

for burying the unidentified dead that had been lying in the morgue since Sunday at 10 o'clock. The men in charge of the burying have been busy all day. There are no pathetic scenes at these burials; the men hired to do the work seem to do it just as a matter of business. The bodies are being interred in the cemetery nearest the place where the bodies are found. About noon a procession of fifty coffined bodies was seen going up the hill above the railroad. Not a mourner was present and the sight was a ghastly one to behold. It will take several days to bury the bodies now in the different graveyards as there were few graves dug until this morning, and no implements to dig them with. A large detachment of men arrived from Pittsburg this morning and were put to work digging graves. Altogether about 300 bodies have been taken to different cemeteries this morning.

"The burned wreckage against the bridge is being dynamited to allow water to pass in the main channel. Many skeletons and fragments of bodies were found in the opening. This channel will take the overflow from the lower part of Johnstown proper."

ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT HARRISON.

Following is a Washington dispatch dated June 4: In response to a call issued by the commissioners of the District of Columbia, a public meeting to devise means for aiding sufferers by the flood at Johnstown and vicinity was held this afternoon.

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Douglass, who introduced President Harrison as the presiding officer of the meeting.

Upon taking the chair the President said:

"Everyone here today is distressingly conscious of the circumstances which have convened this meeting. It would be impossible to state more impressively than the newspapers have already done the distressing incident which has fallen upon the city of Johnstown and neighboring hamlets, and a large section of Pennsylvania situated on the Susquehanna River. The grim pencil of Dore would be inadequate to portray the horrors of this visitation. In such a meeting as we have here in the national capital, and other like gatherings that are taking place in the cities of this land, we have only the eyes of hope and light in the general gloom. When such calamities and visitations fall upon any section of our country we can do no more than throw about the dark picture a golden border of charity (Applause). It is in such affairs as these that the brotherhood of man is welded, and where is sympathy and help more appropriate than in the national capital? I am glad to say that early this morning from that city not long ago visited by pestilence, not long ago itself appealing to the charitable people of the whole land for relief, the city of Jacksonville, there came the ebb of that tide of charity which flowed toward it in its time of need—a telegram from

the Sanitary Relief Association, authorizing me to draw on it for \$2000 for the relief of the Pennsylvania sufferers. [Applause.] But this is no time for a speech. While I talk, men, women and children are suffering for the relief which we plan to give. One word or two of practical suggestions and I will place this meeting in your hands, to give effect to your impatient benevolence. I have a dispatch from the Governor of Pennsylvania advising me that communication has just been opened with the Williamsport branch of the Susquehanna River, and that the losses in that section have been appalling, so that thousands of people are homeless, and there is an immediate call for food to relieve their necessities. He advises me that any food that can be hastily gathered here should be sent via Harrisburg to Williamsport, where it will be distributed. I suggest, therefore, that a committee be constituted having in charge the speedy collection of articles of food. The occasion is such that bells might be rung through our streets to call the attention of the thoughtless to this great exigency, in order that a train load of provisions may be dispatched tonight or in the early morning to those suffering people. I suggest secondly that as many of these people have had the entire furnishings of their houses swept away, and now only have temporary shelter, a committee be appointed to select such articles of clothing as can be spared. Now that the summer season has come it can hardly be that a house in Washington cannot spare a blanket and coverlet; and third, I suggest that from substantial business men and bankers there be appointed a committee who shall collect money, for after the first exigency is past there will be found in those communities very many who have lost their all and who will need aid in the reconstruction of their demolished homes and in furnishing them so that they may again be inhabited. Need I say in conclusion that as a temporary citizen of Washington it would give me great satisfaction if the national capital should so generously respond to this call of our distressed fellow-citizens as to be conspicuous among the cities of our land? I feel that as I am now calling for contributions, I should say that on Saturday, when first apprised of the disaster at Johnstown, I telegraphed a subscription to the mayor of that city. I do not like to speak of anything so personal at this time, but I feel it due to myself and to you that I should say so much as this."

A list of vice-presidents, including members of the Cabinet, Chief-Justice Fuller, Chief-Justice Binghams of the Supreme Court of the district, and twelve prominent business men of the city was chosen, and a secretary and treasurer were also selected. Calls for subscriptions were then made, and responses were numerous and for quite large amounts, half a dozen being for \$500 each. About \$10,000 was raised in half an hour. The President in dismissing the meeting, said:

"May I express the hope that this work will be earnestly and thoroughly done; that the food and the clothing so much and so promptly needed may be shipped, and that either tonight or tomorrow morning a train well freighted with relief may go from Washington?"

Before a motion for adjournment could be put, however, a resolution was proposed tendering the thanks of the meeting to the President for the sympathy with distressed humanity which he had manifested by assisting at the meeting, and the President, before it could be carried, arose and requested that it be withdrawn. In a graceful speech he expressed his appreciation of the kindly motive which prompted the resolution, but asked that it be withdrawn, which was done.

THE RESERVOIR DAM.

There is no doubt but that the citizens of Cambria County frequently complained, and at the time the dam was constructed a very vigorous effort was made to put a stop to the work. It is true the leader in this movement was not a citizen of Johnstown, but he was and is a large mine owner in Cambria County. His mine adjoins the reservoir property. He has related to a correspondent the story of his labors in the effort to protect the lives and property of the people in that valley. He was frequently on the spot, and his own engineer inspected the work. He says the embankment was principally shale and clay, and that straw was used to stop the leaking of the water while the work was going on. He called on the sheriff of Cambria County and told him it was his duty to apply to the court for an injunction. The sheriff promised to give the matter his attention, but instead of going before the court he went to the Cambria Iron Company for consultation. An employe was sent up to make an inspection, and as his report was not favorable to the reservoir work, the sheriff went no further, but the gentleman referred to said he had not failed to make public his protest at the time, and to renew it frequently. This recommendation for an injunction and protest was spoken of by the citizens of Altoona as a hackneyed subject. Confirmation was certainly had at South Fork, Conemaugh, Millville and Johnstown on that fatal Friday. A rumored break was expected to prevail at these places early in the day, but the citizens remarked that the rumor was a familiar incident of the annual freshets. It was the old classicry of "wolf," "wolf." They gave up the first floors to the water and retired up stairs to wait until it should recede, as they had often done before, scouting the oft-told story of the breaking of the reservoir.

The reader will note the remarkable conflict between that shale and clay story of the mine owner referred to above, and the published statement of General Marlhood who had charge of the construction, who said that the masonry was solid granite and limestone and was believed to be as enduring as the