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12 PAGES LAST EDITION

General Slocum Disaster Victims Number a Thousand.

BURNED HULK AND HELL GATE WATERS.

They Continue to Give Up Bodies Of Those Who Perished in Steamer Disaster.

VICTIMS WERE ALL NEIGHBORS.

Many Acts of Great Heroism Were Performed at Peril of Rescuers' Lives.

A RIGID INVESTIGATION ORDERED

By Secretary Cortelyou—It Will Be Conducted by the United States Steamboat Inspection Service.

New York, June 16.—The loss of life by the burning of the steamer General Slocum in the East river yesterday will approximate 1,000. This estimate is based on the opinion of the chief of the fire department, of the coroner's office and of the police. At 2:30 o'clock this afternoon 522 bodies had been recovered, of which 155 had been identified. There were reported missing 467 persons, and the hospitals had 117 injured. The fact that 24 hours after the disaster there are still missing nearly 500 persons warrants the belief that the above estimate of the dead will be verified, for the authorities have used every source at their command to locate all who escaped.

Mayor McCellan announced this afternoon that he had decided to issue a proclamation asking for subscriptions for the burial of the dead, and for such other immediate relief as could be given. He said he would ask 10 men of prominent to serve on a committee to take charge of the fund.

At an informal meeting of Lutheran ministers today an appeal to the ministers of all denominations to assist in the funeral services of the victims was prepared.

New York, June 16.—When the dread tide of the General Slocum is fully told, when the last blackened body has been taken from the burned hulk and the swift waters of Hell Gate give up their dead, the catastrophe will take its place as the most appalling that has ever occurred in the inland waters of America. Indefinite figures on the loss of life cannot yet be given. That more than 500 persons perished is a horrible certainty, but how much in excess of that number the total will run will only be known when the "missing" column is finished.

IN THE SLOCUM'S HOLD.

All during the night and through the early dawn of today, the sad work of exploring the Slocum's hull went on and from deck to morgue the procession of ambulances, each with its piteous load, wound its way from the river front to the morgue at the foot of Twenty-sixth street, until, at noon, 504 bodies lay on the slabs.

Most of these came from the wreck, but the night long patrol of the waters of East river added its ghastly quota. There are many bodies still in the hold of the burned vessel, according to the divers and wreckers and the river is looked to to complete the list. How many preferred drowning to the agony of death by fire and went over the rail never to rise again, during the mad race of the vessel for the beach, may never be known, for the treacherous waters of Hell Gate do not willingly give up their victims.

Unlike the Iroquois theater and other great catastrophes of recent years, where the loss of the disaster fell throughout the land, the blow of the Slocum's mortality falls practically upon one little neighborhood of a great city.

WHERE VICTIMS LIVED.

St. Mark's parish, which furnished nearly every victim, lies within 10 crowded blocks of the middle of the East Side and there is today hardly a home that is not one of mourning. The membership of the little Lutheran church is practically German or of German descent, and all of the comparatively well to do class.

The race of the burning steamer from the moment the fire was discovered until her bows crashed on the shelving beach of North Brother Island lasted little more than 10 minutes, yet that time sufficed for deeds of heroism which make the one bright chapter in the heart rending story. Brave men, devoted mothers and even children and youths of tender age, each contributed their part to the roll of heroic acts.

HEROIC RESCUERS.

There were rescues in the face of almost certain death, and useless but self-sacrificing. The credit for the greatest saving of life is due to the Hardy tug boat men and other followers of the river, who braved the flames and held the noses of their boats against the fire-wracked steamer until driven off by the awful heat, scorched and choking. Dead bodies of women with their burned arms clasping the pitiful forms of little children and babies were found, their tiny arms outstretched each other in a tight embrace.

THE DARK SIDE.

The dark side hinted at along the water front seems to be the inevitable accompaniment of such disasters. There has been no evidence of a character specific enough to fasten it upon individuals and permit of punish-

ment, but survivors and eye witnesses say that some brutal acts of selfishness and cowardice on the part of the Slocum's crew were seen and that distress signals from the burning boat were disregarded by passing craft. One man avers that a big white yacht passed the Slocum when the bodies of women and children were going overboard and did not even slacken speed. According to this man the yacht flew the pennant of the New York Yacht club, but not the owner's pennant, which always she flies in board, and after passing the Slocum she steered over to the western shore and hove to, while on her bridge a man in uniform with binoculars to his eyes, watched the vessel burn.

A HORRIBLE TALE.

Even more horrible than this, and similar acts of incredible callousness is the story of Miss Martha Weir, who says that while she struggled in the water, a boat containing several men drew alongside of her and after passing the Slocum she steered over to the western shore and hove to, while on her bridge a man in uniform with binoculars to his eyes, watched the vessel burn.

OFFICERS CRITICISED.

There is open criticism of the failure of the Slocum's officers and crew to meet the emergency, but as yet no formal action has been taken either by the municipal or federal authorities. Capt. Van Schaick and the two pilots are under arrest but are held only as witnesses.

That there was terrible failure to meet the responsibilities is undoubted. No effort as far as can be learned was made to launch the life rafts or boats, and no concerted attempt made toward equipping the helpless women and children with life preservers.

But few of those rescued and few of the bodies recovered from the river had on life preservers and according to several statements most of those supposed instruments of safety were practically worthless, either coming apart when an attempt was made to use them or not possessing the buoyancy they are supposed to have.

There is very general criticism of the captain and pilots for their failure to turn the vessel's course the moment they were informed the fire gained headway. Capt. Van Schaick has made several statements, varying in detail, but none of them is considered satisfactory.

PILOT'S STATEMENT.

Pilot Van Wart, however, today said that he could not dock the vessel because all of her hawsers were burned. His statement follows:

"When I first discovered the presence of fire on the steamer I decided to make for the first dock that I could find, but in a moment I was informed that all the ropes by which we usually tied up had burned. I decided to make for the first point of land where there was no rocks and beach the vessel, and this I did. The presence of rocks all along the shore made it impossible for me to beach the vessel any sooner than I did."

A RIGID INVESTIGATION.

Will Be Conducted by U. S. Inspection Service.

Washington, June 16.—A rigid investigation of the General Slocum disaster has been ordered by Secretary Cortelyou, of the department of commerce and labor.

The investigation will be conducted by the steamboat inspection service under the direction of George Thayer, supervising inspector general and by Gen. James A. Dumont and Thomas H. Barsett, constituting the local board of steamboat inspectors in New York.

RECOVERING THE DEAD.

They Number Hundreds, Hundreds Still Missing.

New York, June 16.—After an all night search, with the aid of professional divers at North Brother Island, for victims of the ill-fated General Slocum, which was burned yesterday, 467 known dead had been recovered up to 9 o'clock today. Of this number 116 had been identified. The number of missing is estimated in the vicinity of 400. During the day yesterday 202 persons were taken to hospitals. After treatment it was found, in many cases, that the injuries were not serious enough to prevent their going home and they were allowed to depart. Some of those who remain in hospitals, however, are still in a critical condition. All night long crowds of people visited the morgue with entreaties for a chance to try and make identifications.

ESTIMATES OF THE DEAD.

The estimates of the number of dead given by officials vary exceedingly. Dr. Darlington, the president of the board of health who remained at North Brother Island for a great portion of the night, said that he estimated a total of 1,200, with possibilities of 1,250. Inpector Brooks, who had been at the scene since a few minutes after the accident, placed the number of dead at nearly 1,600.

A SAD INCIDENT.

A particularly sad incident during the night was the attempt at suicide of a grief-stricken mother at the morgue. This woman, Mrs. Lena Rekasick, went there to try to find her little daughter, Wanda, who was missing, and found a body which she identified as that of her child. Wandering from the morgue she walked down the string piece of the pier and attempted to throw herself into the river. She had been watched, however, and policemen seized her in time to save her life. She was taken to Bellevue hospital.

All through the night and today men in diving suits and others with grappling hooks in their hands stood on the decks of tugs which hovered about the sunken wreck of the General Slocum. Now and then a man in one of the weird-looking suits would cup over the side of a tug and sink to the bottom. Then another diver would appear on the surface. Probably he had come to the surface for rest and air, or perhaps he had the body of a woman or the body of a child in his rubber coated arms. The chances were that he had come up with the dead.

A DIVER'S WORK.

As a diver was bringing a body to the surface a grappling hook was placed under it and it was raised to the deck of a tug. Some of these bodies were beyond recognition. When several bodies were recovered another tug from which divers were not working would pull alongside and transfer the dead.

How many dead lie in that charred and sunken hull can not even be estimated until every nook and corner of the shell has been gone over by the divers.

TWO LITTLE GIRLS.

At sunrise today two divers came to the surface. In the arms of one was a little girl clasped in each other's arms. Their hair was the same color and their dresses were alike, showing that they were sisters. The

GEN. STAKELBERG SUSTAINS A DISASTROUS DEFEAT.

Rumored in St. Petersburg That His Retreat Has Been Cut Off—Japanese Capture Siu Yen After Routing and Defeating a Force of Three Hundred Russians and Three Hundred Mounted Chinese Bandits.

St. Petersburg, June 16, 6:10 p. m.—It is rumored throughout the city that Gen. Stakelberg has sustained a disastrous defeat at Vafangow and that his retreat is being cut off.

Tokio, June 16, 7:30 p. m.—A detachment of the army under Gen. Kuroki captured the town of Siu Yen on Sunday, after routing and defeating a force of 300 Russians and 300 mounted Chinese bandits. The enemy retired toward the Tao river, leaving behind them three dead and two wounded men belonging to the Fifteenth East Siberian regiment. The total of their losses is not known. The Japanese sustained no casualties.

This is the first actual report of Chinese bandits fighting with Russian troops and it may mean that the Russians have enlisted large numbers of these irregulars.

TWO JAPANESE TRANSPORTS SUNK.

The Hitachi and Sado Met Russian Warships and Were Fired On.

THEN THEY WERE TORPEDOED.

Many Escaped and Survivors Tell the Story of the Naval Disaster.

Taken to Morgue for Dead, Clara Hartman Revived.

New York, June 16.—Brought into the Alexander avenue police station and tagged as one of the unidentified dead, Clara Hartman was revived while she was lying in the improvised morgue. A woman searching among the dead for a relative noticed that the girl was breathing and called an ambulance surgeon. After the surgeon had worked over her for half an hour she opened her eyes. She was hurried to the Lincoln Brooklyn hospital and there found that the girl had been severely injured but that she might recover. She could remember nothing of the awful events of the day.

The body of Miss Hartman was picked up by one of the fleet of rescuing boats which was already filled with a cargo of dead. There being no space for the body of Miss Hartman, it was fastened to a rope, towed astern of the launch and finally was lifted to a pier on the Manhattan side of the river. On the wharf a man wrapped Miss Hartman in a tarpaulin and helped to place her in line with the rest of the dead. One of the several vehicles pressed into service for the transportation of the dead bodies to the station houses conveyed Miss Hartman to the Alexander station where the unknown woman made the discovery that life still existed. At the hospital today it was stated that Miss Hartman was improving.

MAJ.-GEN. CORBIN.

Has Been Ordered to the Command of the Philippines.

Washington, June 16.—Maj.-Gen. Henry C. Corbin has been ordered to the command of the division of the Philippines, succeeding Maj.-Gen. Wade, the order to take effect in October. Gen. Corbin at present commands the division of the east, with headquarters at Governors Island, New York. He will have had about a year and a half service in the Philippines, when Lieut.-Gen. Chaffee reaches the retiring age. It is expected that Maj.-Gen. Corbin will succeed Gen. Chaffee as lieutenant-general.

TORNADO STRIKES CUBA.

Accompanied by Unprecedented Rain, Causing Great Damage.

New York, June 16.—A tornado, accompanied by unprecedented rain, has caused great damage about Santiago de Cuba. The land line between Havana and the Santiago end of the island have been blown down, and cable communication has been interrupted for some hours.

All Troops Withdrawn.

Telluride, Colo., June 16.—Charles H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, who was surrendered to Sheriff Rutan by Capt. Bulkeley Wells, military commander in San Miguel county, yesterday afternoon, after Judge Thayer, of the United States circuit court of appeals had granted a writ of habeas corpus for him at St. Louis, is now held as a prisoner in the county jail on the charge of deserting the flag. He said today that the Federation would provide a bond for him and he probably would be released in a few days.

GEN. BOBKROFF, GOVERNOR GENERAL OF FINLAND, SHOT.

St. Petersburg, June 16, 2:16 p. m.—Gen. Bobkroff, governor-general of Finland, was shot and mortally wounded at 11 o'clock this morning at the entrance to the Finnish senate at Helsinki.

The assassin, a man named Schaumann, a son of Senator Schaumann, immediately committed suicide. Bobkroff was shot in the stomach and neck. He was brought to St. Petersburg in a dying condition. The attack is ascribed to Finnish patriotism. Schaumann is believed to be a member of what is known as the Finnish Patriotic party.

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BATTLE RAGED ALL DAY LONG.

Left Flank of the Russians Was Crushed and They Were Compelled to Retire.

STAKELBERG WAS FORCED BACK

St. Petersburg Officials Deny That There Was Anything in the Nature of a Rout.

JAPANESE HAD FOUR DIVISIONS.

Their Loss Was One Thousand—Enemy Left Five Hundred Dead and Wounded on the Field.

St. Petersburg, June 16 (7:20 p. m.)—A special dispatch from Liao Yang to the Official Messenger says the battle of Vafangow raged the whole of yesterday and the Japanese, receiving considerable reinforcements, crushed the Russian left flank and compelled the Russians to retire northward. No estimate of the losses is given and no mention is made of the loss of the Russian guns.

The war office announces that Gen. Stakelberg was forced back before greatly superior numbers and retreated to Vantialin, 30 miles north of Vafangow. The officials here deny that there was anything in the nature of a rout. The enemy had over four divisions in action.

JAPANESE ACCOUNT.

Washington, June 16.—The Japanese legation has received the following cablegram from Tokio, dated today:

"Gen. Oku reports that on June 14 our main body advanced northward in two columns along the railway expelling the enemy from the east of Vafangow at 2 p. m. The enemy made a stand on the railway line between Lung Wang Miao and was reinforced. On June 15 the enemy near Tellus consisted of two and a half divisions occupying the position between Tafangshien and Chang Tsu Shan. At dawn we opened attack and our main body advanced along the railway, one column marching from Tauchiaton. At 9 a. m. the left wing of the column was joined by the forces from Tung Lung Kow, and at noon by cavalry from Chia Chia Ton. Thus the enemy was surrounded by our forces near Tellus and after severe fighting they were routed and fled northward at 3 p. m. Our losses are estimated under 1,000. So far as known we captured 1,000, 14 quick fliers and about 300 of the enemy, including the commander of the Fourth infantry regiment of skilled shooters. Over 500 of the enemy's killed and wounded were left on the battlefield. Our scouts saw the enemy marching with a Japanese flag in this engagement. A few shells from a battery was engaged and suspended fire."

ST. PETERSBURG AWAITS NEWS.

St. Petersburg, June 16 (1:33 p. m.)—The result of the battle at Vafangow (north of Port Arthur), which has now been in progress for three days, is awaited here with breathless interest. Excitement prevails in all circles. The losses of the Russian army, more than 200 on Tuesday, show that the fighting has been of a desperate character and Gen. Kuroki's report this morning proves that both armies are determined to force matters to a decisive issue.

The public has been considerably elated by the news of the success which this far has attended the expedition of the Vladivostok squadron to the straits of Korea, and should Gen. Stakelberg win a victory over Gen. Nozu on land, it would make the deepest impression. Already there is much talk of his success, but the war office prudently advises caution against the acceptance of official news from either side. Kuroki's dispatch given out this morning brought the report up to 1:30 yesterday afternoon but stopped at the most critical point of the battle, where Stakelberg was meeting an attempt to turn his right flank by a similar movement around Nozu's left flank. Stakelberg's reserve had already been brought on and the Japanese had been heavily defeated. This dispatch also mentioned yesterday afternoon, but through a blunder in transmission the war commission did not receive it until this morning. There was no intention to withhold its contents from the public.

Exactly what portion of Stakelberg's Cossacks was engaged at Vafangow is not ascertainable. It consists of the First, Second and Sixth East Siberian rifle divisions, the Ural mounted brigade and the First East Siberian Sapper battalion.

Gen. Kuroki, who was wounded, commands the First Siberian division of four regiments and a machine gun battalion. Gen. Samsonoff commands the Urali mounted brigade.

BEGINNING OF OPERATIONS.

The operations leading up to the battle of Vafangow date back to June 11, when two Japanese divisions, one commanded by Gen. Nozu, advanced from the Pulatien-Pitsung line, probably prompted by intelligence that the Russians were receiving reinforcements. A sharp skirmish took place the night of June 12 at the village of Ouladon, five miles west of the railroad and seven miles south of Vafangow. Another sharp skirmish occurred on the night of June 12 at the village of Lidatun, five miles east of Ouladon. The Japanese were repulsed, but the Russian advance posts retired. On June 13 two Japanese divisions were five miles north of the scene of the skirmish, their left wing resting on the village of Lidatun, and their right on the valley of the Tassia, which flows parallel with the railroad, falling into the sea 10 miles

STOLE TWELVE PISTOLS.

Were Taken from Fort Douglas Last Night—Young Soldier Arrested.

Fred Redman, a driver for Wagener's brewery, while coming out of the canyon behind Fort Douglas this morning, discovered 12 Colt's army revolvers cached in a ditch alongside the road. He reported the find to the police and upon investigation the officers learned that the pistols had been stolen from the post last night.

Later in the day a soldier was arrested and locked in the guardhouse, suspected of the crime. The suspect is a young man who enlisted only one week ago, named James Stone. He belongs to company E, Twenty-ninth infantry.

GERMAN'S CHANGED VIEWS

Stole Good Luck Emblem and Bad Luck Followed Him Instantly.

Abe Stambach, a German peddler, was arrested this morning by Officer Taylor and charged with petit larceny—stealing horseshoes from the Warburton blacksmith shop. Officer Taylor was having a horse shod and observed the theft himself.

Stambach was of the opinion that horseshoes always brought good luck. He had heard that many times since his arrival in America, and understood that the possession of horseshoes meant increased prosperity, and good luck in all the round. Now he says that the man who coined that axiom doesn't know his business.

EDWIN FROST DIES SUDDENLY.

While shoeing a horse at his shop, 523 South State street, at 8:20 this morning, Edwin Frost, one of the Pioneer blacksmiths of the state, complained of a sharp pain in his back and suddenly without warning dropped over dead, while Mr. Anderson, owner of the animal being shod, stood transfixed, hardly realizing what had happened. Dr. J. S. Richards was at once summoned, but as death was instantaneous, his services were not required. He pronounced it a case of apoplexy.

Edwin Frost was a native of Connecticut, where he was born 22 years ago. He was the son of the late Rufus Frost, one of the original Pioneers, and came to this city in 1887, immediately after his father, where he had resided ever since, or late he had been somewhat troubled with rheumatism, but he had recovered from the last year or so. He was a highly respected citizen and was well known throughout his long residence here. He lived at 337 North Second East street, and leaves a large family of children.

The funeral will be held Sunday at 12 o'clock noon from the Eighth ward assembly rooms.

CAUGHT IN SWIMMING POOL

Stranger Taken in Tow at Sautiarium For Robbing Another Stranger.

Detectives Chase and Hunt made a capture this morning that is regarded by the police as one of importance. They arrested J. E. Driscoll, a machinist, in the large pool of the Sautiarium on the charge of robbery.

Yesterday, it is alleged, Driscoll met an old man from Slocum City, Ia., named Dan Stafford, at the Grand Union stadium and accompanied him to this city. Shortly after their arrival, he got the stranger to take a few drinks and having him at the proper stage, took him to a rooming-house. After a brief stay, Driscoll took the water pitcher and went out after beer. Stafford waited a long while for him to return and then went to bed. When he got up this morning he was missing his watch and chain, his gold-headed canes, \$4 in cash and an express watch have been recovered.

POLITICAL POINTERS.

The Young Men's Democratic club has selected temporary quarters in the John James block, First South and East Temple street, having engaged for their occupancy the Knights of Columbus hall.

Senator Joseph L. Rawlins had rather a good night last night, but there is no doubt that he has a well developed case of typhoid. All hope that he will be able to attend the Democratic convention has been abandoned and A. L. Lovey, first alternate, is making preparations to go in Mr. Rawlins' place.

BUSINESS NOTES.

Today's local bank clearings amounted to \$491,716.14, an increase of \$75,705.61 for the corresponding day of last year.

The Scott-Strevell building, 153 Main street, will again be sold, it is said, on July 1. James A. Hoyle, secretary and treasurer of the King Hardware company, has secured an option of \$10,000 on the property, and will purchase, it is understood, for \$75,000. About a month ago, the building was bought from Charles N. Strevell for \$45,000 by O. J. Salisbury. The latter makes \$10,000 on the investment after a wait of only 30 days.

W. H. Boothe, Jr., for years agency director of the New York Life Insurance company, has accepted the position of agency organizer in Salt Lake with the Continental Life and Investment company.

Advertising MIGHT injure a business just as food might injure a person—but only if the wrong kind is used.

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