

DAILY COURIER

VOLUME V.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1889.

NUMBER 46.

OUR GOLGOTHA.

THE LOSS IS NOT EXAGGERATED.

UNRECOGNIZABLE BODIES TAKEN FROM THE BURNING DEBRIS.

Fathers of Families Burying Their Own Dead—Resignation of Women and Heroism of Men—The Dam Faultily Constructed—Generous Relief.

JOHNSTOWN, June 4.—Registers that have been established in places representing a former population of 24,000, have recorded, so far, a surviving population of 9,000, giving some indication of the lost and missing.

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., June 4.—For thirty-six hours without intermission fire engines have played on the smoking ruins about the bridge but the flames that break out are not likely to be extinguished. The floating field of rains seem to defy the subduing force of the water. Nearly 2,000 are employed in different parts of the valley clearing up ruins and prosecuting diligent search for undiscovered dead therein. Investigations are not without fruitful results for bodies of the dead 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.

Since the last sentence was penned a party of men unearthed a charred body and unrecognizable mass from the smouldering debris within thirty yards in front of the Associated Press headquarters. Unused to such frightful discoveries the leader of the gang pronounced the remains to be a blackened log and it required the authoritative verdict of physicians to demonstrate that the ghastly discovery was the charred remains of a human being, that only the trunk remained and that was roasted beyond all semblance to flesh. Five minutes' search revealed a fragment of a skull that at once disintegrated at its own weight when exposed to the air, no single piece being larger than a half dollar and the whole resembling a remnant of shattered charcoal.

Within the last hour half a dozen discoveries in ways no less horrifying than this have been made by searchers who rake with sticks and probes the smoking ruins. So difficult is it at times to determine whether the remains are those of human beings that it is apparent that hundreds must be fairly buried to ashes.

Thus the number that have found a last resting place beneath these ruins is at best never more than approximated.

Nathan, an iron manufacturer, is mayor pro tem to-day. He is probably the busiest man in the United States. For days without sleep, he sticks nobly to his task. Hundreds of others are like him. 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 their friends. Men and horses is what is most needed to-day.

Some of the unfortunates who could not go to the relief train endeavored to obtain flour from wrecked stores in Johnstown. Flour dealers were charged \$5.00 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 bled out flour gratuitously to the homeless and stricken army. Another dealer was selling flour at \$15 a package. He refused to give any away, but would sell to any one who had money. Otherwise he would not allow any one to go near it, guarding his store with a shotgun. Bodies are recovered in Johnstown to-day that have been robbed by the ghosts that flock to the scene. It was known that one lady had several hundreds in her possession just before the disaster, but when the lady was recovered there was not a cent in her pocket. Hungarians attacked a supply wagon between Morrellville and Cambria City to-day. The drivers of the wagon refused them but they again returned. A second fight ensued, but after lively scrambling the Germans were again driven away. After that the drivers and guards of supply wagons were permitted to go armed.

Registers are being opened in Johnstown and all survivors are urged to register their names in order to give information of their safety to inquiring friends. Postoffices were opened in Kernville 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.

RELIEF WORK.

The Knights of Pythias have received a large donation of money from Pittsburg. An effort was made to hold religious services in Morrellville last night. Rev. 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 whose 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 Baltimore & Ohio track to-day and did more good than any that has yet arrived. Trans on the Pennsylvania road cannot reach so many sufferers as those on the Baltimore & Ohio. Coroner Melwood was with the train and worked hard. Superintendent Patton of the Baltimore & Ohio, is on the grounds and reports that the tracks are now clear from Johnstown to the city. He is accompanied by chief engineer Manning.

ONE VAST CHARNEL HOUSE.

JOHNSTOWN, 7:30 a. m.—Every moment now the body of some poor victim is taken from the debris and the town, or the remains of it to write with accuracy, is one vast charnel house. Scarcely at extemporized morgues are beyond the powers of description in their ghastliness, while the moans and groans of suffering

survivors tossing in agony with burned and mangled bodies or screaming in a delirium to enter a life of flame from the temporary hospitals, make even the most staid hearts quail with terror. Nearly 2,000 bodies have already been recovered and as the work of examining the wreckage progresses the conviction grows that the magnitude of the calamity has been approximately conservative. Estimates this morning make the number lost 7,000, and many men of cool judgment who are not apt to exaggerate and who have been upon the ground from the first, place the number at 10,000.

STILL BURNING.

The debris lodged against the big Pennsylvania railroad stone bridge is still burning and the efforts of the firemen to quench or stay the flames are futile. The mass which unquestionably forms a funeral pyre for thousands of victims who are buried beneath it is burning and is likely to burn for weeks to come. The flames are not active but burn away in a silent, 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 physicians yesterday that bodies not buried in Johnstown be cremated in the interest of public health, and which aroused such a storm of indignation among the survivors, 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 bury the stupendous mass of bodies are lying along the river banks and under piles of big timber and trouble will come from these because they are hard to find and harder to dig out.

Out in the centre of the river on the extreme edge of the mass which rests against the bridge and extends into the water a stream playing on the wreckage. They are literally in the middle of the river putting out fire. Bombs are burning everywhere. Fire is the agent employed to help the committees rid the place of refuse. By means of fire the Cambria. In the morning the wreckage was away most of the higher lumber and will soon be able to work on heavy piles. The completion of a temporary track and bridge which permits passage of trains over the river has been a blessing, as it allows men to work much faster and to get tools and material closer at hand.

MR. HARRISON'S DEED.

This was the day set aside by the citizens committee for the burying of an unidentified dead that had been lying in morgues since Sunday at 10 o'clock. This morning men who were in charge of the burying started to work and have been busy all day. There are no public burials in Johnstown. The bodies are buried to do the work seem to do just as a matter of business. Bodies are being interred in the cemetery nearest the place where the bodies were found. About noon a procession of about fifty coffined bodies was seen going up the hill above the railroad. The procession consisted of the present and the sight was a ghastly one to behold. It will take several days to bury the bodies now in different grave yards, as there were few graves dug until this morning and no implements to dig with.

SEVEN HUNDRED AT NINEVEH.

Three hundred more bodies have been found opposite Nineveh to-day. This makes 700 bodies at that point.

LOST PASSENGERS.

It is now definitely settled that at least from twenty to thirty people were lost on two sections of Cambria. The bodies were left at Pittsburg at 8 o'clock Friday morning, and the Johnstown accommodation that was about to leave Johnstown that afternoon. There have been numerous and conflicting reports about how many trains were caught in the flood, but the most reliable is that the most is believed to be three trains were caught by the water. Edward McGilough, of the Westmoreland Coal Company, was among the passengers on the day express last Friday morning. He stated positively that there were two sections of the day express and the Johnstown accommodation caught in the flood. Said he: "It is my opinion that at least twenty people were drowned from the trains. In fact I can count that many myself, and the death rate may go as high as forty. There was one parlor car and three sleepers, one express and one day coach. We did not know of the flood until about thirty seconds before it was on. We heard the whistling of the engines and all who could get away."

The railroad company have some names of the missing but refuse positively to give them out until they are certain the people have been drowned.

LYNCHING DENIED.

Gen. Hastings in an interview this morning stated that he wished to deny the stories published in certain newspapers to the effect that there had been some wholesale lynching and rioting here since Sunday. Said he: "These reports are utterly devoid of truth and ought to be considered as so much rubbish. Any one here knows that there is no truth in these statements, but they are away from here have no means of obtaining information only through the newspapers. I think there is enough truth to tell here without publishing false and sensational stories."

The burned wreckage against the bridge at Johnstown is being dynamited to allow the water to pass in the main channel. Many skeletons and fragments of bodies are found. Opening this channel will take the overflow from the lower end of Johnstown.

At 11 o'clock the first relief train bearing thousands of pounds of provisions for the suffering and 2,000 coffins for the dead passed over the Johnstown bridge across an improvised trestle and track up an incline to Johnstown. For the first time railroad communication is re-established between the stricken city and the outside world.

Pneumonia has broken out among the refugees on Prospect Hill.

NEW YORK SUBSCRIPTIONS.

NEW YORK, June 4.—One of the subscriptions to-day for the Johnstown sufferers was that of \$5,000 sent by the London Stock Exchange. The Mayor's office subscriptions now amount to nearly \$100,000. The Stock Exchange contributed \$5,000, and Archbishop Corrigan sent \$2,500. The Adams Express Company to night gave \$5,000, and offers to transfer all contributions free. The Southern Express Company will do the same. The Western Union Telegraph Company will send all messages in relation to relief of Johnstown sufferers free.

LOCKHAVEN SAFE.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., June 4.—Superintendent Pettit of the Pennsylvania road, made his way to the edge of the city of Lockhaven at 9:30 this morning. He

and at last rescued to a place the old gentleman said his house formerly stood. "I had a great deal to say for 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. There lies my son. Go on, go on, search for him." The workmen continued. In a few moments they came to the remains of the mother and eight children. The heads were completely charred off but there was enough of their clothing left to distinguish them by. What was seen picked up and placed in coffins, the old gentleman following closely the men who were carrying the coffins.

ACRES OF SMOKING WRECK AND BURNING DEBRIS.

JOHNSTOWN, June 4.—The water has receded in the right almost as rapidly as it came. Behind it remains a sorry sight. Before the windows of the Associated Press headquarters lies a great skeleton of the dead Johnstown. Great ribs of rocky sand stretch across acres of mud, debris, wreckage, areas of unsteady tottering buildings, acres of unbroken debris of glass, of objects which have been eagerly sought for since Friday, scores of smoky streaming ruins, acres of sorrow for somebody.

There is every prospect that the heat will become intense now and the effect of it will be to make the thousands of bodies that are lying along the river banks and under piles of big timber and trouble will come from these because they are hard to find and harder to dig out.

Out in the centre of the river on the extreme edge of the mass which rests against the bridge and extends into the water a stream playing on the wreckage. They are literally in the middle of the river putting out fire. Bombs are burning everywhere. Fire is the agent employed to help the committees rid the place of refuse. By means of fire the Cambria. In the morning the wreckage was away most of the higher lumber and will soon be able to work on heavy piles. The completion of a temporary track and bridge which permits passage of trains over the river has been a blessing, as it allows men to work much faster and to get tools and material closer at hand.

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floor or fire to save the lives of their children and loved ones. All the suffering people were crowded woman, clinging to her child to the floating debris, realizing that the support was too frail for the two, would be seen to lift her precious burden high upon the floating debris and with a hasty kiss bidding farewell to all that remained of her home, she sank beneath the waves.

EDWARD C. WILLIS, a young fireman of Cambria, whom no one suspected of having more than ordinary courage, when the flood was at its height and people were floating down the rushing torrent in hundreds, rushed to his boat, and senseless to the pleadings of his wife and relatives, shoved his frail craft out into the angry current, gliding alongside a floating log upon which a woman and two children were kneeling with blanched faces and stony stare. He skillfully evaded the obstructions that every minute threatened to crush, and kept the boat and the terrified creatures to his boat shot across to a point of safety. A shout of enthusiasm swelled from the throng that lined the bank, but unmoved by their plaudits young Willis repeated the perilous journey several times and went twice over and was saved by his indomitable energy. Next day, when most of Johnstown was still under water, Willis ascended the stream to the desolate city and again distinguished himself by many acts of heroism and endurance. A tribute too great cannot be paid to his noble character. But, after all, among the heroes of these strange scenes developed here is only one of many.

THE PRESIDENT ACTIVE.

HE PRESIDES AT A RELIEF MEETING IN WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, June 4.—Clerks in the war and the departments have each contributed one day's pay to the fund to aid the Johnstown people. In the navy department a division chief has been designated to collect contributions. A public meeting to devise means of aiding the sufferers was held here this afternoon. The committee on the part of the district, President Harrison, private secretary Halford, postmaster general Wanamaker, secretary Noble and many representatives of business and social life.

President Harrison was made presiding officer of the meeting. He said that every one present was conscious of the circumstances for which the meeting was convened and that it would be entirely superfluous for him to attempt to set before the audience more impressively than the newspapers had already done—the scenes at the disaster. He said that several suggestions concerning the methods of prosecuting work of obtaining subscriptions. A list of vice presidents including members of the cabinet, chief justice Fuller, chief justice Richardson, the chief of the treasury, and the chief of the department of the interior, President Harrison, private secretary Halford, postmaster general Wanamaker, secretary Noble and many representatives of business and social life.

THE CHINESE WITH US.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 4.—A private telegram received here this afternoon by the Chinese, reports that a hurricane at Hong Kong has caused the loss of 10,000 lives and great damage to property.

GENEROUS MASSACHUSETTS.

BOSTON, June 4.—The Massachusetts legislature yesterday appropriated \$10,000 for the relief of the Johnstown sufferers. To-day the amount was increased to \$30,000 and the matter was rushed through both houses.

PROFESSORS FOR COLLEGES CAN NOT BE ENGAGED IN EUROPE.

WASHINGTON, June 4.—Mr. Morris, an attorney of this city, recently wrote to the Secretary of the Treasury in behalf of the United States government, in a violation of the District of Columbia act, that the University decided to engage the services of several learned European professors for the divinity department of the university and inquiring whether the immigration of such persons would be regarded by the department as a violation of the terms of the alien contract law. He added that negotiations for their employment had been suspended pending the settlement of this question. The matter was referred to Gen. Hepburn, solicitor of the Treasury and he has just given an opinion that the immigration of foreign professors under any contract express or implied would be clearly a violation of the alien contract law. He referred to the classes excepted from the provisions of that law. "Professional actors, artists, lecturers or singers and persons employed strictly as personal or domestic servants" and gave it his opinion that the professors in question did not come within the classes named, adding that they could hardly be considered as lecturers, even under the common acceptance of that term. A copy of the opinion has been transmitted to Morris.

REMARKABLE MURDER TRIAL.

MACON, GA., June 4.—A special to the Telegraph from Perry, Houston county, Ga., says: Tom Woodcock, who is charged with the murder of his wife, a forty-year-old woman, was placed on trial here yesterday. The murder was committed in Bibb county, near Macon, in 1886, and the case goes to Houston county on a charge of venue. The case has been famous from the fact that technically this is Woodcock's fourth trial. The first took place in Macon, lasting several days. He was convicted and sentenced to death. The Supreme court reversed this decision giving him a new trial. Two attempts were made during the present year to try the case in Macon but each time the attorneys failed, owing to difficulty in securing a jury, so a change of venue was granted to Houston county.

JACK THE RIPPER AT WORK.

LONDON, June 4.—A parcel containing the lower portion of a woman's body cut in halves, was found in the Thames at Horsey Down, this morning. Another parcel in which were the woman's thighs was picked up at Battersea. Both were wrapped in pieces of a woman's drawers, on which the name Fisher was marked. The trunk and thighs evidently belonged to somebody who was a well developed person. The remains had probably been in the water for ten days. It is feared that Jack the Ripper has again been at work.

THE SALEM COMMENCEMENT.

SALEM, N. C., June 4.—Salem is full of visitors on the occasion being commencement exercises of Salem Normal Academy which is closing its 85th session. Baccalaureate services were delivered by Dr. Thomas H. McCallie of Chattanooga. Dr. Daniel C. Gilman, president of Johns Hopkins university, presented diplomas to twenty-four graduates. Dr. Gilman goes from Salem to attend the centennial exercises at the University of North Carolina.

A CASE OF HUSBAND POISONING.

STANTON, Va., June 4.—Monday last a coroner's inquest held on the body of Wm. Bush, who died near Waynesboro, Saturday, in violent convulsions. The evidence resulted in the arrest of Ida Bush, the deceased's wife, and Percy Atkinson, charged with causing Bush's death by administering poison.

STEAMER PROBABLY LOST.

LONDON, June 4.—There are fears that the British steamer Danish Prince, Capt. Potts, which sailed from Swansea, May 38, for Montreal has foundered. Coast guards at Skibberon, Ireland, have picked up a log book of the steamer, the latest entry in which was made in May.

FOREIGN TRAVELERS AT WORK.

LONDON, June 4.—Americans in England are engaged in collecting money for the benefit of sufferers by the Johnstown flood. Already a considerable sum has been raised. A central fund is being organized.

THE PRESIDENT'S NEPHEW.

Death of George C. Eaton in This City Yesterday.

Mr. George C. Eaton, late of Cincinnati, Ohio, and a nephew of President Harrison, died of consumption at the residence of Maj. H. C. Hunt in the southern portion of this city yesterday afternoon at 1 o'clock. Mr. Eaton, accompanied by his mother, came to Asheville about four weeks ago in quest of health, but the disease which brought about his death had become so ravaging in its nature that eventful and health resorting climate of our mountain-land failed to bring about a change for the better in the sufferer's condition. Mr. Eaton was about thirty-five years of age, and has been an invalid for some time. His remains, accompanied by Mrs. Eaton, and his brother Mr. Archibald Eaton, who was brought here from Cincinnati by telegram yesterday, will be taken to this city this morning for interment in the family vault at Evergreen cemetery.

DETAILS FOR JOHNSTOWN.

WASHINGTON, June 4.—Capt. C. B. Sears, of the engineering corps, has been detailed by Secretary Proctor to go to Gov. Beaver for engineering duty at Johnstown. He will superintend the construction of pontoon bridges across the Conemaugh that have been ordered to be sent there from West Point and Willett's point. Captain Sears left here for Pennsylvania to-day.

MORE CHARLESTON MONEY.

CHARLESTON, S. C., June 4.—The city council to-day voted \$1,000 for the relief of the Pennsylvania sufferers. The executive committee of the Chamber of Commerce secretary \$250 in a few minutes, and appointed three committees to canvass for subscriptions. The Merchants' Exchange is at work. General subscriptions are starting.

KNOXVILLE'S CONTRIBUTION.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., June 4.—The relief committee to-day raised over \$1,500 in two hours for sufferers at Johnstown and vicinity. Gov. Beaver, of Pennsylvania, was telegraphed to draw on the East Tennessee Bank for \$1,500. More will be contributed to-morrow.

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RESUMING CONNECTIONS.

OVER RICHMOND & DANVILLE AND COAST LINES.

But the Seaboard Line is Blocked—A Bridge Gone—Other Railways News—Moonshiners Indicted—Corner Stone Laid.

RALPHIGH, June 4.—[Special.]—It is stated to-night that to-morrow morning mail from the north will arrive here on special cars. It will be the first to arrive here on special cars. It will be first to arrive in five days. Up to to-night mail, passengers and freight of the Richmond & Danville and the coast line system have gone north over the Seaboard line, but to-day the latter line is simply segregated and its passengers and freight will have to go via the Richmond & Danville system. The bridge over the Nottoway river, thirty-five miles north of Weldon is impassable, and is expected to be swept away at any moment. Its long embankments are not washing away rapidly and the water spreads over an immense breadth so that transfers are impossible. A railway officer said this evening that the break might be passable in two days or it might be two weeks. The Meherrin river bridge is also threatened.

A FRANCHISE GRANTED.

To the Spartanburg Electric Street Railway Company.

The Spartanburg correspondent of the Charleston News and Courier, says: "Our county commissioners have granted the franchise to the Electric Railway Company, giving them the right to run on the public roads, provided they do not interfere with travel. Mr. Leftwich, the agent of the company, is very sanguine, and expects to secure a charter at the next session of the Legislature. The proposition is to run from Whitney Mill through town, taking in the depots, and then to take the road to Clinton, by way of Glendale. This will make a line at least ten miles long. The population of Glendale is 300 to 500; Clinton 2,000 to 2,500, and Whitney will run up from 500 to 800. Then our factory population here in town will run up to 2,000 when the mill is started. The freight and passengers from the cotton mills alone ought to pay a fair dividend."

REPORTORIAL RIPPLES.

The Good Templars were in session last night. There are at present thirty-five prisoners in jail in this city. Swannanoa Bath House: stock rose seven points yesterday. No marriage license was issued by the register of deeds yesterday. No Raleigh or Charlotte papers were received in the city yesterday. Another fruit and peanut huckster on Patton avenue his canvas tent has spread. A new engine will be erected by the Electric Light and Power Co., at their plant to-day. Reduced rate railroad tickets for the Knoxville June Festival will be placed on sale here Monday. The work of excavation preparatory to the building of the Patton avenue opera house has been commenced. This is a big day at Chapel Hill and Asheville is largely and ably represented among the University alumnus. Tobacco breaks yesterday were unusually brisk at all the warehouses, and prices went up a fraction in all grades. The display of old bones, scrap iron, tin cans and other nondescript bric-a-brac at Ellick's junk shop, is wonderful to behold. The barber shop, formerly occupied by Mr. J. M. Bell on south Main street, is being fitted up by Wilkie & Jones as a fruit stand. Two defendants fined \$5 each; two more discharged, and another fined \$3, cleared the dock in the police court yesterday morning. The "Y" strawberry shortcake festival was a "go" last night. The attendance was fairly large, and those present enjoyed the occasion. No northern mail was received in the city yesterday. So far there are nine mails due, and the postoffice officials will "catch it" when they arrive. Prof. Tripp completed his course of lectures in this city last night. "Carroll and Maximilian" was the theme to which a fair-sized audience listened with pleasure. Judson college commencement exercises begin at Hendersonville to-day. Several Ashevilleans will attend. The annual sermon will be preached by Rev. A. T. Robertson, of Louisville, Ky. Clinton Baxter, a miniature Ethiopian, was up in Justice Malone's court on a charge of petit larceny yesterday. The youthful kleptomaniac was discharged, the evidence being insufficient to warrant a committal for trial. A subscriber at Leicester requests THE CITIZEN to announce that a national celebration is to take place on Spivey's Mountain, in that township, July 3. Speeches are to be delivered on the occasion by Gen. R. B. Vance, Mitchell E. Launing and Gen. Thos. L. Clingman. Mr. Launing's theme will be "Rise and Progress of the Nation." Those attending this celebration are requested to bring colleges with them. College Commencements.

THE CITIZEN acknowledges the receipt of invitations to attend the semi-centennial celebration of the Virginia Military Institute, at Lexington, July 3d and 4th next, and the annual commencement exercises of Trinity college, this State, beginning Saturday, June 8. Diplomas at the latter institution will be delivered by Gov. Fowle, Thursday, June 13. Mr. Chas. T. Rawls has returned from Hot Springs.

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