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AMERICAN.

COLLEGE POINT, L. I., 28.—The *Seawanhaka* burned to the water's edge off College Point at 5 p. m. The *Osseo* saved a majority of the passengers. About forty were lost. The *Seawanhaka* is quite a large steamer, and leaves New York daily at 4 p. m. for Roslyn, L. I., and intermediate points. She usually carried a large number of passengers.

New York, 28.—The steamer *Seawanhaka*, which ran from Peck Slip up the sound to Glen Cove, L. I., took fire at four o'clock this afternoon while off Randall Island, East River. The fire was caused by an explosion in the engine room, and the centre of the steamboat was soon in flames. The pilot, Charles Smith, remained at his post until he was nearly burned to death, and he succeeded in beaching the vessel on a sunken meadow adjoining Randall Island. Many persons sprang overboard and were drowned. Many others in the stern of the vessel could not get off, and were burned to death. Of the 500 persons supposed to have been on board, 50 are believed to have perished. The bodies of about 30 dead persons have been recovered. Only those of Dr. Bevoise, a wealthy gentleman, whose residence is unknown, and Mary Reed, a young woman, were identified. Among the saved are Chas. A. Dana, chief editor of the *Sun*, S. L. M. Barlow, Col. W. R. Chase, and R. H. Rochester, treasurer of the W. U. Tel. Co. The vessel burned to the waters edge.

Another account by passengers is as follows: There were about 350 on board. All went well until Hellgate was passed, when the fire alarm rang out, and the flames were discovered bursting through the pilot house. The officers and crew assured the passengers that there was no danger, and headed the boat for Randall's Island. She grounded on a bar about 200 feet from the shore. The steamer *Granite*, of the Hartford line, passing at the time, picked up 13 passengers and one dead body, which landed at Whitestone. The steamer *Osseo* rescued the majority of the passengers and proceeded with them to College Point. Those without preservers saved themselves by clinging to the guards, paddles and other sheltered parts of the boat. The body of Abe Skidmore, of a well-known Long Island family, was recovered and is now at the Colman House, this city.

The *Seawanhaka* left the city each afternoon after the close of business hours for various places of popular resort along the Sound. Many well-known citizens sailed in her every day for their summer residences.

NEW HAVEN, 28.—President Hayes visited Branford to-day and held a reception in a room at the Totoket House, built by his great-grandfather, Ezekiel Hayes.

President and Mrs. Hayes to-day visited Branford, where the President held a reception, shaking hands with the entire population of the town. The President addressed the crowd and said his ancestors had lived in the town 100 years ago, perhaps as far back as 200 years. When John Russell settled there one of his sons was Samuel Russell, who preached to the people of Branford about 40 years. His daughter Rebecca Hayes, married Ezekiel Hayes. He did not desire to speak on political subjects. There might be some present who would disagree with his views, but the underlying principle of all their beliefs was probably the same. Samuel Russell preached to a God-fearing people that as they loved what was right and shunned what was wrong, upon this interpretation of praise, "God-fearing," all could write. Speeches were made by old residents, and an old scythe found in the possession of an old resident, made by Ezekiel Hayes, his great grandfather, was presented to him.

CHICAGO, 28.—The *Journal's* Washington special reports that Secretary Ramsey says he has not examined the Whittaker case, and will not until after the Judge Advocate General reviews the papers and makes some recommendations. It is, of course, possible that the finding of a court of inquiry may set aside, as well as a recommendation that Whittaker be dropped from the rolls of the academy for failing to reach the minimum standing in certain studies. Secretary Ramsey says he does not intend to give any

attention to the case until his return from Minnesota.

Col. Robert G. Ingersoll said to-day, he considered Hancock weaker to-day than when nominated, and that he would be weaker three months hence than now.

The *Inter-Ocean* has a Washington special which affirms that H. H. Finley, who was found guilty of writing the anonymous letters in the Donnelly-Washburne-Springer case, has been managing Field's campaign at Cincinnati and spending considerable money. He is now in Washington in an impecunious condition.

Swindlers attached to a circus now in Iowa, defrauded a granger of \$2,200. The proprietor and all his aids were promptly arrested, and rather than submit to the delay of a trial, the former refunded the money to the greeney.

NEW YORK, 28.—Barrymore, the actor, said to a reporter: "I want to be put on record as saying, that in my opinion the Texas Pacific railroad officials are responsible for the murder of Porter. Currie was well known as a desperado and murderer and they hired him as engine driver. When his drunken habits prevented his being put in charge of the engine, he was discharged, but Superintendent Noble took him under his wing and made him a special detective for the company and supplied him with firearms. It looks as if they encouraged their employees to shoot down in cold blood in their own depots passengers who support their line. I have also heard that the funds necessary to the defense of the murderer were supplied by officials of this same company."

A Norwegian bark has arrived at Queenstown from Richmond in a sinking condition, having been in a collision with an iceberg.

The Greenland seal fishery is reported exceptionally good.

The steamer *Narragansett*, of the Stonington line, was raised to-day, but sunk again while being towed towards Cowes Bay. No more bodies were recovered.

A famous beauty, known as "Jersey Lily," Mrs. Langtry, contemplates appearing shortly in private theatricals at the Cromwell House. She is now rehearsing with Coghlan.

Dr. Henry Tanner, of Milwaukee, began to-day his feat of fasting 40 consecutive days, under the supervision of a committee of six physicians.

PHILADELPHIA, 28.—The Inter-Collegiate four-oared shell race of 1½ miles, between the Columbia College, the University of Pennsylvania and Princeton College crews, took place to-day. The boats were so close at the finish that a conference of all the judges and referees was necessary to decide the race. The decision was finally given in favor of Columbia, and the time announced for the winners as 9 minutes 4½ seconds. The time of the winning crew over the same course last year was 9 minutes 23 seconds.

About fifty delegates from all parts of the United States, representing the Irish Revolutionary Convention, assembled this morning. Judge Brennan, of Iowa, was chosen temporary chairman. The object of the convention he stated to be to devise measures for the liberation of the Irish people. Committees were appointed and a recess taken.

DENVER, 28.—The *Tribune's* Santa Fe special says: P. J. Clabhorn, who has just returned from Arizona, reports the murder, some days ago, of two unknown prospectors near Fort Defiance, by Navajo Indians, and says a party of four soldiers and an interpreter left the fort for the Navajo agency, to attempt the arrest of the murderers. The Navajo chiefs, a short time ago, asserted friendship for the whites, and these murders are thought to be the work of a few hot bloods.

The *Republican's* Leadville special says: J. B. Omahundro (Texas Jack), the noted scout and plainsman, died here this morning. He will be buried with military honors to-morrow.

WASHINGTON, 28.—The gross receipts from the Internal Revenue for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1880, estimating the receipts for the two remaining days, will be in round numbers, \$123,000,000, an increase of \$10,000,000 over the receipts of last year, and an increase of \$3,000,000 over the estimates of the Department. This increase is derived from whisky, cigars and cigarettes.

CINCINNATI, 28.—The first number of the *Times-Star* was issued this afternoon from what was the *Star* office. The new company is a consolidation of the *Times* and *Star*. C. P. Taft, of the *Times* company, retains the presidency, but B. B.

Stewart, of the *Star*, is active manager. Only two of the *Times'* editorial staff are transferred to the new paper.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., 28.—City Treasurer Williams committed suicide to-day. Yesterday his accounts were declared correct by a committee of the common council.

NEW YORK, 28.—Charles Hasbrouck, who was employed on the boat, says: We had a crew of four deck hands, one deck boy, engineer, fireman, captain, clerk, superintendent, wheelman, superintendent clerk, porter, steward and cook. The crew did their duty like men and few of them lost their presence of mind. You can imagine how cool they were when the clerk, who was collecting fares, as soon as he realized that the boat was on fire, returned to his office and secured all the money he had left there. Among our passengers Charles A. Dana, Richard O'Gorman, S. L. M. Barlow, one or two of Harper's publishers, and a number of other gentlemen, whose names I cannot recollect, but who were in the habit of going to their homes on the Long Island shore by our boat. All of the gentlemen I have named I understood escaped. The vessel burned like powder after once the flames started, and it was a terrible scene. The shrieking women and children huddled aft until their clothes caught fire and those on the forward part of the boat were men who were cut off from communication with or going to rescue their female relatives and friends by the flames, which burnt fiercely about the centre of the boat. Mr. Morris, our porter, saw a child floating on its back, and was going to jump overboard to save it, when a frantic woman clutched his arm, and saying, "You are a strong man and I a woman without any friends on board, for God's sake help me." The porter left the child to itself and I believe saved the woman. Only one of the *Seawanhaka's* boats got out and was one which had canvass fastened over it. After the canvass was got off the body of a child about two years old was found lying in the watery bottom of the boat. No body seemed to know how it got there. After I got on Randall's Island I was almost exhausted, but the doctors, who were hurrying about, revived me by pouring some liquor down my throat. I reached this city on the *Sylvan Glen*, which also had several of our passengers on board. Other passengers were taken on board the *Osseo*, the *Granite State* and the *Minnehannock*, and were carried to those boat's destination.

A lady was climbing down the ladder leading from the promenade deck to the main deck, but as the ladder is a pretty hard thing for a man to get down on at any time, she fell into the gangway, amid the flames. Myself and about half a dozen others rescued her from her perilous position. I saw a butcher who belongs either at Great Neck or Sand Point, crawl upon an asparagus box and, before I could stop him, jumped overboard with it. I yelled at him not to jump or he would be struck by the wheel. He did not heed me and went over forward. The last I saw of him he was going under the wheel. Several others who went over forward also went under the paddle wheel.

The Eastern Boulevard Club grounds, East 121 Street, is right opposite the scene of the disaster. Some dozen members were present at the time and gathered a number of neighbors, manned all the boats of the Club and hired others at the adjacent floats. These all went across the river and brought about forty persons to the Club-house, who were burned about the body, hands and face. The wounds of these parties were dressed and clothes given them. The friends of those who were not able to go home, were notified, and came with carriages and removed them in a hurry. No names of those saved were taken. Dr. A. A. McDonald, chief of staff of the Lunatic Asylum at Ward's Island, said he was sitting in his room this afternoon about 4.30 when he saw the steamer come up the river all on fire. As the steamer passed the Island he saw it was the *Seawanhaka*. The fire appeared to be just forward of the paddle wheels and the steamer turned in as if to land on the Island, but suddenly turned out again. She was going at full speed. He started out to follow her. At that time there were about 500 patients in the grounds, and most of them had seen the burning steamer and they made a rush for the river front and fell in line to witness the sight. Orderlies of instruction were sent out and all the

insane persons were safely placed in their rooms. Dr. McDonald ordered all necessary articles from an apothecary and at once went to the scene of the accident. By this time the steamer had been run up on the sunken meadow and was all ablaze, men, women and children were jumping from the burning vessel. The doctor ordered his private boat out and everything possible was done to relieve the passengers on board the unfortunate steamer. The first man brought to land by the Ward's Island boats, was Mr. DeBevoise, a man about 40 years of age, who was being brought to shore by two other men, but who when he was landed, was beyond the power of medical aid to resuscitate him and he died. The body of a woman who was identified by marks on her clothing, as Mary Reed, came ashore on the island. A rope which had evidently been fastened about her body to lower her to the water from the steamer was found around her neck, and between strangulation and exhaustion the woman had died. Next came the body of a woman burned to a crisp, with an infant seven months' old in her arms, also burned to death. Then two children, neither of them more than two years old, were picked up; both alive and apparently but little injured. A young girl was found floating fast away from the wreck and taken to the homoeopathic hospital. She was terribly burned about the body. Mr. Lopes, a passenger who lives at Sea Cliff, but does business in this city, was rescued with a young lady named Ida Bellsmith.

Mr. Lopes said that the steamer left the dock at East River at 4.15 p. m. A stop was made at 33rd St., where 75 or 100 additional passengers were taken on board. Just about Hellgate I went forward to seek some friends, as I looked back I saw flames coming up through the coal hole, just under the pilot house. I made my way to the bow of the steamer and held out as long as I could, and then in company with Miss Smith jumped overboard, after furnishing her a preserver. The life boats of the *Seawanhaka* were not lowered because it was impossible to lower them. The captain of the steamer stood at his post until the last moment, I even saw him turn his head while at the wheel to avoid the smoke and flames. He would have run in towards the island but the ropes connecting with the rudder were burned off.

Charles Smith, Captain of the *Seawanhaka*, was found in the hospital on Randall's Island, suffering from severe burns about the arms and face. He said about 4.30 I heard a loud, dull report, or explosion. I turned to see what was the matter, when I saw the vessel in flames about midships; I saw the steamer *Granite State* on my starboard side, and towing my port side. Finding my steamer was on fire, I immediately headed her for sunken, and with a full head of steam, although the engineer had been driven from his post. I landed her about forty feet up on the meadows. Most of the passengers on the bow of the vessel, and those on the stern were at the mercy of the flames, as all the passengers on the bow were cut off. Many jumped on land, while others jumped into the water. I stood at the wheel until the last minute, and then jumped overboard, and was picked up by a small boat. We had no freight on board and I do not know what caused the explosion.

The *Seawanhaka* can carry 1,300 persons, but Monday is generally a dull day and we had only about 250 or 300 on board this afternoon. The engineer of the steamer, Frank Weeks and his son Edward, who was fireman on the steamer, were at their posts at the time of the fire. The fireman explains that some of the small tubes of the boiler must have burst, throwing the furnace door open and scattering hot coals around, set fire to the vessel. He, like his father, was driven from his post by the flames. Both escaped with severe burns.

The number of lives lost by accident cannot be learned as the steamer being merely a daily transport used between near points, and kept no register. It is not likely that the list of lost will number more than 50. At midnight 11 bodies, nine adults, one child and two babies were brought to the morgue. At Bellevue Hospital a number of persons who had relatives and friends on the *Seawanhaka* were waiting to identify them if among the unfortunates, lost, and the scene as the bodies were carried in from the boat and the coffins opened was heart rending,

one old gentleman, Mr. De Bevoise, was frantic with grief, when he identified the body of his son, David H. De Bevoise, of 392 Pacific Street, Brooklyn. The body of a beautiful young woman about 20 years of age was identified as that of Mary Reed. The body of a stout lady about 50 years of age supposed to be that of Mrs. Ritchie, of Locust Grove, Long Island. It is reported that there are about 15 bodies on Randall's Island, and a number on Long Island shore. The body of a young man was picked up by a row boat and moored to the stake at the foot of 115 street. It is known that some of the crew did not do their duty, but jumped into the river and swam ashore. When flames broke out the *Seawanhaka* was passing through Hell Gate, but was run on until nearly burned to the waters edge and had entered little Hell Gate. However, the members of the crew, says she could not have beached sooner. No doubt more bodies if not picked up by the boat will be found on Long Island shore, as the wind was blowing in that direction. If the catastrophe occurred even an hour later, the loss of life would have been frightful. It occurred just at a time when the Sound steamer and Harlem and other local boats were in the immediate neighborhood.

The *Seawanhaka* was about 15 years old. She was a regular day boat, running between New York and Roslyn, L. I., calling at White-stone, Great Neck, Sands Point and Glenwood. She arrives in this city about 9 a. m. and leaves on return at 4.15. The passengers on her are generally bankers, business and literary men, who live on Long Island and come to the city in the morning, returning in the afternoon. Frequently lady members of their families and servants accompany them. No regular company managed the boat, but it is said she was run in the interest of four owners, whose names are C. A. Dana, L. L. M. Barlow, M. Kirk, of Glen Cove, and Mr. Endie, of Great Neck. Some of the owners had special rooms on the steamer.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., 29.—The democratic ratification meeting of the nominations made at Cincinnati was held at the Wigwam, where an immense audience assembled. Ex-Gov. Hendricks presided. Speeches were made by Ex-Gov. Hendricks, Hon. W. H. English, the nominee for Vice-President, Senators M. Donald and Voorhees, Hon. Franklin Landers, candidate for governor and others.

SAN ANTONIO, 29.—A rumor afloat that Gen. Ord will take year's furlough and then go on retired list, being succeeded by Schofield who is now commanding at West Point.

CHICAGO, 29.—The *Tribune's* Washington special says: Still Hutchins, editor of the *Post*, says the Vice-Presidency could have been had by Morrison, of Illinois, if his friends had asked it, but he thought a cabinet office much more to his liking.

WASHINGTON, 29.—It is thought General Logan will be chairman of the National Republican Committee.

Reviewing Lathrop's withdrawal from the democratic committee Massachusetts, the New York *Tribune* says: What with Butlerism in State, Randallism in Pennsylvania, Tildenism in New York, Hendricksism in Indiana, and a shade of Tildenism in Ohio, the drawbacks an overwhelming enthusiasm Hancock are numerous.

LONDON, 28.—In the House Commons, Sir Charles Dilke, the Foreign Secretary, stated the consequence of communication proceeding with the American Government and with the Crown officers upon the Fortune Bay station, the production of the correspondence on the subject would be delayed.

Forster, Chief Secretary for land, informed Parnell that he opposed his relief bill, granting £100,000, on the ground that it would more harm than good.

Edwards & Harris, tea brokers, have failed; liabilities, £70,000. Failure of George Matteau, chaut and commission agent, announced.

The Maharajah of Cashmere introducing needed reforms is trying to establish a State Council for the suppression of abuses.

The latest dispatches from the Ayres, announce that the city surrounded by National troops the 26th instant and summer capitulate within twenty-four hours.

Nicotora, of the Italian Chamber, received an anonymous letter