

DEATH LIST OF STEAMER FIRE MAY EVEN REACH 1,000 VICTIMS

New York City Is Overwhelmed With Woe and Crowds to the Piers Whereon Rescued Bodies Are.

Divers Today Work on Slocum's Submerged Hull--Many Bodies Burned Beyond Recognition--Men in Boats Find Many Bodies.

New York, June 15.—At 3 o'clock p. m. Five hundred and seventy-seven bodies have reached the morgue. Fourteen launches, manned by the harbor police, and equipped with drags and other appliances, are at work looking for more victims.

New York, June 15.—New York is wounded to the heart. The terrible death list from the loss of the steamer General Slocum will probably reach 800. And of these 800 dead an appalling number are little children who went gaily out for a holiday, but who now lie listlessly bedraggled, bruised, blackened or perhaps unscarred, mute tributes to death's mockery.

From a thousand homes in this city there gleamed throughout the night, and until the summer's dawn returned, the shaded lights of sorrow. In perhaps 10,000 other homes sleep came not, as friends of the bereaved considered the sufferings of others.

And in all this great city, wherever lives a mother or father, little children were clasped tenderly in sheltering arms and prayers of thankfulness went up for the escape from what might have been, mingled with those of sympathy for their parents bereaved and benedictions for the dead.

Through the long hours of the night, whose very atmosphere seemed surcharged with sorrow, there wandered from morgue to morgue men and women, tiredly weeping or in dry-eyed haggardness, wearily walking in quest of their dead.

At 1:30 o'clock this morning, 483 bodies of victims had been recovered. This list will be greatly increased, it is feared, as the submerged hull has yet to give up its dead.

Out near the wreck lights flashed in the darkness last night, showing that the waters were being scanned continually, although the work of searching the hull was of necessity discontinued.

The delay but added to the waiting misery of those who were left on the beach opposite the wreck, grief-stricken crowds tramped to and fro in the chill night air or sat unbedding and listless in some spot where a little shelter might be found.

The divers, when the gray dawn came creeping up, resumed their work on the sunken hull, and the ghastly list began to increase. Their work is difficult, because vast quantities of debris must be torn away beneath the water and removed before the remaining victims can be seen.

So blackened and twisted and so dense is this mass that many bodies may never be found. Many, too, were probably incinerated in the floating furnace before it sank beneath the waters of the sound.

Will Reach Eight Hundred. When the divers return to the surface they say every indication points to a terrible swelling of the list. They say the final accounting, considering those that have been recovered, those known to have been aboard and the appearance of the hull, will probably show that 800 died in that horrible race to the beach of North Brothers Island. They say that from within can be seen portions of children's bodies entangled in the mass of

FINLAND'S GOVERNOR GENERAL ASSAULTED (Journal Special Service.)

St. Petersburg, June 15.—An official dispatch today states that fighting between the Russian and Japanese at Va-

wrecks, that the blackened hull is a veritable charnel-place, and that when free way is obtained there will come to the surface a little army of dead.

Out on the piers today there are great crowds, some morbidly curious and others sobbingly looking at the dead laid out there. A kindly policeman, big, burly and grave-faced, half supported her in her walk.

The woman suddenly threw herself upon the body of a little girl whose tangled hair but unscarred face told of death by drowning. She kissed the dead child's face, and before the guardian officer could realize her intention she sprang for the edge of the pier. Quick as the officer was, he seized her only at the edge of the stringer where she had poised for her leap to death.

There are other scenes scarcely less dramatic in pitiful pathos. Early this morning an aged man with snow-white hair, silent, dry-eyed and heedless of those around him, gained admittance to the pier and walked slowly along the little row. He turned to an attendant and requested that the body of a little boy which he pointed out be removed to a given address.

"My last one," he answered, simply, "my little orphaned grandson. I am now alone." And then, still with that terrible calmness of bereft old age, he retraced his steps and disappeared in the top-restrained crowd.

Work Is Systematized. As the morning advanced the sight from the shore was shut out by a white mist which covered Long Island sound and settled around the wreck of the Slocum as though endeavoring to cover the horror spot with a huge white mantle.

The divers were this forenoon placed under the charge of John Rice, the veteran diver and hero of the Boston incident, wherein Oliver Olsen lost his life. Floats have been placed around the wreck, and as a diver discovers a body it is attached to the grappling-hook and hoisted to the surface, where it is laid out on the deck. The bodies now being recovered are generally unrecognizable.

When several are collected a city tug steams alongside and the dead are transferred to the deck. The number of the corpse, after which it is placed in a plain white wooden box. When the tug is thus loaded it steams to the foot of East Twenty-sixth street, where the mjar has been transformed into a temporary morgue.

Out on the sound numerous small boats are constantly patrolling, and bodies are frequently found. The boats take them to North Brothers Island, from whence they are transferred to the tug.

Identifications Are Few. At noon today the situation was apparently darker than before. At that hour 499 bodies were in the morgue and 10 more were being landed at a pier. Of the total number of 519, but 145 had been identified up to that hour.

Superintendent Richards of Bellevue hospital said: "It will take days to identify all the bodies, and many may never be known. In 18 years' hospital experience this is the most appalling accident I ever heard of, and the bodies are in the worst condition."

At Bellevue hospital there are 200 dead, the mystery in the cause of the fire remains impenetrable and none can be found who saw the actual start of the flames. Theories are plentiful, but there is no far known cause and none on whom the blame can be directly attached. It is not even certain that the fire originated from the lunch-room in the bow of the boat. All that is known positively is that it was apparently first noticed in the pile of life preservers, and that even then it was under some headway.

District Attorney Jerome has engaged five marshals to assist him in making an investigation into the cause and allegation that the life preservers were rotten. Several victims report that they made ineffectual efforts to secure a serviceable cork support.

Commissioner Says 1,000. Health Commissioner Darlington today passed the entire night at the scene of the disaster, returned here shortly after

New York, June 15.—All estimates of the loss of life in the disaster which yesterday overtook the excursion steamer General Slocum were below the actual number, according to today's discoveries. Health Commissioner Darlington, who passed the entire night at the scene of the wreck, returned to the city at noon on a boat which was loaded with bodies, and declared that after conferring with Master Diver John Rice as to the conditions in the submerged hull he was fully satisfied that the number of dead would reach at least 1,000 and possibly more.

Up to noon but 165 bodies out of the 535 bodies recovered had been identified, as hundreds were burned beyond recognition.

On account of the number of children killed, exceeding even the appalling list of those lost in the Iroquois theatre fire in Chicago, and the general loss of life, the disaster easily outranks in horror any modern catastrophe of a similar nature.



GOLD STRIKE THAT RIVALS KLONDIKE

Southern Oregon Hunters Uncover Fabulously Rich Quartz Ledge—Four Miners Gather \$3,800 in a Day.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Medford, Or., June 15.—News has just been brought here from Grayback mountain, 10 miles east of Medford, near Walden, by William Gilmore, of the greatest gold strike ever made in southern Oregon. He brought rock containing 84 per cent of free gold.

Harry Briggs, 15 years old, and Charles Howard, while hunting Monday, discovered the ledge. They were resting, and picked up a small rock which was literally covered with gold. They broke off a piece of the ledge capping which weighed six pounds and mortared off \$700.

J. C. Howard, Frank Thompson, David Briggs and Henry Briggs pounded out \$3,800 worth of gold Tuesday, using an old-fashioned mortar and pestle. They have opened up a vein 60 feet long and 16 inches wide, exposing \$20,000 worth of gold at what is claimed to be a conservative estimate.

There is greater excitement than in the famous days of Gold Hill. Miners are leaving for the camp in parties and singly, rivaling the stampedes of the Klondike. The location of the strike is near the California line on a divide between the Illwaco and Klamath rivers.

This section was the scene of rich placer diggings in pioneer days, but no ledges were ever uncovered.

C. J. Howard was formerly the Wells-Fargo express agent in Medford, and has many relatives in this locality who are joining the rush.

GEN. SHERMAN BELL, IN CHARGE OF THE COLORADO STATE TROOPS, WHO ARE DRIVING UNION MEN FROM THE MINES.

BELIEVE IT WAS AN EARTHQUAKE

Two Shocks, the First at 10:25 A. M., Cause Stampede in Court House--Window on Third Street Thrown Out of Plumb.

What is believed to have been an earthquake shook the courthouse so violently twice this morning that a number of attaches prepared to leave the building. The first shock came at 10:25 o'clock, and the second at 11:40. So severe was the second shock that Manager W. H. Beharrell, of the Heywood Bros. & Wakefield company, who was occupying the witness stand in Judge Fraser's department, rose from his seat and uttered an exclamation of alarm.

When the first shock came a few of the officials and deputies jumped to the conclusion that the prisoners in the county jail underneath the building had attempted to dismantle a part of the prison with dynamite. They were much relieved when such a cause for their fears was found not to exist. The theory for the shock was natural, in view of the publicity given the recent plot of the prisoners to break jail.

Weather Observer Beals' instruments recorded no seismic disturbances. The vibrations were from west to east and were felt more forcefully in the upper story of the structure.

A pen was shaken out of a glass holder and ink spilled out of an inkwell on the desk of Marion R. Johnson, clerk in department No. 1. H. C. Smith, the chief clerk, and Miss M. E. Phillips, a deputy, who were in the filing-room, were jarred so severely that they hastened to the platform at the top of the rear steps to be prepared to leave the building in case the shocks should increase in intensity. Robert Galloway hurried out of the law library in anticipation of danger.

RAISE \$10,000 TO CATCH MISCREANTS

Teller County Commissioners Take Steps to Probe the Independence Outrage--Moyer Released.

(Journal Special Service.) Cripple Creek, Colo., June 15.—The Teller county commissioners, finding that offers of rewards for the capture, dead or alive, of the perpetrators of the Independence dynamiting outrage, are not likely to bring results, have voted an appropriation of \$10,000 which will be used for the purpose of ferreting out the criminals.

It is believed that by employing competent detectives to assist the county officers the identity of the men will in time be disclosed. It is not believed, however, that anything which may be taken as a good clue has thus far been unscanned. The action of the commissioners in making the appropriation would indicate that they, too, believe nothing has been accomplished.

Up to date 145 men have been deported from the district and 22 others are still confined in the bullpen. A writ of habeas corpus for the production of Charles Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, was issued yesterday by Federal Court Judge Thayer. The writ commanded Governor Peabody, General Bell and others to produce Moyer at St. Louis on July 6.

Application for the writ was based on the ground that the constitution of the United States was being violated in this state by the acts of the militia. The writs were to have been served on Peabody and the others today.

MOYER IS SUBSERIBED. (Journal Special Service.) Telluride, Colo., June 16.—President Moyer has been surrendered to the sheriff and an effort is being made to secure bonds on the charge of desecrating the flag. The federation attorneys claim that they have evidence that Peabody did not issue proclamation declaring martial law in San Miguel county and of releasing Moyer until after he had learned that Judge Thayer of St. Louis had issued a writ of habeas corpus.

TWO-SIDED VICTORIES

Japanese Transports Reported to Have Been Sunk by Russians.

RUSSIANS LOSE SHIPS

Tokio Hears That Two Transports Were Attacked by Vladivostok Squadron--The Latter Is Then Pursued.

(Journal Special Service.) Tokio, June 15.—The capture of Tetsu, between Kiao Chou and Seculanten, by the Japanese was confirmed this afternoon. The Russians lost six guns and many regimental colors. The sinking of the transports Himechi Maru and Sado Maru by the Russians is also confirmed, and 397 survivors of the Sado have reached Kure. Further details of the sinking of the vessels are not obtainable.

London, June 15.—Reuter's Tokio correspondent sends a report via Cologne that the three Russian warships which engaged the Japanese vessels off the island of Tsushima Wednesday were captured by Admiral Kamimura today. Should the telegrams prove authentic, it means that the Vladivostok squadron must no longer be considered in the war.

Tokio, June 15.—The transport Hino Maru, which today returned from McIl, reports that at 11:30 o'clock Wednesday morning it encountered a Russian squadron 20 miles west of Shimonishi. The Hino Maru fled, signaling to the other transports the news of their danger.

Three of the transports escaped, but the Hino Maru saw the Himechi Maru and Sado Maru surrounded by the Russian ships and evidently at their mercy. Their fate is not known, but it is feared that the loss of life was heavy.

Added to the report brought in by the transport Hino Maru is another indicating that the reverses may have been on the other side, or possibly that the Russians failed to make their escape after attacking the transport fleet. It is to the effect that a Japanese scoutship followed the Russian ships, merely to keep in touch with their location until nightfall, when word was conveyed to the Japanese squadron, which is believed to be in pursuit.

Should this latter report prove authentic, it is almost certain that the Vladivostok squadron could not escape and that its capture or destruction is imminent. Further and official news of the transports is now awaited with intense anxiety, as it is believed they would endeavor to fight and escape rather than surrender.

REPORTS TAFANGSHEN BATTLE

Kuropatkin Reports Loss of Nearly 400 Men, Including Staff Officers. (Journal Special Service.) St. Petersburg, June 15.—General Kuropatkin reports that in the engagement of the fourteenth at Tafangshen, north of Port Arthur, with the Japanese forces, two divisions of the Russians sustained severe losses. The killed include Colonel Khoan-tanov, of the First Siberian regiment; Second Lieutenant Nadochinsky, and the adjutant of the regiment. The wounded include General Gerngross and Captain Krinsky, of the general staff.

Twenty officers whose names are unknown were also killed or wounded, besides 311 soldiers, of which the First Siberian regiment lost 12 officers and 200 men, and the first brigade of artillery lost six officers and 50 men.

The outcome of the fight is not given out, hence it is believed possible that the fight was a draw or possibly is still being continued. As the troops are now scattered from Fuchau over a considerable stretch of country both to the north and east, it is believed that fighting may be going on over nearly that entire section.

BATTLE NOW ON

Russian Official Dispatches Show Heavy Casualties in Engagement. (Journal Special Service.) St. Petersburg, June 15.—An official dispatch today states that fighting between the Russian and Japanese at Va-

WOOD FAILS TO GET PHILIPPINE COMMAND

(Journal Special Service.) Washington, June 15.—Major General Corbin was today assigned to command in the Philippines, vice General Wade. The assignment came as a surprise, as it was believed that General Wood would succeed General Wade.

It is also hinted that it is the desire of General Chaffee to be succeeded as chief of staff by General Corbin and that the assignment of the latter to the Philippines is for the purpose of putting him in line for that position.