

ished washing a clammy corpse, and manipulating it about on the boards. In the interval before the body of another wretch is brought in, he gets a cup of coffee and a sandwich. With dripping hands he eats his lunch with relish, setting his cup occasionally besides the face of a hideous corpse, and totally oblivious to his horrible surroundings.

At the Fourth Ward schoolhouse, where most of the undertaking work was done, there was some slight trouble over the question of liquor. Rev. Mr. Beale, of the Presbyterian Church, had charge of the morgue and objected to the undertakers drinking whisky. Inasmuch as a man with a cast-iron constitution could not work at anything in this place without stimulants of some kind, the undertakers protested against Beale's unreasonable prejudice. They threatened to cease work. This had the effect of modifying Beale's temperance scruples.

CAUSE OF THE BREAKAGE.

The coroner's jury on June 5 proceeded to South Fork and investigated the cause of the breakage of the reservoir dam. The witnesses testified that slight breaks had appeared in the dam several times in the past year, but had been each time clumsily repaired with straw, sticks and rubbish. The general impression is that the jury will convict the Pittsburgh Fishing Company as guilty of gross negligence. In this event a great many suits for damages will follow against that club of millionaires.

The question of accident and fire insurance is at present assuming large proportions. The various insurance companies having insurance policies in Johnstown are represented by their agents in large numbers. E. E. Clapp, superintendent of the Casualty & Fire Company, and Andrew Scharff, their solicitor, are in town. In speaking of the cause of their presence, Scharff said:

"We have not a great many policies here, only 200, and the amount of insurance does not exceed \$13,000. Our object in coming here was to aid the sufferers. We came armed with our draft book, and were ready to liquidate the claims at a moment's notice. We find, however, matters in such confusion that it is impossible to do anything. Many families are wiped out, and the beneficiaries reside at such a distance that communication cannot be had at once; but money is practically valueless in this place, as far as securing commodities with it is concerned."

Of the number of lives lost and the danger of epidemics, a Johnstown dispatch of June 5 says:

"At today's rate on heaps of debris on the Pennsylvania railroad, it becomes more and more apparent that it will be more than 5,000, and the general impression is that it will number between 9,000 and 12,000. The deeper the wreck drifts are penetrated the greater the number discovered. On Franklin Avenue eleven were found today, and a few minutes afterwards twelve more

were found. Dr. Lee, of the Pennsylvania State Board of Health, was today asked his opinion on the prospects of the epidemic in Conemaugh Valley. He said: "God only knows, no man can tell what will come of these piles of drift and wreckage. Today we started a portion of our sanitary inspectors into the thick of the debris and in a little while the bodies of 50 dead animals, mostly horses, have been removed and hauled away for burial. If this percentage is kept up here there is a fearful amount of decomposing animal matter to be removed or encountered. I have today ordered the surgeon-general at Washington to forward unlimited quantities of disinfectants to Johnstown. There are more promises from up the mountains, and I hope to have the whole city fortified inside of a few days."

"A house-to-house canvass is ordered by the sanitary authorities, and its revelations as far as it went were startling in the extreme. It was found that four and even six families have been crowded into a single house; that fifty slept in one room; that doors and windows were left closed to shut out the stench and dampness, and that as a result the existence of pneumonia was first discovered by the Associated Press correspondent, and was gaining an alarming foothold. It is estimated that there were at least 100 well defined cases in Johnstown today."

MUCH YET WANTED.

Notwithstanding the fact that nearly every prominent citizen of the United States is raising a fund for the relief of the Conemaugh sufferers, the wants of the homeless and afflicted are far from being alleviated. At the various relief stations, crowds of applicants are continuous from morning till night and many needy were forced to wait in line hours before their turn came and then little portion was allotted out to them. Hundreds and thousands are positively suffering and thousands of people are homeless, and in their devastated homes thousands also lost their all. Labor and manufacturing of nearly every kind are at a standstill in the valley, and weeks or months must elapse before the iron works and other institutions can possibly resume and give employment to the thousands that depend on them for support. The Mayor of Johnstown received by cable a copy of resolutions adopted by a public meeting June 5 in Paris. The warm-hearted Parisians express their deep sympathy with the homeless and afflicted of Conemaugh valley, and state that subscriptions have been opened for the relief of their American neighbors.

Following is a Johnstown dispatch, dated June 6: "The waters in the Conemaugh valley have subsided almost to their usual level. With the receding waters the scene of desolation becomes hourly more weird and picturesque. Like a desert swept by a simoon, the valley is a level unbroken plain for miles, only at last to find an abrupt termination in the mountain of debris that has found lodgment

on a projecting rock, which, like Ajax, defied the fury of the elements."

"The sun shines brightly this morning. The work of recovering the dead goes on with undiminished vigor, and with a system that produces rapid results. The blast of twenty-five dynamite cartridges at ten o'clock loosened up the debris and made it possible to open the mouth of the old channel. Workmen have located the day express which was swept away at Conemaugh. The ruins of the train lie a hundred feet from the fourth buttress from the western end of the stone bridge. Parts of the parlor cars have been found, as well as trunks of the passengers. The baggage of Annie Chirm, of Nashville, Tenn., has been found. She was a missionary on the way to Brazil for the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Church. It is evident that many lives were lost on this train—more than was at first supposed. The whole train affair is still a mystery; at least the passengers have not so far been found and located. Five thousand men are at work, and it is expected that by tomorrow at least 10,000 will be employed; but even this force will not be able to remove the debris in less than several weeks."

"There are thirty unidentified bodies at the Fourth ward schoolhouse. These have been lying there three days. At least 40,000 people have viewed them. During the past twenty-four hours no fewer than forty bodies have been embalmed and taken from this place."

Said Adjutant-General Hastings on June 6: "In my opinion the loss will be greater than we can now show figures for."

PROCURESSES.

On June 6, Chairman Heinz, of the relief committee, was informed by several Pennsylvania railroad conductors that two or three women of questionable character arrived at Johnstown the previous night. The railroad men said, that from their language they were procuresses who hoped to prey upon unfortunate young women. Heinz reported the matter to the police, who will warn all suspicious characters to leave the town at once.

At noon June 6 the boroughs of Johnstown and adjoining boroughs, or what is left of them, practically passed under martial law. Adjutant-General Hastings said he had not declared martial law yet. The soldiers were, on guard, and no one was permitted between the lines unless they had an order from the adjutant-general.

The real work of ascertaining who the living and dead of Johnstown were was started June 6. Corps of clerks, under the direction of a relief committee, would go to every house in the vicinity and secure names of the living; another corps would endeavor to find out who the missing are. A revision of the register lists shows only 13,000 people registered to 1 o'clock on that day. By this