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## FURTHER DETAILS

### Of the Fearful "Utopia" Collision in Gibraltar Bay Rousing the Passengers.

QUARTERMASTER PETERSON'S THRILLING STORY.

Acts of Valor by Seamen Trying to Save the Lives of the Drowning People.

By Telegraph to the NEWS.

THE "UTOPIA."

Details of the Awful Disaster 175 Lives Lost.

GIBRALTAR, March 18.—The divers and boats' crews who have been at work all day in the efforts being made by the British naval authorities to rescue as many as possible of the bodies of the passengers and crew of the steamer Utopia, have at this hour (noon) nearly broken. Among those saved from the sinking vessel by the boats of the man-of-war were twenty of the Utopia's crew. C. M. Davis of Boston, a saloon passenger, is among those reported missing. The officers and crew of H. M. S. Anson stated that the Utopia foundered with the men of the Anson and thus caused the damage which resulted in the passenger steamer sinking. The Anson's officers assert that no blame can be attached to the war vessel.

SIRIUS ADRIFT.

LONDON, March 18.—The agents in this city of the Anchor line, to which the Utopia belonged, have been informed that the Utopia was struck abaft the engine room and that she sank stern foremost five minutes after the collision in seven fathoms of water. The agents announce that they find a difficulty in ascertain the exact number of lives lost, but they say that 170 Italians were saved, that eight bodies have been washed ashore, and that there are 175 persons rescued from the Utopia alive on board the British warships.

The agents add that the force of the gale, which still prevails in Gibraltar bay, prevents the people on shore from communicating satisfactorily with the commanders of the warships, so they are unable to ascertain the names of the survivors. Several boats of the fleet were wrecked while engaged in the rescue.

A NEW YORKER SAVED.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—A telegram was received at the Department of State this morning from United States Consul Sprague at Gibraltar, announcing the collision and sinking of the Italian emigrant steamer Utopia and expressing fear that two-thirds of the passengers were drowned. Wm. F. Cutharn of New York was among the passengers saved.

ITALIANS EXCITED.

NEW YORK, March 18.—News of the disaster to the Utopia off Gibraltar has caused a great commotion in the Italian colony here. About four thousand Italians gathered about the door of the information bureau at the Barge Office, and great difficulty was experienced by the police in keeping the crowd in check.

FOREIGN QUARTERMASTER'S ACCOUNT.

Peterson, the Swedish quartermaster, who had been steering the Utopia a short time before the collision, said that just before the vessels came together he went below. While there he felt the shock of the collision and came on deck. Just before he reached the main deck the Utopia had gone broadside upon the Anson's ram. The commander of the Utopia, Captain Jacksnque, according to Peterson, was on the steamship's bridge until the last moment. Peterson adds that as the Utopia was struck by the Anson's ram he clambered up the davits of one of the steamships boats and cut the ropes holding it. He had not time, however, to lower the boat, as the waves of the Utopia had passed beneath the war ship and it was evident the passenger steamer was rapidly sinking. Soon after, the boats of the Anson having been promptly lowered, one of the man-of-war's cutters ran alongside the Utopia, and Peterson managed to jump into her. He says while on board the Utopia after the collision he was surrounded by a terrible mass of human beings, fighting their way desperately and savagely, regardless of sex or age, towards the boats.

MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN

tumbled and climbed over each other in that horrible fight for life, seeking a chance to escape from drowning. One poor woman, who he was rescuing by the Anson's ship jackets, went raving mad when she was convinced that her children were drowned. There were similar distressing incidents by the score, the most awful of all occurring when the Utopia, with a final desperate lurch, sank, with her human freight clinging about her, and drew hundreds of living persons down with her. Many of those who survived in the sea when they saw the steamship could not float many minutes longer, were then also drawn down in the awful whirlpool caused by the Utopia's disappearance. Some came to the surface again for a few moments before sinking finally to their watery tomb. Others, more lucky, were able to cling to pieces of wreckage, floating oars, oars, gratings, hatchways, boats, lifeboats, etc., and this kept them above water until rescued by the warship's boats. But, as usual in such cases, the weaker succumbed more readily. Shrieking, praying women sank to the bottom, with their terrified offsprings clasped to their breasts. The children clung to their parents so desperately as to in several cases cause death by drowning, though they escaped had better judgment been used.

AN OFFICIAL REPORT.

At 2:30 p. m. it was announced that the official report of the number of persons on board the Utopia shows that when she left Naples the steamship had 800 souls on board, including passengers and crew. Of this number only 311 have been saved. Thus 489 of the passengers and crew are either drowned or missing.

The Anson's boats were lowered immediately after the collision, as were also those from other vessels of the British channel squadron. The Severn transport Avon and the ship Amber are the other movable turrets their powerful electric search lights on the scene of disaster to assist the rescuers. On this side the news of the disaster spread quickly, for an enormous crowd soon gathered on the piazzas and great excitement prevailed. The sea was so heavy that the boats of the rescuers could not with safety approach the wreck, so they were compelled to lie to the leeward, where they picked up the people as they were swept from the deck. As the Utopia's bows settled a terrible scene was witnessed. Those still on board the sinking steamer made a sudden rush to the fore rigging, struggling for their lives and vainly seeking places of refuge. Twenty minutes later the forecastle was submerged and the large number of persons gathered there, who hadnot dared to leap overboard with hope of being picked up by the boats, and who had failed in their efforts to ascend the rigging, were carried away by the waves. A steam pinnace rescued all others who had taken refuge in the main rigging, but the lines were not taken off until 11 o'clock at night. While the steam pinnace was rescuing the people on the forecastle the Utopia's bows had risen so that a seaman dared to leap overboard with hope of being picked up by the boats, and who had failed in their efforts to ascend the rigging, were carried away by the waves. A steam pinnace rescued all others who had taken refuge in the main rigging, but the lines were not taken off until 11 o'clock at night. While the steam pinnace was rescuing the people on the forecastle the Utopia's bows had risen so that a seaman could not reach the deck from the