The Weekly Star.

WM. H. BERNARD, Editor and Prop'r.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

FRIDAY, - - - JUNE 7, 1889.

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A HORRIBLE CALAMITY.

Disasters by flood, fire, volcano, earthquake, cyclone and pestilence come not unfrequently to some portions of the earth, and we read sometimes stories from other lands of whole cities being destroyed in a day or a night, and thousands of people being swallowed up, as it were, in a day or a night by some great convulsion of nature or by the rushing deluge of some great river, but they are not read with the same thrilling interest as the recitals of those tragic visitations which bring death, sorrow and mourning to people nearer home. In all the features of dire desolation and death we have seldom read a story which equals the life and property destroying flood which last Friday overwhelmed Johnstown and several other towns in Pennsylvania, and which in a few brief hours swept into eternity thousands of human beings, washed from the face of the earth several towns, and destroyed $11,000,000 worth of property. The thought of death in any shape is always linked with seriousness, if not with terror. In the presence of the grim destroyer there is no room for the levity which sometimes trifles with solemn incidents in the current of life, but when he comes thus without warning, clothed in savage ferocity, and with one fell swoop hurls from life into eternity many thousands of unsuspecting human beings, men, women, children, all borne down on the breast of the surging waters, in sight of friends powerless to rescue, the stoutest heart stands appalled, and the most callous cannot remain untouched. The loss of property was something, but it was nothing compared to the fearful sacrifice of human life, a sacrifice which we do not believe was ever before equalled in this land, and seldom anywhere else, except perhaps on the Yellow River, in China.

We have our own great river floods, which sometimes deluge thousands of miles of territory, but there is seldom much loss of life, because they come gradually and give timely warning to people living in the threatened territory to retreat beyond the reach of the waters, but here there was no warning. The deluge came with the impetuous suddenness of a cloud burst from the sky, and the first realization of disaster they had was when they felt their houses shaking and rocking, and whirling on the surge of the mighty torrent, too late to escape or even cry out with a hope of rescue. Fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, strong men, trusting women, innocent children, tender babes, all swept away by that remorseless tide in the presence of the living, powerless to save. Add to this the horrid burning of the houses stranded against the bridge, when by the singular catastrophe of a conflagration in the midst of a flood, many human beings were burned to death, and the lurid picture of this ghastly tragedy is complete.

The responsibility for the cause of all this sacrifice of human life and of property remains to be investigated. If the wealthy, sporting gentlemen who are the proprietors of that immense reservoir—which might be more properly denominated a dammed lake—which they purchased and preserved for fishing frolics, were as careless in making the dam secure as the telegraphic reports assert, they have laid themselves liable to suits for damages, which will probably make their fish investment a very expensive one before the end in the courts is reached.

For the Flood Sufferers.

A meeting of citizens to take action looking toward contributing to the relief of the sufferers by the flood at Johnstown and other places in Pennsylvania, was held at the rooms of the Produce Exchange yesterday at noon.

On motion of D. L. Gore, Esq., Mr. B. G. Worth was called to the chair, and Col. Jno. L. Cantwell requested to act as secretary.

After a full and free expression of sympathy with the sufferings of our fellow citizens in their affliction and distress, on motion of Donald McRae, Esq., it was unanimously resolved that the sum of five hundred dollars be sent as a contribution from this city and that the Chamber appoint a committee of three to solicit subscriptions for that purpose, and that this committee be requested to forward the same.

The chair appointed Messrs. D. L. Gore, P. Heinsberger, Octavius Hicks as the committee above referred to, and the meeting adjourned.

The Railroads.

The flood has rendered the bridge over the Nottaway river on the Seaboard road impassible, thus breaking connection with points north by that route. The Atlantic Coast Line is selling no tickets to points north of Weldon, and has no passenger or freight service north of that place. It is thought, however, by railroad officials here, that through connection north will be made in a few days.

STATE TOPICS.

The State Agricultural Department is showing commendable interest in perfecting the system of county and township correspondents to report the crop conditions for the State. It is not a matter of easy accomplishment to organize a thorough system with intelligent and accurate correspondents, because to be accurate requires time, inquiry, thought, knowledge of localities and discriminating judgment not often combined in one individual. Especially is this the case when no compensation is received for the labor done or the time devoted to it. Yet it is a matter of importance that these reports should be as full and accurate as possible for the productive capacity and agricultural prosperity of the State are judged to a great extent by the reports of this department.

We doubt if there is a State in the South where there is at this time as much activity in the discussion of railroad projects, railroad plans, railroad surveys and railroad building as in North Carolina. There are no less than ten that we call to mind at this writing in vigorous process of construction, some of which are to form portions of grand trunk roads, others feeders to the roads now in operation. In addition to this there are several which have recently been constructed. Don't this show the confidence of moneyed men in the outlook for North Carolina? Capitalists are proverbially timid, and are not prone to put their money in enterprises where success may be doubtful, and the fact that they are doing it so freely in this State carries its own comment with it.

Some of our exchanges, in discussing the future of the South as an iron manufacturing section, inadvertently overlook the fact that the resources of North Carolina and the outlook for success in this industry are quite as good and quite as favorable as in any other State. She has both coal and iron of the best quality in limitless quantity, and all the requisites for successfully engaging in that business when the railroads which in the near future will penetrate her iron and coal regions, give her quick, cheap transportation and ready access to the markets within and beyond her borders.

THE RELIEF FUND.

Maxton Sends the First Contribution for the Flood Sufferers.

MAXTON, N. C., June 4, 1889.

Editor Star, Wilmington, N. C.:

DEAR SIR—Knowing that Wilmington will promptly respond to what now seems to be the loudest call for aid to the destitute this country has heard, I send herewith twenty dollars hastily gathered this evening from a few of Maxton's citizens, who desire to aid at once the sufferers from the recent flood at Johnstown, Pa., and vicinity. More will be contributed later. Respectfully, W. B HARKER.

Women's Foreign Missionary Union.

The Women's Foreign Missionary Union of Wilmington Presbytery will meet to-day in the Lecture room of the First Presbyterian Church, Mrs. B. F. Hall, of this city is President of the Union. The following is the order of exercises for the week:

Thursday, June 6, 4 p m.—Devotional Exercises. Address of Welcome—Mrs S G Lewis. Response—Mrs D G Robeson. Enrolment of Delegates. Minutes of last Convention. President's Report and Address—Subject: "How we can interest others in Foreign Missions." Appointment of Nominating Committee.

8:15 p m—Public Meeting—Address by Rev E Lane, Campinas, Brazil.

Friday, June 7th, 10 a m—Praise Meeting—Each member is expected to read or repeat a missionary promise. Report of Nominating Committee and Election of Officers. Reports of Societies. Question—"Shall the Union undertake the support of two missionaries?" Answered by delegations. Topic—"How may we encourage and help our missionaries?" Opened by Mrs D G Worth.

4 p m— Prayer and Praise. Topic—"How can we increase the circulation of the *Missionary*?" Topic—"How shall we conduct our missionary meetings?" Opened by Miss Anderson. Consecration. Adjournment.

8:30—10:30 p m—Social Reception.

Personal.

The Wilson *Mirror*, whose editor has no doubt read the STAR closely of late, is well pleased with its new associate. The *Mirror* says:

"Maj. Duffy, of the STAR, is displaying editorial ability of a very high order. He is doing some very admirable and efficient work on the STAR. He wields a facile pen, and writes with the point. He is sound on all the leading questions, and expresses his views with that perspicuity and terseness that is so desirable in newspaper men. Eastern North Carolina journalism has received a valuable acquisition in Maj. Duffy, and we trust his labors in our section will be agreeable to him as we know they will be instructive and profitable to us."

Rev. W. S. Creasy.

The Lumberton *Robesonian* says: "This distinguished gentleman, pastor of the First Methodist church, in Wilmington, preached to a very large and appreciative congregation in the Methodist church in this town last Wednesday night. His reputation had preceded him so that our people looked for a most eloquent discourse, but it is just to say that the sermon far exceeded the highest expectations of his most enthusiastic admirers. Indeed he captured all hearts. His manner is simply perfect, his flow of language grand and majestic. As a pulpit orator he has but few equals.'

Death of John S. McEachern.

Mr. John S. McEachern, a well known and highly respected citizen of this city, died yesterday morning, in the 60th year of his age. He had been a long and patient sufferer from paralysis, which incapacitated him for business for several months. A devoted husband and father, an honest man and a sincere Christian, his death will be mourned by a large circle of relatives and friends who loved him for his many virtues.

COUNTY AFFAIRS.

Annal Meeting of the Board of Magistrates and County Commissioners—The Tax Levy—Old Board of Education Re-elected, Etc.

The annual meeting of the Board of Magistrates of New Hanover county was held yesterday at the Court House, in conjunction with the Board of County Commissioners. A majority of the Justices was present, and W. W. Harriss, Esq., chairman, presided.

Mr. H. A. Bagg, chairman of the Board of Commissioners, presented his annual report.

The report shows the county in a prosperous condition, the expenses for the fiscal year ended November 30, 1889, are $29,790. The tax levy is recommended to be reduced two cents on the $100 valuation. The total tax levy recommended is as follows:

On property—for county, 40½ cents; for State, 40½ cents. Total—81 cents.

On poll—for county, 1.12½ cents; for State and schools, 1.12½. Total—$2.43 cents.

On motion of Justice J. W. King the report on the tax levy made by the Board of Commissioners was adopted Also, the levy made by the Board under schedules A. B. and C.

Justice Walker Meares, (Superintendent Public Instruction) submitted the following resolution concerning certain sections of the school law, which he said seriously conflicted with the duties of the County Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Resolved, That the justices of the peace, the board of county commissioners and the board of education, in joint meeting assembled, deem the recent amendment to the public school law (Chap. 199, Section 47, Laws 1889) to wit: "By and with the consent of the county board of education, the committees of two or more contiguous districts of any city or town may, by a majority vote of the committee in such districts, employ a practical teacher, who shall be known as the superintendent of the public schools of said districts, and he shall perform all the duties of the county superintendent as to said districts," as inexpedient, unwise and dangerous to the best interests of the schools.

Resolved, That the above amendment if adopted by one or more school committees, will seriously impair the authority of the three boards who control the school interests of New Hanover county, and especially the board of education, which body is immediately in charge of all public schools in the county, and whose executive officer, to wit: the county superintendent of public instruction elected by this joint meeting, is prevented from discharging all these important duties, as to at least the two largest districts, which duties are so clearly set forth throughout the public school law; therefore,

Resolved, That this joint meeting recommend to the Board of Education, that further than conferring the title of principal as heretofore upon a teacher with such duties as shall not conflict with the duties of the county superintendent of public instruction, be not allowed by any school committee in New Hanover county.

On motion of Justice John Cowan, the courtesy of the floor was extended to Mr. Don MacRae and Mr. Jas. H. Chadbourn, members of the school committee. They were invited to address the meeting, and Mr. Don MacRae did so, expressing his disapproval of the resolutions offered by Justice Meares.

After a prolonged discussion of the resolutions and after a motion to table had been defeated, the resolutions were adopted.

On motion, the Board proceeded to elect a Board of Education, and the old board—Messrs. H. A. Bagg, B. G. Worth and E. L. Pearce—was chosen for another term.

Mr. Bagg offered a resolution that the County Commissioners be instructed to turn over to the Board of Education $2,000 from the general fund, to be placed to the credit of the educational fund, if required, for the purchase of school sites or the erection of school buildings. The resolution was adopted.

On motion of Justice E. D. Hall, a resolution was passed that a sum not exceeding $1,500 be appropriated by the County Commissioners to make very necessary improvements in the office of the Register of Deeds, for the safe-keeping of the county records, etc.

A delegation of merchants appeared before the Board in regard to what they represented to be unfair and unequal returns of purchases and personal property to the tax listers, made in certain instances.

On motion, a resolution was adopted, that the County Commissioners be authorized to expend a sum not exceeding $1,500, in having the law fully executed as regards the giving in of full and true lists of personal property by each and every individual tax-payer in the county.

[Section 20 of the Machinery act, says: If any person liable to be charged with taxes shall refuse to answer any question respecting his property or shall refuse to fill and swear to his returns, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction liable to be punished by fine not exceeding $50 or imprisoned thirty days; and it shall be the duty of the tax-lister to have the offender prosecuted.]

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

The Board of County Commissioners met at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, all the members of the Board being present, and Chairman H. A. Bagg presiding.

The Treasurer's monthly report, showing a balance on hand to the credit of the general fund amounting to $18,296 62, and to the educational fund, $14,479.90, was received.

The Register of Deeds submitted his monthly report, showing $15.68 received from marriage licenses, and paid over to the county treasurer.

Brown & Bro. were granted license to retail malt liquors at Carolina Beach, and license was granted also to Jas. P. Hewlett at Wrightsville.

E. M. Barton was granted license as a peddler, on paying a tax of $25 to the State and the same to the county.

The Board proceeded to draw a venire of jurors for the July term of the Criminal Court, to-wit: J M Hewlett, Samuel Blossom, J D Jarman, J W Thorburn, C C Williamson, M G Chadwick, Jno J Hewlett, G J Beach, Wm Wescott, D C Davis, W H Bernard, L M Legwyn, C W Stokely, W H Alderman, H M Bishop, Jr, W R Bell, W B Turlington, J K Jones, F M Mitchell, R B Freeman, Jr, I B Quelch, W J Kirkham, Wm Cromwell, Isaac Bates, J W Gerdts, R B Freeman, J C Smith, Benj Bell, M F Manning, R L Dixon, J S Piver, G D Ritter, J W Branch, John C Borneman, R H Orrell, F W Foster.

By recommendation of the Board of Magistrates the following named gentlemen were appointed a committee to aid the tax lister in adjusting the tax lists, and the clerk was instructed to invite them to meet at the County Commissioners' room Tuesday, June 4th, at 5 p. m., for organization, to-wit: Messrs. B F Hall, D L Gore, Gabe Holmes, J C Stevenson, R M McIntyre, H H Munson, M M Katz, Geo R French, H VonGlahn, D G Worth, Jno H Harding, J C Munds, Clayton Giles, W H Alderman, W E Springer, Geo W Huggins, D MacRae, G J Boney, Sam'l Northrop.

On motion, the Board adjourned.

Laying the Corner Stone.

The corner-stone of the new government building was laid yesterday afternoon with the usual Masonic ceremonies by the Grand Lodge of the State. The Masonic fraternity in full regalia marched to the place in procession, headed by Germania Cornet Band, arriving on the ground shortly after 5 o'clock. Several hundred spectators had assembled to witness the proceedings, which were carried out in due form. Grand Master C. H. Robinson opened the ceremonies with a brief address, stating the purpose for which the Grand Lodge had assembled and read the orders, and after prayer by Rev. Mr. Primrose, the corner-stone was lowered into place by means of the huge derrick, and a list of the articles to be placed in the box contained in the stone was read by the Grand Secretary, J. C. Chase, as follows: List of officers Grand Lodge State of North Carolina; list of pro tem officers of Grand Lodge officiating at the ceremonies; list of officers and members of the three lodges participating; list of officers and members Concord Chapter No. 1, R. A. M.; list of officers and members Wilmington Commandery Knights Templar; names of President of U. S. and Cabinet; names of Governor and State officials; names of Senators of North Carolina; names of Represent atives to U. S. Congress from North Carolina; names of Mayor and city officials; names of Superintendent and officials connected with the building; names of postmaster and collector of port; annual report of public schools of New Hanover county; copies of all the newspapers (daily and weekly) published in New Hanover county.

A Masonic hymn was then sung by the coir, and the elements of consecration—corn and wine and oil—were poured from silver flagons on the stone, and after an invocation by the Grand Master, and the singing of a national ode—"My Country, 'Tis of Thee," the orator of the occasion, Rev. Mr. Creasy, was presented to the audience by the Grand Master.

Mr. Creasy delivered an excellent address, which was listened to with profound attention throughout.

The commandery of Knights Templar did not take part in the ceremonies.

Y. M. C. A. Convention.

The first Convention of the Young Men's Christian Association of the Wilmington District of North Carolina, will be held at Maxton on June 14th to 16th.

At the State Convention of the Young Men's Christian Association, at Wilmington, March 21st to 24th, 1889, it was decided, for the purpose of more effectual and systematic effort in developing the Association work, that the State should be divided into five districts, having headquarters at Wilmington, Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Goldsboro and Durham, respectively.

In accordance with this resolution the Wilmington District includes the territory embraced within the following limits: Including and east of Anson, Montgomery and Chatham counties, including and south of Chatham, Harnett, Sampson, Duplin and Pender counties.

The committee appointed to have charge of the work within this district is—E. S. Tennent, J. S. Allen, H. C. McQueen, P. B. Manning, C. C. Brown and G. M. Bussey, of Wilmington; Wm. Black, of Maxton; W. P. Fife and W. S. Prior, of Fayetteville; J. F. McKinnan, of Laurinburg, and E. K. Proctor, of Lumberton.

Mr. H. C. McQueen, Secretary of the Committee, has issued a circular in which it is stated—

At a meeting of this Committee at Wilmington, May 27th, it was decided to hold a *District Convention* at Maxton, Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday, June 14th to 16th. At which it is proposed that the following topics should be discussed. Pastors' relations to the Association; Our District, its extent, and possibilities of work in it; Definite work of the Associations; Relation of the Social to the Religi us work; Importance of Association work in small towns and country places; First steps in organizing an Association; Committees and their importance; Physical culture; Woman's auxiliary work.

That this Convention may be a success, and helpful to the work throughout the District, it is necessary that all the Associations within the District should unite in an effort to make the occasion a profitable one by sending to it as many delegates as possible.

The Secretary of the Committee was instructed to urge all members of Associations in the District and others interested in the work to assist in securing as large representation as possible at the Convention. All are cordially invited to attend, representing every part of the District.

Prices of Southern Fruits and Vegetables.

Mr. G. S. Palmer, commission merchant in Southern fruits and produce, 166 Reade st., New York, telegraphs

Receipts of beans larger to-day: N. C. round selling $2@2 50; flat, $1 00@1 50. Choice huckleberries, 10c. Cherries, 8@10c. Potatoes firm at $4@6 00.

W. H. Liscomb & Co., produce commission merchants, New York, give prices on June 3rd as follows:

We quote sales to-day: Potatoes, No. 1, $5 00@6 00 per bbl.; No. 2, $2 50@3 00. Round beans, $3 00 per half bbl. crate; flat, $1 50@1 75 per one-third bbl. crate. Cucumbers, $1 50@3 00. Tomatoes, $2 00@2 50. Huckleberries, 10@12 cents per quart.

A Good Investment

is that which yields large returns from a small outlay. Reader, the way is clear! No speculation, no chance, big returns! If you are like most of mankind you have somewhere a weakness—don't feel at all times just as you'd like to—headache to-day, backache to-morrow, down sick next week—all because your blood is out of order. A small outlay and what large returns! You invest in Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and soon pure, fresh blood courses through your veins, and you are another being! †

PENNSYLVAANI'S HORROR.

Additional Particulars of the Terrible Calamity at Johnstown—The Dead Now Estimated at High as Ten or Twelve Thousand—Fiendish Work of Thieves Among the Dead, and the Summary Execution of a Number of Them—Bountiful Aid Going Forward to the Sufferers—The Work of Hunting for and Burying the Dead, etc., etc.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

JOHNSTOWN, PA., June 2.—The situation here has not changed, and yesterday's estimates of the loss of life do not seem to be exaggerated. Six hundred bodies are now lying in Johnstown and a large number have already been buried. Not less than fifteen hundred strangers are here.

The handsome brick high school building is damaged to such an extent that it will have to be rebuilt. The water attained the height of the window sills of the second floor. Its upper stories served for a refuge for many persons. All of Saturday afternoon two little girls could be seen at the windows frantically calling for aid. They had spent all of the night and day in the building, cut off from all aid, without food and drinking water. Their condition was lamentable. Late in the evening the children were removed to higher ground, and properly cared for.

Of the Episcopal church not a vestige remains. Where once it stood there is now a placid lake. The parsonage is swept away, and the rector of the church, Rev. Mr. Dilion, was drowned.

About two hundred persons had taken refuge in Alms Hall, and were on the second, third and fourth stories. The scenes were most agonizing. Heart rending shrieks, sobs and moans pierced the gloomy darkness; the crying of children mingled with the sobs of women. Under the guardianship of the men all took more hope. No one slept during all the long dark night. Many knelt for hours in prayer, their supplications mingling with the roar of waters and the shrieks of the dying in the surrounding houses. In all this misery two women gave premature birth of children. No one died during the night, but women and children surrendered their lives on the succeeding day as the result of terror and fatigue.

This afternoon a spring wagon came slowly from the ruins in what was once Cambria. In it, on a board, and covered by a muddy cloth, were the remains of editor C. T. Schubert, of the Johnstown *Free Press*, a German.

There are not over one hundred bodies to be seen, but while the mass of people walked back and forth they were strangers. Not one person in ten that one met was a resident of this vicinity. It leads to the belief that hundreds, perhaps thousands, are still buried in the mud and debris, burned in the awful furnace at the stone bridge, or lodged further down than the searchers have yet gone

The scene at St. Columbia Church was awful. Forty or fifty bodies had been carried into it and laid on the muddy seats. Lying in a row in this church were five children, from two to six years old. No one had identified them this afternoon.

A number of bodies are lying in the school house unidentified. Trenches were being dug in the Lower Yoder (Catholic) Cemetery and Grand View (Protestant) Cemetery, this afternoon. The bodies that were exposed when the waters began falling are in a bad condition. Some have already been interred. In the haste and excitement no definite arrangements seem to have been made for funeral services.

Harry Rose, District Attorney, is among the lost. Col. John Linton and his family are safe. John M. Rose is not dead, as reported, nor Col. James McMillan. Rev. H. Chapman, also reported dead, is alive. These facts circulated this afternoon caused much joy.

The doctors have under their charge three hundred patients, mostly fractured limbs.

It is stated that at 6 p. m. seventy-six bodies had been taken out at Kearnsville, and eighty-five above the silk works

Chief Evans, of the Pittsburg Fire Department, arrived this evening with engines and several hose carts, with a full complement of men. A large number of the Pittsburg physicians came on the same train.

Mr. Crouse, proprietor of South Fork Fishing Club Hotel, came to Johnstown this afternoon. He says that when the dam of Conemaugh Lake broke, the water seemed to leap, scarcely touching the ground. It bounded down the valley, crashing and roaring, carrying everything before it.

Warning was sent from the South Fork by freight agent Deecher, when the great wall that held the body of water began to crumble at the top. He sent a message begging the people of Johnstown, for God's sake, to take to the hills.

"I cannot describe the mad rush," he said. "At the first it looked like dust. That must have been spray. I could see houses going down before it like a child's play-blocks set on edge in a row. As it came nearer I could see houses totter for a moment, then rise, and the next moment be crushed like egg shells against each other.

Just as shadows began to fall upon the earth last evening, a party of thirteen Hungarians were noticed stealthily picking their way along the banks of the Conemaugh towards Sang Hollow. Suspicious of their purpose several farmers armed themselves and started in pursuit. Soon their most horrible fears were realized. The Hungarians were out for plunder. Lying upon the shore they came upon the dead and mangled body of a woman, upon whose person there were a number of trinkets of jewelry and two diamond rings. In their eagerness to secure plunder the Hungarians got into a squabble, during which one of the number severed a finger which wore rings, and started on a run with his fearful prize. The revolting nature of the deed so wrought upon the pursuing farmers, who by this time were close at hand, that they gave immediate chase. Some of the Hungarians showed fight, but being outnumbered were compelled to flee for their lives. Nine of the brutes escaped but four were driven into the surging river, and to their death. The inhuman monster whose atrocious act has been described was among the number of involuntary suicides.

Another incident of even greater moment has just been brought to notice. At 8 30 o'clock this morning an old railroader, who had walked from Sang Hollow, stepped up to a number of men who were congregated on the platform stations at Curanville and said:

"Gentlemen, had I a shot-gun with me a half hour ago I would now be a murderer, yet with no fear of ever having to suffer for my crime. Two miles below here I watched three men going along the banks stealing jewels from the bodies of the dead wives and daughters of men who have been robbed of all they hold dear on earth."

He had no sooner finished the last sentence than five burly men, with looks of terrible determination written on their faces, were on their way to the scene of plunder, one with a coil of rope over his shoulder and another with a revolver in his hand. In twenty minutes, so it is stated, they had overtaken two of their victims, who were then in the act of cutting pieces from the ears and fingers from the hands of bodies of two dead women. With a revolver levelled at the scoundrels the leader of the posse shouted, "Throw up your hands, or I'll blow your heads off." With blanched faces and trembling forms they obeyed the order and begged for mercy. They were searched, and as their pockets were emptied of their ghastly finds, the indignation of the crowd was intensified, and when the bloody finger of an infant, encircled with two tiny gold rings, was found among the plunder in the ladies' pocket, a cry went up, "lynch them," "lynch them." Without a moment's delay ropes were thrown around their necks and they were dangling to the limbs of a tree, in the branches of which an hour before were the entangled bodies of a dead father and son. After the expiration of half an hour the ropes were cut and the bodies lowered and carried to a pile of rocks in the forest on the hill above. It is hinted that an Allegheny county official was one of the most prominent factors in this justifiable homicide.

JOHNSTOWN, May 3.—The chief sensation of the morning has been the united remonstrance of the physicians against the extinguishment of the burning wreck. They maintain with philosophy that to the anxious searchers it seems heartless that the hundreds, if not thousands, of lifeless and decaying bodies lie beneath this mass of burning ruins. It would be better, they say, to permit nature's greatest scavenger, the flames, to pursue his work unmolested, than to expose to further decay the horde of putrifying bodies that lie beneath this debris. There can be but one result. Days will elapse before the rubbish can be sufficiently removed to permit recovery of these bodies, and long ere that every corpse will be a putrid mass, yielding forth those frightful emanations of decaying human flesh, that in a crowded community like this can give but one result—dreadful typhus. Every battlefield has demonstrated the necessity by the hasty interment of decaying bodies, and the stench that already arises is a forerunner of the impending danger.

With "burn the wreck," "burn the wreck," a loud cry of indignation arose from the lips of the vast multitude, and the warnings of science were lost in the eager demands of those that sought the remains of near and dear ones. The hose was again turned upon the hissing mass and rapidly the flames yielded to the supremacy of water.

It is almost impossible to conceive the extent of these smoking ruins. An area of eight or ten acres about the dam is covered to a depth of forty feet with shattered houses, borne from the resident centre of Johnstown. In each of these houses it is estimated there were from one to twenty or twenty-five people. This is accepted as the data upon which to estimate the number that perished on this spot, and if the data be correct the bodies that lie beneath these ruins must run well up into hundreds if not thousands.

As yet there is no telling how many lives have been lost. Adjutant General Hastings, who has charge of everything, stated this morning that he supposed there were at least twot housandp eople under the burning debris, but the only way to find out how many lives were lost was to take a census of the people now living, and subtract that from the census before the flood. Said he, "In my opinion there are anywhere from four to five thousand souls lost."

The relief committee from Ohio are pitching their canvas tents on the hillside. They have nine hundred of these tents, and they are being eagerly utilized as fast as erected.

It is a most distressing sight to see the relatives of people who are supposed to be lost standing around watching every body as it is pulled out, and acting more like maniacs than sane people.

The water has subsided to a great exteut, and the streets in the main part of the town are free from water. The falling water has laid bare the terrible work of the flood, and the full extent of the fearful disaster is only being ascertained now. The streets are one sickening, foul smelling mass of wood and debris, and the work of searching for dead bodies has only fairly begun.

The latest estimates put the loss of life at from ten to twelve thousand. It is impossible to get any account of the number lost.

From under the large brick school house one hundred and twenty-four bodies were taken last night and to day, and in every corner and place the bodies are being found and buried as fast as possible. The necessity for speedy burial is becoming manifest, and the stench arising from the bodies is sickening. A number of bodies have been found with bullet holes in them, showing conclusively that in their maddening fright suicide was resorted to by many.

JOHNSTOWN, June 3.—Over one thousand bodies have been taken from the debris of the overflow near Kernsville to day. This is official.

Rescuing parties who are at work on the mass of unburned wreckage on the river above Stone Bridge, are finding bodies and fragments of bodies at the rate of from ten to fifteen an hour. In other parts of the submerged districts many bodies are being taken out.

A careful estimate at this time of bodies recovered everywhere, puts it at from 700 to 800. The total loss of life must certainly be from 6,000 to 8,000.

1.10 P. M.—A small frigid cold wave has struck the town, and the people are badly in need of clothing.

Newspaper men are among the sufferers. It is almost an impossibility to get anything to eat. There is nothing to smoke, and only water to drink. The Citizens' Committee are making desperate efforts to preserve the peace, and the Hungarians at Cambria City are being kept in houses by men with clubs. Quite an exciting scene took place in the borough of Johnstown last night. A Hungarian was discovered by two men in the act of blowing up a safe in the First National bank building with dynamite. A cry was raised, and in a few moments a crowd had collected and the cry of "lynch him" was raised, and in less time than it takes to tell it the man was strung up to a tree in what was once the central portion of Johnstown. Not content with this the Vigilance Committee riddled the man's body with bullets He remained hanging to the tree for several hours, when some person cut him down and buried him with the other dead.

The force of the flood can be estimated by the fact that it carried three cars a mile and a half, and the tender of an engine weighing twelve tons was carried one-fourth of a mile down the river. A team of horses which were standing on Main street just before the flood, were found a mile and a quarter below the town yesterday.

Fifty men are digging graves on Prospect Hill and the bodies are being interred as fast as possible. Over three hundred bodies were lying on the sand at Kernville, at the mouth of Sandy Creek, at 3 o'clock this afternoon. The sight was one that cannot be described and is one of the most distressing ever witnessed. A crowd of at least five hundred gathered around, endeavoring to find the bodies of friends and relatives. It is thought most of the bodies will be found at Kernereville under a large pile of debris, about an acre in length. This is where most of the buildings drifted, and it is natural to suppose that the bodies floated with them. Rain is now falling, but this does not interfere with the work. Most of the rescuing party have been up for two days, yet they work with a determination that is wonderful. Engine No. 15, of Pittsburg, which is playing a stream on the fire at Stone Bridge, has it now almost extinguished, and the fire will be out by to-morrow, and the task of getting at the bodies under the burning debris will be commenced in earnest.

JOHNSTOWN, June 3.—Developments of every hour make it more and more apparent that the exact number of lives lost in the recent horror will never be known. All estimates that have been made up to this time are conservative, and when all is known will doubtless be found to be too small. Over one thousand bodies have been found since sunrise to-day, and the most skeptical concede that the remains of thousands more rest beneath the debris above Johnstown bridge. The population of Johnstown, the surrounding towns and the part of the valley affected by the flood is, or was, from fifty to fifty-five thousand. Associated Press representatives to-day interviewed numerous leading citizens of Johnstown who survived the flood, and the concensus of opinion was that fully thirty per cent. of the residents of Johnstown and Cambria had been victims of the continued disasters of fire and water. If this be true the total loss of life in the entire valley cannot be less than 7,000, or 8,000, and possibly much greater. Of the thousands who were devoured by the flames, and whose ashes rest beneath the smoking debris above Johnstown bridge, no definite information can ever be obtained. As little will be learned of the hundreds that were borne swiftly down the Conemaugh, only to be deposited hundreds of miles below on the banks and in the drift wood of the raging Ohio. Probably one-third of the dead will never be recognized, and it will take a list of the missing, weeks hence, to enable even a close estimate to be made.

"All indications point to the fact that the death list will reach over 5,000 names, and in my opinion the missing will reach 8,000 in round numbers," declared General Hastings to-night.

At 6 o'clock in the evening 613 bodies had been recovered at the Cambria depository for corpses.

JOHNSTOWN, June 4.—Nearly 2,000 men are employed in different parts of the valley, clearing up the ruins and prosecuting a diligent search for the undiscovered dead. Their investigations are not without fruitful results, for the bodies of the dead and charred victims of the flood and fire are discovered with undiminished frequency. It becomes hourly more and more apparent that not a single vestige will ever be recognized of the hundreds that were roasted in the flames above the bridge.

Men fall to the earth from sheer fatigue. There are many who have not closed their eyes in sleep since they awoke Friday morning. They are a hollow-eyed, pitiable-looking lot; many have lost near relatives and all have lost friends.

From the wrecked stores in Johnstown one dealer was charging $5 a sack for flour, and was getting it in one or two cases. Suddenly the crowd heard of the occurrence and several desperate men went to the store and doled the flour gratuitously to the homeless and stricken army. Another dealer was selling flour at $1 50 a sack; he refused to give any away, but would sell it to any one who had the money; otherwise he would not allow any one to go near it, guarding his store with a shot-gun.

Bodies are recovered in Johnstown to-day that have been robbed by the ghouls that flocked to the scene. It was known that one lady had several hundred dollars in her possession just before the disaster, but when her body was recovered there was not a cent in her pocket.

The Hungarians attacked a supply wagon between Morrellville and Cambria City to-day. The drivers of the wagon repulsed them, but they again returned. A second fight ensued, but after a lively scrambling the Hungarians were again driven away. After that the drivers and guards of the supply wagons were permitted to go onward.

Registers are being opened in Johnstown, and all survivors are requested to register, to give information of their safety to inquiring friends. Postoffices were opened in Kernersville and the fourth ward of Johnstown to-day. The first mail got in at 9:30 this morning and was enormous for such a small town.

The Knights of Pythias have received large donations of money from the Pittsburg lodges.

An effort was made to have religious services in Morrellville last night, by Rev. John Fox, of Pittsburg. Rev. Mr. Beale is making arrangements for service in Cover's school house to-night.

The Chamber of Commerce has made arrangements with the Baltimore & Ohio railroad to transfer passengers from Johnstown to Pittsburg free of charge. The train was packed so full that it was impossible to obtain standing room on the platform last night. The passengers were mostly children and women. The faces at the windows expressed nothing but relief, as the train drew out from the ill-fated city. The Tariff Club's relief train, from Pittsburg, lay on the B. & O. to-day, and did more good than any that has yet arrived. Trains on the Pennsylvania railroad cannot reach as many sufferers as those on the B. & O.

JOHNSTOWN, June 4., 7:30 a. m.—Every moment a new body of some poor victim is taken from the debris, and the town, or remnants of it, to write accurately, is one vast charnel house. The scenes at the extemporised morgues are beyond the powers of description in their ghastliness, while the moans and groans of the suffering survivors, tossing in agony with bruised and mangled bodies, or screaming in a delirium of fever, as they issue from numerous temporary hospitals, make even the stoutest hearted quail with terror.

Nearly two thousand bodies have already been recovered, and as the work of examining the wreckage progresses the conviction grows that the magnitude of the calamity has not yet been approximated. Conservative estimates this morning put the number of lost at seven thousand, and many men of cool judgment, and who are not apt to exaggerate, and who have been upon the ground from the first, place the number at ten thousand.

The debris lodged against the big stone bridge of the Pennsylvania Railroad is still burning, and the efforts of the firemen to stay the progress of the flames are futile. The mass, which unquestionably forms the funeral pyre for thousands of victims who lie buried beneath it, is burning and is likely to burn for weeks to come. The flames are not active, but burn away in a sullen, determined fashion, as though bent upon proving how futile are man's efforts when the fire god is aroused, and, perhaps after all, the hand of providence is in it, for the suggestion made by the physicians, yesterday, that the bodies not buried be allowed to be cremated, in the interest of public health, and which aroused such a storm of indignation among the surviving populace, is viewed with more calmness to-day, and there is a growing sentiment that it is after all the best solution of the problem. Weeks and months will be required to remove the stupendous mass of artificial means, and in the meantime the rotting, putrifying remains of the poor humanity buried therein would be dealing pollution and death to all the surrounding country.

Twenty-five registry offices for the living were opened this morning, and up to noon 9,000 out of 34,000 were registered.

At Johnstown proper the rescuers continue to bring in bodies by the hundreds.

Mrs. Friederick, an aged woman, was rescued alive from the attic in her house yesterday afternoon. The house had floated from what was formerly Vine street to the foot of the mountain. Mrs. Friederick says her experience was terrible. She said hundreds of men, women and children floated down the torrent to meet death, some praying, while others had become raving maniacs.

The searchers started to work early, and up to 9 o'clock one hundred and fifty bodies had been taken from the ruins. Most of them are unrecognizable, but they are being taken away and buried as fast as possible.

What is needed here to-day more than anything else is grave diggers. This morning hundreds of bodies were lying around and there was no one to dig graves.

William Gagney, insurance agent at this place, had a very pitiful duty to perform this morning. On his father's and wife's side he lost fourteen relatives, among them his wife and family. This morning the man carried his deceased relatives to their graves, and he had the mournful duty of digging his wife's and children's graves and burying them.

The saddest sight to be seen on the river bank this morning was the case of a Mr. Gilmore, who has lost his wife and family of five children. Ever since the calamity this old man has been seen on the river bank looking for his family. He insisted on the firemen playing a stream of water on the place where his house formerly stood and where he supposed the bodies lay. The firemen, recognizing his feelings, played a stream on the place for several hours this morning, and at last the rescuers reached the place where his house formerly stood. "I know the bodies are there and you must find them." On went the rescuers after this plea, when at last one of the men picked up a charred skull, evidently that of a child. This stirred the old man up and he exclaimed, "That is my child, and there lies my family; go on and get the rest of them." The workmen continued, and in a few minutes they came to the remains of the mother and the other children. Their heads were completely burned off, but there was enough left of their clothing to recognize them by, and what was left was picked up and placed in a coffin, the old gentleman following closely the men who were carrying the coffin.

JOHNSTOWN, PA., June 4.—This morning the sheriff requested