesses connected with the steamboat had made sworn statements before him that there were only three oil barrels aboard and that they were part of the boat's equipment.

Fire Marshal Freel, who with Coroner O'Gorman located these barrels in the storeroom, considered the find of vast importance, inasmuch as it is another indication of the recklessness of the officers of the "Slocum." Near these barrels were portions of four bodies, which apparently had been blown to atoms by an explosion, while there were indications that in the hold were a number of more bodies. The divers were not able to

penetrate far into the debris in the hold, but they said there was a deep hole in the river bottom near the wreck, in which they thought bodies would be found.

Among the newspaper discussions of the disaster was the following:

"The Coroner's inquest upon the New York excursion horror, in which a thousand people were lost, makes it clear that the death of a large number, if not of all, of the victims was due wholly or in part to official and commercial rottenness and American recklessness. It is plain that the Federal law, which pays the steamboat inspectors according to the number of inspections they make, is a barbarous and ridiculous statute, worthy of the darkness of Korea or Mindanao. The method of bringing about lax inspection is to pass a law just like the one in force.

LIFE PRESERVERS WERE OLD.

"The evidence before the Coroner shows that no new life-preservers had been bought by the company since 1895; that the preservers were rotten, and that the fire hose was of the flimsiest and most worthless sort—16-cent hose; the kind that burst and was worthless when put to the test. And the actual fire seems to have been the first real test to which the boat was put—the boat which was daily freighted with hundreds of human beings.

"These are all very remarkable facts to be learned about the steamboat business, but they are not so striking and horrible as the testimony given by the chief engineer of the 'Slocum,' to the effect that he had never heard of such a thing as a fire drill aboard his own boat.

"There is little more to be said after that. One of
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the inspectors has said that political 'pull' prevented adequate inspection of excursion boats, and the record of the 'Slocum' will incline many people to believe the most terrible stories of the rottenness of the system. It is a record of inefficiency, of greed, of carelessness, of bad laws and incompetent officials, and of American recklessness and disregard for human life."

Another journal contains the following:—

"Two different systems of law are involved in the loss of nearly a thousand lives on the steamer 'General Slocum.' Federal law provides for the inspection and determines the character of life-preservers, boats, engine and hull. State law holds all within its jurisdiction responsible for carelessness or gross neglect where human life is concerned.

EACH SYSTEM DEFECTIVE.

"Between these two, accident after accident happens because neither system is complete and efficient. But the chief cause for the loss of life in the case of the 'Slocum' is due simply and solely to the fact that Federal law looks to the seaworthiness of a craft and not to its safety from fire.

"The Coroner's inquest in New York has made perfectly clear the responsibility both of owners and of inspectors for the condition of life preservers and boats on the steamer as far as Federal law is concerned. Life-preservers were old, rotten, full of granulated cork, deadly instead of life-saving. The inspectors had passed them without examination. The owners had used them under knowledge that age rendered them useless. There was no fire drill. If the boats could not have been lowered, they were dangerously near this condition. This was a

violation of both systems of law—of the Federal inspection law and of the State laws protecting human life.

“Serious as both these violations are, however, they do not reach the root of the matter. The frightful loss of life on the ‘General Slocum’ is due to the fact that while its hull was perfectly seaworthy, so far as any risks of navigation to which it was exposed was concerned, its superstructure was a light, three-story affair, on pillars made of pine, saturated with paint, built like a bonfire, and certain to burn like one the instant it was lighted. Nothing, no precautions, no life-preservers, no lifeboats, could prevent a terrible loss of life if such a vessel was crowded when it took fire.

“Yet this construction was permitted by Federal law. It is accepted by public opinion. Says that competent authority, ‘The Engineering News’ :—

NO WORSE THAN OTHERS.

“Further than this—and we know not how to emphasize this too strongly—the ‘General Slocum’ was no worse a fire risk than the average river or sound or harbor passenger steamer, in use all over the United States. She was a fair representation of the prevailing type. The same disaster that befel her may befall to-morrow any one of the thousands of such craft plying on American inland waters, and we do not except from this the so-called finest examples of the steamboat builder’s art plying on the Sound or the Hudson River.’

“Of this there can be no doubt. Unless Congress prohibits the use of wooden excursion boats and requires a slow burning construction for all their upper works, such disasters will come periodically, criminally, as long as the law permits the sort of a fire trap to be filled with

human beings; no one can be held responsible for this particular character of disaster, but it is the basal, fundamental reason for the loss of life. Until it is removed, these disasters will always come, whenever one of these boats catches fire. Congress must act, and Congress alone can act, and the only action which will be effective is the prohibiton of these light wood superstructures. This killed; all else was but accessory before and after the fact."



CHAPTER XV.

ORPHANS CAST UPON THE WORLD.

IN the neat tenements of the stricken parish of St. Mark's Lutheran Church little girls took upon themselves housewifely cares; upon young boys were thrust mature duties and responsibilities, and bereaved husbands and fathers clasping their hands to their heads, strove in helpless confusion to plan life anew. Some of the Sunday school children who left their homes with such gleeful anticipation on the morning of June 15, came back within a few hours with hope turned to bitterest despair, fatherless and motherless.

In more cases the father had remained in the city at work and consequently the children were only half orphaned, the mother being lost in many instances trying to save her children.

Thus the number of the East Side's "little mothers" was greatly increased. They are of a patient, sturdy race, most of the children afflicted by the disaster, and they weep and work by turns. As the days pass the weeping lessens, because there is more work that must be done, and the German boys and girls, however sore their hearts, will not shirk. In addition to the household responsibility and the care of younger children laid upon them the motherless girls were deeply concerned about clothes.

Not for the world would one of them ignore the ceremonial of "going into mourning." When the meals are done, therefore, the dishes washed, the floors swept

and everything in order as mother would have had it, the girls sit down to work on the black garments with which they show to the world their grief.

The east side German district is a revelation to those who have been fairly familiar with other tenement districts. There is no sign of squalor, nothing but neatness and inviting comfort. There is poverty, but it is not hideous. One is impressed that here is a plain people with the simple virtues and self respect. In house-to-house visits among these German Lutherans there will not be found any sign of slatternliness or vice in one case out of fifty.

The oilcloth-covered floors, even when worn, are scrupulously clean. There is no dust on the furniture. Cupboards are neatly curtained, the cooking stove shines and the beds are clean and neatly made. The public halls bear evidence that the janitress does her full duty.

NOTED FOR INDEPENDENCE.

In these rooms that bear the stamp of home, however few in number and limited in size, there exists a wholesome family life. For that very reason the grief consequent upon the broken circles is the more acute. So imbued are they with the feeling of independence and self respect that with the entire city ready to empty its pockets in token of sympathy, it has been extremely difficult to gain the consent to accept financial aid.

Mr. Ridder, chairman of the Relief Committee, was in despair early in the week. The Committee was meeting daily and its chief business developed into, not trying to meet demands as might have been expected, but in trying to find people who would take the money.

"Ask the public," Mr. Ridder said to the newspaper

representatives, "to send us word of the needy. They won't come to us."

School teachers and the police were pressed into service to scour the neighborhood and report where aid was needed, when tactful emissaries were sent to see that it was bestowed in such fashion that there should be no sting of patronage or charity. Where young children have had no parent to resent the efforts of help, an aged grandmother, as poor as they, would come forward and forbid it,

"No, no," cried one, "it would be thrown up to them always that they had taken charity. It must not be."

"I had enough saved to pay for one funeral," said another, "but I did not think to have five at one time. I will pay it, though, if it takes me two or three years."

CHURCH OFFICERS LOST.

In the shrinking from outside aid lay one of the reasons for the delay in determining the exact proportions of the disaster, the definite numbers of the dead, injured and orphaned or otherwise dependent persons. Another serious handicap was the loss of so many of the officers of the church and Sunday school. The officers of the Middle Collegiate Church, more than seventy of whose children were on the excursion, were able to get their list in shape at once and rendered great assistance to their afflicted neighbors.

The appearance of the children indicated more clearly than anything else their orphaned state. Under the burden of responsibilities they grew years older within a few days.

The plan of the committee in dealing with the afflicted was made with regard to the self-respect and

the sensitiveness of the class of persons with whom they had to deal. Such measure of help was given in each case as the circumstances required, but in no circumstances are children to be placed in institutions.

As nearly as possible they are to have such homes provided for them as they would have had had their parents lived. Where relatives are able and willing to care for the children, but are unable to assume the expense of their support, they will be paid for it.

ORPHANS TO BE PROVIDED FOR.

If there is none of kin to undertake the responsibility families of as near the same grade as the orphans' as can be found will be asked to undertake the charge and will be suitably paid. Arrangements will be made for all children to remain in school until they are sixteen years of age.

The general relief committee has only vaguely outlined conditions, their efforts being directed chiefly toward emergency work. A special permanent committee will be formed, the Mayor being a member ex-officio, to handle the funds collected and apply them as is deemed necessary.

Emphasis will be laid upon the money being a free gift of the people to meet conditions for which the recipients were in no way at fault.

The school teachers were of the greatest assistance in dealing with this difficult problem. They know the circumstances of most of the children, and they receive confidence that would not be given to others. Many of the children who have lost members of their families belong to the old Fifth street school and the entire teaching body of that school has formed itself into a volunteer relief committee, upon which the official relief

committee has leaned heavily. In addition to their practical work in aiding the sufferers, the teachers have given unusual latitude to all of the pupils who have been sorrowing in sympathy with their afflicted little friends. Classes have been excused day by day to attend the funerals of classmates or to carry flowers.

Instead of the usual graduating exercises in the girl's department an affecting memorial service was held and there is to be a similar one for the boys. Money which was to have been used for class festivities was given to the relief committee.

THOUGHTFUL DONATION.

It is the custom of each outgoing class to present the school with a picture, and this year's class had ordered one before the calamity. Mr. Williams, a Fifth avenue dealer, of which it had been purchased, refused to take the money, about \$35, and it was given in the name of the class for the benefit of pupils of the school who were in need.

Members of the Health Protective Association and other organizations of women considered a proposition to establish a neighborhood house where relief of all kinds could be given sufferers from the disaster.

"The men need women to get the children ready for school, to cook the dinners and to keep their homes together," said a member of the committee that had the matter in hand. "I think we should take a house in that part of town and see if graduate nurses will not come there to live and give their services in return for their board. Nothing will be done by the women, however, without the sanction and advice of the Rev. Mr. Haas, of St. Mark's Church."

Only a few doors away the Pottlebaums were gathering ready to move. "There are three of us boys left," explained Charlie. "That's because we didn't go on the excursion. Our father and mother and brother are all lost. We can't keep house alone, so we are going to Brooklyn to board."

"We must be liberal with these people," said Mr. Julius Harburger, of the relief committee. "I stand for that. This money has been raised to help these people, and they should have all they need."

EXAMPLES OF THRIFT.

The number of children who were left without father and mother, according to police returns was only fifteen, but those who lost one parent were numbered by the hundreds.

In a small tenement on a top floor lived the Richer family. Mr. Richer died several years ago, leaving seven children for his widow to rear. Day and night the woman worked, washing, cleaning offices, doing whatever she could and keeping her children in school as long as she was able.

"Her hands were hard, but her children were always clean," said a neighbor.

In a back tenement on the top floor of the next house lived her mother, Mrs. Henning, whom she supported, sending her meals to her up the stairs and over the roof. The old lady could not stand the noise of the children and that was why she had a separate tenement.

Three of Mrs. Richer's children had begun to work, and she could see her way to taking life a little more easy. When the excursion was planned the entire family, with the exception of one boy, decided to take advantage

of it. The tired mother with six children went aboard the pleasure boat. Six bodies were buried later.

Frances, the ten-year-old-girl, who was saved, walked hand in hand with her brother, who had not gone. The boy is only fifteen, but he acts like a grown man. The day after the funeral he went back to his work in a commission house down town, but his employer said to him in kindly fashion :—"Take the week off ; come back next Monday."

"I was glad," said the boy simply as he came home and took off his coat, "for now I can get the moving done."

With a little help he moved over what furniture would be needed from their own tenement to that of his grandmother. The children will live with her for the present.

"She oughtn't to be left alone," explained the boy. "I will have to take care of her and my little sister. Well, I don't know just how I'm going to do it, but I'll manage it somehow. There isn't any one else to do it."

HOW THEY WERE SAVED.

Frances told how she was saved :—"I couldn't swim, but I tried not to swallow any water. They taught us that in school, you know. And pretty soon I caught hold of a boat that was turned upside down."

"Then Charlie Trowbridge—he lives down our street—came and saved her," put in her brother. "He saved her and Louisa Motzer, that lives across the street, and two others. He was trying to save the fifth, but his hands gave out and he couldn't. His hands are bad yet. They were all burned."

Arthur Wurmstich lost his father, mother and

brother. He has left only his old grandmother, with whom he lives.

"I got ashore all right," he said, simply, when asked about his experience. Others have told how he seized two life preservers as he went overboard, but, seeing two women struggling for life without any, he gave them up and took his chances. A little later he was picked up by a boat.

Mr. Roberts, the principal of the Fifth street school, attests that Arthur is not only a brave boy, but a bright one. He stands high in this year's graduating class, of which he is a member, although not fourteen years of age. The boy is ambitious and hopes to enter the high school in the fall.

BAND LEADER LOST.

His father was for several years the leader of the band that played for excursion parties on the "Grand Republic," the "General Slocum's" twin. Recently he had not been well and he went with his family in the hope that the day's outing would benefit him.

Alone in the world also is John Klenck. His father died some time ago and he went on the picnic with his mother and two brothers, one older and one younger than himself.

"My mother tried to put life preservers on us, but the straps broke," exclaimed John. "I don't know how I got ashore. Somebody pulled me out, I think. I don't know where I'm going to live. I haven't any home now. I'll go up town with my aunt awhile. I don't know where I'll go after that."

On the same street lived the Reuthingers, thrifty folk, whose home is broken up by death. Mrs. Reuth-

inger perished with three of her children. "My mother could have saved herself if it hadn't been for us children," exclaimed Elsie, one of the two who were saved, "but she threw me in a boat, and my brother, too, and then she didn't have any more strength."

There are four orphan boys at one house, George, William, Harry and Louis Weiss, the oldest twenty-one years of age and the youngest three. Their father died about a year ago of consumption and their mother was lost on the "Slocum." A similar case is the Lanns, the oldest boy being only nineteen years of age. Two little Meyer boys, eight and nine years of age respectively, are left without father or mother.

"SUCH A GOOD MOTHER."

In spotless rooms lived the Rosenagel family, husband and wife, their little daughters, Lucy and Grace, and the old grandmother. Mrs. Rosenagel had promised to take the little girls on the Sunday school excursion if the day was fine. When the panic came on the boat she was separated from her daughters and was lost.

"She was such a good mother," the little girls lamented, "always making nice things for us and giving us pleasure."

As an evidence of her thoughtfulness the confirmation dress that she had made for the older girl was pointed out with the remark, "That's all hand work; she did it."

"Ach, yes," moaned the aged mother of the dead woman. "I have had thirteen strong children and I have lived to see them all die but one. Who will take care of me now she is dead?"

Across the street from the Rosenagels lived the

Abesser family. Mr. Abesser is an electrical bell hanger and has a little shop on the street floor. All day and into the evening he sits there with a face of haunting sadness. He can hardly speak even to those who come to him on business. His wife and only son were lost and he sent his motherless little girls to friends in Brooklyn. The Middle Church sent them to the country to give the distracted father a chance to recover and make some permanent plan.

"I had to send my little Hattie away," said Mr. Felzke, who lost his wife and two children. "She is all I have left, but she couldn't go out on the street because every one would talk to her about the boat and she couldn't stay in the house with nobody to take care of her. I would be in the river if it wasn't for her. For years we struggled and struggled, and we got things piece by piece. One month ago we moved in here. I think it must have been for the funerals. My month is up now and I will have to go—I don't know where. There is no one to make a home for me and my Hattie. Here is a letter from her." The child wrote a bright letter, evidently designed to cheer her sorrowing father.

Next door, another little girl, Josephine Diehl, was bereft of her mother, two sisters and a grandmother, and came near losing her own life. She was caught in the crowd and carried under the boat. Luckily she was rescued, but her arm was broken and she was otherwise injured. She is being cared for by relatives in the Bronx.

"I swam ashore," said Fred Schmidt. "Edward Matzerath and I swam together and got to North Brother Island. The swimming was all right just as soon as you got out of the tangle of the bodies. My mother couldn't

swim and she and my sister Anna and the baby were drowned."

Another happy home that has been broken up by the tragedy is that of the Manheimers. Little Lillie Manheimer lost her father and brother and her aunt, for whom she was named. Mr. Manheimer had taken the little girl and gone to live with relatives. In another Manheimer family the mother and her three oldest children were lost, leaving only an eight-year-old boy, Otto.

"We tried to do all the things the school teacher told us," said Mamie Armhurst, who, with her sister, Florrie, was saved. Her mother and her little sister, Edna, perished. "We tried to take strokes and keep our heads up and not swallow any water. We were awfully glad, though, when a boat came up and took us in, especially Florrie, because she was burned. They took her to the hospital, but she's all right now."

LOADED IN WITH THE DEAD.

Little Louise Beusch was so badly burned that she did not know how she was saved. Her mother was lost. Clara Hartman, the eleven-year-old girl who was brought to the Alexander avenue police station with a load of dead persons, recovered rapidly after being taken to the Lincoln Hospital for treatment, but when she got over the shock of her own experience she found she had lost her mother and sister.

There were three motherless children left in the pretty home of Bernhard Mueller, where the father, after losing his wife and baby, was lying at the point of death from pneumonia, the result of exposure and anxiety during his search for his loved ones. Grover, twelve years old; Walter, nine, and Arthur, six, are being cared for by

their grandmother, Mrs. Hager. "I wish I'd gone with them," said the grandmother. "I'd have been willing to give my life for that of my daughter."

When the catastrophe occurred Mr. Mueller and his family were on the upper deck. They had seen the fire in time to prepare themselves for the panic. The father at once began pulling out all the life preservers within reach. One he placed on his wife, who held the three-year-old baby, Edgar, in her arms. He then fastened them successively on the three other boys and handed out others to frantic women.

NEVER SEEN AGAIN.

There was none left for Mr. Mueller himself when the time came for all of them to jump into the water. The mother went first with the baby. It is thought that her life preserver was useless, for, although she was a good swimmer, she was never seen alive again.

Mueller lost sight of his wife and children as soon as they went overboard. He arrived at his home at half-past twelve o'clock, drenched to the skin, inquiring frantically for news of his wife and children. He refused to take time to put on dry clothes, but at once started back to search for his family.

Grover, Walter and Arthur had all been picked up separately by rescuers. They were snugly tucked away in cots in Lincoln Hospital when their father found them. All were unharmed except Arthur, the youngest, who was burned about the head.

Little Ernst Mueller, eight years old, who lives in a neat little home, lost his mother, brother Henry and baby sister Mary in the disaster.

"We were all on the deck together," said Ernst,

"only papa was downstairs. Then everything broke down all around us. I rolled over on to a tug boat. That's all I know."

Ernst's father, George, who was on the main deck, made desperate attempts to reach his family on the hurricane deck. The deck collapsed before he could reach them, however.

"I don't care about myself," he said, "but something ought to be done for a lot of poor folk. So long as I am healthy I can work and take care of my boy."

Everything in the neat rooms gave evidence of the care and industry of the mother who is gone. In spite of his words, the father seemed quite lost as he sat there holding his little boy on his knee.

FOUR MOTHERLESS CHILDREN.

Another family in which the mother is sorely missed is that of the Schnitzerlings. Four children were left motherless there, while two children were lost. Conrad, the father, was in despair, not knowing how to divide his time between his work and the management of his little brood. Freddie and Annie Schnitzerling, respectively five and ten years old, evidently did not realize the terror of the experience through which they had passed.

"We tumbled off the boat," said Freddie. The railing broke, you know, and there we was in the water. I didn't like it a bit, but somebody fished me out, just as if I was a big fish, with a big hook on the end of a pole. And somebody else picked Annie up. We didn't see mamma again."

Eleven year old Johnny McCarthy lost his mother and ten-year-old brother Jerry. When found in a hospital his hair had partly turned gray.

"Mother and I took down life preservers, but they all fell apart," said the boy, who is being cared for by relatives. "I jumped into a rowboat when the fire came near, but mother and Jerry were lost."

In the family of Henry Heinz, the mother and two daughters were lost. Two boys, Henry, twelve, and George, sixteen years old, were saved after an exciting experience.

Little Henry lost the power of speech for three days after the death of his mother. Always a quiet and reserved youngster and inclined to be shy, Henry only burst into tears whenever he was questioned. He told his father how he climbed a pole to the hurricane deck and then fell with the wrecked deck into the water. He was picked up by men in a rowboat.

DIVED FROM THE DECK.

George made a leap from the hurricane deck into the water. He struck bottom head foremost, but was uninjured, and swam ashore.

Thirteen-year-old Arthur Link, the son of a widow, is looked upon as a hero by the Link family's neighbors, in avenue A. When the panic came the boy didn't lose his presence of mind, and, surrounded by a screaming throng of women and children, he determined to try to save another life besides his own.

With his sister, Lottie, eight years old, and his brother, Edward, eleven, Arthur had gone on the excursion with Mrs. Heckert, and the latter's four children.

Mrs. Heckert had in her arms her six months old baby, Julia. Arthur snatched the baby from its frightened mother and made a wild jump for the deck of a tugboat that came alongside.

"They all came jumping on top of me when I fell," said Arthur, "I don't know what happened afterward, 'cause when I came to I was in the pilot house. I'd got unconscious an' the baby wasn't with me any more."

Little Julia was picked up on another part of the deck, badly hurt, and she died soon after, in spite of the boy's plucky effort to save her. Mrs. Heckert is in a serious condition at her home from burns and injuries. Two of her children were saved.

YOUNG IRISH IMMIGRANT.

Mrs. Lena Link is naturally proud of young Arthur. Her two other children, Lottie and Edward, lost their lives.

When a recapitulation is made of the deeds of heroism that attended upon the "Slocum" disaster and praise is bestowed with a judgment made clear by reflection, few who then dared death for others will be found more worthy of a monument than Mary McCann, Irish immigrant, seventeen years old.

So conspicuous was her bravery and so unusual the circumstances surrounding her self-sacrifice that the girl, who is poor, won the interest of Assistant District Attorney, Francis P. Garvan, who provided for her a home where she will be cared for and will receive an education.

Responsible persons who have been thrilled by the recital of her unselfish daring will call the attention of Andrew Carnegie to her deeds, and it is therefore not improbable that she will be benefited by the hero fund he has established.

There was much printed during the following ten days of the heroism of those who rescued imperilled excursionists from the waters around North Brother Island,

Men who were in boats and brought many to shore received deserved praise. Policemen, accustomed to risk their lives, plunged from skiffs and saved those who were drowning. A nurse girl swam for the first time in her life, and, never deserting the baby she held, brought it and herself in safety to shallow water.

In the rush of these things the story of Mary McCann was almost forgotten. A newspaper on the day following the disaster told of the girl saving a child's life. After that she seemed to have disappeared. There was no one that knew anything of her or her deeds who volunteered information, and her own modesty so cloaked her that the true story of her heroism when the "Slocum" burned and sank with the dead might never have been known had she not been an essential witness for the Coroner's inquest. In that way she came under the attention of Mr. Garvan,

HEROINE ON THE WITNESS STAND.

She took the witness stand for a few moments, and an effort was made to have her tell what she had done. But the girl who had been so bold when men faltered and failed became shy, her voice sank to a whisper and she answered only in monosyllables, spoken in such a low tone that those a few feet away could not hear what she said.

When she had concluded her testimony she went back to the hospital, where she rapidly recovered from her exposure on the day the "Slocum" was burned.

Mary McCann came to this country from Ireland on May 11. She had no sooner landed than she was stricken with scarlet fever and was quickly hustled away to the hospital for contagious diseases on North Brother Island.

The pest house was almost her only knowledge of America until the day of the disaster.

She fought through the crucial stages of the disease and was almost out of danger on June 15, when the alarm ran through the hospital and over the island that a steamboat afire was coming up the river. Doctors, nurses, those patients who could move, engineers, and nearly every one ran to the beach toward which the doomed vessel was coming.

DID NOBLE WORK.

There is another story of a heroism somewhat different from Mary McCann's that might be told here. It is of the young telephone operator, Miss Lulu McKibben, who remained at her post. Uninstructed, advised by no superior, she realized the kind of help that would be needed and she telephoned to the hospitals in the city to send doctors and ambulances and what other aid they could for those on the "Slocum." In all that excitement she calmly stayed behind to do her duty, and when that was done she went to the beach and saved lives; but that is still another story.

With the doctors and nurses ran Mary McCann. She was weakened from the long fever. She had learned to swim in her native land and before the fever had been strong and active. When she reached the shore a multitude of men, women and children had thrown themselves into the water to escape the flames.

The young girl at once leaped into the swift current and with a few strokes was at the side of a sinking child. She fought off the hands that grabbed at her and bore her burden back to shore. Giving the child into the care of others, she plunged in again. This time her ob-

ject was further out and she was in greater danger; but she seized a little girl by the arm, bore her safely to where waiting arms received her, and was back again in the current fighting for another life.

A boy not far away had just disappeared, but the girl's hand seized him and he too was borne back to safety by Mary McCann. All this time she had been seized by others as she passed and sometimes dragged under water.

On her fourth trip she had caught a child when frantic hands below the surface clutched her skirt. Other hands seized her feet and she sank, but did not relinquish her burden. Under water she fought. Her skirt was torn from her, and with the waist of her dress in shreds she came to the surface, still holding the child.

HAD TO BE SAVED HERSELF.

She was very weak when she gained the shore this time, but she turned again to the dying. Again she breasted the current and was soon in shallow water with the fifth child that she saved that day.

She was near the shore with this child when the strain told upon her weakened condition. She sank with her burden still in her arms and her head went below the water, although it was not more than four feet deep at that place. She would have drowned had not an assistant of Joseph S. Gaffney, engineer on North Brother Island, been watching. He leaped to her side and picked her up, and with the girl in one arm and the child she had saved in another waded ashore.

Mary McCann was unconscious. She was taken back to the hospital, and even after she had been revived the surgeon shook his head doubtfully, for such exposure would naturally mean a great deal to a convalescent.

But she did not die. She got well, or very nearly well. And to no one did she tell of her adventures except briefly and as one tells of things that are done as a matter of duty and not for praise. But the surgeon saw and Gaffney's assistant saw, and others saw, and so the young immigrant girl became a valuable witness for the Coroner. And now she may learn of another side of America.



CHAPTER XVI.

SLAUGHTER CAUSED BY GREED.

A CORRESPONDENT of a metropolitan journal sent the following sharp letter which attracted the attention and received the approval of a multitude of readers :

“Of what use to investigate the cause of the “General Slocum” horror? There have been others, and public indignation availed nothing. Will it avail now? Why should we murmur? Only twelve hundred of the common herd were lost. It was merely a rather sudden thinning out—disagreeable, of course, because of the loss of the boat and all those fine life preservers. But the herd is still large.

“What matter that the aged, after a life of usefulness, met such a death; that hundreds of mothers of the middle class, which produces the glorious brain and brawn that makes America what she is, went down in a furnace of fire; that the cruel waters of the East River were a daisy field of baby faces, framed with tossing golden, brown, and raven locks? What matter hearts are broken and reason is dethroned?

“But there is so much to be thankful for it were folly to note such disagreeable episodes. Think how really horrible it would have been had a wife, mother, or child of one of the owners of the “General Slocum” gone down in flame or wave; think of our carefully constructed and sumptuous ocean liners, satin padded and ponderously luxurious for their precious cabin

freight ; think of the libraries the suffering public is getting, and the priceless tapestries we are receiving.

“Think of some of our Bible class instructors, men of millions, who hold the Bible in one hand and figure out the next week’s grab with the other. Think of the splendid speed records of automobiles. If our fine apartment houses go up like Jack’s beanstalk, and, perchance, one falls, let us not get fussy about it.

“It is said there are no tears in heaven—is it possible St. Peter’s hand did not tremble when he flung wide the gates of gold to admit the army of flame-scorched and water-stained murdered innocents, and could the angels receive them unmoved ?

CRIMINAL SELFISHNESS AND GREED.

“We regard with horror the bloody Juggernaut of India—is it any worse than our own Juggernauts ? Our blood chills when we contemplate the deeds of high-binders and the Mafia, but how about our own broad-clothed stranglers ?

“In the name of reason and humanity, let us turn the Constitution to the wall, haul down Old Glory, fling off our garb and mien of sanctity, and put away our Bible until we purge ourselves of criminal selfishness and greed that renders us unfit to touch them.”

Another correspondent wrote as follows :

“The letter which appeared in to-day’s issue of your paper entitled ‘The Sin of Man, Not the Hand of God,’ reminds me of an editorial which appeared in a Western paper not long ago. It began something like this : ‘When are we going to stop accusing God of killing people,’ and went on to criticise the use of the following in resolutions of respect : ‘Whereas, it has pleased our

Heavenly Father to remove from our midst a beloved brother, etc.'

"It is very evident to me that one of two things must be true, either God is always responsible for all deaths whether from disease or disaster, or He is responsible for none. If He plans such things as the burning of the 'Slocum,' can inspection or non-inspection change the divine plan?

"If so, why punish men for neglect? If in accordance with the divine plan, could it be changed by fire drill and apparatus or the caretaking of men? Or ought we to wish to change it?

"What does this mean: 'Like as a father pitieth his children so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him?'

CAN LOVE CHANGE?

"Would the most brutal human father cause his child to suffer as in the 'Slocum' disaster hundreds of innocents suffered? And, again, 'God is love' and unchangeable. Can He who is infinite Life change His nature and cause death?

"This is a vital question and one which we should not fear to look squarely in the face. Surely we want to know the truth of this matter in justice to Him, 'who doeth all things well,' 'is the same yesterday, to-day, and forever,' and 'is no respecter of persons.'"

The newspaper commented as follows:

"As might have been expected, the fearful disaster has resulted in a perfect deluge of correspondence upon the subject of the 'Problem of Evil.' This newspaper, and probably every other one in the city, has been flooded with letters, long and short, good, bad and indifferent, filled with questions that no man can answer.

"The problem of evil is one which, up to date, is still a long way from being settled. A bright man can make a very plausible argument for the existence of evil in the world of an all wise, all powerful and all merciful God, and another man, equally bright, can demolish the argument in a trice.

"For thousands of years the ablest minds on earth have been seesawing back and forth upon the recondite theme, and from present indications the seesawing is likely to continue for an indefinite period. The world is a very large affair, and man, like the fly on St. Peter's dome, can see but a little way around himself.

SOME THINGS ARE CLEAR.

"In this great universe there is room for 'boundless better' as well as for 'boundless worse,' and it were well for us not to be too blatantly dogmatical, one way or the other. In the meantime, some things are as clear as a Colorado sky. We have but to open our eyes to see in Nature certain plain facts which one does not need to be a theologian in order to understand.

"One of the facts that we see in Nature is that of her absolute and unswerving democracy. Nature has no favorites. Her sunshine and rain fall alike upon the good and the evil, the just and the unjust. Her storms and floods, her pains and pestilences, sweep down with equal fury upon saint and sinner, millionaire and pauper. In her dealings with us there is no partiality shown to any one. She treats us all alike. Before her high tribunal we all are equal.

"From the cradle to the grave we all are subjects to the same laws, and, according to our action, receive the same treatment. If it cannot be affirmed that Nature

has 'charity for all,' it certainly cannot be denied that she has 'malice toward none.'

"Another fact about Nature is her thoroughgoing honesty. We can depend upon her. She never lies to us. If you pay her price she delivers to you the goods as advertised. Her yea is yea; her nay is nay; and she never deceives us.

"You can plant corn with the absolute certainty of conviction that you will reap corn and not something else. You can launch your ship upon the waters knowing that if it is properly built it will float. You can mix your chemicals with the perfect assurance that certain combinations will always result in certain effects. You can inflate your balloon with hydrogen gas and feel perfectly sure that when the rope is cut it will rise. You can trust Nature all along the line with the very comfortable feeling in the meantime that the trust will not be betrayed.

WHERE BLAME BELONGS.

"And this brings us to the main thought of this article—the utter senility of trying to lay the blame of such things as the 'Slocum' disaster upon God. We are sufficiently well acquainted with the ways of God, as those ways are outlined in the economy of Nature not to be delivered into any fatal disregard of the same.

"We know that water will drown us and that fire will burn us, and it is our bounden duty to govern ourselves accordingly. We are not 'dumb, unreasoning brutes.' We are gifted with reason; we are intelligent beings; and it is our own fault if, with wide-open eyes, we walk to destruction.

"We know enough about the laws of Nature to figure

on what will happen if we do certain things, or fail to do them; and it is as unjust as it is idiotic to lay the blame of our foolishness upon God. It is high time that all the silly talk about what God does or does not do, permits or does not permit, had forever ceased. It means nothing at all.

"We must come nearer home. It is ourselves who do or fail to do, who permit or do not permit. If the "General Slocum" had been a fireproof boat, or if, being a wooden boat, the proper thing had been done when the fire was discovered, there would have been no calamity. We may theorize as much as we like, but such is the plain truth in the case.

LAWS OF NATURE VIOLATED.

"This great calamity will not have fallen upon us in vain, therefore, if it serves to give us a real serious realization of the truth that 'God helps those who help themselves,' and that very much of the so-called 'Mystery of Providence' is nothing more or less than the mystery of our own unaccountable carelessness of the laws of Nature."

The burning of the handsome steamer, "General Slocum," in the East River, New York, with over 1,500 excursionists on board, will take place in history as one of the saddest and most pitiable disasters on record. It lacked no element of either pathos or horror. It was an occasion of festivity suddenly transformed into anguish and ghastly death. No premonition of the awful holocaust entered the minds of the light-hearted mothers, relieved for the day of all domestic care, as they watched their bright-faced children romping the decks in sheer delight.

All bright and bannered the gay ship swung into the stream, and to the strains of delicious music, threaded its way through river-craft, between great cities, past green islands, with no dream of its destiny. Suddenly the cry of "fire" rang through the startled throngs and the laughter of the children was quenched in the wild panic that followed and the frantic shrieks of parents calling for their little ones. It was a scene of horror which memory would willingly forget, but which will linger with the survivors while life lasts.

SCENE OF FIRE AND SMOKE.

In some way, not yet officially determined, the fire originated in the hold of the vessel and spread with incomprehensible rapidity. As the steamer was swept with smoke and flame, many leaped into the river, choosing death by drowning rather than by fire. Hundreds were driven by the intense heat to the after deck, where the railing gave way and were precipitated, a living, screaming cataract into the cold and pitiless river. Others rushed for life-preservers only to find them "rotten" and worthless. Before the vessel could be beached the appalling disaster was complete.

Many of the bodies recovered were burned beyond all recognition. Death was no respecter of persons. With unrelenting hand it seized upon old and young. Compassionate motherhood and innocent infancy were alike victims of its fury. Its hand of fire spared neither. The maiden's dream and the lover's hope went out together. Jeweled wealth and pathetic poverty faced death by fire hand and hand, or went down to their graves in the river side by side.

Tears and prayers and maternal affection were alike

unavailing ; and while the blackened ruins of the wrecked ship rise out of the water a pall of gloom hangs over the great city, where countless homes are filled with inconsolable grief.

The public will pass judgment as to where the responsibility for this fearful crime against humanity lies. Most searching investigations are in progress and in due time the accountability will be officially determined. But no one can forget in the presence of a disaster such as this how closely our highest joy treads upon the heels of our deepest sorrow, or that the day of anticipated delight may hold for us only desolation and anguish of heart.

HIS FOOTSTEPS UNKNOWN.

Where we look for light we may find only darkness so deep that not a star seems shining, and the only sounds we hear are the rending of heartstrings and the sobbing of bowed heads that, like Rachel weeping for her children, will not be comforted. What the passing hour may bring to us no one may positively know. It is with God, in Whose hands we all are. His way is in the sea and His path is in the great waters, but His footsteps are not known.

On the charred deck of the steamboat "General Slocum," at Erie Basin, the Coroner's jury engaged in investigating the disaster, to determine the responsibility for the loss of life, heard positive testimony that the fire had originated inside a partly consumed barrel which they saw on top of a pile of rubbish.

While almost every vestige of the wooden superstructure of the big excursion boat had disappeared, leaving the huge walking beam, the boilers and some gnarled pipes and iron stairs standing alone, the forward cabin,

where the blaze started, was damaged to a comparatively small extent.

Barrels filled with oil within a few feet of the barrel originally aflame were removed from the hold absolutely intact. Camp stools, hay, life preservers, canvas, paint and other inflammable material removed from the cabin gave no external evidence of having been scorched, though tugs that were taken near the "General Slocum" on June 15 were blistered and caught fire. The explanation given is that the flames rose through the forward hatchway and were wafted aft by the wind, but did not spread below the main deck.

JURY VIEW THE COURSE.

Arrangements were made by Coroner Joseph I. Berry, of the Bronx, to take the jury over the course taken by the "General Slocum" on the day of the fire. The jurors went from the improvised courtroom to the Second Battery Armory, Bathgate avenue and 177th street, in automobiles to Clausen's Point, where they stopped for luncheon.

Coroner Berry had arranged to hold a session in his courtroom in the afternoon and had subpoenaed several witnesses to be there at two o'clock, including Captain William Van Schaick. But the captain and others were dismissed until next morning without explanation, as the Coroner was unable to return in time to hear them, Jurors who started over the scene of the disaster with the Coroner, on the police boat "Patrol" were anxious to see the raised hull, and so the trip was extended far beyond the limits originally set.

In the Erie Basin the men had to climb over a tramp steamship and over several rickety boards into the black-

ened embers of the ill-fated vessel. Coroner Berry, who had led the way, assembled the jury about an opening on the deck down which there had formerly been stairs. On one side were piled musty life preservers with long rents through which granulated cork had escaped, barrels, boxes of bottles, casks and rubbish of all kinds, including some salt meadow hay, such as is used for packing glasses.

Thomas F. Freel, former fire marshal, working on the case as an expert for the District Attorney, was sworn as a witness. Standing in the glare of the sun, he said he had made an examination of the hull after it had been raised, and had found forward the debris that now littered that portion of the deck.

BEGAN IN A BARREL.

"Where did the fire originate?" inquired the Coroner.

"Inside of this barrel," replied Mr. Freel, indicating one by his side.

It had contained hay, he said, and the evidence was clear that the flames had started inside and burned upward. The boards were charred from within. Some of the staves had been burned right through and had evidently fallen blazing upon hay scattered on the floor. From that point the fire had leaped to the stairs and had done more damage to the upper portion of the cabin than it had to the material piled around the barrel.

Under cross-examination Mr. Freel said the boat had been under water for eight days before he made his examination, and he could not tell what had drifted into the cabin.

On the return of the jury up the river Captain
N. Y. 20

Edward Van Woert first pilot on the "Slocum," took the wheel of the "Patrol," going over as nearly as possible the same course that he had taken on the day of the disaster. He thought the "Slocum" was then going at approximately the same speed that the "Patrol" had reached at that point. He insisted that, to his mind, Captain Van Schaick had adopted the best possible course in running the "Slocum" as close as possible to the North Brother Island dock and then beaching her just beyond on the northwest side of the island.

JURY HAVE AN OPINION.

Many of the jurors present did not hesitate to express the opinion that a grave mistake in judgment had been made by Captain Van Schaick in not beaching the boat on the New York shore at some point between the entrance to the Great Kill and the south shore of North Brother Island.

Assistant District Attorney Francis P. Garvan was especially anxious to obtain confirmation of rumors that reached him that there was a fire in the forward cabin of the "General Slocum" on the afternoon of June 14th. All of the members of the crew of the "Slocum" told Mr. Garvan that they did not know of any fire that occurred on June 14th.

At a special meeting of the Mayor's Relief Committee named to look after the survivors of "General Slocum" disaster announcement was made by Jacob H. Schiff, chairman of the Relief Committee, that \$108,504.04 had been received, and that this sum was considered ample to meet all demands. The subscription list has been closed, and it was stated that the \$50,000 offered by the city in case of emergency will not be needed.

CHAPTER XVII.

STEAMBOAT DIRECTORS ARRESTED.

ON June 28th, the Coroner's jury brought in its verdict. In consequence of the verdict, Coroner Berry of The Broux issued warrants, charging manslaughter in the second degree, for President Barnaby and the whole board of directors of the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company, which owned the "General Slocum," also for the "Slocum's" captain, Van Schaick ; for Mate Edward Flanagan, for Commodore Pease of the Knickerbocker fleet and for United States Steamboat Inspector Henry Lundberg.

Lundberg was surrendered by his counsel as soon as the issuing of the warrants was announced. He was admitted to bail in \$1,000. Mate Flanagan, who had been detained in a room in the Second Battery's armory, where the inquest was held, was brought in and arrested. His bail was set at \$1,000, which he furnished. President Barnaby was brought uptown by his counsel and after submitting to arrest was released in \$5,000 bail.

The jury came into court at quarter to 9 o'clock at night. Coroner Berry asked if a verdict had been reached. Foreman Thorn was so hoarse that he was unable to read aloud the typewritten document he carried. He handed it to a fellow-juryman to read for him.

The verdict rehearsed the history of the "Slocum's" trip up toward the Sound until she was destroyed. The jury expressed its belief that the boat was not equipped

with proper life-saving or fire-fighting appliances, and that her crew was neither efficient nor well drilled.

It was held that President Barnaby and his associates as directors, especially James K. Atkinson, who was associated with Mr. Barnaby as managing director, were responsible for the lack of provision for disaster on the "Slocum;" Captain Van Schaick was charged with criminal neglect of duty for permitting the boat to be in an unsafe condition, so was Captain Pease, commodore of the company's fleet; Mate Flanagan was described as a coward, and attention was drawn to the fact that he had no license; Inspector Lundberg was charged with not having made a proper inspection of the "Slocum."

CHARGED WITH CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE.

The jury charged all the persons it named with criminal negligence. The Federal prosecuting officers were asked to get after Lundberg. Secretary Cortelyou was asked to take steps to make future inspections of vessels in this harbor "efficient and honest."

As soon as the reading of the verdict was over, Assistant District Attorney Garvan got up and asked the Coroner to issue warrants for the arrest of the persons against whom the jury's verdict had made charges.

Terrence J. McManus and ex-Judge Dittenhoefer, counsel for the Knickerbocker directors, jumped into the air with a storm of objections.

"It would be an outrage," said Mr. McManus, "to arrest these men to-night. They can be found to-morrow without any trouble. They are substantial business men. They are not going to run away from this thing."

"I don't see," said Mr. Garvan, who spoke in a tone which showed the weariness caused by his work of the

last two weeks over the case, "I don't see why these two men should be treated any better or any worse or in any way differently from any other men charged with manslaughter in the second degree."

"Oh, I don't know!" sneered Mr. McManus. "I can't remember that there was any such haste to arrest the New York Central directors when a Coroner's jury brought in a verdict against them. The District Attorney seems to see why some people should be treated differently from others."

Mr. Garvan started to make an emphatic reply but was restrained by Coroner Berry, who said that he would issue the warrants at once.

OFFICIALS PLACED UNDER BAIL.

Former Justice Julius Mayer of the Court of Special Sessions rose to say that he represented Inspector Lundberg, who was present and desired to surrender himself and give bail. The Coroner admitted him to bail in \$1,000. Mr. Mayer suggested during the proceedings that he doubted whether the local authorities had any jurisdiction over Lundberg anyway, but he said he would not bring up the question at the moment.

Mate Flanagan was brought in. Mr. Garvan said he would be satisfied with \$1,000 bail for him. The Coroner said he would fix the bail at \$5,000. Mr. McManus asked why the Coroner wanted more bail than the District Attorney, and the bail was finally fixed at \$1,000.

Mr. McManus and Mr. Dittenhoefer said that they would go out and try to find as many of their clients as possible. At half-past 10 they appeared with Frank Barnaby between them. Coroner Berry fixed Barnaby's

bail at \$5,000, and it was furnished. It was announced that Assistant Engineer Brandow and Deckhands Coakley and Twombly would be committed to the House of Detention as witnesses.

The Coroner left the Armory at a little after 11 o'clock. No more prisoners were brought in up to that time. The unserved warrants were turned over to Capt. Ferris, of the Bathgate avenue station. He was informed that all the officers of the company would surrender themselves at Coroner Berry's office next day.

It was understood that the case is not likely to be prosecuted in the courts of New York county, and would go before the Federal Grand Jury.

CAPTAIN ON WITNESS STAND.

Capt. Van Schaick was the first witness of the day. He was brought to court from Lebanon Hospital in an ambulance, attended by a hospital physician. He was carried to the court room in a wheel chair, and on it lifted to the witness stand. The captain's right heel was broken by jumping on the rocks after the steamer was beached, his spine was injured, and his hands and face were burned. The injured foot was in a plaster cast and the leg in a sling.

In answer to preliminary questions, he said he was 53 years old. Then he corrected himself and said he was 63. He said he had been a pilot forty years, licensed master thirty years, and had been captain of the "Slocum" since she was built. Almost at the outset Terrence J. McManus, attorney for the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company, interrupted.

"This witness is under arrest. It is the desire of the District Attorney to get him to testify to things on

which a possible indictment may be predicated. I have advised him to refuse to answer all questions, but it should be distinctly understood that he does not refuse to answer on the ground that it would incriminate or degrade him."

"The witness is not under arrest," said Coroner Berry. "He is only, technically speaking, in the House of Detention. The witness must either testify or refuse to do so because he believes his answers would tend to incriminate or degrade him."

A long wrangle ensued and when Mr. Garvan got back to the witness Captain Van Schaick declined to answer whether he had ever had anything to do with the fire apparatus or not. The examination went on :

NUMBER OF PASSENGERS ALLOWED.

Q. How many life preservers were bought for the "Slocum" since she was launched? A. From 200 to 300. She was first allowed to carry 2,500 passengers. In 1895 she got a permit to carry 2,750, and at that time the new life preservers were bought.

Q. Since 1891 have any life preservers been condemned by the United States steamboat inspectors? A. Maybe four or five.

Q. Have you condemned any since 1891? A. Maybe fifteen or twenty.

Q. Were any of the life preservers bought since 1891? A. No, but something like 300 were repaired by sewing on new straps.

The witness said that he had never discussed the equipment of the "Slocum" with Frank A. Barnaby, president of the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company or with any other of the company's officers, except Secretary

Atkinson. Captain Van Schaick said that Mr. Atkinson was aboard the "Slocum" before the excursion started and remarked that the boat was in fine shape. Mr. Garvan asked if Mr. Barnaby or any of the other officers, except Mr. Atkinson, had ever made any inquiry as to the equipment of the boat. The captain replied that no such inquiries had ever been made.

"Did Lundberg reject any of your life-preservers?" asked Mr. Garvan.

"I believe he rejected one. He said it looked dirty."

This reply brought out laughter all over the court room.

"How long had the hose nearest the compartment where the fire started been in use?" asked Mr. Garvan.

OLD HOSE LONG IN USE.

"All that hose had been in use since the boat was built," was the reply.

"Did Lundberg make any tests of the hose?"

"No, sir; not so far as I saw."

The witness stated that he had not tested the life-boats or life rafts this year, and seemed to be surprised that Mr. Garvan should ask such a foolish question. He insisted, however, in contradiction of all the other witnesses, that there had been fire drills on the "Slocum" this season. There had been as many as three or four fire drills. This followed:

Q. Well, what did they consist of? A. Oh, running water through the hose and showing the crew about the life preservers.

Q. Can't you give any more details? A. No, I can't go into details, and am getting very tired.

Capt. Van Schaick was permitted to take a rest for

an hour and was then recalled. When he took the stand again he was asked where he was when the fire was discovered. In answer to that question and to others that followed it the captain said :

"When I first heard of the fire I was in the pilot house. We were then about three lengths north of the Sunken Meadows. I ordered that she be sent ahead at full speed and then went down to see what the fire amounted to. I got part way down and the fire drove me back. It was sweeping up from below like a tornado. I saw that I could do nothing there, so I rushed back to the pilot house and said to Capt. Van Wœrt :

ORDERS TO BEACH THE BOAT.

"Capt. Ed., she is gone. Beach her on North Brother Island as soon as you can. Skin the dock at the island and put her on the beach starboard side toward the island, so that the people can get off away from the fire."

"Then I took a position about fifteen feet forward of the pilot house and directed the work of beaching the boat. After she was beached I jumped overboard and injured myself and got ashore as best I could."

"Did you see any of the crew?"

"No, they were two decks below me."

"Were the boats lowered?"

"Why, no. There was not time for anything like that."

Judge Dittenhoefer asked Capt. Van Schaick how many passengers he had carried in the course of his career as a river captain.

"Well," replied the witness, "I figured up three or four years ago that up to that time I had carried about

30,000,000 people, and not one of them received injury of any kind while they were in my charge."

Jacob S. Jacobs, the candy man, and August Lutjens, cashier of the bar aboard the "Slocum," were called when Captain Van Schaick was permitted to leave the stand to take a rest. Jacobs said that he had great difficulty in pulling down the life-preservers, that there was none of the crew around to give any help and that he didn't see the captain from the time the fire was discovered until the boat was beached. Lutjens said that he saw the captain soon after the steamer started, and Van Schaick said: "Lutjens, don't give my men too much to drink to-day."

SMOKE FROM FORWARD CABIN.

Lutjens said that he saw smoke coming out of the forward cabin when the "Slocum" was about off Ninetieth street. He fixed that point, because a moment afterward he noticed the Ninety-second street ferry. He said he saw the men uncoiling hose, but that no water came through it. They worked at the hose a short time and then jumped overboard.

Frank Perditzki, an unusually bright lad of fourteen, who went on the excursion with his mother, told about the clearest story of the fire that was told during the inquest. He said:

"I was near the pilot house and saw smoke coming up from below. The captain was in the pilot house and I shouted to him that there was a fire on board. He shouted back:

"'Shut up and mind your business!'"

"The boat was then opposite East Eighty-third street. I went down on the main deck to find my mother,

but when I couldn't I jumped overboard and swam ashore on North Brother Island."

"How do you know the boat was off East Eighty-third street when you first saw the fire?" asked Mr. Garvan.

"I know," answered the lad, "because I saw the East River Park, which is there, and I know that park well.

James A. Dumont, United States local inspector of hulls at New York and formerly supervising inspector-general of the United States Steamboat Inspection Service, was called. He said it had never been the practice to license mates, except on oceangoing vessels, unless captains insisted on it. Then a license was issued if the applicant showed he knew how to stow cargo. Mr. Dumont said that it had been the invariable ruling of the Board of United States Steamboat Inspectors that river vessels, unless cargo-carrying boats, had no hold. Therefore, the "Slocum" had no hold.

INSPECTORS TAUGHT BUSINESS.

Then Mr. Dumont told how assistant inspectors of hulls, like Henry Lundberg, who inspected the "Slocum," were taught their business. A probationer was sent out with experienced inspectors for three weeks and told to watch what they did. Then they were sent out by themselves. He said it was no part of Lundberg's duty to further inspect life-preservers than to see that they contained no large holes and that the straps were on.

The quality of all life-preservers is passed on and they are stamped where they are made. That they are stamped is prima facie evidence to an assistant inspector that they are all right. Life-preservers, with proper care,

the witness said, might be serviceable for 100 years. It was not the business of an assistant inspector to test preservers in the water or take from the boat life belts he had condemned.

Former Justice Julius Mayer, chief counsel for Lundberg, was in court for the first time. Dumont's testimony was so altogether favorable to Lundberg that Mr. Mayer sprung a surprise by calling his man to the stand as Dumont stepped down. Then Mr. Mayer said:

REFUSED TO TESTIFY.

"I have had to be out of town for several days. When I left I gave directions to Lundberg to refuse to testify on the ground that it might incriminate or degrade him. I took that precaution because I didn't know what might happen. But Mr. Dumont has substantiated the story told to me by my client respecting his duties in every particular. Lundberg has been anxious to tell his story, and now he'll have his chance. Lundberg, go ahead and tell the jury what you did by way of inspecting the 'Slocum.'"

The young man went on and told a straight story of what he did, and when asked by this or that juror why he wasn't more thorough in this or that particular he said he'd never been taught to do more than he had done. That which he had done was just what Dumont said was required of an assistant inspector of hulls. When neither Mr. Garvan nor any of the jury was able to shake Lundberg, Juror Cabot asked:

"What's it worth to you to inspect a boat?"

Judge Mayer was on his feet in a jiffy and said:

"If the Court please, I object to the question, and I resent the insult which it implies. Furthermore, I chal-

lenge, here and now, the right of that juror to sit longer in this case. That question proves that he has forfeited all rights to sit in judgment here."

"I think," said Coroner Berry, "that the juror meant no insult. I think he intended to ask what salary Lundberg gets. If, Mr. Cabot, you meant what Judge Mayer thinks you meant, you should have never said it and you must withdraw it."

Cabot jumped into the opening which the Coroner had made and said he referred to salary. Lundberg said he got \$2,000 a year. After James K. Atkinson, secretary of the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company, had produced the minutes of the company's meetings, Coroner Berry charged the jury, in part, as follows :

STRONG LANGUAGE OF CORONER.

"A fortnight ago it was inconceivable that the appalling disaster we have just finished investigating could occur in waters about our city. People had the utmost confidence that they were safeguarded on pleasure trips of the character of the St. Mark's Lutheran Sunday school excursion.

"Yet, within an hour after the 'General Slocum' left the Third street pier she was a burned wreck, and nearly 1,000 of her passengers were either burned or drowned. It is your duty to determine whether these deaths, or any of them, were due to the criminal negligence of any other person or persons.

"The law requires a carrier of passengers to exercise the strictest vigilance in receiving a passenger, conveying him to his destination and setting him down in safety. A passenger cannot know, nor is he presumed to know, anything about the machinery of a ship or its

equipment or appliances. He has paid his passage and is wholly passive in the hands of and is at the mercy of the vessel, their agents and employees.

"The highest court of this State—the Court of Appeals—has held that the rule requires no such particular precaution as became apparent after a disaster, which might have prevented its consequences, but such precautions as would be dictated by the utmost care and prudence of a very cautious person before the disaster, and without knowledge that it was to occur.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED.

"You should consider the business in which the vessel was employed, the character of the excursion parties it was expected to carry, the number of passengers it carried, and also the fact that as a rule such excursions were made up largely of women and children. The care that might be sufficient to guard the safety of ablebodied men might not be sufficient for others physically less able to take care of themselves.

"The first question, therefore, for you to determine is whether or not such care and prudence to guard against the catastrophe was employed in the fire equipment and the life-saving appliances of the 'General Slocum,' as a cautious man, mindful of the dangers and possibilities of the business in which the vessel was employed, would have exercised.

"Now, the directors of a corporation are its managing officers. Their authority and powers in the aggregate are co-extensive with the corporation itself. In this respect they are not only the agent, as I have said, but practically the corporation itself, and their duties and liabilities are the same as those of natural persons.

"If, in the conduct of the company's business, an officer or director participates in an act or omission which constitutes a violation of law he is criminally liable therefor in the same way and to the same extent as if he had participated in such act or omission while acting as the agent of an individual.

"Nor is it of the slightest importance on the question of the criminal liability of the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company's officers and directors whether or not the Government Inspectors performed or violated their duty. The duty of the corporation's representatives was not affected at all by what the inspectors did or did not do.

FIXING THE BLAME.

"You will also determine in your verdict and declare whether or not the inspectors, and which of the inspectors, if any, were negligent in the performance of their duties or wilfully made a false certificate in regard to the vessel's life-saving equipment."

The following is the full text of the verdict of the Coroner's jury :

"The said deceased, Henry Warnhose, and upward of 900 other persons came to their death by criminal means and in the following manner :

"1. That the deceased, together with excursionists to the number of 1,500 and upward, a majority of whom were women and young children, were, on the fifteenth day of June, 1904, passengers on board the steamboat called the 'General Slocum,' owned by the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company, of which Frank A. Barnaby was and is the president, and James K. Atkinson was and is the secretary and general passenger and traffic

manager; the said Barnaby and Atkinson being also the managing directors of the company and in full charge and control of its business and affairs, and that the said steamboat was in command of William H. Van Schaick, its captain, and was being used in carrying the said excursionists from the pier at the foot of East Third street to a certain landing on Long Island Sound, called Locust Grove, and back again to said dock.

INEFFICIENT EQUIPMENT.

" 2. That although it was the duty of the said Barnaby, Atkinson, Van Schaick and also Captain John A. Pease, acknowledged commodore of the fleet, to have seen that the said steamer was provided with, before its departure, a proper and suitable fire equipment and an efficient and well-drilled complement of disciplined men to operate the same in case of emergency, and also to have provided the said steamboat with such number and character of good, efficient and available life preservers and with other life-saving appliances as would best secure the safety of all persons on board the same in case of fire or other disaster, they and each of them did not only wholly neglect to do so, but on the contrary furnished and supplied, and had in and on board of the said steamboat, on the said fifteenth day of June, 1904, a wholly improper and unsuitable fire extinguishing equipment and a wholly inefficient and undrilled complement of men, all of whom were undisciplined, to operate the same, as well as an insufficient number of good and available life preservers and other life-saving appliances to properly secure the safety of the persons on board the said vessel in case of disaster.

" 3. That this same condition of affairs existed when, on the fifth day of May, 1904, Assistant Steamboat In-

spector of Hulls Henry Lundberg, of the United States Steamboat Inspection Service, inspected the vessel and approved of its fire-extinguishing and life-saving equipment and appliances.

"4. And while the said steamboat was still in the waters of the East River, within the county of New York, and not having yet reached Long Island Sound, a fire occurred in the hold, which, had there been a proper fire-extinguishment equipment and suitable appliances and an efficient and well-drilled complement of men to operate the same, might readily have been extinguished.

DRIVEN OVERBOARD BY FLAMES.

"5. That in consequence of the neglect and failure of the said Barnaby, Atkinson, Van Schaick, Pease and the other directors of the company named below to provide such equipment, appliances and men, and the inefficiency and the incompetency of the latter, and also because of the absence of a licensed and trained mate to command the latter, and direct them, the said fire was not extinguished, and spread to such an extent that the deceased were forced to leave the said vessel in order to escape the flames.

"6. That because of the insufficient number of good and available life preservers and other life saving apparatus on board of the said vessel, many of the deceased were forced to jump therefrom into the water without any means of self-preservation, and were drowned.

"7. That the lives of the deceased were destroyed by and through the before-mentioned misconduct of the said Barnaby, Atkinson, Van Schaick, Pease and the other directors.

"8. That acts constituting such misconduct and
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neglect were in flagrant violation of the provisions of the Federal laws to which the vessel was subject."

After careful consideration, the jury comes to the following conclusions and makes the following recommendations:

"1. That the president, Frank A. Barnaby, the secretary, James K. Atkinson, and the Board of Directors of the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company, namely: Frank A. Barnaby, Charles E. Hill, James K. Atkinson, C. Delacy Evans, Robert K. Story, Floyd S. Corbin and Frank G. Dexter, were guilty of criminal negligence in the failure to see to the proper equipment of the 'General Slocum' in the matter of the fire-fighting and life saving appliances on board said boat.

CAPTAIN RESPONSIBLE.

"2. That the captain, William H. Van Schaick, should be held criminally responsible for the accident.

"3. That Captain John A. Pease, the acknowledged commodore of the fleet, be held criminally responsible for his failure to properly equip the 'General Slocum' with the fire fighting and life saving appliances.

"4. That Edward Flanagan, the mate, acted in a cowardly manner, and we recommend that he be held criminally responsible for failure to perform his duty on board the 'General Slocum' on the day of the disaster.

"5. That in the opinion of this jury the misconduct of Henry Lundberg, Government Inspector, in failing to report to his superiors the true facts concerning the vessel's fire extinguishing and life saving equipment should be brought to the notice of the United States prosecuting officials, and we further hold that said Henry Lundberg be held for criminal negligence by reason of his incom-

petent, careless and indifferent inspection of the 'General Slocum's' hull on the 5th day of May, 1904.

"The jury are also of the opinion that the system of inspection which prevails in the harbor of New York is very inefficient, and does not properly examine whether the life preserving apparatus and fire appliances on the vessels of this harbor are in proper and suitable condition to prevent loss of life, and we recommend to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor that he issue such instructions for the supervising and local boards of inspectors as will cause them to efficiently and honestly examine the steamboats plying in and about this harbor."

The Aldermen authorized the issue of special revenue bonds to the amount of \$50,000 to pay for the burial of the unidentified victims of the "General Slocum" disaster and to meet the expenses incurred by the Police and Health departments in the work of recovering bodies and caring for the injured.

A resolution urging the Fire Department to assign at least two firemen to every excursion steamer of the harbor was referred to the Committee on Laws and Legislation. The committee was directed to confer with the Mayor and Fire Commissioner for the purpose of carrying the plan into effect if it should be found that the sanction of the Federal authorities is needed.

Subscriptions acknowledged raised the total of the relief fund to \$109,801.09. Four little children of Public School 116, accompanied by two of their teachers, called on the Mayor and presented to him a purse containing \$50 for the relief fund. The money was contributed by the children of the school. The Mayor thanked the children and praised the self-denial they had practised to raise so large an amount as they did in their school.

CHAPTER XVIII.

DIRGES FOR THE DEAD.

IMPRESSIVE ceremonies that were in the nature of public obsequies over the "Slocum's" dead were witnessed by an audience that filled the great assembly room of Cooper Union to the utmost limit of its seating capacity. It was the memorial service organized by the Mayor's Relief Committee to give final and formal expression to the sympathy of the people of New York in the terrible sorrow which fell at one blow upon so large a number of their fellow-citizens.

Mayor McClellan presided, being introduced by Mr. Julius Harburger, who acted as temporary chairman. A vast majority of the audience, as well as of those who occupied seats on the platform, were of German lineage, and quite half of the audience proper was made up of women. Here and there were persons in mourning, and at times during the evening a number of the women were in tears. But it was evident that comparatively few of those present were from the intimately afflicted families.

At the right of the stage and extending in a compact, wedge-shaped body were 400 representatives of the United German Singing Societies. They were under the leadership of Carl Hein, and at intervals they chanted two choruses, Silcher's "Schottischer Bardenchor" and Pfael's "Grabgesang." The Metropolitan Opera House orchestra, under the leadership of Nahan Franko, occupied all of the right-hand side of the stage.

The ceremonies opened with the orchestra playing

Beethoven's funeral march, after which Mr. Harburger made a few remarks defining the object of the meeting and called upon the Rev. John J. Heismann to make the opening prayer. At its conclusion Mr. Harburger introduced Mayor McClellan, who said :

"Nothing that I can say or that you can say, nothing that any of us can do, can mitigate the sorrow of those whose loved ones have gone before.

"The victims of the 'Slocum' were almost all women and children. They came from the sturdy German race, industrious, self-respecting and frugal, among the best citizens we have, whom we can ill afford to spare. For them home is all in all. Their men work for the love of home and for the wife and children it represents. In a few appalling minutes nearly a thousand families were broken up, nearly a thousand homes destroyed.

UNIVERSAL SYMPATHY.

"The breadwinners, whose chief incentive in life has been blotted out, whose wives and children are no more, must work on unaided, uncheered and alone, for we cannot help them. But in their hour of trial we can at least show them that we share their sorrow, and assure them that it is the common property of the entire people.

"To me the chief pathos of week before last was our utter helplessness in the face of a calamity. The work of destruction was so complete that there was pitifully little that could be done. And yet that little was done so well, and so generously, and so modestly withal, that it makes one proud of American manhood and womanhood as well that always rise to the occasion and never fail to do their duty.

"It would be invidious to single out any one single

city department for praise when all, from highest to lowest, from Commissioners down, did their best. The fortitude, the gentleness and the consideration that was shown at North Brother Island and on the Twenty-sixth street pier by city employees and citizens alike was of the kind that asks neither reward nor recognition, for it came spontaneously from the hearts of true men and true women. The dead have been buried and the survivors cared for, and those who were in want have been relieved by the public spirited generosity of our people.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION OF GRIEF.

“Before the wreck of the ‘Slocum’ passes into history we have met here this evening to give public expression to the grief of the people of New York over the greatest disaster in her annals, to mourn for those who in God’s good time and in God’s own way have been called to Him, to join together, regardless of race, sect or creed, in the words of resignation that God in His infinite mercy has taught mankind to say and to mean: Thy will be done.”

Following the Mayor’s address the orchestra played Schumann’s “*Träumerei*,” and then Mayor McClellan introduced George V. von Skal of the editorial staff of the *Staats-Zeitung*, who made a short address in German, which was followed by a chorus from the singing societies. Mayor McClellan then introduced Judge Morgan J. O’Brien, who, among other things, said:

“No philosophy, not even the consolations of religion, can obliterate such grief as that which has come to so many of our fellow citizens. The disaster was the most terrible in the annals of our city, and I feel that it is not wholly inappropriate that I should be called

upon to say something on this occasion, for I was born within a few hundred feet of the modest little church to which these good people who are now so sorely stricken belong.

"I then came to know the character of the people of that neighborhood and to appreciate the industry and thrift and courage which they put into their life work. Science tells us, those learned in astronomy tell us, that not a star in the heavens, however small it be, could be removed without impairing the equilibrium of the universe. And so I fully believe it is with our social organization, that not a life can be removed from it without a tendency to impair the moral equilibrium.

SENTIMENTS COMMON TO ALL.

"Thank God, the day has passed when differences of race and religion separate people, and that now we begin to understand the rights and the sentiments of others as we do our own. Let a great wrong be done to any body of people, no matter of what race or creed, or how far remote, or let a great sorrow befall, such as has befallen here in New York, and instantly there pulsates throughout all Christendom a sentiment of indignation or pitying sorrow.

"So, as we are thus assembled here to-night we are assembled to manifest not only the sympathy of the city of New York with those who are under this affliction, but the sympathy of all the world."

The ceremonies closed with a selection by the orchestra at the close of which the audience remained for a space of several minutes sitting with bowed heads and in silence broken here and there by a suppressed sob.

During the day a committee representing the French societies of New York City presented to Mayor McClellan a bronze memorial subscribed for by citizens of French extraction who sympathize with the "Slocum" sufferers. The memorial was in the form of a bronze mural cluster about two feet long and about eighteen inches broad. A transverse piece represents a plank of a wrecked ship and on this is the name of the burned steamer in large capitals. Waves are seen to be washing over the bit of wreckage, while beneath this emblem is the figure of a salamander, typifying fire. Inscribed on the memorial are the words :

" 'General Slocum,' Regrets des Francais de New York, Juin, 1904."

MEMORIAL GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED.

The memorial was taken to the City Hall by a committee consisting of Louis A. Risse, chairman ; J. B. Martin, vice-chairman ; Artoine La Blanche, A. Siltz and Pierre Feitu. The presentation speech was made by Mr. Risse. He spoke of the sorrow felt by the French-American citizens and told the Mayor that it was their desire that the memorial should be either placed on the proposed monument to the dead or upon the walls of St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

In thanking the committee on behalf of the city, the Mayor said before deciding upon the disposition of the bronze he would communicate with the Rev. Mr. Haas.

Four Chinamen walked into the outer office of the Mayor's suite shortly after noon, and laying down before Sergt. Kennel a large package the spokesman of the four said : "Please give this to the Mayor. It is from the Chinamen who want to help the Mayor's fund."

Sergeant Kennel opened the package and found that it contained money. He counted \$657, the greater part in one dollar bills. The four also handed him a big book in which was written in Chinese characters the names of the subscribers. The book showed in separate columns how much had been given by Pell street, how much by Mott street and how much by other streets comprising the Chinese district.

The bearers of the money were told that the Mayor was not in, but if they were disappointed, they were too polite to give any sign of it. They merely asked for a receipt for the money, and when they got it they bowed respectfully and started back to Chinatown.

The Mayor said afterward that he was sorry he was not in the hall when the Chinamen came. "I would have liked very much to meet them," he added.

MEDAL FOR A HEROINE.

Mary McCann, the most modestly unconscious heroine who ever risked her life to save others, is to have a reminder of her splendid work in the "Slocum" disaster, which will include both practical significance and signal honor.

In the midst of its harrowing work of sifting the facts and fixing the blame the Coroner's jury found one congenial task which it designed to keep a profound secret till its accomplishment. This is the presentation of a gold medal to Miss McCann, along with a generous purse. A special design has been agreed upon, which shall commemorate the terrible occasion, and an inscription that shall convey the thanks of a city to one of the most recent of her citizens.

Mary McCann is an Irish girl who only reached this

country on May 11, and the attack of scarlet fever which followed soon after her landing was the chance that sent her to North Brother Island. In the absence of her relatives the city assumed care of her. She was a convalescent patient on the day of the "Slocum" fire. Again and again she dashed into the water, dragging out no less than six children, and stopped only when the doctors, seeing her exhausted condition, forcibly detained her.

Tall and finely built, with her strength scarcely impaired by her illness, she gave her efforts to rescue the perishing without a moment's hesitation. And when the jury visited the island the brown-haired blue-eyed girl, who is hardly more than seventeen, was so naively unconscious of what she had done that there and then it was resolved to offer her some acknowledgement.

HONOR FOR LIFE SAVERS.

Coroner Berry said that the plan was the unanimous decision of the jury and had his warmest indorsement. He added that they had hoped to keep it from the public that they might have the added pleasure of surprising Mary McCann.

Matron White, the Superintendent at the North Brother Island Hospital, reported Mary progressing rapidly toward recovery. When told of her good fortune she said heartily:

"I am glad to hear it, for she fully deserves it. North Brother Island turned out some wonderful heroines on that awful day."

Another was Pauline Foote, the waitress, who is an expert swimmer and the possessor of more than one medal for life saving.

Secretary Cortelyou of the Department of Commerce and Labor sent the following telegram from Washington to George Uhler, Supervising Inspector-General of the steamboat inspection service at New York :

"You are hereby directed to begin at once the reinspection that has been ordered of the passenger-carrying steamboats in New York harbor. Detail the best men in your service for this work, and order that those who made the inspection of any particular boat earlier in the season shall not make the reinspection now.

ORDERS FOR INVESTIGATION.

"Telegraph the several supervising inspectors in the service, except Captain Birmingham, of San Francisco, who is too far away, and ask if they can spare without detriment to the interests committed to their charge some of their best men to assist in this work. Final judgment upon the character of the inspections heretofore made must properly await the report of the Federal investigation now in progress, but I believe this reinspection should be made.

"In making the reinspection the regulations and the various circulars that have been issued by the department from time to time for your service affords its officials definite instructions under existing law.

"Report at once by telegraph the receipt of these instructions."

The following is taken from the columns of a leading journal.

"The promise of rigid investigation and relentless action in the matter of the 'Slocum' disaster is being realized. As the result of the action of the Coroner's jury, which has been searching for the causes back of

the loss of more than one thousand human lives, the president and directors of the Knickerbocker Steamboat Company, owner of the burned excursion boat; the captain and mate of the vessel, the commodore of the Knickerbocker fleet, and the United States inspector concerned, must face charges of manslaughter in the second degree. The extreme penalty of the crime in New York is ten years imprisonment.

"The jury found, after painstaking inquiry, that the 'Slocum' was not equipped with proper life-saving or fire-fighting appliances, and that the crew was neither efficient nor well-drilled. In the face of this there was no alternative to charging criminal negligence against every man in any way responsible for the conditions. While it is manifestly improper to prejudge any individual case, it is clear that a state of affairs has been shown in which individual responsibility exists, and to bring it home is a debt owing to both past and future.

ACCUSED OF SLAUGHTER.

"Many persons shrink from following this idea to its logical conclusion. While willing to admit the possible criminality of those whose official positions bring them into active connection with a disaster, there is repugnance to charging the death of human beings to men whose complicity in the matter is generally considered negative.

"In that very repugnance, which is made apparent at every turn, lies the real difficulty of preventing such occurrences as this 'Slocum' calamity. Until the people at large realize the truth that a man who, whether from sheer thoughtlessness or desire for gain, permits the use of death-breeding agencies in his business is as deserving

of punishment as the man who kills his neighbor with a pistol or poison, that difficulty must remain.

"There is too much tendency nowadays to acquiesce in the devil-take-the-hindmost doctrine; too much willingness to regard the old question, in all its varying inflections, 'Am I my brother's keeper?' as a justifiable defence of murderous carelessness. The vital sense of personal responsibility is lacking, often criminally lacking, in the walks of everyday life. Yet until that sense of responsibility is restored and made keen we must stand ready to be shocked by horrible 'accidents' again and again.

"The verdict of the 'Slocum' jury opens the way to an object lesson of large preventive effect. It should be followed up swiftly and without hesitancy."

NEWSPAPER PHILOSOPHY.

Another journal gave expression to the public feeling in the following terms:

"The men who have been pilloried by the Coroner's jury as responsible for the murder of a thousand people on the 'General Slocum' will protest that it is unfair to single them out from the mass of excursion-boat owners and managers who have been doing the same things that they have done without having the bad luck to be caught. They say that they are no worse than the rest.

"Very likely this is true, and that is the very reason why these prosecutions should be relentlessly pushed. We need some examples 'to encourage the others.' If the mercenary wretches who equipped the 'Slocum' with rotten life-preservers and worthless fire-hose to save money, the criminally negligent inspectors who passed

her outfit and the cowards who manned her were the only specimens of their kind, they might be left to the lash of their own consciences, if they have any.

"But precisely because there are so many others of the same sort it is necessary to visit the utmost rigors of the law upon those we have been able to catch. It has cost a thousand lives to enable us to lay our hands on these; let us see that the sacrifice shall not have been in vain.

"It is often said that passengers by rail would be safer if every locomotive carried a director tied on the pilot. There will be more security on excursion boats if the owners, the managers and the inspectors of the 'Slocum' are tried, and not only convicted, but physically lodged in the penitentiary.

"Such an outcome will be especially gratifying because the men responsible for this disaster seem to have been the only persons unaffected by the horror of it. So far as we have observed, no director or official of the Knickerbocker Company has ever been credited with one spontaneous self-forgetful display of human feeling in connection with this calamity, which might have been expected to crush them all with shame, remorse and agonized sympathy.

"The company from the first has defiantly taken a 'What are you going to do about it?' attitude; it refused to spend money to raise the hull of the 'Slocum' and search for the bodies of the people it had murdered; it has done nothing for the survivors; it has expressed no regret for its past shortcomings and made no promises of amendment. No expense would ever be borne by this community with more hearty good-will than in giving these men a long season of free board up the Hudson."

Investigation of the disaster was begun by the Federal Grand Jury, with David D. Wylie as foreman. Assistant United States District Attorney Henry A. Wise, who was present throughout the inquest, examined several witnesses who had appeared in the former proceeding, including Benjamin F. Conklin, chief engineer of the "Slocum;" Everett Brandow, second engineer; Captain Edward Van Woert, first pilot; Edward Flanagan, mate; William W. Trembley and T. Collins, deck hands; General T. H. Barrett, United States Inspector of Boilers, and J. H. Fleming, an Assistant Inspector.

James K. Atkinson, secretary of the Knickerbocker Company, had been subpoenaed as a witness. He went to the Post Office Building, accompanied by his counsel, Terence J. McManus, who had advised him to decline to answer questions, as he was already a defendant. Mr. Wise told Mr. Atkinson that he would not need him. Mr. Atkinson had been directed by a writ of *duces tecum* to produce some of the company's books. He explained to Mr. Wise that he could not obey the writ, as he had turned over the books to Coroner Joseph I. Berry, in the Bronx.

Another session of the Grand Jury was appointed. The witnesses subpoenaed included George Owen, Daniel O'Neill, Thomas Lyon and Walter Payne, who worked on the "Slocum;" the Rev. Julius A. Schultz and Charles A. Lang, who were passengers on the steamer; Herman Burger, engineer in the gas works at the foot of East 139th street, and John A. Woodman, James Gaffney and Miss Lillie McGibbon, who were on North Brother Island at the time of the beaching there.

Captain Van Schaick was not to be called as a witness. It was deemed likely in the Post Office Building

that in addition to finding several indictments the Grand Jury would hand in a presentment condemning the lax method of steamboat inspection.

Herbert K. Smith, one of the commission appointed by Secretary Cortelyou to inquire into the conditions prevailing in this harbor, called on United States District Attorney Burnett, who assigned his assistant, C. S. Houghton, to attend the hearings, which were to be held behind closed doors. It was said Commander C. McR. Winslow, who is on the commission, would make an independent report to the Navy Department, to which, it has frequently been urged, the Bureau of Steamboat Inspection should be transferred.

Two of those found responsible for the loss of life on the "Slocum" surrendered to Coroner Berry. They were Captain John A. Pease, of the "Grand Republic," who is recognized as commodore of the Knickerbocker fleet, and Frank G. Dexter, a director in the company. Captain Pease went to the Coroner's office with his sister, Mrs. Caroline A. Armstrong, of Brooklyn, who signed his bail bond for \$5,000. Mr. Dexter gave his address as the Astor House and said he was a jeweller. He produced a receipt showing a deposit of \$5,000 cash bail with the City Chamberlain. C. De Lacy Evans, another director, telegraphed from Rye Beach, N. H., that he would appear and furnish bail whenever he was wanted. Coroner Berry replied to appear forthwith. Frank A. Barnaby, president of the Knickerbocker Company, telephoned to Coroner Berry that he understood Robert K. Story was in the North Woods and expected to get in communication with him within a few days.

OFFICIAL LIST
OF THE
NAMES, AGES AND RESIDENCES
OF
Victims of the Steamboat Horror
CAUSED BY THE
BURNING OF THE GENERAL SLOCUM.

We are able to present the report of Max F. Schmittberger, Inspector of the First District of New York. It contains a very careful compilation of the names of the dead and injured by the dreadful calamity. The report is as follows:

In compliance with orders to make a careful and thorough investigation, and to ascertain the number of persons "dead," "missing," "injured," or "uninjured," who were in the General Slocum disaster, on June 15th, 1904, I respectfully report that a careful and thorough investigation has been made, and the results obtained, carefully collated and revised, and the accompanying lists of persons, classified as "dead," "missing," "injured," or "uninjured," may be considered as absolutely correct and reliable, so far as the information contained therein could be obtained and verified up to this date.

For the purpose of this inquiry a force of ten clerical men reported to me at 10 A. M., June 22d, 1904, and at 8 A. M., June 23d, 1904, one hundred patrolmen who were able to speak the German language also reported to me at the Fifteenth Precinct Station House for that duty, and where the work has been conducted without intermission, and with the least possible delay, under my personal supervision. After recording every name which appeared in the public press and in the published list of "dead," "missing," "injured," or "uninjured," or in the news columns, or obituary notices, in any newspapers published in the city of New York, or reported by the friends or relatives, or appearing to be in any manner connected with the disaster, these names, by a system of comparison and elimination, were finally reduced to one consolidated list, and the individual inquiries were thereupon instituted in each case, and recorded on the proper blanks furnished for that purpose.

The patrolmen detailed for that purpose were instructed to be most minute and exact, in obtaining the fullest information, and I believe their work has been faithfully and intelligently performed.

I would further state, that the list of persons classified as "missing," and containing the names of ninety-three persons, and who are positively known to have been on board the steamer General Slocum, at the time of the disaster, have not returned to their homes, and can be considered as having also perished, and which number added to the list of names, classified as "dead," would increase the list of "dead" to a total of 1031 persons, and which would probably represent the entire actual mortality of the disaster.

RECAPITULATION.

Total number of persons dead	938
Total number of persons missing	93
Total number of persons injured	179
Total number of persons uninjured	236
Total number of children made orphans	15
Total number of persons who have been reported in the newspapers and from other sources, as having been in the disaster, and which were ascertained by the police not to have been on board, and who are alive	33
Number of unidentified bodies buried by the city :	
Number drowned	42
Number burned	38
Total	80

Annexed please find detailed list, giving the name, age, and residence of every person, either "dead," "missing," "injured," or "uninjured."

In addition to the instructions already given, the patrolmen were also instructed to make inquiries of the survivors as to the knowledge in their possession, having a tendency to aid the District Attorney in the prosecution of persons responsible for the disaster, and this has resulted in the obtaining of some information, and which statements are herewith annexed, and copies of which have been forwarded to the District Attorney.

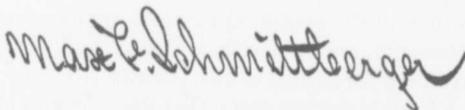
I would further state, that the inquiries also extended to the ascertaining of how many children have been made orphans, by the loss of their parents by the disaster, and all cases of persons in distress and in need of aid and assistance, to enable them to bury the dead, and to assist them in their immediate wants, and which cases are also herewith annexed, and a copy of the same having been

forwarded to the Citizens Relief Committee, in order that immediate relief may be given.

I would also further state that all the photographs of unidentified bodies taken at the Morgue, by your order, and transmitted to me from your office, have been placed on exhibition at the Fifteenth Precinct Station House, and the friends and relatives of missing persons have been invited to inspect these photographs, and already seven identifications have been made from these photographs.

Also, the description of all unidentified bodies, transmitted to me from your office, are being compared with the descriptions obtained by the police officers from friends and relatives of missing persons, and recorded by these officers on the Department "Missing Person Blanks," for the purpose of establishing the identity of such identified bodies. The blanks containing the description of all persons missing are herewith respectfully transmitted, together with the blanks especially prepared for the investigation, and properly filled out and signed by the officers detailed to make the inquiry in each case.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Max E. Schmittberger". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned centrally below the word "Respectfully,".

Inspector First District, New York.

MISSING.

[Where the city is not named New York is understood.]

Name.	Age.	Residence.	Name.	Age.	Residence.
Ambrust, Edna.....	6...	166 E. 10th St.	Harris, Silver.....	16...	242 E. 5th St.
Ansel, Eugene.....	6...	103 E. 4th St.	Hesterberg, Mrs. B.....	419 E.	5th St.
Abrams, Isaac.....	25...	166 Ave. C.	Hansen, Elizabeth.....	67...	64 7th St.
Bahr, Louisa.....	32...	424 E. 9th St.	Hausel, Eugene.....	6...	103 E. 4th St.
Barth, Mary.....	6...	87 Ave. A.	Heinz, Dina.....	10...	97 Ave. A.
Bock, Grace.....	4...	Marcy Ave., cor. 8. 1st St., Brooklyn.	Hlavacek, Annie.....	-----	-----
Boenhardt, Ella.....	12...	322 E. 13th St.	Just, Jos.....	6...	105 E. 8th St.
Burlend, Kate.....	24...	100 W. 106 St.	Just, Margaret.....	1...	105 E. 8th St.
Brauer, Jeanette.....	5...	107 E. 84th St.	Just, Amelia.....	38...	105 E. 8th St.
Baudeow, George.....	3...	84 7th St.	Koster, Meta.....	6...	343 Rivington St.
Becker, Mary.....	61...	1157 Lex Ave.	Koster, Anna.....	9...	343 Rivington St.
Becker, Lilly.....	27...	1157 Lex Ave.	Kirschner, John.....	67...	185 Russell St., B'n.
Cohn, Minnie.....	28...	103 E. 4th St.	Liebrnow, Helen.....	6...	133 E. 125th St.
Clug, Carolina.....	54...	468 8th Ave.	Marshall, Daniel.....	14...	127 First Ave.
Delhi, Catherine.....	3...	209 E. 5th St.	Muller, Elizabeth.....	6 mo...	406 E. 6th St.
Druse, Henry.....	7...	54 E. 4th St.	Moller, Fred.....	2...	998 Ave. A.
DeLucia, Nicholas.....	4...	54 E. 7th St.	Mundie, Lillian.....	38...	11 7th St.
Drews, Henry.....	7...	54 E. 4th St.	Mollto, Jos.....	6 mo...	Midland Ave.
Dietrich, George.....	10...	96 Greenwich St.			Yonkers, N. Y.
Erhardt, Clara.....	2...	151 E. 4th St.	Muller, Annie.....	6 mo...	406 E. 6th St.
Fettig, Elsie.....	2...	120 2d Ave.	Motzer.....	4...	405 E. 6th St.
Fisher, Emma.....	30...	103 1st Ave.	Miller, Mary.....	7 mo...	41 First Ave.
Fittig, Mrs. Peter.....	52...	120 2d Ave.	Nieduhr, Mamie.....	7...	23 Ave. B.
Fleischer, Henry.....	15...	322 E. 13th St.	Oelrich, Minnie.....	4...	611 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn.
Frey, Frederick.....	1...	84 7th St.	Oelrich, Lizzie.....	3...	611 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn.
Fingeragle, Katie.....	36...	439 6th St.	Ottinger, Andrew.....	7...	91 7th St.
Finglenagle, Clara.....	7...	439 E. 6th St.	Ottinger, Arthur.....	5...	91 7th St.
Finglenagle, Wm.....	5...	439 E. 6th St.	Oelrich, Fred.....	6...	611 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn.
Finglenagle, Mary.....	10...	439 E. 6th St.	Prawd, Siki Johanna.....	1...	85 3d St.
Grovel, Fritz.....	12...	56 E. 7th.	Roth, Jos.....	13...	305 5th St.
Griessler, Anna.....	35...	439 E. 6th St.	Reiss, Annie.....	2...	70 First Ave.
Griessler, Lillie.....	7...	439 E. 6th St.	Stiehl, Lillie.....	16...	55 First Ave.
Goetz, Albert.....	2...	80 1st Ave.	Schmidling, Mary.....	55...	119 E. 7th St.
Grews, Barbara.....	36...	526 E. 6th St.	Smith, Beatrice.....	2 mo...	920 E. 135th St.
Geuenwald, Emly.....	55...	257 Ave. B.	Schmier, Geo.....	8 mo...	45 First Ave.
Grunning, Helen.....	10 mo...	45 E. 7th St.	Schmidt Annie.....	30...	180 Ave. B.
Gardner, Mrs. Chas.....	34...	748 W'tchester av			
Galenski, Flora.....	36...	54 E. 7th St.			
Graner, Louis.....	22...	100 University pl.			
Geissler, Ella.....	5...	439 6th St.			
Hensler, Amelia.....	18...	154 1st Ave.			
Hinkl, Lillie.....	8...	227 E. 7th St.			
Hansen, Margaret.....	70...	64 E. 7th St.			

Name.	Age.	Residence.	Name.	Age.	Residence.
Sackman, Margaret.....	9	341 Rivington St.	Vetter, Charles.....	12	760 6th St.
Schuman, Annie.....	5	113 St. Marks Pl.	Vassner Johanna.....	32	332 5th St.
Schoeffing, Elsie.....	8	189 Third Ave.	Weaver, Christina.....	11	304 E. 9th St.
Stiek, Minnie.....	18	337 5th St.	Woll, Freda.....	38	283 Himrod St., Brooklyn.
Schaefer, Katie.....	6	322 13th St.	Webber, Frank.....	7	404 5th St.
Schumaker, Edward.....	10	436 6th St.	Zipsie, Sophie.....	17	335 E. 21st St.
Tetamore, Herbert.....	4	1471 Bushwick Ave., Brooklyn.	Zarges, Marie.....	—	132 E. 93d St.
Thomas, Lydia.....	6	90 Ave. A.			

DEAD.

Name.	Age.	Residence.	Name.	Age.	Residence.
Ambrust, Mrs. Kate.....	45	166 E. 4th St.	Bretz, Elsie.....	7 mo.	304 E. 28th St.
Armand, Lillian.....	14 mo.	334 E. 6th St.	Brosewald, Meta.....	50	289 Monroe St.
Anger, Rosie.....	19	1365 3d Ave.	Benneke, Mary.....	30	420 E. 17th St.
Ansel, Alfred.....	4	103 E. 4th St.	Belmken, Annie.....	13	344 E. 48th St.
Ansel, Louisa.....	28	103 E. 4th St.	Buchkott, Anna.....	66	141 E. 3d St.
Abenschein, Mary.....	34	325 E. 18th St.	Behrens, Henry.....	6	22 St. Mark's Pl.
Aifeld, Anna.....	45	389 6th St.	Baiser, Amelia.....	46	422 E. 8th St.
Aifeld, Tillie.....	16	339 6th St.	Burfiend, John.....	10 mo.	100 W. 106 St.
Ackerman, Barbara.....	30	406 E. 5th St.	Boenhardt, Otto.....	14	322 E. 13th St.
Ackerman, Lena.....	16 mo.	406 E. 5th St.	Berg, Lena.....	45	158 Goerck St.
Albers, Eva.....	17	628 E. 138 St.	Bernhardt, Anna.....	5	43 E. 2d St.
Addicks, John.....	15	49 Ave. A.	Baumle, Margaret.....	85	433 E. 6th St.
Addicks, Martha.....	11	49 Ave. A.	Baumle, Annie.....	11	433 E. 6th St.
Anger, Charles A.....	52	357 E. 62d St.	Behrendt, Clara.....	8	88 3d St.
Anger, Mrs. Minnie.....	29	357 E. 62d St.	Bauer, Caroline.....	42	31 Beekman Pl.
Abbeser, Amelia.....	36	128 E. 4th St.	Boerger, Pauline.....	47	104 1st Ave.
Abbesser, Henry.....	6	128 E. 4th St.	Boerger, Philip, Jr.....	9	104 1st Ave.
Albrecht, Salvina.....	—	271 E. 10th St.	Boerger, Pauline.....	5	104 1st Ave.
Ainoldi, Ella.....	11	733 1st Ave.	Blohm, Margaret.....	18	18-20 Jackson St.
Behrens, Alice.....	16	127 Garden St., Hoboken, N. J.	Blohm, Dora.....	15	18-20 Jackson St.
Ballmer, Mary.....	36	123 1st Ave.	Blohm, Anna.....	28	573 Central Ave., Brooklyn.
Ballmer, Joseph W.....	16	123 1st Ave.	Bahr, Ida.....	13	424 E. 9th St.
Ballmer, Augusta.....	8	123 1st Ave.	Bahr, Lillian.....	7	424 E. 9th St.
Burfiend, Dora.....	23	245 W. 27th St.	Blusch, Kate.....	25	41 Ave. A.
Burfiend, Margaret.....	2	245 W. 27th St.	Barnhardt, Annie.....	5	614 E. 9th St.
Burfiend, Dora.....	2 mo.	243 W. 27th St.	Bush, Hilda.....	8	82 W. 90th St.
Birmingham, Catherine.....	72	79 Mangin St.	Beckman, Margaret.....	23	1894 3d Ave.
Baumann, Madeline.....	30	526 6th St.	Beckman, Margaret.....	7 mo.	1894 3d Ave.
Baumann, Margaret.....	6	526 6th St.	Bensch, Mary.....	42	401 5th St.
Baumann, Otto.....	5	526 6th St.	Balserm, Catherine.....	32	137 Ave. B.
Beck, Christina.....	55	318 E. 9th St.	Bose, Anna.....	54	135 Ave. A.
Brown, Mollie.....	32	233 E. 5th St.	Bose, Emily.....	19	135 Ave. A.
Brown, Elsie.....	10	233 E. 5th St.	Boeger, Susan L.....	32	910 Putnam Ave., Brooklyn.
Brown, Willie.....	6	233 E. 5th St.	Boeger, William.....	5	910 Putnam Ave., Brooklyn.
Brunning, John L.....	44	215 E. 12th St.	Boeger, Florence.....	3	910 Putnam Ave., Brooklyn.
Brunning, Annie E.....	43	215 E. 12th St.	Bozenhardt, Emily.....	38	110 1st Ave.
Brunning, Madeline.....	12	215 E. 12th St.	Bozenhardt, Lucile.....	11	110 1st Ave.
Bretz, Mary.....	28	304 E. 28th St.			
Bretz, Eda.....	5	304 E. 28th St.			

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE GENERAL SLOCUM.

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Name.	Age.	Residence.	Name.	Age.	Residence.
Behrens, Alice.....	40..127	Garden St., Hoboken.	Dersch, Elsie.....	18..76 1st Ave.	
Baumler, Annie.....	43..433 E. 6th St.		Darenhelm, Minnie.....	26..1065 Jackson Ave. Brooklyn.	
Baumler, Chas.....	10..433 E. 6th St.		Doering, Ida.....	84..12 State St.	
Baumler, Annie.....	12..433 E. 6th St.		Doering, Gustav.....	9..12 State St.	
Bell, Agnus.....	16..242 E. 5th St.		Doering, Ida.....	11..12 State St.	
Braun, Moille.....	32..233 E. 5th St.		Dangier, Arthur.....	4..123 7th St.	
Braun, Elsie.....	10..233 E. 5th St.		Dunn, Julia.....	28..2112 3d Ave.	
Braun, Walter.....	6..233 E. 5th St.		Dunn, Arthur.....	4..2112 3d Ave.	
Boden, Ella.....	49..101 Clymer St., Brooklyn.		Dreher, Angelica.....	43..310 E. 25th St.	
Buschmiller, Annie.....	27..79 Cayler St., B'k.		Dreher, Catherine.....	11..310 E. 25th St.	
Berdholdt, Mrs. Fred.....	30..41 3d Ave.		Dreher, Conrad.....	4..310 East 25th St.	
Brandello, Eliza.....	29..84 7th St.		Dorboffer, Frieda.....	13..121 Ave. A.	
Brandello, Louise.....	5..84 7th St.		Dorboffer, Fritz.....	7..121 Ave. A.	
Bentz, Arthur.....	18..333 5th St.		Diamond, May.....	6..79 Mangin St.	
Breda, Mamie.....	23..90 Ave. A.		Diamond, Frank.....	5..79 Mangin St.	
Breda, Minnie.....	29..90 Ave. A.		Dieckhoff, Catherine.....	42..121 4th Ave., B'k.	
Breda, Minnie.....	13 mo..90 Ave. A.		Dieckhoff, Annie.....	17..121 4th Ave., B'k.	
Breda, Thomas.....	9..90 Ave. A.		Dieckhoff, Mary.....	15..121 4th Ave., B'k.	
Brower, Margaret L.....	31..107 E. 8th St.		Dieckhoff, William.....	4..121 4th Ave., B'k.	
Becker, Theodore.....	2..1157 Lexington Av.		Dieckhoff, Catherine.....	13..121 4th Ave., B'k.	
Benning, Magdeline.....	12..72 W. 114th St.		Dappert, Agnes.....	61..328 E. 6th St.	
Buchmiller, Arthur.....	79 Cayler St., Bk.		Dappert, Mary.....	28..328 E. 6th St.	
Buchmiller, George.....	79 Cayler St., Bk.		Diettrich, Adeline.....	35..96 Greenwich St.	
Brocks, Mary.....	15..51 Ave. A.		Diettrich, Alfred.....	9..96 Greenwich St.	
Behrens, Augusta.....	32..127 Garden St., Hoboken.		Diettrich, Herman.....	5..96 Greenwich St.	
Breda, Minnie.....	29..150 N. 9th St., Bk.		Diettrich, Emma.....	2..96 Greenwich St.	
Birmingham, Katie.....	53..79 Mangin St.		Diehl, Lizzie.....	27..330 E. 5th St.	
Berhold, Augusta.....	30..1050 Prospect Av., Brooklyn.		Diehl, Elsie.....	7..330 E. 5th St.	
Bock, Louisa.....	69..69 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn.		Diehl, Kate.....	3..209 E. 5th St.	
Brown, Alphonse.....	13..205 E. 5th St.		Dornhelm, Mrs. A.....	50..41 3d Ave.	
Bock, May.....	7..69 Marcy Av., Bk.		Drewes, Frieda.....	28..51 E. 4th St.	
Baist, Lillian.....	13..23 Ave. B.		Drewes, Catherine.....	65..51 E. 4th St.	
Baumler, Amelia.....	15..433 E. 6th St.		Drewes, Millie.....	2..54 E. 4th St.	
Brandt, Eva.....	34..410 E. 9th St.		DeLuca, Agnes.....	6..54 7th St.	
Curbs, Kate.....	27..70 1st Ave.		DeLuca, Frank.....	8..54 7th St.	
Curbs, Frida.....	6..70 1st Ave.		Ebling, Emma.....	32..77 1st Ave.	
Curbs, Henry D.....	1..70 1st Ave.		Ebling, George.....	5..77 1st Ave.	
Cahill, Annie M.....	22..316 E. 6th St.		Ehrhart, Minnie.....	14..69 1st Ave.	
Cibliski, Kate.....	18..91 Ave. B.		Ehrhart, Eliza.....	2..151 E. 4th St.	
Charlotte, May.....	50..275 Ave. D.		Ehrhart, Pauline.....	31..151 E. 4th St.	
Clow, Margaret.....	40..54 7th St.		Esher, Rosie.....	16..88 Ave. A.	
Cordes, Meta.....	52..417 E. 16th St.		Echersdorfer, Charlotte.....	21..313 E. 18th St.	
Cordes, Henrietta.....	22..417 E. 16th St.		Erdmann, Margaret.....	36..346 E. 9th St.	
Cordes, Fred.....	14..417 E. 16th St.		Erdmann, Alma.....	11..346 E. 9th St.	
Christ, Minnie.....	12..144 E. 7th St.		Elmer, Kate.....	44..84 Stockholm St., Brooklyn.	
Cohrs, Frieda.....	26..106 Ave. A.		Elmer, Carl.....	13..84 Stockholm St., Brooklyn.	
Duis, Pauline.....	51..103 Ave. A.		Elmer, George.....	11..84 Stockholm St., Brooklyn.	
Dauernheim, Minnie.....	26..103 Ave. A.		Ems, Christina.....	61..184 W. Broadway.	
Dersch, Ellen.....	41..76 1st Ave.		Ellar, Matilda.....	46..219 E. 13th St.	
			Ellar, Elsie.....	16..219 E. 13th St.	
			Eysel, Jennie.....	9..333 Ave. A.	

Name.	Age.	Residence.	Name.	Age.	Residence.
Engelman, Louise.....	28.	425 E. 12th St.	Gress, Walter.....	12.	134 7th St.
Engelman, William.....	6.	425 E. 12th St.	Grafting, Lillian.....	28.	908 Ave. A.
Elk, Adelaide.....	24.	306 E. 6th St.	German, Frederica.....	30.	315 E. 18th St.
Elk, Frances.....	17 mo.	306 E. 6th St.	German, Catherine F.....	17.	315 E. 18th St.
Ellig, Lizzie.....	6.	433 5th St.	German, Frederica F.....	15.	315 E. 18th St.
Ellig, Margaret.....	4.	493 E. 5th St.	Grimm, Selma.....	33.	314 E. 9th St.
Erklin, Theo.....	6.	1090 Hudson St., Hoboken, N. J.	Gillis, Charles.....	16.	512 E. 5th St.
Funk, Michael.....	12.	33 Ave. A.	Gillis, George.....	13.	512 E. 5th St.
Fickbohm, Marie.....	40.	91 Ave. D.	Gassman, Minnie.....	11.	128 E. 4th St.
Fickbohm, Earnest.....	12.	91 Ave. D.	Gassman, Frank.....	8.	1218 E. 4th St.
Fickbohm, Marie.....	14.	91 Ave. D.	Gassman, Michael.....	6.	128 E. 4th St.
Foelsing, Amelia.....	34.	1914 3d Ave.	Goetz, Catherine.....	28.	80 1st Ave.
Foelsing, Elizabeth.....	14.	1914 3d Ave.	Gerstenderger, Richard.....	38.	147 W. 32d St.
Foelsing, George.....	9.	1914 3d Ave.	Gerstenberger, Annie.....	36.	117 W. 32d St.
Foelsing, Ferdinand.....	7.	1914 3d Ave.	Gallagher, Veronica.....	34.	424 E. 15th St.
Fischler, Herta.....	7.	314 E. 9th St.	Gallagher, Walter.....	9.	424 E. 15th St.
Fischler, Erna.....	6.	314 E. 9th St.	Gallagher, Agnes.....	9 mo.	424 E. 15th St.
Froelich, Mrs.....	23.	301 W. 96th St.	Gardner, Lizzie.....	24.	748 Westchester Ave.
Feldhaus, George.....	11.	526 Sixth St.	Grunning, Ella.....	29.	45 E. 7th St.
Folke, Annie.....	51.	257 Ave. B.	Grunning, Henry.....	5.	45 E. 7th St.
Folke, Dora.....	76.	257 Ave. B.	Gibbons, Margaret.....	13.	225 E. 5th St.
Fisher, Edna.....	6.	108 1st Ave.	Gibbons, Ella.....	11.	225 E. 5th St.
Fisher, Lillie.....	4.	108 1st Ave.	Geisler, Kate.....	25.	1225 Park Ave.
Feldhausen, Margaret.....	48.	50 W. 8th St.	Gerdes, Christina.....	49.	341 Rivington St.
Feldhausen, Nicholas.....	12.	50 W. 8th St.	Gerdes, Henrietta.....	47.	341 Rivington St.
Felske, Gusta.....	38.	211 E. 5th St.	Gruben, Emma.....	40.	402 E. 17th St.
Felske, Elizabeth.....	14.	211 E. 5th St.	Gruben, Caroline.....	13.	429 E. 17th St.
Felske, Herman.....	8 mo.	211 E. 5th St.	Gerdes, Henry.....	30.	400 Kosciusko St.
Fritz, Elna.....	47.	1225 Park Ave.	Gerdes, Mrs. Henry.....	63.	430 Kosciusko St.
Frese, Annie.....	29.	426 E. 15th St.	Goettler, Caroline.....	38.	231 E. 5th St.
Freck, Charles.....	14.	409 E. 5th St.	Gade, Grace.....	16.	405 E. 5th St.
Fittig, Peter.....	48.	120 2d Ave.	Geisler, Ida.....	19.	201 Avenue A.
Feldhausen, George.....	42.	50 W. 8th St.	Galenski, Helen.....	6.	54 7th St.
Feldhaus, George.....	11.	949 E. 137th St.	Galenski, Morris.....	3.	54 7th St.
Felmeden, Lizzie.....	36.	80 1st Ave.	Goetz, Leona.....	12.	337 5th St.
Fresa, Anna.....	20.	426 E. 15th St.	Grewe, Henry.....	16.	54 E. 7th St.
Frey, Lillian.....	34.	84 7th St.	Grewe, Frederick.....	14.	54 E. 7th St.
Fettig, Christina.....	33.	120 2d Ave.	Geissman, Lena.....	16.	114 E. 4th St.
Gross, Emma.....	43.	90 1st Ave.	Grovald, Elsie.....	10.	56 E. 7th St.
Gross, Bruno.....	6.	90 1st Ave.	Goetz, Edward.....	5.	80 First Ave.
Grellka, Amelia.....	48.	345 E. 15th St.	Goetz, Albert.....	3.	80 First Ave.
Grellka, Olga.....	14.	345 E. 15th St.	Goss, Mary.....	59.	27 Stanton St.
Grellka, Agnes.....	10.	345 E. 15th St.	Goss, Gertrude.....	27.	27 Stanton St.
Greisel, Emma.....	8.	117 E. 2d St.	Grawe, Henry.....	17.	54 7th St.
Geisler, Louis.....	10.	439 6th St.	Grawe, Frederick.....	14.	54 7th St.
Gress, Lillian.....	10 mo.	526 E. 6th St.	Galewsky, Morris.....	7.	54 7th St.
Gress, George.....	8.	526 E. 6th St.	Galewsky, Helen.....	54.	7th St.
Goss, Mary.....	50.	97 7th St.	Greenwald, Richard.....	5.	237 Ave. B.
Goss, Gertrude.....	27.	97 7th St.	Grunning, Charles.....	3.	45 7th St.
Gress, Otto.....	43.	134 7th St.	Hendkamp, John.....	54.	805 6th St.
Gress, Eliza.....	41.	134 7th St.	Hendkamp, Margaret.....	11.	805 6th St.
Gress, Clara.....	13.	134 7th St.	Hendkamp, Frank.....	8.	805 6th St.
			Hoffman, Cella.....	36.	116 Lake St. J. C.
			Hoffman, Raymond.....	5.	116 Lake St. J. C.

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE GENERAL SLOCUM.

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Name.	Age.	Residence.	Name.	Age.	Residence.
Hoffman, Edna.....	3...	116 Lake St. J. C.	Hessel, Wilhelma.....	63...	801 E. 147th St.
Hortung, Minnie K.....	24...	402 3rd Ave.	Hoffman, Ella.....	14...	Astor Library.
Hessel, Minnie.....	56...	801 E. 147 St.	Hardekopf, Meta.....	40...	343 Rivington St.
Haag, Ella.....	13...	158 1st Ave.	Henry, Sadie.....	12...	225 - 5th St.
Haag, Susianna.....	40...	158 1st Ave.	Hecken, Lucy.....	41...	169 S. 2d St., Bklyn
Heuer, Dora.....	39...	129 Division St.	Hecken, Charles.....	18...	169 S. 2d St., Bklyn
Heuer, Mary.....	17...	129 Division St.	Hartung, Louise.....	47...	342 E. 21st St.
Heuer, Dora.....	7...	129 Division St.	Hartung, Clara.....	10...	342 E. 21st St.
Heuer, Herman.....	9...	129 Division St.	Hartung Francis.....	13...	342 E. 21st St.
Heyrisch, Katie.....	47...	423 E. 16th St.	Hartung Amelia.....	13...	342 E. 21st St.
Hoffman, Elizabeth.....	55...	170th St. & Wash- ington Ave.	Hartung, Elsie.....	6...	342 E. 21st St.
Hoffman, Mary.....	29...	170th St. & Wash- ington Ave.	Heins, Anna.....	29...	210 - 9th Ave.
Hetterich, Lizzie.....	30...	420 E. 15th St.	Hertenberger, Mrs. H.....	37...	22 St. Marks Pl.
Hetterich, Robert.....	6...	420 E. 15th St.	Hermann, Catherine.....	60...	457 5th St.
Hetterich, Emilie.....	3...	420 E. 15th St.	Hermann, Elsie.....	3...	410 5th St.
Hauff, Matilda.....	14...	41 Ave. A.	Hermann, Fred.....	13 mo.	410 5th St.
Haas, Hana.....	46...	64 E. 7th St.	Holder, Marie.....	79...	169 Ave. A.
Hecke, Tessie.....	10...	564 E. 15th St.	Hermann, Emly.....	35...	410 5th St.
Hirt, Mary.....	64...	611 Columbus Av.	Hermann, George.....	14 mo.	410 5th St.
Heggenbuecher, Mary.....	33...	2112 - 3rd Ave.	Hernberg, Arthur.....	9...	79 Colyer St. Bkin
Hirt, Mary.....	63...	82 W. 90th St.	Hernberg, George.....	6...	79 Colyer St. Bkin
Hettinger, Lizzie.....	26...	127 1st Ave.	Hoffman, Sophia.....	51...	73 2d St.
Hengy, Barbara.....	17...	108 1st Ave.	Hoffman, Mrs. C.....	37...	336 N. Y. Ave., J.C.
Herz, Minnie.....	32...	412 - 6th St.	Holz, Anna.....	37...	319 E. 5th St.
Heins, Frank.....	11...	397 E. 4th St.	Holz, Bertha.....	12...	319 E. 5th St.
Hiller, Christina.....	68...	404 E. 6th St.	Hoffman, Edna.....	2...	330 N. Y. Ave., J.C.
Hiller, Godfrey.....	60...	404 E. 6th St.	Heins Annie.....	40...	300 Front St.
Holler, Barbara.....	50...	338 E. 6th St.	Heins Annie.....	26...	300 Front St.
Hoag, William.....	14...	210 E. 14th St.	Heins, Ida.....	14...	300 Front St.
Hoag, Wilmur.....	12...	210 E. 14th St.	Heins, Etta.....	10...	300 Front St.
Hoag, Emlina.....	9...	210 E. 14th St.	Heins, Margaret.....	7...	300 Front St.
Hoag, Susianna.....	49...	158 1st Ave.	Heins, Henrietta.....	10...	300 Front St.
Hoag, Ella.....	13...	158 1st Ave.	Hetterick, Adolph.....	8 mo.	420 E. 15th St.
Hell, George.....	14...	55 1st Ave.	Hecklin, Katie.....		
Hell, Emilie.....	12...	55 1st Ave.	Heckman, Lillian.....	6...	512 E. 12th St.
Hell, Fred.....	6...	55 1st Ave.	Hauff, Tillie.....	14...	142 E. 3d St.
Hartman, Mary.....	45...	309 E. 10th St.	Hertz, Minnie.....	32...	412 6th St.
Heinz, Johanna.....	44...	97 Ave. A.	Haas, Gertrude.....	13...	64 7th St.
Heinz, Louisa.....	20...	97 Ave. A.	Havermeyer, Emma.....	37...	1499 First Ave.
Heldkamper, Maggie.....	11...	49 Ave. A.	Havermeyer, Willie.....	7...	1499 First Ave.
Heckert, Annie.....	11...	88 Ave. A.	Irvin, Fannie.....	33...	2112 3d Ave.
Heckert, Julia.....	8 mo.	88 Ave. A.	Iden, Henrietta.....	10...	100 E. 4th St.
Hetz, George.....	5...	319 5th St.	Iden, Minnie.....	18...	100 E. 4th St.
Horway, Mrs. Anna.....	28...	313 E. 9th St.	Iden, Grace.....	5...	100 E. 4th St.
Horway, Karl.....	1...	313 E. 9th St.	Irwin, Julia.....	24...	2112 3d Ave.
Horway, Della.....	6...	313 E. 9th St.	Imar, Fritz.....	47...	1225 Park Ave.
Hetslon, Margaret.....	33...	181 Waverly Pl.	Jolmek, Bertha.....	57...	314 E. 9th St.
Hetslon, George.....	3...	181 Waverly Pl.	Just, Amella.....	13...	405 E. 8th St.
Hel, Adelaide.....	15...	Boston Road and Pelham Pk. Bkn.	Just, Etelka.....	12...	405 E. 8th St.
Hensler, Gussie.....	11...	154 1st Ave.	Just, Leontine.....	10...	405 E. 8th St.
Heckman, William.....	3...	325 E. 12th St.	Kreckier, Margaret.....	33...	257 Ave. A.
Hartman, Margaret.....	15...	309 E. 10th St.	Krautwst, Annie.....	14...	114 E. 4th St.
Hetteroch, Elizabeth.....	30...	420 E. 15th St.	Kolb, Valentine.....	68...	743 E. 201st St.

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE GENERAL SLOCUM.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
Kolb, Magdalline.....	72..	743 E. 201st St.	Kiennen, Ethel.....	11 mo..	1391 Washington Avenue.
Klein, Tienna.....	73..	31 Ave. A.	Keppler, Louis.....	17..	192 First Ave.
Klein, Tillie.....	10..	31 Ave. A.	Keisel, Millie.....	6..	236 Ave. A.
Klein, Teina.....	40..	31 Ave. A.	Klenck, Minnie.....	19..	438 6th St.
Klein, Julius.....	6..	31 Ave. A.	Klenck, Minnie.....	19..	438 6th St.
Kraft, Louisa.....	30..	145 E. 4th St.	Klein, Mrs. Diana.....	72..	29 Ave. A.
Kessler, Babette.....	40..	203 E. 7th St.	Klein, Manol.....	13..	313 Miller Ave. Brooklyn.
Kessler, Augustus.....	13..	203 E. 7th St.	Kunze, Gussie.....	20..	417 E. 10th St.
Kohler, Henry A.....	40..	315 E. 13th St.	Kiese, Katie.....	6..	300 E. 14th St.
Kohler, Mary.....	38..	315 E. 13th St.	Keppeler, Irene.....	12..	192 First Ave.
Kohler, Henry A., Jr.....	12..	315 E. 13th St.	Kriegler, Margaret.....	24..	257 Ave. B.
Kopf, Lizzie.....	32..	337 E. 9th St.	Kriegler, Fred.....	19..	257 Ave. B.
Kopf, Emel.....	10..	337 E. 9th St.	Kriegler, Annie.....	7..	257 Ave. B.
Kopf, Francis.....	8..	337 E. 9th St.	Link, Edward.....	12..	76 Ave. A.
Kopf, Theodore.....	5..	337 E. 9th St.	Link, Lottie.....	8..	76 Ave. A.
Kopf, Elle.....	2..	337 E. 9th St.	Lurin, Xena.....	17..	11 E. 4th St.
Kalb, Gussie.....	22..	517 E. 5th St.	Ludemann, Johanna.....	45..	4 8 m 11 h St. White Plains
Klattbner, Catherine.....	56..	506 E. 5th St.	Lutgens, Katie.....	46..	101 Clymer St. Brooklyn.
Klattbner, George.....	14..	506 E. 5th St.	Lutgens, Maggie.....	18..	101 Clymer St. Brooklyn.
Klennan, Meta.....	57..	1391 Wash. Ave.	Ludwig, George.....	14..	413 E. 17th St.
Kara, Barbara.....	60..	314 E. 6th St.	Lang, Amelia.....	15..	154 E. Broadway.
Klein, Emma.....	25..	314 E. 6th St.	Lullman, Carrie.....	24..	100 University p.
Klein, Emily.....	9..	314 E. 6th St.	Lambeek, Ernest.....	9..	427 E. 9th St.
Klenck, Bertha.....	40..	113 St. Mark's Pl.	Lambeek, Henry.....	6..	427 E. 9th St.
Klenck, William.....	20..	113 St. Mark's Pl.	Lambeek, Albert.....	3..	427 E. 9th St.
Klenck, Charles.....	7..	113 St. Mark's Pl.	Luderer, Herman.....	18..	312 E. 14th St.
Kosel, Lillian.....	5..	265 Ave. A.	Lane, Gustav.....	17..	227 E. 11th St.
Koster, Margaret.....	46..	343 Rivington St.	Lane, George.....	14..	227 E. 11th St.
King, Catherine.....	46..	314 E. 40th St.	Lahn, Dora.....	25..	1000 Union Ave.
Karl, Barbara.....	60..	314 E. 40th St.	Lahn, Clara.....	20..	1000 Union Ave.
Kleinhenz, Barbara.....	14..	196 Ave. A.	Leffler, Catherine.....	41..	9 E. 3d St.
Kleinhenz, Lina.....	11..	196 Ave. A.	Leffler, Louise.....	9..	9 E. 3d St.
Klessel Lillian.....	5..	266 Ave. A.	Lieport, Chas.....	12..	412 E. 6th St.
Klein, John.....	17..	391 E. 3d St.	Lamm, Amelia.....	40..	645 E. 17th St.
Kawczynskix, Teofil.....	15..	196 3d Ave.	Lamm, Frank.....	15..	645 E. 17th St.
Klamme, Meta.....	24..	1391 Washington Avenue.	Lamm, Lillian.....	7..	645 E. 17th St.
Klamme, May.....	1..	1391 Washington Avenue.	Lucas, Robert.....	..	540 W. 39th St.
Klob, Valentine.....	68..	743 Summer St., Bronx.	Libenow, Anna.....	3..	133 E. 125th St.
Klob, Magdalena.....	72..	743 Summer St., Bronx.	Licome, Minnie.....	19..	83 7th St.
Kalk, Augusta.....	21..	84 7th St.	Liebenow, Martha.....	29..	404 E. 5th St.
Kiennen, Ethel.....	1..	1391 Washington Avenue.	Meinhardt, Waide.....	15..	146 E. 4th St.
Kirsher, Catherine.....	61..	185 Russell St., Brooklyn.	Molke, Lizzie.....	10..	125 First Ave.
Kirscher, Margaret.....	33..	185 Russell St., Brooklyn.	Mammelkamps, Lizzie.....	44..	130 E. 4th St.
Kircher, Elsie.....	7..	185 Russell St., Brooklyn.	Mammelkamps, Stella.....	12..	130 E. 4th St.
Kirsher, Karl.....	3..	185 Russell St., Brooklyn.	Michael, Margarette.....	41..	624 E. 12th St.
Klennen, Meta.....	56..	1391 Washington Avenue.	Michael, Willie.....	14..	624 E. 12th St.
			Moller, Valesca.....	27..	37 2d Ave.
			Moller, Edgar.....	3..	37 2d Ave.

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE GENERAL SLOCUM.

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Name.	Age.	Residence.	Name.	Age.	Residence.
Muller, Annie.....	24	400 E. 6th St.	Mettler, Robert.....	10	338 5th St.
Muller, Hermine.....	37	308 Bowery.	Mettler, Elsie.....	13	338 5th St.
Muller, Rose.....	14	308 Bowery.	Mettler, Fred.....	8	338 E. 5th St.
Muller, Edward.....	11	308 Bowery.	Muller, Annie.....	32	308 Ave. A.
Muller, Helen.....	8	308 Bowery.	Muller, Henry.....	1	308 Ave. A.
Muller, Irene.....	4	308 Bowery.	Mai, Charlotte.....	50	601 E. 1st St.
Mack, Annie.....	22	401 E. 10th St.	Meinhardt, Ruda.....	19	146 E. 4th St.
Mahlstadt, Martin H.....	22	620 E. 146th St.	Meyer, George.....	12	430 E. 17th St.
Mecke, Tessie.....	9	504 E. 16th St.	McGrane, Michael.....	48	2161 8th Ave.
Miller, Flora.....	26	314 E. 46th St.	Marshall, Henry.....	11	121 1st Ave.
Miller, Florence.....	28	28 W. 97th St.	Marcellis, Matilda.....	13	394 6th Ave., Bklyn.
Muller, Annie.....	37	41 First Ave.	Mundie, Arthur.....	8	117th St.
Muller, Annie.....	13	41 First Ave.	Michael, Caroline.....	12	171 Ave. A.
Muller, Henry.....	3	41 First Ave.	Miller, Jacob.....	4 mos.	123 7th St.
Meininger, Lizzie.....	29	191 E. 3d St.	Meininger, Lizzie.....	29	631 Bergen Av. Bx.
Meininger, Harry.....	19 mo.	191 E. 3d St.	Meininger, Harry.....	2	631 Bergen Av. Bx.
Meyer, France.....	42	134 Hobart Ave., Bayonne N. J.	Moeller, Catherine.....	4	45 2d Ave.
McCarthy, Jeremiah.....	9	134 Hobart Ave., Bayonne, N. J.	Moller, Bernhardt.....	34	35 2d Ave.
Meyer, Lizzie.....	30	88 Ave. A.	Moeller, Edward.....	5	20 St. Marks Pl.
Meyer, Edward.....	10	88 Ave. A.	Miller, Mary.....	29	35 2d Ave.
Meyer, Kate.....	7	88 Ave. A.	Moeller, Annie.....	406 E. 6th St.	
Meinhardt, Walberger.....	37	146 E. 4th St.	Mattes, Margarette.....	57	87 Ave. A.
Meinhardt, Rudolph.....	14	146 E. 4th St.	Norman, Anna.....	23	402 3d Ave.
Meyer, Louisa.....	39	430 E. 17th St.	Noll, Kate.....	40	400 E. 5th St.
Meyer, Elsie.....	9	430 E. 17th St.	Noll, Theodore.....	6	400 E. 5th St.
Motzer, Annie.....	38	404 E. 6th St.	Neibuhr, Meta.....	38	23 Ave. B.
Moller, Henry.....	13	20 St. Mark's Pl.	Neibuhr, Lizzie.....	9	23 Ave. B.
Moller, Martha.....	37	20 St. Mark's Pl.	Ottinger, Kate.....	38	91 7th St.
McLoughlin, Michael.....	12	69 First Ave.	Ottinger, Emma.....	15	91 7th St.
Morris, Kate.....	15	69 First Ave.	Ottinger, Charles.....	15	91 7th St.
Muth, Annie.....	62	1254 Lex. Ave.	Oelrich, Anna.....	35	611 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn.
Muth, Kate.....	36	1254 Lex. Ave.	Oelrich, Helen.....	9 mo.	611 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn.
Muth, Lizzie.....	11	1254 Lex. Ave.	Oehler, Anna M.....	54	510 6th St.
Muth, Tennie.....	8	1254 Lex. Ave.	Oehler, Freda.....	14	510 6th St.
Muth, Katie.....	5	1254 Lex. Ave.	Ohl, Emma.....	11	340 E. 9th St.
Mescke, Betty.....	51	508 Robbins Ave.	Ohl, Carl.....	9	340 E. 9th St.
Mescke, Anna M.....	16	508 Robbins Ave.	Osborne, Fannie.....	13	39th St. Marks Pl.
Manheimer, Mamie.....	36	86 7th St.	Oelrich, Fred.....	6	611 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn.
Manheimer, Walter.....	11	86 7th St.	Oelrich, Minnie.....	4	611 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn.
Meyer, Meta.....	50	381 Madison St.	Oelrich, Lizzie.....	3	611 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn.
Meyer, Lizzie.....	20	381 Madison St.	Osmers, Mildred.....	6	49 E. 88 St.
Miller, Annie.....	21	123 7th St.	Pfeifer, Lillie.....	18	367 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn.
Mattes, Lizzie.....	21	87 Ave. A.	Pullman, William H.....	49	337 E. 13th St.
Molter, Margarette.....	36	Midland & Jerome Avs. Mt. Vernon	Pientag, Dora.....	57	45 E. 7th St.
Molter, Eva.....	8	Midland & Jerome Avs. Mt. Vernon	Pottebaum, Herman.....	52	61 St. Mark's Pl.
Molter, Carl.....	5	Midland & Jerome Avs. Mt. Vernon	Pottebaum, Eliza.....	47	61 St. Mark's Pl.
Maurer, Matilda.....	14	421 E. 9th St.			
Maurer, George.....	53	421 E. 9th St.			
Maurer, Clara.....	12	421 E. 9th St.			
Mettler, Albert.....	11	338 5th St.			

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
Pottebaum, William.....	29	61 St. Mark's Pl.	Rothman, Thomas F.....	8	48 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7th St.
Probst, Katie.....	24	545 E. 12th St.	Rothman, William.....	5	48 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7th St.
Port, Henry.....	15	58 4th St.	Richter, Lena.....	34	104 1st Ave.
Port, Paul C.....	12	58 4th St.	Richter, Lydia.....	12	104 1st Ave.
Prawdzi, Annie.....	15	85 E. 3d St.	Richter, Christina.....	9	104 1st Ave.
Prawdzi, Henrietta.....	13	85 E. 3d St.	Reiss, Rose.....	16	70 1st Ave.
Prawdzi, Gertrude.....	3	85 E. 3d St.	Reiss, Kate.....	53	70 1st Ave.
Pauls, Elsie.....	21	26 Ave. A.	Reiss, Lizzie.....	7	70 1st Ave.
Pauls, Kate.....	14	26 Ave. A.	Ramus, Frederick.....	16	420 E. 17th St.
Poinsh, Olga.....	14	320 5th St.	Reltz, Tessie.....	90	1st Ave.
Ryan, Mamie.....	5	345 E. 15th St.	Reichenbach, Herman H.	2	241 Stockholm St., Brooklyn.
Rosenberger, Mary.....	46	417 E. 16th St.	Roth, Josephine.....	52	235 E. 5th St.
Rosenberger, Lizzie.....	8	417 E. 16th St.	Roth, Lena.....	17	233 E. 5th St.
Reuling, Emma.....	21	424 E. 6th St.	Reuling, Gertrude.....	22	422 2d St.
Roes, Adele.....	24	322 McDonagh St. Brooklyn.	Schnude, Henry C.....	32	197 Gurnsey St., Brooklyn.
Routh, Ellen.....	30	310 E. Broadway.	Schnude, Mrs. Henry.....	32	196 Gurnsey St., Brooklyn.
Rice, Catherine.....	74	40 Shepard Ave., Brooklyn.	Schnude, Grace.....	4	196 Gurnsey St., Brooklyn.
Rosenstein, Sophia.....	21	127 1st Ave.	Schnude, Mildred.....	2	109 Gurnsey St., Brooklyn.
Rosenagel, Annie.....	38	129 E. 4th St.	Schuman, Alfred.....	7	113 St. Marks Pl.
Relchter, Lena.....	25	104 1st Ave.	Sackman Margaret.....	46	341 Rivington St.
Relchter, Tina.....	11	104 1st Ave.	Sackman, Herman.....	7	341 Rivington St.
Relchter, Lizzie.....	12	104 1st Ave.	Schwartz, Louisa.....	43	141 E. 3d St.
Relchter, Fred.....	19	104 1st Ave.	Schoengut Gottleben.....	64	118 E. 3d St.
Rheinfrank, John.....	75	343 W. 71st St.	Soerichs, Lotie.....	36	425 E. 13th St.
Rheinfrank, Catherina.....	64	343 W. 71st St.	Schuesler, Sophie.....	62	338 6th St.
Ringer, Clara.....	37	170 Ave. A.	Stenger, Frances.....	31	38 E. 3d St.
Ringer, Alfred.....	12	170 Ave. A.	Stenger, Rose.....	19	38 E. 3d St.
Rammelkamp, Augusta.....	44	130 E. 4th St.	Shoefling, Mary.....	35	189 3d Ave.
Rammelkamp, Stella.....	13	130 E. 4th St.	Siegel, Sophia.....	24	54 7th St.
Rieter, Amelia.....	47	404 E. 6th St.	Schaler Margarette.....	21	237 E. 10th St.
Rieter, Annie.....	21	404 E. 6th St.	Schaler, Julia.....	6 mo.	237 E. 10th St.
Rieter, Lizzie.....	19	404 E. 6th St.	Smith, Mamie.....	13	361 E. 10th St.
Rieter, Annie.....	8	404 E. 6th St.	Schmidt, Goettlieb.....	34	37 E. 4th St.
Rieter, Ernest.....	12	404 E. 6th St.	Schmidt, Bertha.....	10	37 E. 4th St.
Rieter, August.....	14	404 E. 6th St.	Schmidt, Emma.....	25	264 1st Ave.
Rothenberger, Annie.....	19	368 Bowerly.	Schmidt, Erna.....	5 mo.	264 1st Ave.
Roberts, Clara.....	38	198 Guernsey St., Brooklyn.	Spring, Mrs. Augusta.....	52	90 1st Ave.
Roberts, Blanche.....	13	198 Guernsey St., Brooklyn.	Sierelsb, Mrs.....	38	425 E. 12th St.
Ruthinger, Meta.....	39	47 St. Mark's Pl.	Schumacher, Katie.....	14	436 6th St.
Ruthinger, Ernest.....	16	47 St. Mark's Pl.	Stoehr, Sussie.....	30	340 E. 6th St.
Roeth, Helen.....	29	310 E. Broadway.	Stoehr, Henry.....	5	340 E. 6th St.
Ramus, Frederick.....	69	420 17th St.	Schwartz, Mrs. Charles.....	45	144 E. 3d St.
Ramus, Irving.....	11	423 E. 17th St.	Staeger, Anna.....	13	59 1st Ave.
Roth, Josephine.....	42	233 E. 5th St.	Seller, Catherine.....	73	107 E. 8th St.
Roth, Caroline.....	17	233 E. 5th St.	Stiek, Lena.....	38	377 5th St.
Rakowski, Manda.....	10	337 E. 5th St.	Sutman, Henrietta.....	23	104 1st Ave.
Roose, Adell.....	37	Sumner Ave. & McDonagh St., Brooklyn.	Stelz, Bessie.....	38	606 E. 15th St.
Rothman, Emily.....	34	48 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7th St.	Smith, Martha.....	25	316 E. 18th St.
			Sehoett, Josephine.....	42	98 E. 7th St.
			Schoett, Christina.....	19	98 E. 7th St.

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE GENERAL SLOCUM.

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Name.	Age.	Residence.	Name.	Age.	Residence.
Schoett, Carrie.....	10..98	E. 7th St.	Steckman, Augusta.....	51..225	E. 5th St.
Schoett, Helen.....	5..98	E. 7th St.	Steckman, Annie.....	21..225	E. 5th St.
Schmidt, Sophia.....	36..230	E. 2d St.	Steckman, Hulda.....	17..225	E. 5th St.
Schmidt, Freda.....	7..230	E. 2d St.	Steckman, Augusta.....	15..225	E. 5th St.
Schmidt, Charles.....	5..230	E. 2d St.	Steckman, Louisa.....	10..225	E. 5th St.
Schnepfe, Carrie.....	15..54	Ave. A.	Schnude, William.....	61..426	E. 17th St.
Schneider, Katie.....	8..322	Stanhope St., Brooklyn.	Schnude, Louise.....	58..426	E. 17th St.
Sibelsky, Kate.....	18..322	Freeman St., Greenpoint.	Shiettinger, Dora.....	18..734	E. 149th St.
Stone, Mamie.....	43..114	E. 4th St.	Shiettinger, Freda.....	16..734	E. 149th St.
Schuler, Frederick.....	19..15	Stuyvesant St.	Schultz, Emma.....	10..130	E. Fourth St.
Schuler, Charles.....	15..15	Stuyvesant St.	Schick, Minnie.....	21..430	E. 15th St.
Schrumpf, Lizze.....	46..208	Ave. B.	Smith, Annie.....	3..801	E. 147th St.
Schrumpf, John.....	16..208	Ave. B.	Schelke, Elsie.....	8..331	E. 5th St.
Schrumpf, William.....	13..208	Ave. B.	Stell, Adelaide.....	15..Boston	Rd., Br'x.
Smith, Eva.....	17..149	E. 4th St.	Seelig, Anna.....	—	Dundee Lk., N. J.
Smith, Emma.....	54..138	E. 7th St.	Schreiner, Annie.....	6..140	1st Ave.
Smith, Anna.....	25..920	E. 156th St.	Schneider, Dora.....	32..322	Stanhope St.
Smith, Mildred.....	2..920	E. 156th St.	Schultz, Dora.....	7..112	4th St.
Svoboda, Francis.....	11..170	E. 4th St.	Schuman, Albert.....	—	100 E. 8th St.
Svoboda, Mamie.....	8..170	E. 4th St.	Stiehl, Lillie.....	16..55	1st Ave.
Schafer, E. Fannie.....	40..77	E. Houston St.	Stoss, Edna.....	10..316	2d Ave.
Schnitzler, Eliza.....	36..123	Ave. A.	Stoss, Minnie.....	43..316	2d Ave.
Schmidt, Catherine.....	67..418	E. 9th St.	Tetamore, Sophia.....	26..1471	Bushwick Ave., Brooklyn.
Schmidt, Kate.....	40..418	E. 9th St.	Trebing, Mary.....	6..223	E. 5th St.
Schmidt, Arthur.....	14..418	E. 9th St.	Trimm, Mary.....	56..211	E. 5th St.
Scheiken, Elsie.....	8..331	5th St.	Trimm, Hedwig.....	11..211	E. 5th St.
Schweikert, Catherine.....	61..216	E. 11th St.	Trimm, Henrietta.....	9..211	E. 5th St.
Sanders, Helen.....	13..416	E. 16th St.	Trimm, George.....	11..211	E. 5th St.
Schrumer, Bertha.....	16..140	1st Ave.	Turnipot, Freda.....	27..198	Guernsey St., Brooklyn.
Schrumer, Lena.....	13..140	1st Ave.	Turnipot, Frances A.....	4..198	Guernsey St., Brooklyn.
Schrumer, Willie.....	9..140	1st Ave.	Turnipot, Charlotte.....	1½..198	Guernsey St., Brooklyn.
Smith, Sophia.....	15..341	E. 25th St.	Thom Suden, Marga'te.....	30..68	Jackson St.
Schneider, Tessie.....	14..90	1st Ave.	Thom Suden, Herman.....	4..68	Jackson St.
Schmidling, Millie.....	22..119	E. 7th St.	Troell, Albert.....	13..405	E. 5th St.
Schmidling, George.....	18..119	E. 7th St.	Tetamore, Mrs. M.....	30..1471	Bushwick Ave., Brooklyn.
Schmidling, Annie.....	15..119	E. 7th St.	Thormalen, Mrs.....	42..100	E. 2d St.
Suden, Margaret.....	30..61	Jackson St.	Thormalen, Elart.....	7..100	E. 2d St.
Suden, Herman.....	4..61	Jackson St.	Thormalen, Tillie.....	3..100	E. 2d St.
Schultz, Dora.....	38..112	E. 4th St.	Unger, Kate.....	54..90	Ave. A.
Schultz, Rudolph.....	14..112	E. 4th St.	Ullman, Lena.....	39..409	E. 5th St.
Schultz, Henry G.....	11..112	E. 4th St.	Ullman, William.....	14..409	E. 5th St.
Schnitzler, Christina.....	28..10	Gouveneur Pl.	Uhlendorf, Selma.....	45..33	3d Ave.
Schnitzler, Kate.....	5..10	Gouveneur Pl.	Uhlendorf, Louise.....	8..33	3d Ave.
Seiferth, Henry.....	32..215	W. 23d St.	Uehlin, Minnie.....	43..416	5th St.
Schneider, Eva.....	42..326	E. 6th St.	Uehlin, Otto.....	18..416	5th St.
Schneider, Eva.....	14..326	E. 6th St.	Ulrich, Julia.....	15..58	Willett St.
Stubrauch, Annie.....	19..303	6th St.	Vassar, John.....	11..33	5th St.
Strickroth, Annie.....	45..146	Essex St.	Vaeth, Wm.....	9..107	E. 4th St.
Strickroth, Charles.....	14..146	Essex St.			
Strickroth, Elsie.....	9..146	Essex St.			
Strickroth, Louis.....	5..146	Essex St.			
Smith, Margaret.....	14..383	Monroe St.			
Seigwart, Phoebe.....	16..225	E. 5th St.			
Seigwart, Carrie.....	9..225	E. 5th St.			

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE GENERAL SLOCUM.

Name.	Age.	Residence.	Name.	Age.	Residence.
Vetter, Mary	45	31 Beekman St.	Wermstich, Barbara	37	413 E. 5th St.
Vetter, Mamie	23	730 6th St.	Wermstich, Albert	5	413 E. 5th St.
Vieckhoff, Wm.	23	106 2d Ave.	Wels, Louis	21	523 E. 5th St.
Volkhart, Lizzie	42	439 5th St.	Wels, Tillie	4	522 E. 5th St.
Vollmer, Mary M.	7	123 1st Ave.	Wels, Fred	18	522 E. 5th St.
Velt, Lena	26	151 E. 9th St., College Point.	Wels, John, Jr.	5 mo.	522 E. 5th St.
Velt, Rosa	15 mo.	151 E. 9th St., College Point.	Wels, Amelia	9	533 E. 5th St.
Van Duser, Matilda	13	171 E. 4th St.	Wels, Salome	14	533 E. 5th St.
Westo, Lethis	14	384 E. 5th St.	Wels, Jacob	10	533 E. 5th St.
Workman Jennie	21	116 Lake St., J. C.	Wolt, Freda	20 mo.	283 Himrod St. Brooklyn.
Webber, Emily	10	404 E. 5th St.	Weingarth, Ethel	6	409 E. 5th St.
Wertenberger, Marg'r't	22	55 1st Ave.	Wolf, Lena	64	1131 40th St. Bikyn
Wertenberger, Lillie	2	55 1st Ave.	Woolmar, Catherine	56	2425 Jerome Ave.
Weideman, Caroline	50	79 E. Houston St.	Woolmar, Louise	22	2425 Jerome Ave.
Weideman, Catharine	30	79 E. Houston St.	Werner, Lena	11	800 E. 14th St.
Wallace, Rose	11	214 E. 11th St.	Wens, Louisa	39	421 E. 5th St.
Weiss, Caroline	50	216 E. 11th St.	Wenz, George	11	421 E. 5th St.
Weiss, Emily	12	216 E. 11th St.	Wenz, Louisa	9	421 E. 5th St.
Weaver, Carrie	9	304 E. 9th St.	Zundek, Chas.	8	104 1st Ave.
Weaver, Fred	36	304 E. 9th St.	Zaneb, Mary	28	1518 Webster Ave.
Weaver, Mamie	7	304 E. 9th St.	Zaneb, Dora	60	1518 Webster Ave.
Weaver, Ester	5	304 E. 9th St.	Zimmerman, Augusta	15	106 2nd Ave.
Weaver, Helen	5	304 E. 9th St.	Zimmerman, Hugo	12	106 2nd Ave.
Whitman Anna	60	127 1st Ave.	Zetter, Mary	40	31 Beekman Pl.
Ward, Walter E.	27	Fort Lee, N. J.	Zipsle, Mary	17	330 E. 21st St.
Wernz, Anna	21	426 E. 6th St.	Zipsle, Louise	11	330 E. 21st St.
Wunner, Caroline	46	524 6th St.	Zipsle, Albert	9	330 E. 21st St.
Wunner, Lillian	19	524 6th St.	Zipsle, Ellen	4	330 E. 21st St.
Wierleter, Marie	83	626 E. 12th St.	Zahn, Bertha	22	60 1st Ave.
Walter, Lizzie	63	336 E. 6th St.	Zing, Eugene	10	114 E. 4th St.
Wermstich, Albert	39	413 E. 5th St.	Zidler, Anna	25	27 Stanton St.
			Zidler, Ruby	2	27 Stanton St.

UNINJURED.

Name.	Age.	Residence.	Name.	Age.	Residence.
Alt, Harry	13	Astor Library.	Baumle, Fred	11	433 E. 6th St.
Armand, Staella	8	334 E. 6th St.	Bertrand, Arthur	13	730 6th St.
Ambrust, Florrie	9	166 E. 4th St.	Burchbaum, Mrs. L.	30	1028 Hudson St., Hoboken, N. J.
Ambrust, Mamie	12	166 E. 4th St.	Borst, Lucy	15	15 2d Ave.
Abesser, Emma	10	128 E. 4th St.	Collins, Thomas	25	303 Van Brunt St., Brooklyn.
Abesser, Katie	8	128 E. 4th St.	Conkling, Frank	39	Catskill, N. Y.
Amann, Harry	13	77 Third Ave.	Cablaskiwiz, Mary	19	100 E. 4th St.
Albrecht, Martha	9	201 E. 10th St.	Doering, Edna	6	12 State St.
Behrens, Fritz	7	22 St. Mark's Pl.	Dangler, Hattie	20	123 E. 7th St.
Brunning, Grace M.	14	215 E. 12th St.	Drews, Henry	31	54 E. 4th St.
Bose, Henry	14	185 Ave. A.	DeLuccia, —	31	54 E. 7th St.
Berhens, Fred	8	134 E. 28th St.	DeLuccia, Rose	12	54 E. 7th St.
Brown, Peter	12	233 5th St.			
Bushong, Henrietta	24	1028 Hudson St., Hoboken, N. J.			
Behrendt, Annie	13	88 E. 3d St.			

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE GENERAL SLOCUM.

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Name.	Age.	Residence.	Name.	Age.	Residence.
Engelmann, Edna	5	425 E. 12th St.	Hener, Adolph	14	129 Division St.
Eell, Mr.	37	99 1st St.	Hardekopf, Henry	15	343 Rivington St.
Eell, John L.	14	99 1st St.	Hensler, Jacob	9	154 First Ave.
Eell, Paul	14	99 1st St.	Heckert, Eva	32	88 Ave. A.
Elwanger, Lulu	12	77 3d Ave.	Heckert, Julia	8 mo.	88 Ave. A.
Ellig, Conrad	8	433 5th St.	Heckert, Annie	11	88 Ave. A.
Erklin, Otto, Mrs.	30	1030 Hudson St., Hoboken, N. J.	Heckert, Maggie	9	88 Ave. A.
Erklin, Gertrude	3	1030 Hudson St., Hoboken, N. J.	Heckert, Cecella	6	88 Ave. A.
Erklin, Stephen	7 weeks	1030 Hudson St., Hoboken, N. J.	Haag, Aranka	20	158 First Ave.
Everett, Brandon	45	Catskill, N. Y.	Hoffman, Fred	24	73 2d St.
Fleckbohm, Fred	9	91 Ave. D.	Heins, Bertha	46	307 E. 4th St.
Felske, Hattie	12	211 E. 5th St.	Heins, George	15	307 E. 4th St.
Filskow, Tony	41	170 E. 4th St.	Heins, Theo.	15	307 E. 4th St.
Filskow, Meta	20	170 E. 4th St.	Hencken, Luey	15	109 S. Second St., Brooklyn.
Frese, Albert	16	426 E. 15th St.	Hotz, William	8	319 E. 5th St.
Fuiling, Matilda	28	110 W. 129th St.	Hotz, Fred	37	319 E. 5th St.
Fuiling, Edmund	1	110 W. 129th St.	Hecken, Lucy	15	305 E. 4th St.
Fingernagle, Katie	12	439 E. 6th St.	Heil, Andrew	41	55 First Ave.
Felmeden, Fred	45	80 First Ave.	Hartman, Clara	11	309 E. 11th St.
Fernelsen, Emma	33	40 E. 7th St.	Hartung, Minnie	24	342 E. 21st St.
Fernelsen, Henry G.	10	40 E. 7th St.	Holthusen, John	58	138 Second Ave.
Fernelsen, William F.	8	40 E. 7th St.	Holthusen, Clara	25	138 Second Ave.
Fernelsen, Marie	7	40 E. 7th St.	Hayden, Wilhelmina	23	138 Second Ave.
Gamblicher, Harry	13	404 E. 5th St.	Iden, Henry A.	19	100 4th St.
Glesler, William	16	201 Ave. A.	Iden, Anna	12	100 4th St.
Gallagher, Katie	11	424 E. 15th St.	Karle, Emella	12	56 7th St.
Gray, George	13	309 E. 14th St.	Kaufman, Mildred	2	425 E. 12th St.
Greenwald, Albert	13	329 E. 14th St.	Kreuder, Marie	28	451 West End Ave.
Gibbons, Thomas	42	225 E. 5th St.	Kreuder, Anna	18	62 West 97th St.
Gibbons, Mary	40	225 E. 5th St.	Kilneck, John	12	113 St. Mark's Pl.
Gibbons, Mary	15	225 E. 5th St.	Kiesel, Anna	25	296 Ave. A.
Gibbons, Frank	9	225 E. 5th St.	Kiesel, Theo.	27	296 Ave. A.
Gibbons, Thomas Jr.	7	225 E. 5th St.	Kuneth, Margaret	15	408 5th St.
Gibbons, Catherine	4	225 E. 5th St.	Kassebaum, Henry	53	28 Enfield St., Brooklyn.
Gross, Freda	21	90 First Ave.	Kelsch, Maggie	32	800 E. 14th St.
Gross, George	13	90 First Ave.	Kelsch, Elizabeth	8	800 E. 14th St.
Gross, Burt	11	90 First Ave.	Kiennan, Edmund	1	110 W. 129th St.
Grating, Louise	16	Nutley Ave., N.J.	Kiesel, Edward	28	296 Ave. A.
Gringel, Kate	32	439 5th St.	Klein, Tina	21	31 Ave. A.
Galling, Louise	17	30 Hudson St., Hoboken, N. J.	Koib, Albert	22	743 E. 201st St.
Gaffga, Edward J.	30	72 Howard Ave., Brooklyn.	Krekler, Dora	11	257 Ave. B.
Grawe, Annie	45	54 7th St.	Krekler, Lizzie	2	257 Ave. B.
Hauser, William	49	317 Bowery.	Klefer, Louis	19	192 2d Ave.
Hecken, Lucy, Jr.	15	169 S. 2d St. Bklyn	Kneuster, William	12	645 St. Mark's Pl.
Hartung, Harry	16	342 E. 21st.	Koster, Charles	16	343 Rivington St.
Herboldt, Annie	75	107 W. 103d St.	Klingert, Tessie	7	431 E. 15th St.
Holder, Marie	43	169 Ave. A.	Kelsch, George	35	800 E. 14th St.
Haufl, Agnes	11	41 Ave. A.	Kastner, Paul	13	110 1st Ave.
			Krause, Sadie	17	158 1st Ave.
			Kaufman, Mildred	2	121 1st Ave.
			Keller, Frank	14	115 Ave. A.

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE GENERAL SLOCUM.

Name.	Age.	Residence.	Name.	Age.	Residence.
Kircher, Fred.....	9...	185 Russell St., Brooklyn.	Roes, John.....	9...	222 McDonough St., Brooklyn.
Klingert, Tessie.....	7...	31 E. 16th St.	Raichenbach, Lena.....	23...	241 Stockholm St., Brooklyn.
Kiela, Salome.....	11...	191 E. 3d St.	Ruthinger, Elsie.....	15...	47 St. Mark's Pl.
Krause, Sadie.....	17...	201 W. 111th St.	Ruthinger, Fred.....	10...	47 St. Mark's Pl.
Lyman, Samuel.....	8...	72 Ave. B.	Rosenagle, Lucy.....	13...	129 E. 4th St.
Luderer, Otto.....	13...	313 E. 14th St.	Rosenagle, Grace.....	14...	129 E. 4th St.
Ludwig, Fred.....	11...	418 E. 17th St.	Rumps, Annie.....	34...	342 E. 9th St.
Languth, Martha.....	11...	29 Cooper Square.	Reuffer, Arthur F.....	14...	109 First Ave.
Languth, Louisa.....	9...	29 Cooper Square.			
Lamm, Geo.....	11...	645 E. 17th St.			
Ludemann, Fred.....	17...	N-4 Smith St., White Plains.			
Ludeman, John.....	16...	N-4 Smith St., White Plains.			
Leimberger, Carrie.....	30...	51 St. Mark's Pl.	Sirichs, Charles.....	13...	425 E. 12th St.
Leimberger, Lena.....	2...	51 St. Mark's Pl.	Schmidt, William.....	13...	5 Cooper Sq.
Link, Arthur.....	14...	76 Ave. A.	Schutte, Annie.....	40...	41 First Ave.
Lindemann, William.....	10...	110 Lynch St., Brooklyn.	Schiller, Henry.....	11...	41 First Ave.
Libbert, Harris.....	46...	412 6th St.	Strikroph Henry.....	16...	146 Essex St.
Meirs, John.....	9...	154 Hobart Ave., Bayonne, N. J.	Schintzerling, Fred.....	5...	123 Ave. A.
Maurer, Minnie.....	14...	626 E. 12th St.	Steckman, Herman.....	7...	225 E. 5th St.
Miller, Fred.....	26...	28 W. 97th St.	Sackman, Anna.....	14...	341 Livingston St.
Muller, Geo.....	40...	41 1st Ave.	Schumann, Emma.....	1...	113 St. Mark's Pl.
Muller, Ernest.....	7...	41 1st Ave.	Sobllinski, Mary.....	20...	100 E. 4th St.
Matzerath, Edward.....	13...	330 E. 6th St.	Schultz, Pauline.....	43...	130 E. 4th St.
Moller, Fred.....	35...	908 Ave. A.	Schneider, Fred.....	12...	512 6th St.
Mettler, Geo.....	2...	333 E. 5th St.	Stricker, Clara.....	23...	315 E. 9th St.
Moller, Grover.....	12...	55 2d Ave.	Stricker, Martha.....	4...	315 E. 9th St.
Moller, Walter.....	9...	95 2d Ave.	Schrimer, Wilhelme.....	45...	140 First Ave.
Meinhardt, Otto.....	8...	146 E. 4th St.	Schriner, Minnie.....	18...	140 First Ave.
Mueller, Louis.....	41...	100 St. Mark's Pl.	Schneider, August.....	34...	322 Stanhope St. Brooklyn.
Mueller, Herman.....	9...	100 St. Mark's Pl.	Schneider, Augusta.....	3...	322 Stanhope St., Brooklyn.
Mueller, Minnie.....	7...	100 St. Mark's Pl.	Smith, Owen.....	14...	30 Hudson, St., Hoboken, N. J.
Mammekampf, Gustav.....	6...	130 E. 4th St.	Smith, Harry.....	10...	30 Hudson, St., Hoboken, N. J.
Marshall, Geo.....	16...	127 1st Ave.	Smith, Hartley.....	7...	30 Hudson, St., Hoboken, N. J.
Motzer, Louisa.....	9...	405 6th St.	Schaefer, Augusta.....	36...	322 E. 13th St.
Muth, Conrad.....	10...	1254 Lex Ave.	Schaefer, Jos.....	36...	322 E. 13th St.
Muth, John.....	8...	1254 Lex Ave.	Schmidt, Gottlieb.....	40...	97 E. 4th St.
Mardoj, Annie.....	20...	43 E. 2d St.	Schmidt, Louisa.....	4...	69 First Ave.
McCarthy, John.....	11...	134 Hobart St., Bayonne, N. J.	Smith, James.....	8...	30 Hudson St., Hoboken, N. J.
Olsen, Clara.....	17...	110 W. 129th St.	Smith, August.....	5...	30 Hudson, St., Hoboken, N. J.
O'Neill, Daniel.....	24...	146 Cherry St.	Smith, Henry.....	38...	30 Hudson St., Hoboken, N. J.
Obi, Elizabeth.....	36...	340 E. 9th St.	Schoefling, Edna.....	10...	189 Third Ave.
Poinish, Paul.....	12...	320 E. 5th St.	Schnaff, Fred.....	15...	645 E. 17th St.
Podzuweit, Gus.....	26...	682 Warren St., Brooklyn.			
Prawski, Frank.....	12...	85 E. 3d St.			
Potar, Joe.....	17...	17 Humboldt St., Brooklyn.			

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE GENERAL SLOCUM.

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Name.	Age.	Residence.
Tischler, John.....	14..	401 E. 5th St.
Turner, Mrs. Harvey.....	28..	2649 8th Ave.
Trebling, William.....	12..	223 E. 5th St.
Uehlain, Eddie.....	17..	416 E. 5th St.
Vollberg, Bosch.....	15..	381 E. 5th St.
Vetter, Fred.....	16..	N. 4 Smith St., White Plains.
Weaver, Edward.....	50..	12th St. Troy, N.Y.
Wurmstitch, Arthur.....	13..	413 E. 5th St.
Woll, Julius.....	30..	283 Himrod St., Brooklyn.

Name.	Age.	Residence.
Weiss, Geo.....	15..	1265 Third Ave.
Wolff, Mamie.....	26..	221 E. 88th St.
Wels, Katie.....	24..	532 5th St.
Wels, Harry.....	12..	532 5th St.
Wendelken, Lena.....	30..	239 E. 10th St.
Wendelken, Richard.....	9..	239 E. 10th St.
Wahl, Herminia.....	4..	157 Second Ave.
Wahl Hedwig.....	11..	137 Second Ave.
Zipeer, William.....	15..	335 E. 21st St.
Zausch, Katie.....	25..	1518 Webster Ave.
Zausch, Mary.....	4..	1518 Webster Ave.
Zundel, Annie.....	32..	104 First Ave.
Zipsie, William.....	15..	339 E. 21st St.

INJURED.

Name.	Age.	Residence.
Armond, Annie.....	27..	334 6th St.
Anger, Katie.....	18..	1365 3d Ave.
Anger, Charles F.....	29..	367 E. 62d St.
Addicks, Ernest.....	6..	49 Ave. A.
Albrecht, Joseph.....	32..	201 E. 10th St.
Addicks, Annie.....	8..	49 Ave. A.
Boengardt, Albin.....	48..	322 E. 13th St.
Balzer, Nicholas.....	56..	422 E. 8th St.
Bose, Anna.....	20..	135 Ave. A.
Bock, Louisa.....	32..	Marcy Ave., Brooklyn.
Baiser, Mary.....	57..	137 Ave. B.
Bensch, Lulu.....	12..	401 5th St.
Behrendt, Maria.....	42..	88 E. 8d St.
Bopp, Dora.....	60..	74 1st Ave.
Bohmer, Anna.....	59..	306 E. 93d St.
Bohmer, Emilie.....	18..	306 E. 93d St.
Broswald, Matilda.....	20..	299 Monroe St.
Becker, Amelia.....	26..	1157 Lex'gton av.
Becker, Clara.....	20..	1157 Lex'gton av.
Breeden, Ellen.....	16..	383 11th St. Br'k'n.
Becker, Mary.....	25..	1010 E. 178th St.
Becker, —.....	20..	1010 E. 178th St.
Canfield, Henry.....	47..	421 10th Ave.
Cordes, Charles F.....	18..	417 E. 16th St.
Dorhoffer, Barbara.....	42..	121 Ave. A.
Dorhoffer, Mamie.....	9..	121 Ave. A.
Dangler, Harry.....	6..	123 7th St.
Diehl, Josephine.....	11..	209 E. 5th St.
Dearing, Edna.....	5..	12 State St.
Delvinthal, Sophie.....	19..	381 Madison St.
Dornhofer, Margaret.....	42..	121 Ave. A.
Dader, Eliza.....	46..	174 N. Y. Ave., Jersey City.

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Name.	Age.	Residence.
Delvinthal, Mattie.....	45..	381 Madison St.
Dietz, Rosie.....	15..	438 6th St.
Erklin, Stephen.....	7 wk.	1030 Hudson St., Hoboken, N. J.
Engel, Lulu.....	21..	359 W. 47th St.
Erklin, Anna.....	32..	1028 Hudson St., Hoboken, N. J.
Ellig, Mary.....	40..	433 5th St.
Ell, William.....	9..	99 1st St.
Flanagan, Edward.....	26..	445 W. 28th St.
Pickbohm, Fred.....	9..	91 Ave. D.
Freck, William.....	11..	409 E. 5th St.
Freese, Ferdinand.....	50..	Mangin and Houston Sts.
Freese, Annie.....	15..	Mangin and Houston Sts.
Freese, Meta.....	44..	509 E. Houston St.
Folke, Ludwig.....	41..	257 Ave. B.
Freese, Meta.....	48..	426 E. 15th St.
Geister, Lina.....	43..	201 Ave. A.
Grove, Anna.....	54..	54 E. 7th St.
Greismann, Christine.....	47..	114 E. 4th St.
Greenhagen, Ernest.....	14..	176 Lewis St.
Gassman, Mrs. Michael.....	44..	128 E. 4th St.
Hubold, Margaret.....	76..	416 E. 5th St.
Hartung, Minnie.....	24..	342 E. 21st St.
Hannerman, Susie.....	54..	439 E. 5th St.
Haas, George C. F.....	50..	64 E. 7th St.
Haas, Emma.....	30..	64 E. 7th St.
Hannerman, Caroline.....	56..	439 5th St.
Heyrish, Bennie.....	12..	423 E. 10th St.
Hephman, Maurice.....	38..	640 6th St.
Hedekamp, Margaret.....	60..	865 6th St.

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE GENERAL SLOCUM.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
Heckert, Eva	32	88 Ave. A.	Mettler, Kate	32	388 E. 5th St.
Heinz, George	17	97 Ave. A.	Mettler, William	4	388 E. 5th St.
Heinz, Henry	12	97 Ave. A.	Moller, Arthur	6	95 2d Ave.
Hell, George	13	Boston Rd. & Pelham Parkway, Bronx.	Maurer, Margaret	47	421 E. 9th St.
Jorden, Catherine	20	37 3d Ave.	Muth, John	37	1254 Lex'ton Ave.
Jordan, Pauline	15	37 3d Ave.	Masterson, William	18	62 3d Ave.
Joseph, Margurite	32	45 3d Ave.	Mundie, Agnes	65	11 7th St.
Kreuder, Lena	28	62 W. 97th St.	Mahlstadt, Annie R.	32	629 E. 146th St.
Kaufman, Julia	18	425 E. 12th St.	Miller, Simon	71	111 Norfolk St.
Keisel, Edward	3	296 Ave. A.	Oellich, Henry	11	611 Marcey Ave., Brooklyn.
Klpp, Anna	17	1894 3d Ave.	Osmers, Mary	56	402 E. 83rd St.
Klein, Edie H.	15	31 Ave. A.	Osmers, Otto	17	402 E. 83rd St.
Klein, Elsie	16	31 Ave. A.	Pullman, Elsie	45	387 E. 18th St.
Klein, Lucy	4	31 Ave. A.	Potar, Joseph	17	17 Humboldt St., Brooklyn.
Klein, Annie	22	331 E. 16th St.	Perdelitz, Alvina	44	89 E. 10th St.
Klein, Harry	17	389 Miller Ave., Brooklyn.	Perdelitz, Carl	15	89 E. 10th St.
Kircher, Lizzie	37	185 Russel St., Bk.	Prawdzikel, Mary	36	85 E. 3rd St.
Kircher, George	13	185 Russel St., Bk.	Roth, Louisa	16	125 3rd Ave.
Kircher, Stacey	7	185 Russel St., Bk.	Rehand, Kate	47	121 Ave. A.
Kielf, Annie	22	431 E. 15th St.	Rubenkian, Freda	23	Elnert St., Bkn
Kauffman, Julia	21	121 1st Ave.	Rau, Wilhelmina	52	52 7th St.
Kubera, William	15	375 E. 4th St.	Reina, Kate	47	121 Ave. A.
Kiesel, Edward	3	296 Ave. A.	Schwartz, Amelia	19	141 E. 3rd St.
Kassebaum, Nettie	30	196 Guernsey St., Brooklyn.	Schwartz, Charles M.	18	141 E. 3rd St.
Kassebaum, Catherine	52	196 Guernsey St., Brooklyn.	Schwartz, Anton	16	141 E. 3rd St.
Kaffenberger, Katie	14	436 6th St.	Schwartz, Lewis	10	141 E. 3rd St.
Kneustner, Mary	46	65 St. Mark's Pl.	Schnitzlering, Annie	10	123 Ave. A.
Kneustner, Charles	17	65 St. Mark's Pl.	Schultz, Pauline	43	130 E. 9th St.
Kielf, Hannah	32	444 E. 15th St.	Smith, Flora	39	1028 Hudson St., Hoboken, N. J.
Klingert, Tessie	7	444 E. 15th St.	Strickhold, Henry	16	141 Essex St.
Kiennan, Matilda	29	110 W. 129th St.	Schmidt, Julia	13	60 First Ave.
Laubeck, Albertina	33	427 E. 9th St.	Schmidt, Francis	14	60 First Ave.
Laubeck, Herman	14	427 E. 9th St.	Schick, Henry	3	490 E. 15th St.
Laubeck, Dora	11	427 E. 9th St.	Schultz, Susan	18	414 E. 9th St.
Lemp, Charles	12	108 2d Ave.	Smith, Philippine	27	140 E. 4th St.
Lemp, Augusta	10	108 2d Ave.	Schmidt, Fred	9	138 7th St.
Lutz, Lusta	16	Damerst, N. J.	Stuve, Margaret	65	49 Ave. A.
Lutgens, August, Jr.	16	101 Clymer St., Brooklyn.	Schumann, Mary	30	113 St. Mark's Pl.
Lutz, Gustav	16	140 2d Ave.	Schrimer, William	44	140 First Ave.
Ludeman, Hannah	19	4 Smith St., White Plains.	Sauer, William	44	142 E. 2nd St.
Lutgen, August	46	101 Clymer St., Brooklyn.	Strangfeld, Christiana	46	1349 Park Ave.
Liebenow, Paul	33	133 E. 125th St.	Strangfeld, Augusta	12	1349 Park Ave.
Liebenow, Annie	33	133 E. 125th St.	Schepp, Mary	15	433 E. 17th St.
Licome, Fred	52	83 E. 7th St.	Stell, George C.	12	Boston Road and Pelham Ave.
			Trebing, Margaret	41	223 E. 5th St.
			Turner, Julia	26	2649 8th Ave.

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE GENERAL SLOCUM.

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<i>Name.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
Turner, Mary.....	5...	2649 8th Ave.
Trobetz, Edward.....	18...	422 Sixth St.
Ulrich, Sophie.....	70...	443 W. 41st.
Velt, Kate.....	23...	405 E. 5th St.
Velt, Emma	2...	405 E. 5th St.
Vassner, William	16...	333 5th St.
Von Schaick, Wm. Capt.....	57...	300 8th Ave.
Wierk, Margart.....	21...	341 E. 55th St.
Wierk, Amelia.....	15...	341 E. 55th St.
Wesler, Lizzie.....	32...	123 W. 100th St.
Weber, Annie.....	30...	404 E. 5th St.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>
Weber, Frank	31...	404 E. 5th St.
Wytzka, Ida	14...	404 E. 5th St.
Wesler, Lizzie	32...	206 Ave. A.
Weiss, Ida M.....	42...	1235 3d Ave.
Weiss, Minnie.....	13...	2135 3d Ave.
Weintraub, Karl.....	19...	179 Norfolk St.
Weiss, Louis.....	3...	532 5th St.
Walhelm, Emily.....	13...	82 7th St.
Wolf, Margaret.....	50...	307 E. 15th St., dead
Weisser, Earnestina.....	55...	84 Stockholm St., Brooklyn.
Zoenegg, Bertha.....	16...	245 5th St.
Zimmer, Andrew.....	17...	13 E. 3d St.
Zipsle, Sophia.....	40...	339 E. 21st St.

BOOK II.

THE GREAT CHICAGO HORROR.

INTRODUCTION.

IT has been said that disregard of human life is an American characteristic. Visitors from foreign countries are amazed at our indifference to the safety of the public. We appear to take it for granted that a certain number of accidents are bound to happen, and that it is useless to attempt to prevent them, or take any precautions, except such as are convenient.

There comes a smash-up on a railroad, scores of persons are hurled into eternity, and in a short time the terrible calamity is forgotten. Provisions made in other countries for the safety of travellers are not made here, or, if they are, not rigidly enforced. Compared with other nations, the charge has often been made that we hold human life too cheap.

The recklessness of which we speak is especially apparent in the construction and management of our places of amusement. To call many of them death-traps is but a mild statement of the case. One might think they were simply built and managed to endanger the lives of the public. What does the insane greed of managers care for the people's safety? Theatres are built solely to make money, and the greater the number of persons that can be packed into them, the more money the managers can make.

Not only are the seats crowded together, but the narrow aisles add greatly to the difficulty of escaping, in case of fire.

Outrages of this description are constantly inflicted upon an innocent public. Theatres are advertised as fire-proof and perfectly safe. Safe, indeed! The eagerness of managers and owners for big audiences and enormous profits cause them to disregard the fatal risk, and suddenly the world is shocked by a horror like that at the Iroquois theatre of Chicago.

This building was nothing more nor less than a fire-trap. What mockery to call that place fire-proof! Narrow isles, fire escapes almost concealed, and doors which led to them fastened, scenery about the stage that was more inflammable than kindling wood, criminal carelessness in the management of the lights and electric appliances. These are some of the ghastly features that enter into this awful calamity. The very thought of that terrible scene is enough to sicken humanity. It makes the blood run cold and fires one's brain with righteous indignation.

People say, "What a mysterious providence? Why does God permit such things to happen?" They might better say, "Why does man transgress all natural laws, do the very things that ensure calamity, and then in their folly wonder that it comes?" God did not turn the Iroquois Theatre into a blazing furnace. Men did that, and the woe is on their heads. If you are going to have man at all, you must have him as a free agent. He can burn down a theatre if he likes, and if he disregards the means of safety, the theatre is liable to burn, and before heaven and earth he stands convicted of the appalling crime.

Unhappily this does not assuage the overwhelming loss of life and sorrow. The bolt has fallen and the deed

is done. For years to come the shrieks of those six hundred victims will rend the air of the great city, and the emblems of death will flutter in the winds. It is the climax of fiery destruction, such as the world has never seen before.

A building thronged with people, all bent on amusement, all eager for merriment, all without a thought of danger, was swept by a fiery blast. Faces were blanched with terror; there was a wild rush for the doors; the means of egress were sadly inefficient; a mad scramble for safety crazed the multitude; smoke and flame swept down upon hundreds of women and children, and in a moment, as it were, those who were in the full tide of enjoyment were writhing in the hot cauldron of flames. Suddenly the bells rang through the city and the alarm was given. It was too late. The fire-fiend hissed and cracked over his prey, and in his flaming jaws human life was of no more account than as if it were so much chaff.

The complete story of the dreadful calamity is told in the following pages with graphic power. The reader has the fiery spectacle before him in all its hideous colors. The great Metropolis of the West was turned into mourning, and staggered under the sudden blow.

Immediately in many cities throughout our country there was a rigid examination of places of amusement, many were ordered to provide greater means of exit, and others were entirely closed.

A fire, resulting in such terrible destruction of life, was a solemn warning that could not go unheeded. It is to be hoped that never again will such a ghastly disaster have to be recorded.

CHICAGO'S APPALLING HORROR.

CHAPTER XX

STORY OF THE GREATEST CALAMITY OF RECENT TIMES.

THE Iroquois Theatre of Chicago was packed with a merry multitude. Men, women and children were there for amusement and enjoyment. It was a holiday throng bent on pleasure. The entertainment was charming, the spectacle was splendid, and the attention of the multitude was riveted. Not one in the crowded place anticipated danger and death.

At the height of the entertainment a flash of fire shot through the crowded auditorium. It increased with startling rapidity. Suddenly shrieks of terror rent the air, and there was a wild rush to escape from the threatening fury of the storm of fire. Dumb terror was succeeded by mad efforts to flee from the impending holocaust.

Women and children cried aloud with terrible alarm. Men fought like demons. The throng became a seething mass of human beings frantic to escape from an awful doom. Smoke and flame filled the building, hundreds were trampled under foot, and in the fiery furnace more than six hundred men, women and children met a horrible death.

No calamity of modern times can furnish a parallel to the sickening scenes of that fatal day. Chicago was stunned and horrified. The civilized world stood aghast at the frightful news of the direful disaster. Families were

riven in twain, friends and loved ones were parted forever, scenes of sorrow cast a pall over the great city, and it seemed to reel and stagger under the merciless blow.

For generations to come the appalling story will be told and faces will grow pale and hearts will grieve with anguish.

The details of the overwhelming disaster will be read with thrilling, tearful interest.

PANIC-STRICKEN THRONG.

The disaster, the most appalling of the character that ever has befallen Chicago, occurred in the middle of the matinee performance of "Mr. Blue Beard," with fully eighteen hundred people in the audience, a large proportion of them women, girls and little children. A calcium light on a stand six feet above the level of the stage exploded, and in a moment a little streak of flame had caught the tinsel of the stage settings, flooding everything back of the footlights in a wave of fire.

Eddie Foy, the chief comedian of the company, stood out from the panic-stricken group on the stage to assure the audience that there was no danger. Even as he spoke the great asbestos curtain was let down, caught on one side and failed to work.

In another instant smoke burst out from the top arch of the stage and from under the bottom of the curtain, and before a man or woman in the seats could rise the whole roof of the auditorium was in a blaze. Two gas tanks exploded in the flies on the east side of the theatre, and black, choking fumes beat down in a cloud of death from every wall.

That was all. Fear, uncontrollable and terrible, reigned. Men and women fought like wild beasts, filled

only with the desire for self-preservation. Little babies slipped from their mothers' uplifted arms and in an instant their lives were crushed under foot. Girls threw themselves from the balconies and lay crushed and dying till suffocation ended their miseries.

Over one thousand people in the orchestra seats, with easy access to the doors, gradually made their way to safety, but most of them threw aside wraps, pocketbooks, hats—everything that seemed to burden them in their rush for life and the open air. In spite of the panic, in spite of the suffocation, nearly all of them were saved.

UPPER FLOORS DEATH TRAPS.

But in the balcony and the gallery the angel of destruction wrought his frightful work at will. The flame and smoke gathering on these upper floors caught the people before they realized the full extent of the danger. It seemed incredible that the little rush of fire could lap the walls so quickly and reach out after them like a stroke of lightning.

Then, when the full meaning of the disaster came to them, they fought and battled with one another for safety—battled like stampeded animals, with the deadly smoke curling all about them, everything plunged into absolute darkness, not even a friendly lantern to show them the way out of this dance of death.

The classic outlines of the theatre, the beautiful plush hangings, the arched windows with their stained glass, the stately pillars, became a morgue five minutes after the first little ribbon of flame made its way along the stage. Women and girls in the gallery never had a chance for life. They met the end still seated in their theatre chairs, their poor, impotent hands burnt into one commingled cinder

with the sides of the seats they had grasped when the panic came. Others, who had managed by the strength of terror to get into the aisles, found their awful ending in a mingled doom of smoke and fire and tearing of limbs in the passages and the open space back of the seats. Dozens of others, swept, carried, dragged or thrown out to the stairways, and even beyond them down to the landings in actual sight of the daylight that streamed through the big front doors—in sight of the throngs outside, the fire wagons and the smoking horses—died in great masses seven and eight feet high, limbs mingled fearfully together, clothing burnt off and faces caught in their last agonies, all turned toward the doors they could not reach.

IMPROVISED MEANS OF ESCAPE.

From windows at the north and west ends of the building the victims streamed, blinded by the smoke and crazed beyond any possibility of helping themselves further or of taking advantage of the aid extended to them from the upper floors of buildings facing the theatre. Ladders, planks, ropes, poles, everything that could possibly serve to assist these poor creatures in their battle for life, were rigged into bridges, but few got across alive.

These things were utilized fifteen minutes after the first alarm to drag the charred bodies across, and over them passed rapidly one blackened corpse after another till every building on the north and west were filled with them. Barely five minutes after the first alarm was turned in firemen were struggling into the theatre, making their way, in some miraculous manner, through the maddened mob that was pouring out of the auditorium, and doing what little they could, not only to check the fire which was fast turning the whole interior shell into a

cauldron, but to aid the frantic hundreds in the upper balconies by ladders stretched from the main floor.

A few—thirty at most—were rescued in this way, and then, the firemen, after controlling the flames, abandoned their lengths of hose to go with the fast-gathering police and manfully reach what waited for them on the upper stairways and in the balcony seats.

THE SILENT HEAPS OF DEAD.

Here was no more struggling, no more frantic haste. Hundreds, with homes in every part of the city, still showing at their windows Christmas wreaths, still filled with the decorations of the holiday season, lay beyond all thought of worldly things in silent heaps of death. There were no men, even among those accustomed to scenes of destruction and mortality, who could approach these fearful, stilled masses calmly. Time and time again they started toward the upper stairways, caught one another by the arms, and cried like little children, stunned by the horror of it all.

And still, outside the main entrance to the building, passers-by, attracted by the presence of the fire engines, had no knowledge of the fearful disaster inside. Hundreds of people passed and repassed within a block without knowing it, even hundreds of men stationed in the roadway, were asking one another if there had been any accident, and if any among the audience had been badly hurt.

But when from the inside began to stream a procession of firemen, carrying between them the charred remains of those who a little while before had been happy in the enjoyment of an afternoon's pleasure, the scene without changed as if by magic.

From every business street of the city, men, whose wives and families had gone to the matinee, streamed, with white faces and eyes blinded with half-frozen tears, over to the theatre, and screamed like madmen the names of those they were seeking. Many of them found their loved ones safe, but still half crazed, in surrounding stores and hotels, others discovered them among the dead, identified by some particle of dress, a half-charred hair ribbon, a shoe, or a locket. Others are still searching and will continue to search before they can finally assure themselves that the happiness of their lives has gone forever.

MERCY KNOWS NO BOUNDS.

Soon from every hospital in the city came ambulances, nurses and physicians; priests and Sisters of Mercy, stood side by side with surgeons and great bands of women from St. Luke's, the Presbyterian and nearly every other hospital in the city, waiting patiently like soldiers till the moment they should be called on. Down the beautiful staircases, glittering again in the rows of electric lights, the current of which had been readjusted by electricians, came the procession of men carrying the dead and dying. In ten minutes a dozen stores had been converted into hospitals and morgues.

Two large restuarants, one on Randolph and one on Dearborn street, flung their tables and counters on top of one another and laid out great heaps of table linen to be used for bandages for the wounded and coverings for the dead. All the great State street stores threw their main floors open and sent to the theatre great piles of blankets, rubber cloth—anything and everything that could be utilized.

Ambulances were re-enforced by dozens of wagons

from these stores and tea ming establishments and from everywhere willing helpers poured out to do or give what help they could. In a little while, with frantic thousands trying to batter through strong lines of police flung across the corners of Dearborn and State streets, the bodies of the dead came faster and faster, till it seemed as if there was no place to lay them.

SIDEWALKS FILLED WITH DEAD.

The north sidewalk of Randolph street for a hundred yards was covered with these remains, packed side by side and covered with white blankets and tablecloths. Soon the great entrance was choked with them, and faster than morgue wagons could take them away they were deposited on the sidewalks and in every building in the neighborhood.

Here and there, men up in the gallery entrances could hear underneath the tangled masses, a faint moan—the despairing signal of some unfortunate for succor. Then, tearing, struggling at the blackened mass to penetrate it and effect a rescue, they labored, cursing and crying. Some of the still living victims were rescued and taken out in time to be saved. Others died before they could be lifted from the heap of dead; others, while they were being carried down the staircases.

A flower and seed store directly opposite the theatre, filled with green stuff and beautiful blossoms, was choked with bodies brought there and laid on the floors. The Sherman House, Kohlsaats and Thompson's restaurants, the Tremont Building, the Borden Block, the Union Restaurant, the lobby of the Garrick Theatre, Marshall Field's store, and all the saloons and cigar stores in the vicinity were filled with the dead and dying.

In and out among them wandered incessantly frantic parents, brothers and sisters, looking for their relatives; members of the company, still in their fantastic costumes, staggering half-distracted by the horror from which they had escaped; doctors and nurses, patient and sympathetic, doing their work rapidly and skillfully, never swerving from the most frightful tasks, if by performing them they could bring relief or beckon back the little life left in those among the mass of poor creatures who still lingered.

NOBLE WORK OF SUCCOR.

Every drug store in the downtown district was emptied of everything that could possibly be of service, and, often by the light of lanterns and candles, these devoted men and women labored on till far into the night, till some of them dropped from sheer fatigue. At six o'clock the firemen and policemen engaged in the work of bringing out the bodies were still tramping wearily up and down those stairways of death, and still finding work for their hands and mournful burdens to bring down from the upper floors.

The following from the pen of a graphic writer will be read with mournful interest:

“Where beauty and fashion and the happy amusement seeker thronged the palatial playhouse to fall a few moments later before a deadly blast of smoke and flame sweeping over all with irresistible force, the dawn of the last day of the passing year found confusion, chaos and an all-prevading sense of the awful. It seemed to radiate the chilling, depressing volume from the streaked, grime-covered walls and the flame-licked ceilings overhead. Against this fearful background the few grim firemen or

police, moving silently about the ruins, searching for overlooked dead or abandoned property, loomed up like fitful ghosts.

"The progress of their noiseless and ghastly quest proved one circumstance survivors are too unsettled to realize. With the opening of the stage door to permit the escape of the members of the 'Mr. Bluebeard' company and the breaking of the skylight above the flue-like scene loft that tops the stage, the latter was converted into a furnace through which a tremendous draft poured like a blow pipe, driving billows of flame into the faces of the terrified audience. With exits above the parquet floor simply choked up with the crushed bodies of struggling victims, who made the first rush for safety, the packed hundreds in balcony and gallery faced fire that moved them up in waves.

FIRE GREEDILY DEVOURS THE DECORATIONS.

"With a swirl that sounded death, the thin bright sheet of fire rolled on from stage to rear wall. It fed on the rich box curtains, seized upon the sparse veneer of subdued red and green decorations spread upon wall, ceiling and balcony facings. It licked the fireproof materials below clean and rolled on with a roar. Over seat tops and plush rail cushions it sped. Then it snuffed out, having practically nothing to feed upon save the tangled mass of wood scene frames, batons and paint-soaked canvas on the stage.

"There firemen were directing streams of water that poured over the premises in great cascades, in volume aggregating many tons. A few streams were directed about the body of the house, where vagrant tongues of flame still found material on which to feed. Silence

reigned—the silence of death, but none realized the appalling story behind the awful calm.

“The stampede that followed the first alarm, a struggle in which most contestants were women and children, fighting with the desperation of death, terminated with the sudden sweep of the sea of flames across the body of the house. The awful battle ended before the irresistible hand of death, which fell upon contestants and those behind alike. Somehow those on the main floor managed to force their way out. Above, where the presence of narrower exits, stairways that precipitated the masses of humanity upon each other and the natural air current for the billows of flame to follow, spelled death to the occupants of the two balconies, the wave of flame, smoke and gas smote the multitude.

APPALLING SHRIEKS OF THE VICTIMS.

“Dropping where they stood, most of the victims were consumed beyond recognition. Some who were protected from contact with the flames by masses of humanity piled upon them, escaped death, and were dragged out later by rescuers, suffering all manner of injury. The majority, however, who beheld the indescribably terrifying spectacle of the wave of death moving upon them through the air died then and there without a moment for preparation. Few survived to tell the tale. The blood-curdling cry of mingled prayers and curses, of pleas for help and meaningless shrieks of despair died away before the roar of the fire and the silence fell that greeted the firemen upon their entry.

“Survivors describe the situation as a parallel of the condition at Martinique, when a wave of gas and fire rolled down the mountain side and destroyed everything

in its path. Here, however, one circumstance was reversed, for the wave of death leaped from below and smote its victims, springing from the very air beneath them.

“ In a few minutes it was all over—all but the weeping. In those few minutes obscure people had evolved into heroes; staid business men drove out patrons to convert their stores into temporary hospitals and morgues; others converted their trucks and delivery wagons into improvised ambulances; stocks of drugs, oils and blankets were showered upon the police to aid in relief work and a corps of physicians and surgeons sufficient to the needs of an army had organized.

MIRACULOUS FEATS OF RESCUE.

“ Rescues little short of miraculous were accomplished and life and limb were risked by public servants and citizens with no thought of personal consequences. Public sympathy was thoroughly aroused long before the extent of the horror was known and before the sickening report spread throughout the city that the greatest holocaust ever known in the history of theatricals had fallen upon Chicago.

“ While the streets began to crowd for blocks around with weeping and heartbroken persons in mortal terror because of knowledge that loved ones had attended the performance, patrol wagons, ambulances and open wagons hurried the injured to the hospitals. Before long they were called upon to perform the more grewsome task of removing the dead. In wagon loads the latter were carted away. Undertaking establishments both north, south and west of the river threw open their doors.

“ Piled in windows, in the angles of the stairway, where the second balcony refugees were brought face to

face and in a death struggle with the occupants of the first balcony, the dead covered a space of fifteen or twenty feet square and nearly seven feet in depth. All were absolutely safe from the fire itself when they met death, having emerged from the theatre proper into the separate building containing the foyer. In this great court there was absolutely nothing to burn and the doors were only a few feet away. There the ghastly pile lay, a mute monument to the powers of terror. Above and about towered shimmering columns and facades of polished marble, whose cold and unharmed surfaces seemed to bespeak contempt for human folly. In that portion of the Iroquois structure the only physical evidences of damages were a few windows broken during the excitement.

EXITS WERE CHOKED WITH BODIES.

“To that pile of dead is attributed the great loss of life within. The bodies choked up the entrance, barring the egress of those behind. Neither age nor youth, sex, quality or condition were sacred in the awful battle in the doorway. The gray and aged, rich, poor, young and those obviously invalids in life lay in a tangled mass all on an awful footing of equality in silent annihilation.

“Within and above equal terrors were encountered in what at first seemed countless victims. Lights, patience and hard work brought about some semblance of system and at last word was given that the last body had been removed from the charnel house. A large police detail surrounded the place all night, and with the break of day search of the premises was renewed, none being admitted save by presentation of a written order from Chief of Police O'Neill. Fire engines pumped away removing the lake of water that flooded the basement to

the depth of ten feet. As the flood was lowered it began to be apparent that the basement was free of dead.

"Searchers gazing down from the heights of the upper balcony surveyed the scene of death below with horror stamped upon their faces. Fire had left its terrifying blight in a colorless, garish monotony that suggests the burned-out crater of an extinct volcano. In the wreckage, the scattered garments and purses, fragments of charred bodies and other debris strewn within thousands of bits of brilliantly colored glass, lay as they fell shattered in the fight against the flames. A few skulls were seen.

FIND BUSHELS OF PURSES.

"Five bushel baskets were filled with women's purses gathered by the police. A huge pile of garments was removed to a near-by saloon, where an officer guarded them pending removal to some more appropriate place. The shoes and overshoes picked up among the seats filled two barrels to overflowing.

"The fire manifested itself in the flies above the stage during the second act. The double octette was singing 'In the Pale Moonlight' when the tragedy swept mirth and music aside, to give way to a more somber and frightful performance. Confusion on the stage, panic in the auditorium, phenomenal spread of the incipient blaze, failure of the asbestos fire curtain to fall in place when lowered followed in rapid progress, with the holocaust as the climax."

CHAPTER XXI.

AWFUL SPECTACLE DESCRIBED BY THE RESCUED.

ONE of the most graphic descriptions of the horror was given by Frank Houseman, professional ball player, who, with Charley Dexter, formerly of the West Side baseball team, was occupying an upper box in the theatre when the fire started. Both Houseman and Dexter led in forcing a way out of the theatre, and were active in the work of rescue that followed. Here is Houseman's story :

"Charley Dexter and I were in the front upper box on the right hand side. We had just been talking about the double row of little boys and girls that filled the front balcony seats. The theatre was dark for the second act, and the stage was only partly lighted, too.

"Maybe a dozen of the chorus was on singing 'I Meet You in the Moon's Pale Light,' when I noticed a little tongue of flame back in the flies on the other side of the stage. It was up just below the bottom of the drop curtain, which was raised, and looked just like somebody shaking a blazing handkerchief.

"'Charley,' I said, 'it's us to the exits. This may not be anything, but you know the dark little hall we had to come through.'

"So we moved along quietly before anybody in the audience knew anything was wrong. We hadn't any more than got to the next floor when the stage began to get smoky, and you could hear the crowd in the theatre begin to get worried. Just then Eddie Foy came out to the front of the stage, and with the little blazing bits of

scenery dropping back of him, he kept saying: 'Don't get frightened; sit still; it's only a little stage fire.'

"By this time the whole theatre was in an uproar. Big chunks of blazing scenery began to fall. The girls on the stage were fainting, and Dexter and I rushed to a couple of exits on the east side.

FINDS DOOR SHUT.

"'Open the door,' said I to the usher.

"'Wait till the drop curtain comes down,' he said.

"By this time the crowd was getting wild and pushing against the doors. The stage was blazing and the smoke rolling out into the body of the theatre.

"'For God's sake, open the doors!' I shouted.

"The usher didn't move. Well, I grabbed the fellow and threw him as far as I could and burst open the door. The minute it gave way the crowd shoved me with a rush and jammed me against a pair of iron doors that were locked. I felt of the latch and found it was like the one on my ice box at home.

"'This is easy,' I said to Dexter, who had broken open another door. We caught hold of the big iron latch, and with a few wrenches pulled it open. At that minute a big sheet of fire came out from the stage with a puff that drove the crowd mad. In a flash I saw Eddy Foy apparently buried in flames, and before I could catch my breath the crowd caught me and almost threw me clear across the alley leading to State Street.

"In that alley was the most awful sight I ever saw. The fire escapes over the alley were packed with struggling, screaming people fighting to jump to the ground. They were falling like rain drops and making a pile of dead and dying under the escapes. One man landed or

the mass of people and struggled to his knees, when a woman fell on his head and struck him dead. I saw another woman clinging to the outside of the lower fire escape.

" 'Jump,' I yelled. 'It's only ten feet.'

"As she came down I held out my arms to break her fall, and she struck my shoulder. By this time the smoke was piling out of the door we had broken open, and Dexter and I worked till we were exhausted pulling out women and children who were overcome by the smoke and the horror.

"It was terrible. Mothers were calling for their little ones. Little girls were screaming and bewildered. A mass of crazy human beings were almost tearing each other to pieces trying to crowd out of that one small opening that we had made."

DEXTER PICTURES HORROR.

Dexter's story, too, furnishes an appalling word picture of the terrible stampede.

"I can hardly realize that it isn't all a horrible nightmare," he said. "When Houseman called my attention to the blaze I didn't think there was much to it, but while I looked it seemed to take in the whole side of the stage.

" 'You'd better bring out that lady,' said I to a man who was in the same box with us, with a girl.

" 'I guess I know my business,' he answered, and he stayed behind.

"God help those two, for Houseman and I didn't more than have time to get down stairs before the whole stage was ablaze, with Eddie Foy trying to keep the crowd quiet and the orchestra leader playing his fiddle, facing the audience, and nodding to them to sit down.

"When I reached the exit three little children were clinging to me. The door was locked, but I broke it open. The crowd by this time was crushing against me like a lot of wild people. I don't know how we got the iron doors open, but when I got into the alley I found two children in my arms, and Houseman was there helping the women. I saw him hold out his arms to a woman who jumped from the fire escape, and it seemed to me that she knocked him twenty feet.

THE FRENZY OF DESPAIR.

"The fire escapes were filled with women and children. It was awful, awful! There they were packed together so closely that only a few could break loose and jump, and some of them were burning to death before our eyes.

"I took the children into a corner drug store and hadn't any more than set them down when in rushed a woman with her hair down and her clothes almost torn off and grabbed the little girl, screaming: "Darling! darling! don't you know your mother?"

"When I got back to the alley the firemen and police were pulling out the dead and mangled, and Houseman was crying like a baby, while he carried away the little ones. If I live a thousand years I can never forget that awful scene."

William "Smiley" Corbett and Edward Butler, a city employe, were met by Houseman and Dexter and rushed into the burning building at the Randolph street entrance to help in the rescue: This is Corbett's story:

"I didn't intend to go into the building, but, as I stood there, an old woman came up to me tearing her hair and screamed:

“‘Help me! Help me! My two children are in there.’

“Well, no man could stand that. ‘That means us.’ I said to Butler, and we started. Policeman John Rohan tried to stop us.

“‘You’ll burn up, sure,’ he said.

“We made for the east side, intending to go into the main body of the theatre, but in our excitement we got tangled up in the dark hallways, and the first we knew we were up against a door at the top of the building and everything was as dark as pitch.

“‘My God! hear the screams!’ gasped Butler.

“We caught hold of the handles of the door, and managed to break it open. Piled up five feet deep by the door was a mass of dead and dying creatures. I grabbed hold of an arm, and the skin peeled off in my hands. The smoke was suffocating and the heat was terrible. As we pulled the poor victims out it seemed to me that I couldn’t go on.

GREAT HEAPS OF DEAD.

“There were young girls, with their waists torn off, women and children scorched and dead in great heaps, and a few still struggling feebly. Everything showed that the fight to get out must have been something beyond description. And all was in smoke and darkness so dense that we could only see those who were next to the door.

“We broke open a door leading into a big, empty room, and that let in a little light. Into this room we carried the dead, and started downstairs with the few who were still alive. By this time the firemen had come up, and we passed the living along. The hallway was so

narrow that only one could come or go at a time. So those coming up had to go back to the landing to let the ones pass who were carrying the victims down.

"It seemed as if nobody escaped from the gallery, judging by what we saw. When we got down to the balcony we found women and children piled up against the door almost to the top and nearly all dead. I couldn't stand it any longer. It made me sick all over, and I barely had strength enough left to get into the open air.

PERISH IN THE DARK.

"When Corbett started into the theatre," said Mr. Butler, Mr. Corbett's companion in the rescue work, "I made up my mind it was a case of follow the leader. It was as dark as pitch, and I can't tell now how we got where we did. When we broke the door open leading into the gallery I saw the most pitiful sight that I ever expect to see. Women and children and even babies were jammed together in the most frightful way. Some of them were still gasping, some of them burned, and all of them with their clothing torn to shreds.

"I pulled out one girl whose hand was burned to a crisp clear to the elbow. It seemed as if they were all little children and women, and they were mangled, torn and burned until it would break your heart. Corbett carried them away two at a time, and for ten minutes it seemed we did nothing but try to untangle the heap of dead and dying. By that time the firemen came to help us, and we carried the living out into the air.

"When I was asked how many were dead, I said there might be two hundred and there might be a thousand, for I don't see how any of them could have got away from that black hole. Hades doesn't more than

begin to describe what we saw when we broke in that gallery door."

Dazed and horrified by the frightful calamity, members of the Iroquois Theatre force and of the cast of "Mr. Blue Beard" were absolutely at a loss when asked for a coherent explanation of the cause of the tragedy. As soon as the panic broke, the four hundred persons on the stage hurried out through the stage entrance and escaped, all without serious injury, although some were slightly burned.

The first act of the piece was seen by an almost record-breaking assemblage, largely women and children out for a holiday matinee. Many had taken standing-room, unable to obtain seats, and there were eighteen hundred persons within the walls when the flames started. Among them was Harry Powers, part owner of the house.

STAR STARTS MUSIC.

Shortly after the second act had begun, at 3:35 o'clock, flames and sparks were seen to run along the bordering of the proscenium arch. A cry of "Fire!" arose, and Eddie Foy, principal comedian of the company, stepped before the footlights to warn the audience to keep calm. He then asked the musicians to play, and they struck up a popular air. Mr. Foy and the musicians were applauded by the house. The flames grew brighter, and then the panic suddenly broke.

Mr. Fitzgerald, as the star is known in private life, tells the following story of his experiences:

"I was standing in the first entrance, with my little son Bryant, waiting for my cue, when the fire started up in the flies. The double octette was on the stage, and the pale moonlight scene was on. After I had asked the

audience to be quiet, I ordered the asbestos curtain lowered. The men obeyed, but the curtain stuck and did not come down. After that I hardly know what happened. A great gust of wind, probably caused by the opening of the front doors, swept a cloud of flame into the theatre. Quick as a flashlight the many gauze drops flared up, and the fittings of the house began to smoulder.

WARNS CHORUS GIRLS.

"I rushed into the dressing-rooms, and told the girls to run for their lives. Then I ran for my five-year-old boy, who was still in the wings, and managed to escape just in time. There was no explosion—of that I am sure. Some disarrangement of the electrical apparatus must have first started the blaze, but how it came about I cannot imagine. It all seems like a horrible nightmare, and I can't persuade myself that I am awake."

When Mr. Foy, still wearing his stage make-up, hurried in the Randolph street entrance of the Sherman House with his son, he met his wife, who was just starting in search of him. She burst into tears as she embraced him, exclaiming, "Thank God, you are safe." Chief Electrician Archie Bernard insisted that he was at an absolute loss to account for the origin of the fire.

"I don't know anything about how it started," he reiterated time and again, "but I do not believe that there was any explosion."

That there was no explosion was also insisted on by Stage Fireman William C. Saller, who was standing but twenty feet away from the electric searchlight which caused the fire, and who rang down the asbestos curtain.

"This electric searchlight was about ten feet above the stage and at the right of the stage facing the house,"

said Saller. "I was not more than twenty feet away and I suddenly saw a kind of flash, but there was no explosion. In an instant one of the foliage curtains was ablaze.

"I rang down the asbestos curtain right away and then seized an extinguishing appliance. I hurled this and three others at the searchlight, but it was too high for me. In the meantime the asbestos curtain had come rolling down part way, but for the first time it refused to come all the way. It stuck above our heads, and I and others made frantic jumps at it to try to bring it down. We failed.

EMPLOYES IN PERIL.

"By this time it seemed that the whole of the fly curtains were a whirl of flame, and we rushed to the stage exits facing on Dearborn street. We were piled up there in a mad, struggling mass for a few seconds, until the bolts at the top could be undone, and then we poured out with a fierce rush. What caused the fire I cannot say."

"A flash, an explosion, then pandemonium; that's all there was to it, and that too quick to realize what had occurred." With these words Lem Savage, one of the stage hands, described the calamity as seen by him on the stage. "With the explosion the lights on the stage went out and the glass dropped out of the skylight. What else occurred I do not know, because with Joseph J. Hamilton, another one of our boys, we rushed to the basement to rescue the eighteen children down there awaiting their turn. I believe we got most of them out."

Joseph Hamilton, another one of the stage hands, said all the credit for saving the children in the basement belonged to his fellow-worker, Savage, and William C. Saller, the theatre fireman, stationed on the stage. "The

moment the explosion occurred Saller grabbed hand grenades and began throwing them into the fire," said Hamilton, "and when he saw that was not putting out the fire, he tried to put it out with his hands, and burned both hands pretty badly. Saller is the hero of the stage workers and the bravest man I know."

SPARKS ARE BLAMED.

A member of the stage staff of the Olympic Theatre, who hurried into the Iroquois as soon as he heard the alarm given, gave the following explanation of the catastrophe:

"Sparks from calcium lights, which were being operated up in the flies to illuminate the stage, caused the fire. The lamps were turned upward, so that the sparks from the carbons fell upon one of the inner curtains. The flames ran along this, and spread like a flash to the other gauzy drops with which the loft was crowded. There must have been more than one hundred thin, flimsy draperies, which were used in the many tableaux and transformation scenes of the extravaganza. Through these the fire shot in the twinkling of an eye; the fastenings and ropes burned away, and the entire mass fell upon the stage in a burst of smoke and sparks. The sound of this fall must have been the 'explosion' which many people assert they heard."

Herbert Cawthorne, who played the part of Pat Shaw in the extravaganza, took an active part in saving the chorus girls and the others of the cast. After the heat had driven him from the building he made two attempts to re-enter his dressing-rooms and save some of his property, but was prevented by the firemen. In his stage costume, and suffering severely from the cold, he took refuge in a

store at 47 Dearborn street, where he told the following story :

"I am positive that a calcium light started the fire, for they were being used to illuminate the stage for the song 'In the Pale Moonlight,' when the panic started. While I was standing in the wings on the left side of the stage, a peculiar sputtering from the lights caused me to look up. Above the stage, and perhaps twelve feet above the top of the proscenium arch, was a swinging platform, from which twelve lights were operated. The curtain was blazing slightly, and I at once thought that the sparks from one of the calciums had ignited it. I glanced at the stage and saw that the song was being carried through, and that most of the company had not noticed the blaze.

ASBESTOS CURTAIN FAILS TO WORK.

"At the same moment the fireman stationed behind the scenes rushed up with a patent fire extinguisher, but the stream went wide of the place where the flames were flickering. While he was attempting to make an effective use of the machine the flames suddenly swirled down. Eddie Foy shouted, 'Lower the asbestos curtain,' and the stage hands obeyed, but the fastening must have burned away, for it did not move. It seems to me that the stage fireman might have averted the calamity if he had not been over-excited.

"The 500 persons behind the scenes took the event calmly enough and hurried out in their make-up. Some of the young women went out in the cold only partly attired, having had absolutely no time to throw a bit of clothing over their shoulders."

There were 180 drop scenes and draperies hung in the fly-loft of the theatre, and the drapery which caught

fire first probably blazed for a full minute before it was noticed. Then Stage Manager Carlson ordered the men in the fly gallery to lower it, but in their confusion they pulled it up, and the flames spread to the other hangings. The men in the loft barely had time to climb down before the general conflagration. Stage Manager Carlson checked up the list of players at five o'clock and found that none was missing. A few were slightly burned and injured by falling scenery.

HEROIC ACTS OF ASSISTANCE.

Innumerable acts of heroism were performed in assisting people from the theatre. Persons who were seated next to each other, or in the same row, in the first or second balcony, met with terrible experiences. True, most of them were suffocated or trampled to death, but others got out with only slight burns or scratches. Within a few seconds after the crowd began fighting its way from the smoke-filled auditorium men were at work endeavoring to assist those who appeared to be in the worse plight.

Standing out above all the fortunate circumstances surrounding a disaster about which there were so few hopeful features were the efforts of several painters and calciminers who were at work on a recitation room on the third floor of the Northwestern University Building, facing the alley across from the wrecked theatre. The men were busily engaged when the screams of affrighted stage hands and actors drew their attention. Smoke was pouring out of the apertures opposite the third balcony of the Iroquois Theatre. In a moment the panes of glass were smashed and frantic individuals appeared, shouting and praying for aid. The few fire escape platforms were

immediately filled. The iron ladders had not been put in place.

As the fire gained headway within the stage space and as it swept over the mass of people crowding toward the Randolph Street entrances the crush of humanity in the upper balconies near the alleyway was redoubled. The strain had to come soon. And it did come, with dreadful results. People began tumbling from windows to the stone-paved alleyway. The women, children and even the men who were forced into the balconies, were so pushed that they saw death in front and behind. Many leaped into the air and were killed by the concussion.

Firemen, now on the scene, spread a net, which some of the Iroquois ushers helped to hold, and a few dropped into this and were only slightly hurt. But as seconds flew the concentration of human energy at one or two points in the upper rear part of the building became indescribable.

MAKE BRIDGE OF PLANK.

"Smash in that window," yelled one of the decorators. "Smash in the window and run one of these planks across into one of the theatre windows. Move fast or hundreds will be killed."

Planks that had been used as scaffolding in exterior work and were piled in the room were seized. One plank was shoved across within a minute after the worst crush in the upper part of the theatre was noticed. No sooner was it in place than people began crawling across it. Women, hysterical, started over the narrow board, and though encouraged by those at the other end, lost their grip in many instances and fell. Probably a dozen were killed in this manner. But, as in the Newhall House fire

in Milwaukee, twenty years ago, the plank walk, slippery as it was, meant life to probably three score. Three planks were eventually in place, and then firemen appeared and walked over and helped or carried people out. Many of the suffocated were brought over into the university building and were treated by physicians.

By five o'clock the catastrophe was at its zenith, and it was recognized that all left within the theatre were lost. Then it was that firemen sought out the scorched bodies in the upper balconies. A rope was used, and as a body was obtained it was fastened to the rope and pulled across the alley on the plank. Ambulances removed the dead to the morgue as fast as possible.

DEAD SEEN EVERYWHERE.

In the lower part of the auditorium, in front of the theatre and in the rear, the dead seemed to be everywhere.

William Quigley, chief usher in the top balcony, described the scene in this way:

"There was a flash of fire on the stage, then smoke, then a cry of fire, and then the rush. It all seemed to come at once, although I am told efforts were made to stop the panic. My gallery was filled to its capacity, and not a few people were standing. I closed the doors to reassure the crowd that no danger was imminent if they kept cool. But everyone seemed crazed with fear. I jumped up and helped women and children out. Many rushed to the fire escapes, but stood there dazed. Then the crowd began to push them over. I helped carry out forty bodies. Sometimes we had to brush aside a dozen dead bodies to get at a living person."

William Corbett known about town as "Smiley"
N.Y. 25

Corbett, was one who rushed into the theatre to the top floor and helped fainting and helpless women out. Waiters in Thompson's restaurant, next door to the theatre, raised a ladder from the roof of a shed to a fire escape landing at the north end of the alley and helped at least fifteen people to the ground in this way.

CARRIES OUT CRIPPLED WIFE.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Bolte and their three children were in the first balcony and had an exciting experience. Mrs. Bolte is a cripple, and her husband, who is a dry goods commission merchant living in Winnetka, picked her up and started for the exit on the north side. He called to the three children, Willard and Guy, boys of eighteen and fifteen, to follow and to take care of their sister, Linda, a girl of thirteen. Linda, however, was so frightened that she started in the opposite direction and the family soon became separated. Mrs. Bolte managed to reach the fire escape, where she was soon rescued by the firemen. Mr. Bolte and the boys made their escape by the exit, but were unable to find Linda.

Mrs. Grant William and two children of Jefferson Park were in the west side of the theatre. As they started for the door they were thrown down and were in danger of being crushed, when a man assisted them to their feet and accompanied them to the exit.

One of the escapes was that of Miss Millie Overlock of Virginia, a young woman who was visiting A. L. Thomas, of Lord & Thomas. Miss Overlock's companion, Remington Thomas, made an heroic effort to escape with her, but near the door the two became separated, and Thomas, who is eighteen years old, is among the missing.

Foremost among the remarkable escapes was that of little Winnie Gallagher, twelve years old, of 4925 Michigan avenue. The girl occupied a seat in the third row from the front on the main floor. Unassisted the girl made her way through the surging mass of terror-stricken persons and escaped. When she reached the street her clothing had been torn into shreds. In the excitement in the street she was pushed about in the crowds and finally was taken to Central station by a newsboy. The boy had taken off his overcoat and wrapped it about the girl.

Mrs. Emanuel Buxbaum with her two daughters, Myra and Louise, and their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Kuh, were seated six rows back from the front when the panic began. Cautioning his family to hold together, Mr. Kuh took one of the children in his arms while Mrs. Buxbaum carried the other one, and the party managed to struggle to the open air.

POLICEMEN JOIN IN RESCUE.

John Kesler and William Coles, policemen, were among the first to participate in the work of rescue. Keeler, passing the theatre, saw smoke coming from the main entrance and turned in the first alarm. Returning to the theatre he was joined by Coles, and the two carried a dozen people down from the balcony before overcome by smoke. Keeler and Coles thought a hundred people escaped from the first balcony uninjured. Later they carried bodies from the second balcony down the fire escapes in the alley.

"They were climbing over each other in the balcony," said Keeler. "It was an awful sight."

Frank Slosson and his daughter, from Kenosha,

Wis., barely escaped with their lives. In getting out of the theatre Mr. Slosson received a severe scalp wound from a piece of falling timber, while his daughter's clothing was torn.

SENDS LITTLE GIRLS HOME.

W. H. Newcomb of Evanston, was standing on the east side of State street, opposite the alley leading to the theatre, waiting for a car, when he saw smoke and heard shrieks of women coming from the second story. He ran across the street and had just started to go up the alley when he met a crowd of people, mostly women, without hats or wraps, coming toward State street. Among these he noticed four little girls shivering and crying with terror. He took them into the Burton Building, secured a cab and sent them home.

Miss Gregg said: "We were sitting eleven rows back from the stage and the second act had just begun when the curtain began to blaze up. Then an awful rush for 'he exits began. I caught one of my feet in a seat, but with the aid of my companions was able to loosen myself. There were six of us in the party, and when we reached the fire escape at the east side of the theatre I gave one look back and saw women and children in a great mass surging toward the different exits, all tumbling over each other. One woman was in flames. We reached the alley and were rescued by Mr. Newcomb."

"Harold Dyrenforth, Chicago representative of the New York Life Insurance Company, was among the number who spent an agonized night hunting for lost ones. His two little daughters, Ruth and Helen, aged fourteen and eight years respectively, went to the theatre accompanied by the maid, Alma Erland. They occupied seats

in the eighth row of the first balcony, and the efforts of their parents to find them proved unavailing.

“Rev. J. P. Brushingham, pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, was at the Northwestern University Building when the fire broke out.

“‘It was awful,’ said Dr. Brushingham. ‘The scenes of grief were too terrible to witness. I shudder to think of entering a crowded hall again. The sight of those piles of dead and the tears and screams of anxious ones seeking their loved ones was heartrending.’

“Alexander H. Revell had sent his daughter Margaret, with a little friend, Elizabeth Harris, in charge of a maid, to see the performance. News of the fire reached him at his store not five minutes after the blaze started, and, jumping into a cab, he drove madly to the scene.

“By the greatest good fortune one of the first persons he encountered was the hysterical maid, who informed him that his daughter and her friend were safe. Mr. Revell then hastened into the theatre and aided in the rescue work.

“‘I worked in the upper balconies,’ he said later. ‘The sight of those poor women and their little children, with clenched fists raised as though trying to beat their way to safety is too horrible for me to attempt to describe. But I thought of how my own little one had been saved, and I conquered my horror, and did all I could to save those who were not past saving. I assisted the police and firemen in carrying down more than twenty bodies.’”

CHAPTER XXII.

DESPERATE STRUGGLES TO ESCAPE DEATH.

THE scene was almost too heartrending to be believed. We must go back to the convulsions of nature for a more dreadful story of swift death than occurred in the Iroquois theatre. There have been greater horrors by flood, by volcanoes, by the uprising of nature's forces, but if there was ever a more appalling chapter traced to man's hand history fails to tell it save in the records of battle alone. Of fire horrors, as they are commonly known, certainly nothing like it ever occurred in this country or any other.

There an ornate million-dollar theatre, assured, of course, as thoroughly fireproof. Within were women and children, and a few men—a typical, merry, holiday matinee audience. One thousand were in the galleries. There were many entrances offering the usual number of exits, all, of course, sufficient to depopulate the building, in case of fire. We have seen that often enough on the programmes. There were five men in uniforms in the aisles, provided by the city government. It was a pretty, happy scene. There was a darkened stage, there were a dozen singing maidens and a popular comedian singing a popular air.

Now, what happened? A fuse or two blew from a calcium light that made the pale moon. The spark struck the ginger-bread scenery; the scenery blazed to the stage.

And then! Well, then in five minutes this costly playhouse became a red urn of fire, and a great heart-breaking cry, such a cry as splits a stone of a Cæsar's heart, arose in that building. It was the cry of a man or

woman, clinging to a storm-swept raft, who sees the others go down before them. The scene was something that no human pen can tell. A circle of flame swept from the stage around the balcony and galleries, driven into a whirlwind by six great automatic elevators and the open doors. It moved faster than the calcium of the pale moonlight and as fierce as a blazing meteor.

There was a wild, raging, trampling rush for life. It is not easy to fancy what one would do in such a scene, but all seemingly acted together. Men and women fought like unleashed hounds for the first exit; little children were crushed in the arms of their mothers; clothes and jewels were torn from the owners, lorgnettes and purses were tossed on the floors.

BATTLE FOR LIFE HARDEST IN BALCONIES.

This was the first scene. On the main floor the panic was quite as fierce as elsewhere, but escape was easier. It was in the balconies that the battle for life was hardest, and there, indeed, was scarcely a chance for escape. The galleries were, within no time at all, heaped with a helpless, struggling, insane mass of people. As the flaming circle crept higher and higher, choking the audience with black masses of smoke, many were literally too paralyzed for movement, so that at the end and after it was all over, there was the strange, grewsome picture of a score or more dead leaning silently over the rails as if still glancing at the play.

But down at the doorway it was a wave backward of human beings fighting for the blessing of life. What heroism was shown of man for woman or of woman for children will never be known, for the tragedy was but of minutes.

There was the sweep, the crush, the weak falling and the strong mounting, the inevitable desperate instinct which accompanies the grim law of self-preservation ; then the horror of flaming death behind and crushing death before ; then the still outreaching flames, and, finally, a mass of piled-up humanity, a few of the living above and the dead far below.

JUMPED FROM GALLERIES TO CERTAIN DEATH.

The details of the awful happenings inside have never been exceeded in the awfulness of sudden death in agony in all the history of modern times. From the balcony and galleries, where there was no more safety from the flame heat ascending than on the floor below, people hurled themselves downward in their terror. All, or nearly all, of those in the front met a fearful death. Firemen, the fire practically extinguished, found they were but pouring water on heaps of human beings.

What scenes were found within the heated vault which had been a theatre very few of the firemen or policemen who first entered could explain intelligently. Some of them cried and some who did not cry could not talk of anything well. They knew only that they had found the passages to the theatre clogged in front, and upstairs and down, by bodies.

Of this tragedy within, there will be many stories told by survivors in hysterical manner, but it will never be anything to them but five minutes of nerveless terror. The scenes that followed may be told by observers with more intelligence.

The smoke poured from the building in thick masses and, penetrating through it, one saw the right marble staircase filled with a crush of human beings. There was

a mute and awful silence. Arms were extended between bodies which were heaped on one another.

The crushed and bleeding head of a child was lying on the edge of the staircase and above were massed bodies of men and women. Small curls of steam and smoke arose from them. Then, as the work of carrying out the bodies followed, a pitiful cry arose occasionally in the mass, and this aroused the energetic aid of policemen and firemen combined. Bodies, scorched and lacerated, were taken out by dozens.

RESTAURANT TURNED INTO A MORGUE.

Outside the theatre it seemed as if the great office buildings, the stores and restaurants had been emptied in a flash at the call of suffering humanity. There will never be such a scene in Thompson's restaurant again. Tables that had but a few hours before been surrounded by diners became slabs of a morgue. The scorched and smoking bodies were piled dozens deep, while dozens of physicians, carrying all their appliances, were rushing from one table to another to find one thread of life to relieve.

It was a ghastly, horror-striking scene, and the very orderliness of it made it more ghastly; it had occurred so suddenly, during the holiday season of a great city.

Not less appalling and in a more dreadful though in a more quiet way, was the scene when the scores of dead were removed, some to their homes, but most to the morgue for identification. Policemen and firemen penetrated the gathered guards to carry away the dead not yet identified, and these comprised the majority. They came in such vehicles as they could force into service, and out from the extemporized morgue they carried the bodies of the dead. There were other morgues and there were other dead.

The construction of the theatre is such that the space between the balcony and gallery seats and the stage is less than fifty feet. With the flimsy scenery of 'Mr. Blue Beard' in flames, the draft from the stage to the many exits drew a solid sheet of fire on the fleeing spectators. To those in the front rows death was absolutely certain. As the exits became choked and the unfortunate victims were piled up ten and twelve deep, they formed an impregnable wall. With the flames lapping them from behind and the seething, fighting mass choking the doorways, they were overcome.

DESPERATE STRUGGLE FOR LIFE.

How these poor unfortunates fought to escape their terribly lacerated and scorched bodies showed after the fire. The failure of the asbestos drop curtain was the cause of the terrible loss of life. Had it worked, or had it been lowered, the flames would have been confined to the stage.

Why the asbestos curtain was not lowered there seems to be no rational explanation. Some say it was lowered. Others say that it failed to work entirely. And still others claim that it reached within six or seven feet of the stage, and that the frantic efforts of the stage hands to drag it down failed.

In the excitement it must have been forgotten entirely. The frantic rush to safety drove every idea out of the minds of all within the theatre and on the stage except that of personal safety. In the mad dash it was every one for himself. The torn, bleeding, bruised, and blackened corpses bore silent testimony to the terrible conflict that must have been waged for a few minutes within the playhouse.

The theatre was almost in darkness in the second act. The stage was lighted only by the soft artificial beams from the calcium, which lent beauty to the scene during the singing of 'The Pale Moonlight' by the double sextet. A flash of flame shot across through the flimsy draperies, started by a spark from the calcium. A show girl screamed hysterically. The singers stopped short, but with presence of mind the director increased the volume of the music.

Scores rose in their seats as the stage manager shouted an order for the continuation of the song. It was obeyed with feeble hearts. The brave girls forced the words from their throats until two of their number swooned. The audience could no longer be controlled, and this added new horror to the ghastly spectacle. To a score of those who had sought to jump from the gallery the smoke was kind for it brought death more quickly. Their bodies were found hanging over the rail, their faces distorted with agonies of death.

FIREMEN QUICK, BUT TOO LATE.

From a dozen sources the alarm went to fire headquarters, but before the vanguard of engines wheeled into Randolph street a dense crowd had gathered in front of the theatre. The firemen were quick to act, but hundreds of bodies were already motionless within the walls of the playhouse so recently opened.

An awe-stricken crowd stood fixedly as those who had been nearest the doors rushed out, their eyes wide with fear. These yelled "Fire!" at the top of their lungs, and the cry was taken up by the crowd and carried far into busy State street and the other avenues of commerce.

None realized at that minute what had occurred.

Each man asked his neighbor if there had been loss of life or injury. Not until the first blackened and limp body was borne forth in the arms of a policeman did the enormity of the disaster begin to dawn on those in the street.

In fifteen minutes nineteen dead bodies were carried out the Randolph street entrance. Then they came so fast that all count was lost. Many of those first brought out were still alive. Their pitiful moans struck terror to the hearts of those who witnessed the scene.

AMBULANCES NOT ADEQUATE.

Every hospital in the city hurried ambulances to the scene, and with them every surgeon who could be spared. They were as nothing, though, compared to the need. Two and three, and in many cases even more, were huddled into the ambulances and hurried off to the hospitals, where kindlier attention could be given them.

While the fire was still blazing fiercely in the rear of the playhouse the firemen had begun to carry out the corpses in front. None at that time could have been alive in the smoke-filled building, but the firemen fought on in their errand of mercy, groping their way with lanterns that shed only a dim, yellow light through the clouds of smoke.

The great majority of those who had occupied orchestra seats had escaped with their lives, though scores were badly hurt in the rush. Some were knocked down, and, with broken limbs, were unable to rise. They had been left to die with a number of women who fainted from fright. With these bodies were found the corpses of those who had leaped from the balcony and gallery.

In the exits of the balcony and galleries the greatest

loss of life occurred. When the firemen went to remove the bodies they found one hundred or more piled in indescribable mass in each place. The clothes were torn completely away from some of the bodies. Here and there a jeweled hand protruded from the pile. All the faces were distorted with the death agonies.

MOAN FROM HEAP OF DEAD.

From beneath this mangled mass of humanity there suddenly came the moan of a woman. It was a cry of anguish, not of pain. The cry, faint though it was, pierced to the very soul, sounding above the yells of the firemen, the moans of agony from within the smoke-filled auditorium, and the shrieks of grief maddened fathers and mothers, sisters and brothers in the street without.

Trembling hands plunged their way into the tangle of human forms, and with a mighty effort pulled to the surface the woman—could such a thing be a human being?—from whose lips had come the cry. The blackened lips parted, and a fireman bent over her to catch the words.

“My child, my poor little boy! Where is he? Oh, do bring him to me.”

There, in that awful hour, her baby bruised beyond recognition in the mad fight for life that followed the first flash of flame across the stage—there was mother love uppermost. Again the trembling lips parted.

“Is he safe? Tell me he is safe and I can die.”

“He is safe,” the fireman muttered, and all knew his reply was best.

She died, and her body was lifted tenderly with those of the hundred others in that one spot.

The calamity was so overwhelming that the firemen and the policemen who were the first to reach the upper

parts of the house could not realize its astounding extent. They began by dragging a body or two from the terrible piles at the head of the stairways, as if they did not know the piles were made of human bodies.

Gradually the full significance of the catastrophe dawned upon them. All the lights of the theatre had been extinguished. The lanterns of the firemen cast only a dim glow over the piles of dead. From the bodies arose small curls of steam. The firemen had drenched the piles before they knew they were made up of human corpses.

CARRYING AWAY THE VICTIMS.

Then the work of taking out the inanimate forms began. There were constant appeals for more help. The bodies of little children, torn and bleeding, were tenderly lifted, each by a fireman or policeman, and carried to the street below. Two or three men were needed to bear away the heavier burdens.

Every now and then a form faintly breathing was dragged out of the pile. These were handled with even more tenderness than the others as they were carried down the marble stairway of the gilded foyer. Now and then a faint groan was heard coming from the bottom of the pile. This was the signal for renewed and frantic efforts on the part of the rescuers to untangle the terrible human mass.

As the struggle at the door progressed the first unfortunates who fell there were protected from suffocation and death by fire by the many layers of other bodies. This soon became apparent, and every effort was made to save the few who might still be alive at the bottom.

In the balcony, scattered about the aisles and among the charred seats, were found many bodies. One mother,

clasping her child, was found kneeling, as if in prayer, with her back to the stage, from which had come the death-dealing sheet of flame. She had protected her child from the flames, but the little one was dead in the charred arms of her mother.

As the work of rescue progressed dozens of blankets were brought, and the bodies were carried down in these. The scene immediately after the fire was got under control and the work of rescue began was appalling. All the gilt and tinsel of the theatre, all the silks and plushes, all the rich hangings, all the frescoes had been wiped out. The flames from the stage had swept the entire theatre and left their blight everywhere.

The upholstery on many of the seats was still intact, though. But for the failure of some one to act, when action meant life for hundreds, only a few might have perished. The thin sheet of asbestos that could have saved all, failed.

BLENDING OF GRIEF AND JOY.

In a remarkably short time, men whose wives and children had gone to see "Mr. Blue Beard," reached the scene. Their grief was pitiful. In that mass of people it was a hopeless task to find loved ones. Through the tiers of dead and dying in the buildings all about men and women searched with frenzied faces. Now and again a searcher would find one for whom he looked. One could but turn the face from such scenes.

Strong men threw themselves in the street in their grief, or in temporary morgues clasped wife or child to their breasts. Alone with their dead many kneeled in prayer. In marked contrast was the meeting of those who had sought, with aching hearts, fearing their missing

ones were dead. Their cries of joy at the reunions were mingled with the moans of the disconsolate.

One man pushed his way into the lobby of the theatre. His eyes were blinded with fear and he did not see the firemen pass out with unconscious forms in their arms. Before a group of men he stood for a moment ; then asked if any one had been injured in the fire.

"My wife and boy were there," he murmured. "Did every one get out?"

Tears came to the eyes of the men in the little group. At that instant five firemen staggered down the stairs, each bearing a human form. One of the men pointed to them, and the husband and father fell to the floor.

ESCAPE OF GIRL AGED ELEVEN,

Amid even such sad scenes the pickpockets were busy. The police kept watch as best they could, but the ghouls snatched many purses from the dead and dying and wrenched rings from the fingers that could no longer offer resistance. Several of these men were caught in their dastardly work. They received at the moment punishment all too light for their crime. Only a few were arrested and taken to the police station, where they were held to await the course of the law.

One of the narrow escapes in the first rush was that of little Winnie Gallagher, eleven years old. The child, who was with her mother in the third row from the stage, was abandoned in the mad rush for safety. She climbed to the top of the seat in which her mother had left her, and stepping from one chair to another, finally reached the door.

There she was crushed in the crowd and all her outer garments were stripped from her. At the Central police station the child was restored to her mother.

Mrs. William Mueller, was taken to the hospital suffering with severe injuries about the head, but upon regaining consciousness she sprang from the cot crying for her children. She had taken her two children, five and seven years old, to the theatre, and, after falling to the ground at the exit, she had lost consciousness and did not know what had been done with them.

While the nurses were attempting to quiet the woman a police ambulance arrived at the hospital with the two little girls, one of whom had been injured about the head in a fall, while the other was unhurt. After clasping the children to her side Mrs. Mueller, once more lost consciousness. Florence Mueller, who was injured about the face and head, was taken to another ward for treatment.

TELLS HER EXPERIENCES.

Later in the evening Mrs. Mueller told of her experience in the fire: "It all happened in a few minutes," she said in a weak voice as she drew the bandages from about her mouth. "I was in the waiting-room resting between the first and second acts. I returned to the auditorium when the second act opened and had been in my seat only a few minutes when a sheet of fire shot from the stage and was followed by confusion among the actors and actresses. The flame immediately spread to the hangings about the front of the stage and seemed to mount in an instant to the ceiling of the auditorium.

"I grasped both of my girls and started for the front doors, but the people seemed orderly and we made good progress until I reached the exit. I can remember little else."

One of the victims of the fire who escaped with severe bruises was Mrs. F. A. Morgan. She, her little

son Warren, and her sister, Miss Marcella Warren of Detroit, were in the first balcony. They noticed the smoke when the second act of the play was in progress. They left their seats among the first and had reached the vestibule when the rush began. They were thrown to the floor, and after being bruised and trampled on by the rush, Mrs. Morgan escaped. The little boy was wrenched from the crowd by his hair. His scalp was torn and his forehead was bruised. Miss Warren was not found.

Rushing madly down the fire escape into the alley, enveloped in flames, D. A. Straton of Alpena, Michigan, and his two daughters, Gladys and Louise, fell insensible at the foot of the iron staircase. During his descent his daughters were torn from him, but were found later and taken to Thompson's restaurant, where, with the father, their burns were dressed.

HELPS CHORUS GIRLS.

L. Day, residing at 5 Ashland Place, who occupied a seat near the front, did heroic work in rescuing several chorus girls who jumped from the stage when the fire broke out. Day escaped without a scratch, but his clothing was literally torn from his body.

"The second act had just started when sparks began to rain down from the top of the stage," said Day. "The curtain was immediately lowered, and some actor—I cannot recall who it was—stepped out from behind to assure the audience there was no danger. He had but uttered his first words when the whole stage seemed in flames.

"The crowd began fighting frantically to gain the street, and hundreds were trampled to death or smothered. Everybody appeared to be fighting his or her way through

the center aisle, and I had presence of mind enough to take one of the side passages. I managed to work my way to the door twice with two women, but could do no more, and barely saved myself."

EACH FOR HIMSELF.

Charles Thompson, who was in the third balcony when the fire broke out, gave a graphic description of the panic which followed the first wild rush for the exits.

"I was in the front row of the balcony when the stampede occurred," said Thompson. "I had a full view of the lower part of the house, and could see the people climbing over each other to gain exit to the street and alley. The sight was horrible. Children were crushed beneath the feet of strong men, and women threw up their arms and fell helplessly to the floor.

"Nobody seemed to try to help anybody but himself or herself. Several women and young girls, as near as I could see in the great confusion and smoke, leaped from the balcony to the lower floor, and were literally crushed upon the backs of seats. It all occurred in an instant, and I hardly know how I escaped myself. Fighting my way and simply crawling over the heads and backs of others, I gained exit through one of the windows and slid to the street."

Thompson said he could not tell positively how the fire started. He says sparks began falling from the upper part of the stage and flames immediately shot forth in the form of an explosion, although there was no report.

Soon after the first alarm of fire was sounded a crowd, headed by J. W. McMeen, a Board of Trade clerk, rushed into the alley behind the theatre and ascended the "drop staircase" fire-escape leading into the burning building.

The great iron doors were evidently caught on the outside and held the prisoners within. McMeen was first to reach the top of the fire-escape, and, tugging frantically at the massive sheets of iron, finally forced them open.

A stream of humanity then poured forth with such great force that the victims were thrown to the ground in dozens. The screams and shrieks of women and children were heartrending. A mass of dead and dying were piled high in the alley, forming a human mattress for the stream of persons who followed. McMeen escaped by sliding down the balustrade.

MISS HAZEL COULTER'S STORY.

Miss Hazel Coulter, the eighteen-year-old daughter of John Coulter, was one of the first to escape from the building. She was knocked down and trampled upon after reaching Couch place, on the north side of the theatre, but sustained no serious injury.

"I was sitting in the fifth row of seats, near the north side of the theatre, when the fire broke out," said Miss Coulter in telling of her escape. "When the curtain lifted on the second act I saw a few tiny wreaths of smoke curling out from between the curtains and a few seconds later fire began falling to the stage. The costumes of many of the women on the stage caught fire, the play stopped suddenly, and for just an instant everything was deathly quiet. Then the people on the stage began running madly toward the wings.

"The whole audience seemed to scream at once and began fighting in the aisles and climbing over the seats. The ushers hurriedly threw open the doors leading to the alley and scores of people surged through the exits. Before I could run the twenty-five feet between my seat

and the exit the whole stage was afire and the screams and wails of the terror-stricken audience were deafening.

"When I leaped from the doorway, which was several feet above the ground, I fell upon several persons and was in turn fallen upon by others who followed me. As soon as I fell, several medical students grabbed me and pulled me out of the way."

The Sherman House was thrown open to fire victims by Manager Abe Frank, and all the injured taken in were provided with rooms and medical attention. Thirteen injured persons were cared for at this hotel.

The first victims taken to the hotel were H. H. Chester, wife and two children, who were severely burned about the head and body. After an examination the attending physicians said they would recover. H. S. Van Ingine and wife were severely burned and covered with blood when taken into the hotel, and their condition was critical.

From early evening until long after midnight Rolston's morgue was besieged and overrun by hundreds of heartbroken men and women seeking friends or relatives. Lying so closely packed together upon the floor in the basement of the morgue and in an empty store adjoining that no room was left for a passageway were the charred and mutilated bodies of 183 of those who had met their deaths in the fire.

It was 9 o'clock before the policemen detailed to the work of removing from the dead every possible mark of identification had completed their grewsome task. Not until then were the grief-stricken people who clamored piteously for admittance allowed to enter and search for their dead. In batches of a dozen at a time they were permitted to file down between the long rows of bodies stretched out upon the floor.



THE
IROQUOIS THEATRE FIRE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 30, 1903.

LIST OF VICTIMS

COMPILED BY
JOHN E. TRAEGER,
CORONER OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS,
FOR CITY OF CHICAGO.

408 LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE CHICAGO HORROR.

Name.	Age.	Residence.	Occupation.	Identified by.
Adamek, Mrs. John	40	Bartlett, Ill.	Housewife	E. H. Ostrander.
Aldridge, Luella M'D.	44	792 W. Monroe St., City	Housewife	Geo. A. Aldridge.
Alexander, Boyer	45	473 Washington Boul., City	(Infant)	W. G. Alexander.
Alexander, Lulu B.	36	473 Washington Boul., City	Housewife	W. G. Alexander.
Alexander, Melba	8	473 Washington Boul., City	Student	W. G. Alexander.
Alfson, Albert	31	Woodsfock, Ill.	B. Mechanic	Alex. Alfson.
Allen, Mary S.	27	5546 Drexel Ave., City	Housewife	Edward E. Allen.
Anderson, Annie	29	2141 Jackson Boul., City	Domestic	Nils A. Larson.
Anderson, Hagna	39	229 Grand Ave., City	Scrub Wom'n	Ida Anderson.
Andrews, Henrietta	33	943 W. Superior St., City	Nurse	D. A. Orth, M. D.
Annan, Margaretha	30	299 Webster Ave., City	Milliner	Chas. J. Peck.
Austrian, Walter J.	17	4175 Drexel Boul., City	Student	Benj. R. Cahn.
Bagley, Helen Dewey	18	24 Madison Park, City	Student	Jno. F. Mahoney.
Baker, Adelaide	17	4410 Ellis Ave., City	Student	Chas. C. Landt.
Banshaf, George	30	487 Forrestville Ave., City	Electrician	Marie Thompson.
Barker, Ethel M.	14	1925 Washington Boul., City		Harry J. Barker.
Barnheisel, Chas. H.	42	400 Grand Boul., City	Solicitor	E. I. Dresher.
Barry, Wilma Porter	17	439 Greenwood Ave., City	Student	F. E. Barry.
Bartlett, Alvina	33	West Grossdale, Ill.	Housewife	Wm. Bartlett.
Bartlett, Arthur	6	West Grossdale, Ill.	Student	Wm. Bartlett.
Bartlett, Mrs. C. D.	40	Bartlett Station, Ill.	Housewife	E. H. Ostrander.
Bartlett, Emma	13	West Grossdale, Ill.	Student	Wm. Bartlett.
Bartsch, Wm. C. H.	24	329 Hudson Ave., City	N. Circulator	Hugo Bartsch.
Battenfield, John W.	24	Ohio	Electrician	D. H. Battenfield.
Battenfield, Robert M.	16	Delaware, Ohio	Student	D. H. Battenfield.
Battenfield, Ruth A.	22	Delaware, Ohio	Student	D. H. Battenfield.
Battenfield, Sarah A.	51	Delaware, Ohio	Housewife	D. H. Battenfield.
Bell, Miss Pet Miria	65	3000 Michigan Ave., City	None	J. J. Keating.
Bentel, William	33	Englewood Av., nr. Halsted Lumber		R. Heinrich.
Berg, Miss Hilma M.	30	408 W. 111th St., City	Housewife	Frank Berg.
Berg, Olga	13	408 W. 111th St., City	Student	Frank Berg.
Berg, Victor	11	408 W. 111th St., City	Student	Frank Berg.
Bergch, Annie	32	4926 Champlain Ave., City	Housewife	Arthur Bergch.
Bergch, Jr., Arthur Jas	11	4926 Champlain Ave., City	Student	Arthur Bergch.
Berry, Emma	19	Battle Creek, Mich.	None	Katy Smith.
Berry, Margaret	25	230 Lincoln Ave., City	Housewife	Katy Smith.
Berry, Otto	26	Battle Creek, Mich.	Farmer	Katy Smith.
Beyer, Grace	4	1040 Diversey Boul., City		Fred Melsner.
Beyer, Minnie	30	1040 Diversey Boul., City	Housewife	Fred Melsner.
Beyer, Otto	38	Diversey Boul., City		W. J. Kluehe.
Bezenak, Joseph	33	West Superior, Wis.	Superint'd	Geo. Mackay.
Bezenak, Mrs. Nellie	40	West Superior, Wis.	Housewife	Geo. Mackay.
Bickford, Glen	17	Rogers Park, Ill.	Student	W. Whitaker.
Bickford, Helen	16	Rogers Park, Ill.	Student	E. R. Neely.
Biegler, Susan M.	27	6518 Minewa Ave., City	Teacher	Philip Biegler.
Bird, Miss Marian	64	Eola, Ill.	None	R. H. Ostrander.
Bissinger, Walter	15	4654 Forrestville Ave., City	Student	Eli B. Felsenthal.
Blackman, Ethel	13	Glenview, Ill.	Student	W. J. Smeal.
Bliss, Harold S.	23	Racine, Wis.	Dent. Student	W. H. Goldmond.
Bloom, Mrs. Rose	30	4226 Vincennes Ave., City	Housewife	H. E. Goldberger.
Boettcher, Mrs. N. H.	32	4140 Indiana Ave., City	Housewife	C. F. Boettcher.
Bogg, Mary L.	18	6838 Wentworth Ave., City	Student	C. F. Atkinson.
Boice, Bessie S.	16	5721 Rosalie Ct., City	None	John C. Boice.
Boice, William H.	51	5721 Rosalie Ct., City	Salesman	John C. Boice.
Boice, Mrs. W. H.	49	5721 Rosalie Ct., City	Housewife	John C. Boice.

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE CHICAGO HORROR.

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Name.	Age.	Residence.	Occupation.	Identified by.
Bolte, Lenda W.....	14.....	Lakeside, Ill.....	Student.....	Jno. H. Willard.
Bond, Luellie.....	10.....	Hart, Mich.....	Student.....	Geo. Mackay.
Botsford, Mabel A.....	21.....	Racine, Wis.....	.....	O. F. Botsford.
Bowman, Beatrice M.....	31.....	20 Chalmer Pl., City.....	None.....	B. F. Jenks.
Bowman, Josephine.....	50.....	20 Chalmer Pl., City.....	None.....	B. F. Jenks.
Bowman, Lucien.....	9.....	20 Chalmer Pl., City.....	Student.....	B. F. Jenks.
Brennan, Jas. F. P.....	11.....	608 Fulton St. (W.), City.....	Student.....	P. G. Brennan.
Brennan, Margaret.....	40.....	608 W. Fulton St., City.....	Housewife.....	Geo. Scannell.
Brewster, Mary Julia.....	23.....	116 E. 31st St., City.....	.....	L. H. Brewster.
Bein, Herman.....	18.....	236 E. Division St., City.....	School Boy.....	Adolph Bein.
Brinsley, Emma I.....	29.....	300 Jackson Boul., City.....	Housewife.....	C. M. Owens.
Browne, Hazel Grace.....	14.....	823 Wilson Ave., City.....	8'd nt St. M'y. Convent, So. Bend, Ind.....	T. C. Newman.
Buehrmann, Margaret.....	12.....	46 E. 53d St., City.....	Student.....	E. K. Robinson.
Burk, Bertha.....	45.....	911 W. Monroe St., City.....	Dressmaker.....	Jno. Coughlin.
Burnside, Esther.....	59.....	437 E. 6th St., City.....	Housewife.....	C. W. Burnside.
Buschera, Louise A.....	12.....	1810 Wellington Ave., City.....	Student.....	O. W. Brecher.
Butler, Bennett F.....	14.....	649 Michigan Av, Evanston.....	Student.....	C. F. Forbes.
Butler, Mrs. L. E.....	51.....	649 Michigan Av, Evanston.....	Housewife.....	C. F. Forbes.
Byrne, Consilia.....	16.....	616 W. 15th St., City.....	Student.....	Mary Byrne.
Byrne, Mary.....	34.....	879 Kedzie Ave., City.....	None.....	Kath'rine Byrne.
Caldwell, Robt. Porter.....	15.....	498 Morgan St., St. Louis.....	Student.....	W. B. Harrison.
Cantwell, Ella M.....	46.....	733 W. Adams St., City.....	Housewife.....	T. A. Cantwell.
Caville, Arthur.....	24.....	5126th St., New York.....	Actor.....	Louis B. Foley.
Chaplin, Agnes H.....	25.....	4458 Berkely Ave., City.....	Teacher.....	W. S. Chaplin.
Chapman, Bessie.....	19.....	Cedar Rapids, Iowa.....	Student.....	H. C. Richardson.
Chapman, Nina.....	23.....	Cedar Rapids, Iowa.....	Stenogr'pher.....	H. C. Richardson.
Christian, Henrietta.....	18.....	445 W. 65th St., City.....	None.....	W. A. Douglass.
Christopher, Miss Bell.....	55.....	Decorah, Iowa.....	Nurse.....	Mrs. C. Lott.
Christopherson, Mrs. M.....	35.....	231 N. Harvey Ave, Oak Pk.....	Housewife.....	R. H. Beuckman.
Clarke, Edward D.....	50.....	5422 Lexington Ave., City.....	Insurance.....	Geo. A. Maclean.
Clay, Susan I.....	47.....	6409 Monroe Ave., City.....	.....	Idella Furman.
Clayton, John Vinton.....	13.....	535 Morse Ave., City.....	Student.....	F. W. Clayton.
Clingen, Bessie E.....	14.....	291 So. Ashland Ave., City.....	School girl.....	Wm. C. Clingen.
Cogans, Mrs. Margaret.....	26.....	5004 Normal Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Thos. Grace.
Cohen, Mary.....	52.....	222 Ogden Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Herman Cohen.
Cooke, Sadie.....	23.....	943 W. Superior St., City.....	Nurse.....	Geo. E. Cooke.
Cooper, Chas. F.....	33.....	Kenosha, Wis.....	S'p'r nt'nd't.....	G. H. Curtis.
Cooper, Helene.....	23.....	Lena, Ill.....	Court Clerk.....	R. M. White.
Cooper, Willis W.....	60.....	Kenosha, Wis.....	Gen. Man'ger.....	Thos. Hansen.
Corbin, Louise.....	37.....	6938 Wentworth Ave, City.....	Housewife.....	C. B. Hineckey.
Corbin, Norman W.....	9.....	6938 Wentworth Ave., City.....	Student.....	V. V. Corbin.
Corbin, Vernon W.....	10.....	6938 Wentworth Ave., City.....	Student.....	C. B. Hineckey.
Corcoran, Flossie.....	22.....	218 Dearborn Ave., City.....	St'd nt Music.....	J. E. Harris.
Coutts, Robt. H.....	38.....	1616 Wabash Ave., City.....	C'gr Business.....	W. J. Coutts.
Crocker, Millie J.....	48.....	3730 Lake Ave., City.....	Teacher.....	Geo. E. Cook.
Cummings, Miss Irene.....	18.....	5135 Madison Ave., City.....	Student.....	R. F. Cummings.
Danner, H.....	53.....	Burlington, Iowa.....	Rt'd Druggist.....	Geo. Taylor.
Danson, Teresa Mae.....	25.....	Pullman, Ill.....	Housewife.....	Jas. P. Danson.
Davy, Mrs. Elizabeth.....	53.....	34 Roslyn Pl., City.....	Housewife.....	Marg. Peterson.
Davy, Helen Louise.....	16.....	34 Roslyn Pl., City.....	Student.....	T. W. Taylor.
Dawson, Grace.....	5.....	334 N. Harding Ave., City.....	.....	Wm. T. Daws.
Dawson, Mary Jane.....	50.....	Barrington, Ill.....	Housewife.....	Wm. T. Daws.

410 LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE CHICAGO HORROR.

Name.	Age.	Residence.	Occupation.	Identified by.
Day, Sarah (Colored).....	55..	Delaware, Ohio.....	Dom'tic Ohio.....	J. F. Dodd.
Decker, Kate K.....	58..	3237 Groveland Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Carl D. Kinsey.
Decker, Mamie K.....	83..	3237 Groveland Ave., City.....	Housekeep'r.....	Richard C. Knox.
Decker, Myron A.....	65..	3237 Groveland Ave., City.....	Lawyer.....	Carl D. Kinsey.
Dee, Edward.....	7..	3133 Wabash Ave., City.....	Student.....	John Gee.
Delee, Viola.....	23..	7822 Union Ave., City.....	None.....	M. J. Deelee.
De Vine, Clara.....	30..	230 La Salle Ave., City.....	None.....	A. J. Reese.
Devine, Margaret.....	22..	35 Kemball St., City.....	At'd Theatre.....	N. Christopher.
Dee, Margaret I.....	2..	3133 Wabash Ave., City.....	None.....	Wm. Dee.
Dickhut, Minnie M.....	28..	Quincy, Ill.....	Milliner.....	Ed. Cooney.
Dickie, Edith.....	619	65th Place, City.....	Teacher.....	J. H. Brayton.
Diffenderfer, Leander J.....	16..	Lincoln, Ill.....	Student.....	Grace Strong.
Dingfelder, Wulfrid E.....	18..	Jonesville, Michigan.....	Student.....	F. Dingfelder.
Dixon, Edna H.....	9..	100 Flournoy St., City.....	Student.....	A. Z. Dixon.
Dixon, Anna H.....	43..	100 Flournoy St., City.....	Housewife.....	A. Z. Dixon.
Dixon, Leah.....	16..	100 Flournoy St., City.....	Student.....	A. Z. Dixon.
Dodd, Mrs. J. F.....	46..	Delaware, Ohio.....	Housewife.....	J. F. Dodd.
Dodd, Ruth.....	18..	Delaware, Ohio.....	Student.....	J. F. Dodd.
Doerr, Lillian.....	16..	4024 Champlain Ave., City.....	Student.....	Wm. P. Doerr.
Domann, Emma.....	21..	559 LaSalle Ave., City.....	Domestic.....	C. F. Domann.
Donaldson, Clara E.....	42..	4535 Indiana Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	F. L. Donaldson.
Donohue, Mary E.....	18..	1040 W. Taylor St.....	Student.....	Thos. Donohue.
Dotts, Margaret S.....	32..	188 N. Elizabeth St., City.....	Housewife.....	W. A. Dott.
Dow, Florence.....	17..	642 W. 60th St., City.....	Student.....	F. H. Dow.
Dowst, Jennie W.....	44..	927 Hinman Ave., Evanston.....	Housewife.....	B. C. Blowney.
Dreisel, Mrs. Clara.....	30..	N. Robey & Potomac Ave.....	Teacher.....	Max Wolff.
Dreisel, Herman O.....	39..	607 N. Robey St., City.....	Teacher.....	Max Wolff.
Driden, Birdie T.....	23..	5809 Washington Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	John Dryden.
Dryden, Taylor.....	12..	5809 Washington Ave., City.....	Student.....	John Dryden.
Duboye, Mrs. Arthur.....	25..	383 1/2 Oregon Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	A. J. M. Nalls.
Duval, Mrs. Elizabeth.....	45..	408 Fullerton Ave., City.....	None.....	Dr. H. J. Combs.
Duval, Sarah.....	9..	Zanesville, Ohio.....	Student.....	J. W. Pinkertou.
Dyrenforth, Helou.....	9..	Evanston, Ill.....	Student.....	A. Dyrenforth.
Dyrenforth, Ruth.....	14..	Evanston, Ill.....	Student.....	A. Dyrenforth.
Dawson, Nellie.....	26..	Barrington, Ill.....	Teacher.....	Wm. Dawson.
Eisenrath, Natalie.....	8..	10 Crilly Ct., City.....	Student.....	Jos. A. Berger.
Ebbert, John H.....	48..	5516 Marshfield Ave., City.....	Shoemaker.....	Harry J. Ebbert.
Ebbert, Mrs. J. H.....	48..	5516 Marshfield Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Harry J. Ebbert.
Eberstein, Elizabeth.....	43..	81 E. 28th St., City.....	Housewife.....	Jennie Brown.
Eberstein, Frank B.....	19..	81 E. 28th St., City.....	Carr'ge Trmr.....	J. G. Eberstein.
Edwards, Caroline M.....	42..	Clinton, Iowa.....	Housewife.....	W. A. Edwards.
Edwards, Marjorie.....	14..	Clinton, Iowa.....	Student.....	W. A. Edwards.
Eger, Miss Sabine.....	27..	3760 Indiana Ave., City.....	Teacher.....	Emil Eger.
Eisenrath, Ettie.....	36..	10 Crilly Place, City.....	Housewife.....	J. L. Eisenrath.
Eisensteadt, Herbert S.....	16..	4549 Forrestville Ave., City.....	None.....	M. Eisensteadt.
Eldridge, Harry.....	17..	Mattoon, Ill.....	Student.....	H. Messer.
Eldridge, Monte.....	24..	6065 Jefferson Ave., City.....	Conductor.....	H. Messer.
Elkan, Rose.....	14..	3434 So. Park Ave., City.....	Student.....	Mark Elkan.
Ellis, Annie.....	45..	207 E. 62d St., City.....	Housewife.....	Bert L. Ellis.
Ellis, Lottie.....	28..	Grainville, Mich.....	Clerk.....	J. N. Ellis.
Engels, Miss Minnie.....	36..	73 Dawson Ave., City.....	None.....	M. H. Engels.
Engels, William.....	7..	73 Dawson Ave., City.....	Student.....	M. H. Engels.
Erland, Alma.....	24..	832 Judson Ave., Evanston.....	Servant.....	O. Anderson.
Ernst, Rosina.....	11..	332 24th Place, City.....	Student.....	Frieda E. Paul.
Espen, Emil.....	31..	190 Osgood St., City.....	Mer. Tailor.....	W. Lederer.

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE CHICAGO HORROR. 411

Name.	Age.	Residence.	Occupation.	Identified by.
Espen, Rosa.....	21	305 Osgood St., City.....	None.....	{ S. M. Eichberg. W. A. Mentzer.
Essig, Tyrone.....	17	239 W. 60th St., City.....	Student.....	J. P. Pringley.
Evans, Mattie.....	42	Quincy, Ill.....	Housewife.....	A. J. Reese.
Fahey, Mary.....	25	4800 Kimbark Ave., City.....	Waitress.....	T. H. Fahey.
Fair, Ella M.....	52	7564 Bond Ave., City.....	Teacher.....	Geo. A. Fair.
Fair, Maria A.....	55	7564 Bond Ave., City.....	Ex-teacher.....	Geo. A. Fair.
Falk, Gertrude.....	20	3839 Elmwood Ave., City.....	Housekeeper.....	J. P. Falk.
Falkenstein, Gertrude.....	30	7214 LaFayette Ave., City.....	Teacher.....	H. O. Deuss.
Fellman, Herman.....	37	3113 Vernon Ave., City.....	Contractor.....	Adolph Fellm'n
Fieser, Mattie A.....	38	793 N. Springfield Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Harry A. Fieser.
Finch, Jennie.....	32	Kirksville, Mo.....	Teacher.....	R. A. Loucks.
Fitzgibbon, Auna G.....	17	2854 Michigan Ave., City.....	Student.....	G. J. McCamb'ge.
Fitzgibbon, John.....	18	2854 Michigan Ave., City.....	Student.....	G. J. McCamb'ge.
Fitzpatrick, Miss G.....	27	525 W. Monroe St., City.....	Domestic.....	Geo. E. Shipman
Flannagan, Thomas J.....	24	54th and State Sts., City.....	Machinist.....	Lottie Flannagan
Foltz, Helen.....	14	1886 Diversey St., City.....	Student.....	John T. Reedy.
Folice, Nellie.....	22	331 Claremont Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Frank Folice.
Folke, Ada E.....	21	Berwyn, Ill.....	Tel. Op'r.....	Chas. D. Folke.
Foltz, Alice.....	16	1886 Diversey St., City.....	Student.....	John T. Reedy.
Foltz, Mrs. Mary.....	41	1886 Diversey St., City.....	Housewife.....	John T. Reedy.
Forbes, Mary J.....	25	214 Oakwood Boul., City.....	Domestic.....	Rita Forbes.
Foltz, Mrs. Fannie T.....	38	923 Hinman Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Walter P. Marsh
Fort, Phoebe Irene.....	45	146 39th St., City.....	Principal.....	J. E. Swartz.
Fowler, Elva.....	17	3450 W. 63d Pl., City.....	Student.....	Henry J. Smith.
Fox, Mrs. F. Morton.....	36	Winnetka, Ill.....	Housewife.....	Graeme Stewart
Fox, William Hoyt.....	13	Winnetka, Ill.....	Student.....	Graeme Stewart
Fox, Emelie.....	9	Winnetka, Ill.....	Student.....	Graeme Stewart
Fox, Geo. S.....	16	Winnetka, Ill.....	Student.....	Graeme Stewart
Frady, Leon.....	10	4556 Forrestville Ave., City.....	Student.....	J. U. Sprindler.
Frady, Lillian M.....	29	4556 Forrestville Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	J. U. Sprindler.
Fraudsen, Elna.....	24	Winnetka, Ill.....	Servant.....	Geo. Rasmussen
Frazier, M. D. Holbrook.....	35	Aurora, Ill.....	Housewife.....	C. H. Holbrook.
Freckleton, Edith.....	23	5682 Peoria St., City.....	None.....	Geo. E. Florey.
Freckleton, Ella.....	17	5682 Peoria St., City.....	Student.....	Geo. E. Florey.
Froer, Jennie E. Christy.....	53	Galesburg, Ill.....	Housewife.....	F. A. Freer.
Friedrichs, Helen.....	35	341 Cent'r St., City.....	Housewife.....	Mich. Friedrichs
Gahan, Josephine.....	17	Wentw'th & Garfield B'City.....	Student.....	James Clark.
Garn, Jr., Frank.....	11	831 W. Monroe St., City.....	Student.....	F. H. Wolff.
Garn, Mrs. Lucy.....	81	W. Monroe St., City.....	Housewife.....	F. H. Wolff.
Garn, William.....	9	831 W. Monroe St., City.....	Student.....	F. H. Wolff.
Gartz, Barbara Jane.....	4	4800 Kimbark Ave., City.....	Student.....	R. T. Crane, Jr.
Gartz, Mary Dorothea.....	12	4800 Kimbark Ave., City.....	Student.....	R. T. Crane, Jr.
Geary, Pauline.....	25	4627 Indiana Ave., City.....	Teacher.....	W. V. Geary.
Greenwald, Leroy W.....	10	533 E. Bryon St., City.....	Student.....	F. R. Greenwald
Geik, Emily.....	38	731 Fullerton Ave., City.....	Dressmaker.....	L. C. Geik.
Gerow, Mabel Redruth.....	34	Winnetka, Ill.....	Companion.....	R. L. Greeley.
Gibbs, Mary W.....	48	4932 Calumet Ave., City.....	Boar'h'seK'r.....	Geo. A. Webber.
Goerk, Dora.....	20	1030 Byron St., City.....	Dressmaker.....	Henry G. Goerk.
Goolsby, Vera.....	16	10 Oakland Crescent, City.....	Student.....	H. A. Badger.
Goss, Methilda.....	35	243 Grace St., City.....	Housewife.....	Jos. J. Goss.
Gould, Benjamin E.....	32	Elgin, Ill.....	Court Clerk.....	F. L. Gould.
Gould, Pearl.....	28	Elgin, Ill.....	Housewife.....	F. L. Gould.
Graves, Clara C.....	26	723 W. Chicago Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	A. Gendelwiter.

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Name.	Age.	Residence.	Occupation.	Identified by.
Graff, Margaret.....	62...	Bloomington, Ill.....	Housewife.....	R. Graff.
Greenwald, Lula M.....	32...533	Byron St., City.....	Housewife.....	F. R. Greenwald.
Gudehus, Sophia.....	6...327	N. Ashland Ave., City.....	Student.....	H. F. Gudehus.
Guerrieri, Jennie.....	12...135	N. Sangamon St., City.....	Student.....	Mich. Guerrieri.
Gustafson, Alma.....	10...333	Ave. N, So. Chicago.....	Teacher.....	Oscar Wolff.
Guthardt, Adelaide.....	41...150	113th St., City.....	Housewife.....	John Guthardt.
Guthardt, Lidya.....	15...150	W. 113th St., City.....	Student.....	John Guthardt.
Hall, Emery*M.....	58...	Vermont Bldg., 53d & Cottage Grove Ave., City.....	Musician.....	Anson L. Bolte.
Harbaugh, Harriet.....	34...6653	Harvard Ave., City.....	Teacher.....	L. C. Stafford.
Harbaugh, Mary E.....	30...6653	Harvard Ave., City.....	Teacher.....	L. C. Stafford.
Hanson, Anna B.....	21...	Gibson City, Ill.....	Teacher.....	Nels. Hanson.
Hansen, Nancy.....	10...	Granville, Mich.....	Student.....	J. N. Ellis.
Hart, Elizabeth.....	22...803	Dempster St., Evanston.....	Bookkeeper.....	Charles S. Hart.
Hart, Nellie E.....	34...	Rock Island, Ill.....	Housewife.....	John English.
Hartman, John Steve.....	22...5705	S. Halsted St., City.....	Machinist.....	And. R. Hartman.
Hayes, Frank B.....	22...	Janesville, Wis.....	Merchant.....	Dennis Hayes.
Helms, Otto.....	37...77	Maple St., City.....	Musician.....	Walter Helm.
Hennessey, William.....	14...4411	Calumet Ave., City.....	Student.....	William Dollard.
Henning, Charles.....	6...5743	Prairie Ave., City.....	Student.....	E. Henning.
Henning, Edwin.....	11...5743	Prairie Ave., City.....	Student.....	E. Henning.
Henning, Emely J.....	41...5743	Prairie Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	M. A. Carpenter.
Henning, William.....	14...5743	Prairie Ave., City.....	Student.....	E. Henning.
Henry, Mary Aida Freer.....	26...1198	Wilton Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Guy A. Henry.
Hensley, Flora A.....	35...	Logansport, Ind.....	Housewife.....	Guy Hensley.
Hensley, Frances M.....	5...	Logansport, Ind.....	Student.....	Guy Hensley.
Hensley, Genevieve.....	10...	Logansport, Ind.....	Student.....	Guy Hensley.
Herger, Bertha.....	22...	Hammond, Ind.....	Domestic.....	Mrs. T. Wiedemann.
Hertch, Mary.....	18...7540	Lake Ave., City.....	Servant.....	Jan. Svebla.
Herron, Bessie L.....	20...	Hammond, Ind.....	None.....	J. C. Herron.
Hewins, Emery G.....	61...	Petersburg, Ind.....	None.....	W. S. Moore.
Hewins, Mrs. Sarah.....	60...	Petersburg, Ind.....	Housewife.....	W. S. Moore.
Hickman, Mrs. Charles.....	21...4743	Calumet Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	H. H. Steere, M. D.
Higginson, Janette B.....	26...	Winnetka, Ill.....	None.....	P. D. Sexton.
Higginson, Roger G.....	9...	Winnetka, Ill.....	Student.....	Paul D. Sexton.
Hippach, L. Archibald.....	12...2928	Kenmore Ave., City.....	Student.....	A. A. Nachtway.
Hippach, Robert A.....	14...2928	Kenmore Ave., City.....	Student.....	Wm. H. West.
Hire, Eva M.....	15...613	W. 61st Pl., City.....	Student.....	Chas. A. Mayo.
Henning, James.....	5...5743	Prairie Ave., City.....	Schoolboy.....	James Henning.
Hoffens, Adeline J. C.....	24...292	Haddon Ave., City.....	Teacher.....	Peter H. Hoffens.
Holland, John H.....	60...	Des Moines, Iowa.....	Merchant.....	W. F. Wilson.
Holm, Miss Hulda.....	24...176	Northwestern Av., City.....	None.....	Percy E. Douglas.
Holmes, Minnie.....	53...6743	Yale Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	John Holmes.
Holst, Allan B.....	12...2088	W. Van Buren St., City.....	Student.....	Wm. M. Holst.
Holst, Amy.....	7...2088	W. Van Buren St., City.....	Student.....	Wm. M. Holst.
Holst, Gertrude M.....	10...2088	W. Van Buren St., City.....	Student.....	Wm. M. Holst.
Holst, Mary W.....	36...2088	W. Van Buren St., City.....	Housewife.....	Wm. M. Holst.
Hoyland, Leigh.....	13...31	Humboldt Boul., City.....	Student.....	J. P. Hoyland.
Howard, Helen.....	17...6565	Yale Ave., City.....	Student.....	Fred R. Mitchell.
Howard, Mary E.....	54...3812	Prairie Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Frank Howard.
Hrody, Anna.....	33...1353	S. 40th Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Jos. F. Hallk.
Hull, Dwlght.....	7...244	Oakwood Boul., City.....	Student.....	E. S. Gregory.
Hull, Donald.....	9...244	Oakwood Boul., City.....	Student.....	J. H. MacDonald.
Hull, Helen.....	10...244	Oakwood Boul., City.....	Student.....	J. H. MacDonald.
Hull, Mrs. Marianne K.....	32...244	Oakwood Boul., City.....	Housewife.....	E. S. Gregory.

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE CHICAGO HORROR. 413

Name.	Age.	Residence.	Occupation.	Identified by.
Hutchins, Florence	22	Waukegan, Ill.	Teacher	E. L. Hutchins.
Harbaugh, Harriet E.	31	Savannah, Ill.	Teacher	L. C. Stafford.
Irie, Mabel Wiley	31	1240 Lawrence Ave., City	Housewife	Asher Rossetter
Jacobson, Pauline	28	432 Superior St., City	Housewife	Alfred Jacobson
Jackson, Viva R.	18	216N. Humboldt Boul., City	Student	Jas. C. Jackson.
James, Charles D.	41	Davenport, Iowa		Chas. B. James.
Jones, Mrs. Annie C.	36	46 E. 53d St., City	Housewife	Warner E. Jones
Kaufman, Alice	5	Hammond, Ind.		Carl Kaufman.
Kennedy, Agnes R.	28	628 Ross Ave., City	Teacher	John J. Foley.
Kennedy, Francis E.	31	628 Ross Ave., City	Teacher	John J. Foley.
Kennedy, Katie H.	38	Freeport, Ill.	Housewife	A. C. Kennedy.
Kennedy, Margaret B.	21	Austin, Ill.	Housewife	D. E. Kennedy.
Kercher, Mrs. Francis	22	439 E. 38th St., City	Housewife	Schoondermark.
Kidwell, Ollie	45	Martinsburg, Ohio	Dressmaker	J. F. Dodd.
Kiely, Harry M.	26	St. Louis, Mo.	Teacher	Jos. Kiely.
Knapp, Rena, E.	19	Harvard, Ill.		Robert Knapp.
Kochems, Augusta.	38	292 Warren Ave., City	Housewife	Mark O. Jucknies
Kochems, Jacob A.	17	292 Warren Ave., City		F. C. Kochems.
Koehler, Mamie	15	Washington Heights, Ill.	Student	Albert Polzin.
Koill, Nora Z.	49	496 Ashland Boul., City	Housewife	Charles Koil.
Kranz, Sarah Ann	47	Racine, Wis.	Housewife	Herbert E. Jillson
Kuebler, Lola B.	16	724 E. 50th St., City	Student	Geo. J. Kuebler.
Kulas, Georgina	27	349 Chestnut St., City	Housewife	C. J. Renshaw.
Kwasniewski, John	25	122 Cleaver St., City		A. Kwasniewski.
Lake, Mrs. Alfred	60	278 Belden Ave., City	Housewife	Geo. B. Canfield.
Lange, Agnes	14	1632 Barry Ave., City	Student	Louis Lange.
Lange, Herbert H. J.	16	1632 Barry Ave., City	Draftsman	Louis Lange.
La Rose, Josephine	1	833 N. Clark St., City	Student	J. N. La Rose.
La Rose, Laura	12	833 N. Clark St., City	Student	W. A. Chipin.
La Rose, Matilda	10	833 N. Clark St., City	Student	J. N. La Rose.
Lawrence, Miss Ella W.	23	922 S. Sawyer Ave., City	Teacher	{ A. F. Schroeder. Henry Tibbits.
Leach, Francis A.	51	5747 Drexel Ave., City	Seamstress	Leander Maddox
Leaton, Fred W.	24	City	Student	W. Hamburger.
Leavenworth, Mrs. C. F.	45	Decatur, Ill.	Housewife	L. Leavenworth.
Lefmann, Mrs. Susie	38	Laporte, Ind.	Housewife	F. M. Burdick.
Lehman, Frances M.	24	525 N. Austin Ave., City	Teacher	Milo B. Lehman.
Lemenager, Jessie	38	23 Waveland Ct., City		{ Elma Graves. E. G. Pound.
Lemenager, Dorothy M.	13	23 Waveland Ct., City	Student	H. V. Lemenager.
Lemenager, Wallace	8	23 Waveland Ct., City		Elma Graves.
Levenson, Rosie	28	298 Ogden Ave., City	Housewife	W. C. Levenson.
Linden, Eleanor E.	21	4625 Lake Ave., City	Student	F. W. Linden.
Livingston, Daisy E.	24	273 Oakwood Boul., City	Teacher	{ T. Livingstone. Dr. Livingstone
Long, Helen	14	Geneva, Ill.	Student	E. P. Luthardt.
Long, Katherine	9	Geneva, Ill.	Student	F. H. Blackman.
Long, Marion P.	12	Geneva, Ill.	Student	E. P. Luthardt.
Love, Marguerite M.	19	Woodstock, Ill.	Clerk	Chas. A. Ronning.
Lowitz, Mildred H.	22	Keokuk, Iowa	Housewife	Nathan S. Lowitz.
Ludwig, Eugene	18	113 Circle Av., Norw'd Pk. Ill.	Housekeeper	Sarah Julien.
Ludwig, Harry	50	Norwood Park, Ill.	Salesman	Sarah Julien.

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Name.	Age.	Residence.	Occupation.	Identified by.
Ludwig, Lina O.....	14...	Norwood Park, Ill.....	Student.....	Harry Heller.
Ludwig, Sadie.....	40...	Norwood Park, Ill.....	Housewife.....	Louis Wilzinski.
Lutiger, Eleanor.....	65...	756 Trumbull Ave., City.....	Housekeeper.....	Geo. Lutiger.
Mackay Roland S.....	6...	5029 Indiana Ave., City.....		Geo. Mackay.
Mahler, Edith L.....	8...	2141 Jackson Boul., City.....	Student.....	Robert Mahler.
Maloney, Mrs. Jas. D....	37...	6050 Washington Boul., City.....	Housewife.....	J. D. Maloney.
Mann, Miss Emma D....	—...	1388 Washington Boul., City.....	Teacher.....	Louis T. Mann.
Martin, Earl.....	7...	Oak Park, Ill.....	Student.....	F. B. Martin.
Martin, Harold C.....	14...	11 Market Circle, Pulm'n, Ill.....	Student.....	{ Daniel Martin. Calton Hewitt.
Martin, Robert B.....	12...	Pullman, Ill.....	Student.....	Dan' R. Martin.
McCaughan, Helen.....	17...	6365 Yale Ave., City.....	Student.....	Trumbull White.
McChristie, Miss Anna..	27...	6315 Lexington Ave., City.....		H. H. Steere, M. D.
McClellan, Joseph.....	30...	Harvard, Ill.....	Real Estate.....	J. B. Lyon, M. D.
McClure, Lawrence R....	13...	6820 Superior St., Austin.....	Student.....	Geo. V. McClure.
McGill, Elizabeth H....	12...	Pittsburg, Pa.....	Student.....	M. R. K. McGill.
McGungie, Mamie.....	35...	614 Sawyer Ave., City.....	Housekeeper.....	Belle L. Campbell
McKee, J. W.....	64...	Eola, Ill.....	Farmer.....	R. H. Ostrander.
McKenna, Bernard B....	3...	758 S. Kedzie Ave., City.....		J. L. McKenna.
McKenna, Amy J.....	27...	758 S. Kidzie Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	J. L. McKenna.
McLaughlin, Wm. L....	18...	Delaware, Ohio.....	Student.....	J. L. Gunsaulus.
McMillan, Mabel.....	23...	2824 N. Hermitage Ave.....	Housewife.....	Frank McMillan.
Martin, Robert D.....	12...	Pullman, Ill.....	Student.....	C. C. Hewitt.
Marx, May.....	19...	69 Humboldt Boul., City.....		Aug. Marx.
Matchate, Emma.....	49...	636 W. 60th St., City.....	Housekeeper.....	Jno. J. Akins.
Mead, Mrs. Chas.....	61...	278 Belden Ave., City.....		Clarence Mead.
Mead, Lucile.....	10...	Berwyn, Ill.....	Student.....	Clayton B. Mead.
Meagher, Maria.....	30...	656 Orchard St., City.....	Teacher.....	Jno. J. Holland.
Mendel, Augusta M.....	58...	5555 Washington Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Max L. Mendel.
Menzer, Mrs. Annie....	46...	202 24th Place, City.....	Housewife.....	{ Etta Menzer. Frieda E. Paul.
Meriam, Fanny G.....	60...	498 Fullerton Ave., City.....		W. C. Ziegler.
Meyer, Elsa H.....	10...	Grossdale, Ill.....	Student.....	Jacob B. Meyer.
Middleton, Kathleen....	12...	St. Louis, Mo.....	Student.....	Frank C. Reilly.
Miller, Helen.....	23...	390 W. Huron St., City.....	Housewife.....	Aug. Miller.
Miller, Willard.....	9...	4919 Vincennes Ave., City.....	Student.....	B. J. Crandall.
Mills, Isabella.....	21...	6283 Jefferson Ave., City.....	Student.....	Ward M. Mills.
Mills, Clara B.....	34...	623 Sedgwick St., City.....	Housewife.....	Wm. A. Mills.
Mills, Pearl M.....	32...	5613 Kimbark Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Ward Mills.
Mitchell, Dora.....	30...	Lockport, Ill.....	Teacher.....	{ Jas. McGovern. W. Fiddymont. A. Fiddymont. S. Templeton. H. Pease.
Moak, Anna.....	25...	Watertown, Wis.....	Stenograph'r.....	
Moak, Lena.....	31...	Watertown, Wis.....	Teacher.....	C. D. Richards.
Moloney, Alicia M.....	11...	307 Benton St., Ottawa, Ill.....	Student.....	J. F. Moloney.
Moore, Benjamin.....	74...	119 W. 59th St., City.....	Machinist.....	Geo. Mackay.
Moore, Mrs. Kitty.....	50...	119 W. 59th St., City.....	Confection'y.....	Geo. Mackay.
Moore, Mate.....	35...	Hart, Mich.....	Housewife.....	Geo. Mackay.
Moore, Matilda C. H....	58...	125 S. Kedzie Ave., City.....	Widow.....	W. S. Chapin.
Moore, Sybil.....	14...	Hart, Mich.....	Student.....	Geo. Mackay.
Mossler, Pauline.....	13...	Rensselaer, Ind.....	Student.....	Moses Leopold.
Mueller, Ella.....	23...	539 5th Ave., Milwaukee.....	Fur Factory.....	Kate Doelling.
Mueller, Mrs. Emelia....	60...	Milwaukee, Wis.....	Seamstress.....	{ Mrs. H. Groth. Mrs. E. Groth.

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE CHICAGO HORROR. 415

Name.	Age.	Residence.	Occupation.	Identified by.
Muir, Mrs. Eugenia.....	33..	301 Winthrop Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	W. S. Moore.
Muir, Jr., S. A.....	34..	301 Winthrop Ave., City.....	Tr. Salesman.....	W. S. Moore.
Mulbolland, Josephine.....	33..	Cedar Rapids, Iowa.....	Teacher.....	Clark Griffith.
Murphy, Dewitt James.....	13..	1340 Sheffield Ave., City.....	Student.....	J. D. Murphy.
Murray, Charles.....	65..	Martinsburg, Ohio.....	Farmer.....	J. F. Dodd.
Muir, Margery Estelle.....	30..	301 Winthrop Ave., City.....	Stenograph.....	R. C. H. Clark.
Neumann, Mary.....	29..	1443 S. 42d Ave., City.....	Housekeeper.....	Jos. F. Hallik.
Neumann, Anna P.....	34..	West Grossdale, Ill.....	Housewife.....	A. J. Neumann.
Newby, Anna Belle.....	23..	3856 Drexel Boul., City.....	Housewife.....	L. G. Newby.
Norris, Libbie A.....	50..	5124 Dearborn St., City.....	Housewife.....	H. T. Norris.
Norris, Mabel A.....	17..	5124 Dearborn St., City.....	.....	H. T. Norris.
Norton, Edith.....	12..	Ontonagan, Mich.....	Student.....	J. H. Burke, Jr.
Norton, Mattie.....	18..	Ontonagan, Mich.....	Student.....	Sist'r M Boniface.
Nelms, Blanche May.....	28..	5145 Prairie Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	P. E. Cornell.
Oakey, Lucile.....	13..	515 W. 65th St., City.....	Student.....	D. L. Phillips.
Oakey, Marianne.....	11..	515 W. 65th St., City.....	Student.....	D. L. Phillips.
Oakey, Alfred J.....	40..	515 W. 65th St., City.....	Dentist.....	D. L. Phillips.
O'Donnell, Louise M.....	41..	4629 Woodlawn Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	J. J. O'Donnell.
Olsen, Floy Irene.....	32..	835 Walnut St., City.....	Housewife.....	Oscar M. Olsen.
Olsen, Augusta.....	29..	218 79th Pl., City.....	Nurse.....	Alfred Olson.
Olson, Elvira.....	18..	7010 Stewart Ave., City.....	None.....	E. W. Olson.
Owen, Dr. Chas. S.....	45..	Wheaton, Ill.....	Physician.....	Geo. E. Haley.
Owen, Mary.....	46..	Wheaton, Ill.....	Housewife.....	N. E. Matter.
Owen, William.....	8..	Wheaton, Ill.....	Student.....	N. E. Matter.
Owens, Amy.....	33..	6241 Kimbark Ave., City.....	Teacher.....	Roy Owens.
Owens, Frances E.....	60..	6241 Kimbark Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Roy Owens.
Oxnam, Florence.....	17..	435 Englewood Ave., City.....	Student.....	Arthur J. Lee.
Page, Bertha.....	45..	6562 Stewart Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	E. D. Alexander.
Page, Harold.....	12..	6562 Stewart Ave., City.....	Student.....	E. D. Alexander.
Palmer, Howard M.....	9..	1141 Judson Av., Evanston.....	Student.....	Wm. L. Matze.
Palmer, Mrs. Katie.....	38..	1141 Judson Av., Evanston.....	Housewife.....	F. P. Matze.
Palmer, Richard G.....	14..	1141 Judson Av., Evanston.....	Student.....	F. P. Matze.
Palmer, William.....	42..	1141 Judson Av., Evanston.....	Salesman.....	F. P. Matze.
Parrish, Rosamond.....	19..	4717 Kimbark Ave., City.....	Student.....	Chas. P. Parrish.
Patterson, Crawford J.....	12..	4467 Oakenwald Ave., City.....	Student.....	J. C. Patterson.
Patterson, W. Addison.....	10..	4467 Oakenwald Ave., City.....	Student.....	J. C. Patterson.
Paulman, William.....	22..	3738 State St., City.....	Pat'n Maker.....	F. Paulman, Jr.
Payne, Mrs. K. F.....	85..	357 Garfield Boul., City.....	Housewife.....	Jas. H. Payne.
Payson, R. Gertrude.....	15..	Oak Park, Ill.....	Student.....	Edward Payson.
Pease, Mrs. A. W. L.....	53..	Detroit, Mich.....	Widow.....	Percival S. Pease.
Pease, Elizabeth B.....	6..	552 E. 49th St., City.....	Student.....	Percival S. Pease.
Pease, Grace E.....	31..	552 E. 49th St., City.....	Housewife.....	Percival S. Pease.
Peck, Ethel M.....	16..	2642 N. Hermitage Av., City.....	Student.....	J. D. Steele, M. D. E. G. Curtis.
Peck, Willis.....	13..	2642 N. Hermitage Av., City.....	Student.....	D. A. Steele, M. D.
Pelton, Mrs. Lillian.....	39..	Des Moines, Iowa.....	.....	W. F. Wilson.
Persinger, Harriet.....	40..	40 Florence Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	H. R. Persinger.
Persinger, Hewitt.....	10..	50 Florence Ave., City.....	Student.....	J. W. Harrison.
Peterson, Miss T. C.....	32..	Fargo, Minn.....	Principal.....	J. D. Maloney.
Pierce, Gretchen.....	10..	Plainwell, Mich.....	Student.....	L. H. Pierce, M. D.
Pierce, Mrs. L. H. D.....	42..	Plainwell, Mich.....	Housewife.....	L. H. Pierce, M. D.
Pilat, Josephine.....	13..	34 Humboldt Boul., City.....	Student.....	Ignac Pilat.
Pinney, Mrs. Belle.....	27..	338 S. Leavitt St. City.....	Housewife.....	Harry B. Pinney.

416 LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE CHICAGO HORROR.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Occupation.</i>	<i>Identified by.</i>
Polzin, Etta.....	17	Knox, Ind.....		Albert Polzin.
Pond, Mrs. Eva.....	45	1272 Lyman Av, R'y'ns'd, Ill.	Housewife.....	R. W. Rowen.
Pond, Helen.....	7	1272 Lyman Av, R'y'ns'd, Ill.	Student.....	R. W. Rowen.
Pond, Raymond.....	14	1272 Lyman Av, R'y'ns'd, Ill.	Student.....	Robt. W. Rowen.
Pottlitzer, Jack.....	11	LaFayette, Ind.....	Student.....	Elis. Felsenthal.
Power, Lilly.....	17	442 W. 70th St., City.....		C. F. Atkinson.
Pridmore, Edith S.....	32	58th St. & Kimball Av, City.....	None.....	J. E. Pridmore.
Quetsch, Jeannette M.....	34	2506 N. Ashland Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Wm. J. Guetsch.
Radcliffe, Annie.....	43	4604 Calumet Ave., City.....	Teacher.....	Jas. H. Radcliffe.
Rankin, Louise.....	11	Zanesville, Ohio.....	Student.....	J. Pinkerton, Jr.
Rankin, Martha A.....	36	So. Zanesville, Ohio.....	Housewife.....	J. Pinkerton, Jr.
Ratley, William A.....	24	917 N. Artesian Ave., City.....	Machinist.....	Chas. J. Ratley.
Reed, Nellie.....	24	66 Rush St., City.....	Actress.....	Herman Schultz.
Reed, Wm. M.....	68	Waukegan, Ill.....	Assessor.....	Geo. Larsen.
Regensburg, Adele.....	17	Vendome Hotel, City.....	None.....	J. H. Regensburg.
Regensburg, Hazel.....	14	Vendome Hotel, City.....	Student.....	J. H. Regensburg.
Reid, Clara E.....	59	Waukegan, Ill.....	Housewife.....	T. E. Loveday.
Reidy, Anna.....	27	614 S. Sawyer Ave., City.....	Teacher.....	Jno. J. Reidy.
Reidy, Elonora.....	20	614 S. Sawyer Ave., City.....	Helper.....	Geo. W. Lyon.
Reidy, Mary.....	32	614 S. Sawyer Ave., City.....	Housework.....	Jno. J. Reidy.
Reinhold, Leroy.....	4	339 Northwestern Ave.....		Chas. Reinhold.
Reiss, Erna.....	10	424 Vincennes Ave., City.....	Student.....	Sam. Spielberger.
Reiss, Ernest.....	11	424 Vincennes Ave., City.....	Student.....	Albert Eager.
Reiss, Mrs. Marion.....	35	424 Vincennes Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Otto Fautl.
Reiter, Mrs. Irene.....	60	3000 Michigan Ave., City.....	None.....	J. J. Keating.
Reynolds, Barbara L.....	28	1286 E. Ravenswood Park Ravenswood, Ill.....	Housewife.....	W. D. Reynolds.
Reynolds, Dora Lucille.....	14	421 E. 45th St., City.....	Student.....	J. J. Reynolds.
Reynolds, Emma J.....	7	1286 E. Ravenswood Ave., Ravenswood, Ill.....	Student.....	A. H. Reynolds.
Richardson, Henry L.....	49	5737 Drexel Ave., City.....	Student.....	W. D. Richardson.
Rimes, Bertha L.....	38	631 Wentworth Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	W. F. Rimes.
Rimes, Lloyd.....	5	631 Wentworth Ave., City.....	None.....	C. H. Rimes.
Rimes, Dr. Mervin.....	38	631 Wentworth Ave., City.....	Dentist.....	W. S. Pullen.
Rimes, Myron L.....	10	631 Wentworth Ave., City.....	Student.....	W. S. Pullen.
Rimes, T. Martin.....	7	631 Wentworth Ave., City.....	Student.....	W. S. Pullen.
Rife, Jennie E.....	31	516 E. 46th St., City.....	Housewife.....	W. Rife.
Robbins Ruth M.....	17	924 Jenifer St., Madison, Wis.....	Student.....	C. H. Robbins.
Roberts, Charles L.....	38	279 Drake Ave., City.....	Clergyman.....	
Roberts, Theodore.....	44	Woodford, Ohio.....	Farmer.....	C. B. Mead.
Robinson, Minnie.....	15	Edgewater, Ill.....	Attendant.....	W. C. Robinson.
Rothe, Lillian.....	10	7218 LaFayette Ave., City.....	Student.....	Edmund Duse.
Rogers, Rose K.....	32	1342 N. Sawyer Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	S. B. Rogers.
Rubly, Mrs. Louisa.....	65	838 Wilson Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	G. H. Rubly.
Ruhleman, Clara.....	63	Detroit, Mich.....	Housekeeper.....	Arthur Anger.
Saville, Warner.....	12	48 E. 53d St., City.....	Student.....	R. C. Campbell.
Sands, Mrs. Amelia T.....	50	Toledo, Ill.....	Housewife.....	R. E. Sands.
Sands, Jessie.....	12	Toledo, Ill.....	Student.....	J. P. Danson.
Sayre, Miss Carrie A.....	30	7646 Bond Ave., City.....	Teacher.....	J. M. Murphy.
Schaffner, Minnie H.....	34	578 E. 45th Place, City.....	Teacher.....	M. J. Schaffner.
Scott, Burr.....	22	Binghampton, N. Y.....	Actor.....	G. B. Williams.
Skarupa, Nellie.....	26	Longwood, Bronx, N. Y.....	Seamstress.....	Henry Eds.
Schmidt, Rosamond.....	18	335 W. 61st St., City.....	Student.....	H. G. Schmidt.

LIST OF VICTIMS OF THE CHICAGO HORROR.

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Name.	Age.	Residence.	Occupation.	Identified by.
Schneider, James.....	30..	157 Roscoe Boul., City.....	Teacher.....	E. A. Schaefer.
Schneider, Dora J.....	22..	157 Roscoe St., City.....	Housewife.....	L. Schaefer.
Schonbeck, Anna.....	35..	402 E. Division St., City.....	Housewife.....	Carl Schonbeck.
Schonbeck, Elvira.....	8..	402 E. Division St., City.....	.....	Carl Schonbeck.
Schneider, G. Greiner.....	21..	437 Beiden Ave., City.....	Student.....	L. A. Beaton.
Schreiner, Arline F.....	6..	2183 W. Monroe St., City.....	Student.....	E. A. Schreiner. H. B. Schreiner
Schreiner, Minnie L.....	30..	2183 W. Monroe St., City.....	None.....	H. B. Schreiner.
Schreiner, Irma May.....	5..	2183 W. Monroe St., City.....	.....	H. B. Schreiner.
Seerist, Hattie.....	40..	2839 Paulina St., Ravens'd, Ill.....	Housewife.....	C. D. Hussey.
Seerist, June.....	8..	2839 Paulina St., Ravens'd, Ill.....	Student.....	C. D. Hussey.
Seymour, Joseph.....	22..	758 W. Lake St., City.....	Usher.....	Gord. Seymour.
Shabad, Myrtle.....	14..	441 Indiana Ave., City.....	Student.....	H. M. Shabad.
Shabad, Theodore.....	12½..	404 Indiana Ave., City.....	School boy.....	H. M. Shabad.
Sheridan, Andrew J.....	45..	4155 Wentworth Ave., City.....	Loco. Engin'r.....	Frank Glock.
Shiners, Alice.....	25..	4544 Oakwald Ave., City.....	Domestic.....	Thos. Grace.
Hill, Lucie A.....	25..	6504 Union Ave., City.....	Teacher.....	A. S. Hall.
Simpson, Ada.....	.....	Brush, Colo.....	Housewife.....	Jan. G. Skinner.
Smith, Ruth M.....	15..	2177 Washington Boul., City.....	Student.....	Chas. E. Smith.
Smith, Mrs. F. E.....	35..	Desplaines, Ill.....	Housewife.....	F. E. Smith.
Smith, Maurine W.....	13..	Desplaines, Ill.....	Student.....	F. E. Smith.
Specht, Eva.....	12..	6542 Stewart Ave., City.....	Student.....	Clara L. Kinney.
Specht, Jane.....	35..	6542 Stewart Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Clara L. Kinney.
Spencer, Josephine.....	16..	7110 Princeton Ave., City.....	Student.....	Geo. G. Spencer.
Spring, Ellen E.....	65..	420 Foster Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	S. N. Spring.
Spring, Edwina C.....	35..	420 Foster Ave., City.....	.....	S. N. Spring.
Spring, Florence Inez.....	27..	657 Pine Grove Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	Robt. T. Gilmore.
Spring, Sr., W. N.....	76..	420 Foster Ave., City.....	Retired B. M. S.....	S. N. Spring.
Spindler, Etta B.....	33..	Lowell, Ind.....	Housewife.....	J. H. Spindler.
Spindler, H. Burette.....	9..	Lowell, Ind.....	Student.....	J. U. Spindler.
Stafford, Besse M.....	30..	1293 Wilcox Ave., City.....	Housewife.....	F. H. Stafford.
Stark, M. N. M.....	38..	Des Moines, Iowa.....	Housewife.....	W. H. Ull.
Stark Minnie G.....	57..	Des Moines, Iowa.....	Housewife.....	Lynn J. Tuttle.
Steinmetz, Emma.....	59..	2541 S. Halsted St., City.....	Housewife.....	O. T. P. Steinmetz
Stern, Martin.....	39..	1185 Congress St., City.....	Clerk.....	Adam Stern.
Stullman, Cora.....	22..	Palo Alto, Cal.....	.....	E. H. Mulligan.
Stoddard, Donald.....	11..	Minonk, Ill.....	Student.....	F. J. Smiter.
Stoddard, Zedell.....	30..	Minonk, Ill.....	.....	F. J. Smiter.
Stratman, Ruth.....	15..	Dodgeville, Ind.....	Student.....	Wm. Utting.
Strong, Elizabeth.....	56..	10 Oakland Crescent, City.....	Widow.....	H. A. Badger.
Strong, Florence May.....	24..	10 Oakland Crescent, City.....	Housewife.....	H. A. Badger.
Strawbridge, Mary A.....	51..	849 Jackson Boul., City.....	Widow.....	G. M. Hammond.
Studley, Geo. W.....	35..	3029 Parnell Ave., City.....	Minister.....	W. M. Morrison.
Sullivan, Ella.....	24..	Knoxville, Iowa.....	Teacher.....	S. M. Perrigo.
Squire, Olive E.....	14..	942 Cuyler Ave., City.....	Student.....	Oscar W. Squire.
Sutton, Harry B.....	17..	1505 W. Adams St., City.....	Student.....	P. A. Mallen.
Swartz, Marie Bertha.....	11..	Custer Park, Ill.....	Student.....	Mrs. A. A. Taylor.
Swayze, Eloise.....	16..	St. Mary's, Ind.....	Student.....	(Mrs. L. B. Benn't Geo. W. Rogers
Sylvester, Electa A.....	33..	City.....	Bookkeeper.....	E. L. Sylvester.
Taylor, Emma R.....	31..	1222 Morse Ave., Rogers Pk.....	Housewife.....	H. M. Taylor.
Taylor, Flora.....	16..	Evanston, Ill.....	Student.....	Wm. J. Taylor.
Taylor, James M.....	60..	1222 Morse Ave., Rogers Pk.....	Real Estate.....	Albert A. Taylor.
Taylor, Rene Mary.....	12..	1222 Morse Ave., Rogers Pk.....	Student.....	H. M. Taylor.
Thacher, Walter.....	38..	341 W. 60th Pl., City.....	Salesman.....	Francis Thacher.

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Name.	Age.	Residence.	Occupation.	Identified by.
Thomas, Remington H.	8	62 Woodland Park	Student	F. H. Thomas.
Thompson, Clarence J.	22	Kansas City, Mo.	Tr. Salesman	Vern. Thompson
Thompson, Clyde	21	Madison, S. Dak.	Student	J. P. Hoyland
Thompson, Robert S.	70	487 Forrester Ave., City		Vern. Thompson
Thoin, Clara	17	Lake Geneva, Ill.	Nurse	Maud Parcels.
Tobias, Florence	34	City	Teacher	Dr. G. J. Tobias.
Torney, Marie E.	27	1292 W. Adams St., City	Teacher	Austin E. Torney.
Trask, Mrs. H. Bates	60	228 Clay St., Ottawa, Ill.	Housewife	Julia E. Trask.
Trask, Odessa C.	14	228 Clay St., Ottawa, Ill.	Student	R. H. Trask
Turney, Miss Carrie	35	584 E. 50th St., City	Milliner	C. M. Bennett.
Turney, Mrs. Susan	55	584 E. 50th St., City	Widow	C. M. Bennett.
Tuttle, Edith	81	Des Moines, Iowa	Housewife	Lynn J. Tuttle.
Tuttle, Grace	40	18 Wisconsin St., City	Housewife	Robt. W. Rowen.
Vallely, Berenice	11	858 S. Sawyer Ave., City	Student	Jno. L. Vallely.
Vallely, Edith B.	85	858 S. Sawyer Ave., City	Housewife	Jno. L. Vallely.
Van Ingen, Edward	20	Kenosha, Wis.	Clerk	Thos. Hansen.
Van Ingen, Elizabeth	9	358 Park Av., Kenosha, Wis.	Student	Lulu Trenary.
Van Ingen, Grace	22	Kenosha, Wis.		L. E. Kaitenbach.
Van Ingen, John	18	Kenosha, Wis.	Student	Thos. Hansen.
Van Ingen, Margaret	14	Kenosha, Wis.	Student	L. E. Kaitenbach.
Wachs, Ella	41	La Porte, Ind.	Saleslady	F. C. Plentye.
Wagner, Maryanne	43	629 Sedgwick St., City	Housewife	Chas. S. Wagner.
Waldman, Sam	41	608 Milwaukee Ave., City	Dep. Cl. Clk.	Jno. H. Mackay { E. I. Williams
Washington, Frieda	23	1847 Melrose St., City	Housekeeper	Percy L. Barter.
Washington, John	10	1847 Melrose St., City	Student	Percy L. Barter.
Weber, Mrs. Carrie	49	402 Garfield Ave., City	Housewife	Jno. J. Weber.
Weck, Erick	28	504 Garfield Av., Milwaukee	Furrier	Kate Doelling.
Weiners, Ida	42	1970 Kimball Ave., City	Housewife	Geo. H. Ruby.
Weinfeld, Hannah	20	3745 Wabash Ave., City		Jos. Weinfeld.
Weiskopf, Irma	15	4639 Champlain Ave., City	Student	D. W. Weiskopf.
Wells, Donald	12	1888 Diversey Boul., City	Student	S. P. Wells, Jr.
Welton, Susie Alice	32	6241 Kimbark Ave., City	Teacher	F. D. Campbell.
Wermich, Mary	20	341 Center St., City	Servant	Anna Appel.
Wetmore, Francis E.	31	10619 Drew, Wash. Heights	Librarian	M. T. Wetmore.
White, Florence O.	25	437 E. 38th St., City	Teacher	Jno. F. Meehan.
White, Harriet A.	27	107th and Drew Sts., Wash- ington Heights, Ill.	Housewife	Carlos F. White.
Wilcox, Eva M.	47	109 S. Leavitt St., City	Housewife	Chas. H. Wilcox.
Witkofsky, Yetta	32	836 W. 12th St., City	Housewife	Morris Witkofsky
Williams, Howard J.	18	213 S. Leavitt St., City	Student	Geo. P. Blair.
Winder, Barry	12	201 S. Harvey, Oak Park, Ill.	Student	Thos. Winder.
Winder, Paul	17	201 S. Harvey, Oak Park, Ill.	Student	Thos. Winder.
Winslow, Chas. E.	48	Thief River Falls, Minn.	Asst. Mngr.	Edward Browne.
Wolf, Sadie	26	Hammond, Ind.		Leo Wolf.
Wolf, Harriot	10	1319 Washington Boul., City	Student	F. H. Wolff.
Woods, Mrs. I. L.	49	537 65th St., City	Housewife	S. S. Finley.
Wunderlich, Helen M.	10	834 Wilson Ave., City	Student	H. Wunderlich.
Wunderlich, L. Perle	36	834 Wilson Ave., City	Housewife	Dr. E. N. Elliott.
Wolmann, Otto	29	331 E. 43d St., City	Baker	Adolf Wolmann.
Wigfall, Emille C.	57	4467 Oakenwald Ave., City	Milliner	F. T. Seisner.
Zeisler, Walter B.	17	3256 Lake Park Ave., City	Student	Jos. Hyman.
Zimmerman, Elizabeth	23	945 St. Louis Ave., City	Teacher	Jno. F. Craddock

CHAPTER XXIV.
OTHER APPALLING TRAGEDIES CAUSED
BY FIRE.

CHICAGO is not alone in her great agony. Hers is one of the most awful holocausts of which we have any record, but other communities have been smitten by consuming fire. The pages of history have often been lighted by the lurid glare of flames. Since the time that civilized man first met with fellow man to enjoy the work of the primitive playwright, humanity has paid a toll of human life for its amusements.

Often than history tells, the tiny flicker of a tongue of flame has thrown a gay, laughing audience into a wild, struggling mob, and instead of the curtain which would have been rung down on the comedy on the stage, a pall of black smoke covered the struggles of the living and dying.

Of all the theatre disasters of history, none ever occurred in America equaling the loss of life in the Iroquois fire. But the grand total of persons killed in theatre holocausts is large and the saddest comment on this list is that most of the victims were from holiday audiences of women and children.

To all have been the same accompaniments of panic, futile struggle and suffocation. In the last century with the introduction of the modern style of playhouse, these fatal fires have increased. The annals of the stage are replete with dark pages that cause the tragedy of the mimic drama depicted behind the footlights to pale and shrivel into comparative nothingness.

Perhaps it is a fatal legacy from the time when civilized society gathered in its marbled coliseums and

amphitheaters to witness the mortal combats of human soldiers or the death struggles of Christians waging a vain battle against famished wild beasts. Whatever it may be, death has always stalked as the dread companion of the god of the muse and drama.

An English statistician published in 1898 a list of fires at places of public entertainment in all countries in the preceding century. He showed that there had been 1,100 conflagrations, with 10,000 fatalities, and he apologized for the incompleteness of his figures. Another authority says that in the twelve years from 1876 to 1888 not less than 1,700 were killed in theatre disasters in Brooklyn, Nice, Vienna, Paris, Exeter and Oporto, and that in every case nearly all the victims were dead within ten minutes from the time the smoke and flame from the stage reached the auditorium. As in the Iroquois fire, it was mainly in the balconies and galleries that death held its revels.

EARLY THEATRICAL CONFLAGRATIONS.

Fire wrought havoc at Rome in the Amphitheater in the year 14 B. C., and the Circus Maximus was similarly destroyed three times in the first century of the Christian era. Three other theatres were razed by flames in the same period, and Pompeii's was burned again almost two centuries later, but the exact loss of life is not recorded in either instance. The Greek playhouses, built of stone in open spaces, were never endangered by fire.

No theatres were built on the modern plan until in the sixteenth century in France, and not until in the seventeenth did any catastrophe worthy of record occur. When Shakespeare lived plays were generally produced in temporary structures, sometimes merely raised plat-

forms in open squares, and it was after his time that scenic effects began to be amplified and the use of illuminants increased. Thus it was that dangers, both to players and auditors, were vastly increased.

In the Teatro Atarazanas, in Seville, Spain, many people were killed and injured at a fire in 1615. The first conflagration of this kind in England worth noting happened in 1672, when the Theatre Royal, or Drury Lane, standing on the site of the playhouse in which "Mr. Bluebeard" was produced before it was brought to Chicago, was burned to the ground. Sixty other buildings were destroyed, but no loss of life is recorded.

BURNING OF THE PALAIS ROYAL, PARIS.

Two hundred and ten people lost their lives and the whole Castle of Amalienborg, in Copenhagen, was laid in ashes in 1689, from a rocket that ignited the scenery in the opera house. Eighteen persons perished at the theatre in the Kaizersgracht, Amsterdam, in 1772, and six years later the Teatro Colisseo, at Saragossa, Spain, went up in flames and seventy-seven lives were lost. The governor of the province was among the victims. Twenty players were suffocated in the burning of the Palais Royal, in Paris, in 1781.

In the nineteenth century there were twelve theatre fires marked by great loss of life, and the first of these occurred in the United States. At Richmond, on the day after Christmas in 1811, a benefit performance of "Agnes and Raymond, or the Bleeding Nun," was being given, and the theatre was filled with a wealthy and fashionable audience. The governor of Virginia, George W. Smith, ex-United States Senator Venable, and other prominent persons were in the audience and were numbered among

the seventy victims. The last act was on when the careless hoisting of a stage chandelier with lighted candles set fire to the scenery. Most of those killed met death in the jam at the doors.

The Lehman Theatre and circus in St. Petersburg was the scene of a fire in 1836, in which hundreds of people perished. A stage lamp hung high ignited the roof, a panic ensued, and there was such a mad rush that most of the people slew each other trying to get out. Those not trampled to death were incinerated by the fire that rapidly enveloped the temporary wooden building.

STAMPEDE IN ROYAL THEATRE, QUEBEC.

A lighted lamp, upset in a wing, caused a stampede in the Royal Theatre, Quebec, June 12th, 1846, and one hundred people were either burned or crushed into lifelessness. The exits were poor and the playhouse was built of combustible material. Less than a year later the Grand Ducal Theatre at Carlsruhe, Baden, Germany, was destroyed by a fire, due to the careless lighting of the gas in the grand ducal box. Most of the one hundred and fifty victims were suffocated. Between fifty and one hundred people met a fiery death in the Teatro degli Aquidotti at Leghorn, Italy, June 7th, 1857. Fireworks were being used on the stage and a rocket set fire to the scenery.

One of the most serious fires, from the standpoint of loss of life, was that in the Jesuit Church at Santiago, South America, in 1863. Fire broke out in the building during service. A panic started and the efforts of the priests to calm the immense crowd and lead them quietly from the edifice were vain. The few doors became jammed with a struggling mass of men, women and children.

The next day two thousand bodies were taken from the church, most of them suffocated or trampled to death.

The Brooklyn Theatre fire was long memorable in this country. Songs, funeral marches and poems without number were written commemorating the sad event. Vastly different from the Iroquois horror, most of the victims of the Brooklyn Theatre were burned beyond recognition. At Greenwood cemetery, in Brooklyn, there now stands a marble shaft to the unidentified victims of the holocaust.

BROOKLYN THEATRE FIRE.

Kate Claxton was playing "The Two Orphans" at Conway's Theatre, in Brooklyn, on the night of December 5, 1876. In the last scene of the last act Miss Claxton as Louise, the poor blind girl, had just lain down on her pallet of straw, when she saw above her in the flies a tiny flame. An actor named Murdoch, on the stage with her, saw it about the same time, and was so excited that he began to stammer his lines. Miss Claxton tried to reassure him and partly succeeded.

Then the audience realized that the theatre was on fire, and a movement began. The star, with Mr. Murdoch and Mrs. Farren, joined hands, walked to the footlights and begged the audience to go out in an orderly manner. "You see, we are between you and the fire," said Miss Claxton. The people were proceeding quietly, when a man's voice shouted, "It is time to be out of this," and every one seemed seized with a frenzy. The main entrance doors opened inwardly, and there was such a jam that these could not be manipulated.

The crowds from the galleries rushed down the stairways and fell or jumped headlong into the struggling mass below. Of the 1000 people in the theatre 297 perished.

They were either burned, suffocated or trampled to death. The actor Murdoch was one of the victims.

The same year, 1876, a panic resulted in the Chinese theatre of San Francisco from a cry of fire. A lighted cigar, which someone had playfully dropped into a spectator's coat pocket, caused a smell of burning wool. The audience became panic stricken and rushed madly for the exits. At the time there were about nine hundred Americans in the auditorium, and of this number one-quarter were seriously injured. The fire itself was of no consequence.

RING THEATRE, VIENNA, BURNED.

The destruction of the Ring theatre at Vienna, December 8, 1881, remains the greatest horror of the kind in the history of civilization. It was preceded on March 23 of the same year, by the burning of the Municipal theatre in Nice, caused by an explosion of gas, and in which between 150 and 200 people perished miserably, but the magnitude of the Vienna holocaust made the world forget Nice for the time. The feast of the Immaculate Conception was being celebrated by the Viennese and Offenbach's "Les Contes d'Hoffman," an opera bouffe, was the play. The audience numbered 2,500.

Fire was suddenly observed in the scenery, and wild panic started. An iron curtain, designed for just such emergencies, was forgotten, and the flames, which might thus have been confined to the stage, spread furiously through the entire building. The scene was changed from light-hearted revelry, with gladsome music, to one of lurid horror.

The exits from the galleries were long and tortuous and quickly became choked. As in the Iroquois theatre

fire, those who had occupied the gallery seats were the ones who lost their lives. But few escaped from the galleries. The great majority of the spectators were burned beyond recognition by their nearest relatives. One hundred and fifty were so charred that they were buried in a common grave, and the city's mourning was shared by all the world.

The next fire of this nature to attract the world's attention and sympathy was the destruction of the Circus Ferron, at Berditscheff, Russian Poland. Four hundred and thirty people were killed, and eighty mortally injured. Many children were crushed and suffocated in the jam, and horses and other trained animals perished by the score. This was on January 13, 1883, and the origin of the conflagration was traced to a stableman who smoked a cigarette while lying in a heap of straw.

TWO GREAT HORRORS CAUSED BY FIRE.

The burning of the Opera Comique in Paris, May 25, 1887, was a spectacular horror. Here again an iron curtain that would have protected the audience was not lowered. The first act of "Mignon" was on, when the scenery was observed to be ablaze. The upper galleries were transformed into infernos, in which men knocked other men and women down and trampled them in their eagerness to save themselves, while the flames reached out and enveloped them all.

Many of the actors and actresses escaped only in their costumes, and some rushed nude into the streets. The scenes in the thoroughfares where men and women in tights and ball dresses and men in gorgeous theatrical robes mingled with the naked, and the dead and dying were strewn about, made a picture fantastically terrible.

The official list of dead was seventy-five, but many others died from the fire's effects.

The theatre at Exeter, England, burned Sept. 5, 1887, was ignited from gas lights, and so much smoke filled the edifice in a short time that near 200 were suffocated in their seats. They were found sitting there afterward, just as though they were still watching the play. This was the eleventh, and the Oporto fire the twelfth of the big conflagrations of the century. One hundred and seventy dead were taken from the ruins of the Portuguese playhouse after the flames which destroyed it on the evening of March 31, 1888, had been subdued. Many sailors and marine soldiers in the galleries used knives to kill persons standing in their way, and scores of the victims were found with their throats cut.

ANOTHER PARISIAN HORROR.

Ten years after the Opera Comique fire occurred the greatest of all Parisian horrors, the destruction by flames of the charity bazar, May 4, 1897. Members of the nobility, and even royalty, were among the victims. All of fashionable Paris were under the roof of a temporary wooden edifice known to visitors to the exposition of 1889 as "Old Paris." The annual bazar in the interest of charity had always been one of the most imposing of the spring functions. The wealthy and distinguished, titled and modish were there in larger numbers than on any previous occasion.

The fire broke out with a suddenness that so dazed everyone that the small chance of escape from the flimsy structure was made even less. Duchesses, marquises, countesses, baronesses and grand dames joined in the mad rush for the exits. The men present are said to have

acted in a particularly cowardly manner, knocking down and trampling upon women and children. The death list of more than 100 included the Duchesses d'Alencon and De St. Didier, the Marquise de Maison, and three barons, three baronesses, one count, eleven countesses, one general, five sisters of charity and one mother superior. The Duchess d'Alencon was the favorite sister of the Empress of Austria and had been a fiancee of the mad King Ludwig of Bavaria. The Duchess d'Uzes was badly burned. The shock of the news and the death of his niece, the Duchess d'Alencon, accounted for the death on May 7, of the Duc d'Aumale.

GREAT HOTEL FIRE IN NEW YORK.

The Gaiety Theatre in Milwaukee, on November 5, 1869, furnished more than thirty victims to the fire fiend, but only two of these were burned to death. The Central Theatre, in Philadelphia, was destroyed April 28, 1892, and six persons perished. A panic occurred at the Front Street playhouse, in Baltimore, December 27, 1895, among an audience composed entirely of Polish Jews. There was no fire, but a woman who had seen a bright light on the stage thought there was, and her cries caused a stampede that resulted in twenty-four deaths.

Two deadly conflagrations occurred in New York in 1900. The first the Windsor hotel fire, which resulted in the death of eighty persons. Fire broke out in the old hotel on Fifth avenue about midnight. With lightning rapidity the flames shot up the light and air shafts, filling the rooms with smoke and making them as light as day. The guests suddenly aroused from sleep became panic stricken. The fire department was unable to throw up ladders and give aid as fast as frightened faces appeared

at the windows. The result was that many jumped to death. They were picked up dead and dying in the streets. Others ran from their rooms into the fire-swept hallways and were burned to death.

A short time later fire broke out one afternoon on the docks across the river from New York at Hoboken. The fire was on a pier piled high with combustible material. It burned like powder, spreading to the ocean liners tied to the pier and the efforts of the fire department were not effective in checking it. The cables which held the blazing vessels to the piers burned through and they drifted into the river, carrying fire and death among the shipping. Longshoremen unloading and loading the vessels jumped in panic into the river. Others found themselves cut off from both land and water by the flames on all sides and were burned like rats in a trap. It was estimated that 300 lives were lost. Many bodies were never recovered and others were found miles down the river.

PROPERTY AND FINANCIAL LOSSES.

Property losses are seldom proportionate to the financial losses from fire. In the Iroquois theatre fire the property loss was almost inconsequential, while at the burning of Moscow by the Russians, Sept. 4, 1812, the property loss amounted to more than \$150,000,000.

Constantinople, with its squalid and crowded streets, has always been a fruitful spot for fires. They are of annual occurrence and as the Turkish fire department is a travesty, are usually of considerable magnitude. The great fire of that city was in 1729, when 12,000 houses were destroyed and 7,000 persons burned to death. Aug. 12, 1782, a three days' fire started in which 10,000

houses, 50 corn mills and 100 mosques were burned and 100 lives lost. In February of the same year, 600 houses were burned, and in June 7,000 more. Fires are the best safeguards for Constantinople's health.

Great Britain has had comparatively few fires. In 1598 one at Tiverton destroyed 400 houses and 33 lives. In 1854 50 persons were killed at Gateshead. The great fire of London raged from Sept. 2 to 6, 1666. It began in a wooden building in Pudding Lane and consumed the buildings on 436 acres, blotting out 400 streets, 13,200 houses, St. Paul's and 86 other churches, 58 halls and all public buildings, three of the city gates and four stone bridges. The property loss was \$53,652,500, while only six persons were killed.

FIRES IN LARGE AMERICAN CITIES.

Nearly every large city of the United States has had its great fire. That of Boston was on Nov. 9 and 10, 1872. Fire started at Summer and Kingston streets and 65 acres were burned over. The property loss was about \$75,000,000 and there was no loss of life.

The great fire in New York began in Merchant street, Dec. 16, 1835. No lives were lost, but the property lost was \$15,000,000 and 52 acres were devastated, 530 buildings being destroyed. Ten years later a much smaller fire in the same district caused the death of 35 persons.

July 9, 1850, thirty lives were lost in Philadelphia, and February 8, 1865, twenty persons were killed by another fire. Large fires in that city have almost invariably been accompanied by loss of life.

As the result of a Fourth of July celebration in 1866, nearly half of Portland, Maine., was swept away by fire. The property loss was \$10,000,000, but there was no loss

of life. In September and October of 1871, forest fires raged in Wisconsin and Michigan. An immense territory was swept over and more than 1,000 persons lost their lives.

The greatest fire of modern times was the one which started in Chicago, October 8, 1871. A strip through the heart of the city, four miles long and a mile and a half wide, was burned over. The total lost was \$196,000,000 and 250 persons lost their lives. By the fire 17,450 buildings were destroyed and 98,860 persons made homeless.

Fires in Chicago attended with loss of life have been of increasing frequency in the past few years. Fire in the Henning & Speed building on Dearborn street, in 1900, caused 4 girls to lose their lives. Since it and before the Iroquois disaster have come: The St. Luke Sanitarium horror, 10 lives lost, 43 injured; the Doremus laundry explosion, 8 lives lost; the American Glucose Sugar Refinery blaze, 8 killed; Northwestern boiler explosion, 8 killed; Stock Yards boiler explosion, 18 killed, and about a year ago the Lincoln hotel fire, 14 visiting stockmen suffocated.

In view of this terrible array of suffering and death, it would seem that no precaution could be too great to avert future calamities. But although human life is beyond price, it is probable that the world at large will move on very much in the same old way—an arousing and an upheaval of public sentiment for a time after the burned and maimed have been laid away, and then a gradual return of carelessness. It would seem impossible, however, that the United States could forget for many generations the Iroquois disaster, and that it must result in a final reform of all arrangements looking to the safety of theatre goers.

On February 7, 1904, Baltimore was visited by a catastrophe which is without a parallel in the history of that city. The heart of the business section was devastated by fire. Block after block of valuable buildings was swept away by a conflagration which raged with a fierceness and destructiveness that neither the skill nor the courage of the firemen could stay. Millions of property were lost and thousands of persons deprived of employment. It was a cruel blow to the material interests of Baltimore, but not a crushing one; for the business men of the city, with undaunted spirit, proved themselves equal to the occasion, stupendous as the disaster was, and long as its effects will be felt.

HELP HURRIED FROM OTHER PLACES.

Starting Sunday morning in the centre of the business district, the fire ate its way from block to block with a swiftness that was almost inconceivable. The entire fire department was called into service and assistance was requested from other cities. Washington and Philadelphia responded promptly. The detachment of fire fighters from the National Capital received an ovation when they reached Baltimore.

The aid supplied by other cities to which appeals were sent—the offers of assistance which were tendered voluntarily by others—prove that in the hour of calamity Baltimore had the practical sympathy and friendship of many communities with which it has business and social connections. In connection with the appeal for aid to Washington, President Roosevelt expressed the desire that everything possible should be done by the Washington authorities to help Baltimore.

While the fire department made desperate efforts to

check the progress of the fire, it was impossible to control the flames. The atmospheric conditions were unfavorable. A high wind blowing from the time the fire began and continuing throughout two days filled the air with myriads of cinders, which spread the conflagration to unexpected quarters. Dynamite was used frequently, but without satisfactory results. It seemed almost from the first that the firemen were doomed to make a losing fight, despite their brave and vigorous efforts. In the face of such conditions they were utterly helpless.

HEROISM DEFEATED.

Those who watched the progress of the fire were sick at heart, not because the fire-fighters lacked zeal or courage, but because they felt that the skill and heroism of man were impotent to accomplish results against such overwhelming odds. Business men saw the accumulations of years swept away in an hour; the angry flames shot up above the highest buildings, and hissed and roared; fierce blasts of wind carried the fire into new localities; great stocks of merchandise, of every sort and description, were consumed, as it were, in a moment; vast numbers of the inhabitants were reduced to poverty and the city was stunned by the frightful calamity.

Fire engines and firemen were sent from places as far away as New York, who joined with others on the ground to check the overwhelming conflagration. The terrified citizens rendered all aid of which they were capable, but were compelled to see the big houses and business sections of the Monumental City reduced to ashes.

