

THE STRICKEN CITY.

Another Severe Shock Added to the Consternation.

TERROR REIGNS SUPREME.

The People Singing and Praying in the Streets.

Of the Buildings that Were Left Standing, Many Will Have to be Condemned and Piled Down—A Day of Gloom, Confidence Somewhat Restored—Help Asked From the Government—The Death List Increased.

CHARLESTON, Sept. 4.—At precisely 11:01 o'clock last night, while workmen were clearing away the ruins of the great earthquake, the people of this city were again thrown into the wildest excitement by another shock. It came like a clap of thunder, with a rapid succession of explosions, and shook the city from one end to the other. People rushed pell mell from their houses, and, as if by magic, the streets were filled with terrified and shrieking people.

For an instant it seemed as if the buildings already so badly cracked and wrenched must certainly come down. The shock, however, lasted less than a minute, and, as it was not followed by others, but few remnants of already shattered buildings fell, although many sound ones were badly shaken.

The worst effects were noticed at the Charleston hotel, where a fresh shower of bricks fell from the cornice of the portico to the sidewalk, frightening the guests of the hotel and the people in the street before it, happily injuring no one.

The moral effect of this shock, however, is disastrous, for the people, worn out with constant vigil for three nights and days, who had returned to their shattered houses in the hope of getting at least one good night's rest are now in the streets and gardens again, waiting in trepidation and momentary expectation of worse to come.

Not one person of these thousands can be induced to go indoors again just now. The effect of this renewed anxiety is appalling, and men look at each other with an expression akin to despair. A few days of this sort of thing, even if it be attended with no additional loss of life, will render these people utterly hopeless. Two buildings fell down, and one white woman was killed.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—At about 11 o'clock last night another shock of earthquake was felt all along the southern Atlantic coast. It was not attended by any damage, so far as can be learned, but it was strong enough to cause a stampede from their instruments of the telegraph operators in Charleston, Augusta and Columbia and other places.

RALEIGH, N. C., Sept. 4.—At 11:03 p. m. a well defined shock of earthquake was felt here. It was preceded by a light rumbling noise. The oscillation of buildings was marked on the upper floors.

AUGUSTA, Ga., Sept. 4.—At 10:40 p. m. another shock was distinctly felt. The streets are again filled with people.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Sept. 4.—Another distinct but not severe earthquake shock was felt here at 11 p. m. Much alarm was created, and many people rushed from their houses to the streets.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Sept. 4.—At 10:02 p. m. a distinct shock of earthquake was felt here, lasting five seconds. It caused great excitement.

SAVANNAH, Sept. 3.—Savannah has again been thoroughly terrified by an earthquake shock, exceeding in severity all felt here except the first one Tuesday. It occurred at 11:01 o'clock, standard time, and shook buildings so severely that their occupants quickly fled into the streets and refused to re-enter them. Improvised tents and other arrangements for spending the night in the squares were made. Many ladies are hysterical, and serious results are feared. At the Pulaski house a guest was barely prevented from leaping from a window, chimneys previously damaged were further injured, and additional plastering fell, but no more serious damage to property is yet reported.

BEFORE THE LAST SHOCK.

The City as Seen by the Visiting Journalists.

CHARLESTON, Sept. 4.—A row of turkey buzzards, the popular street scavengers of this section, sat upon a horse rack opposite Central market, in Meeting street, near the business part of the city, watching the laggard traders at sunrise yesterday morning. When the scene grew active, and here later, these favored birds dropped off their perch and strolled with the buyers through the market. Not more than one stall in ten was occupied. The purchasers were few. A weary, haggard look overspread every face, telling of distress. As far as the eye could reach, in every direction, there were tents and blankets stretched, underneath which the inhabitants, driven from their homes through fear of a re-visitation of the earthquakes, had spent the night. Not many eyes closed in restful sleep during the darkness. The arrivals on the late trains retired at the three or four inhabitable huts with trembling, or sat up in chairs on the sidewalks, ready to flee from danger at the slightest warning. All day there has been a busy hum, the populace working with a vim to clear away enough of the ruins to ascertain their true condition, and with the work some confidence has returned. A very few people had

SLEPT INDOORS.

Those who found their houses staunch enough to shelter them safely moved indoors. Investigation has revealed the fact that the first reports of destruction were not exaggerated. The buildings of Charleston, taken as a mass, are wrecked. Only a few of the new and modern brick, and the most substantial wooden ones, are fit or safe for habitation. Great fissures and cracks mark all the outer or inner walls. Scarcely a sound piece of plate glass can be found in the city. Many of the panes have holes in the center, as if penetrated by musket balls. In some portions of the city—particularly about the Battery, where most damage was sustained—scarcely a chimney can be found on the handsome residences. Nearly all of the brick houses here are covered with stucco, and are marked to resemble stone. The wrenching process of the earthquakes peeled off this stucco, and hence it is up on the sidewalks, spread it over the shade trees, and carried it through the air to every portion of

the city. In some instances, whole roofs were

DUMPED INTO STREETS.

In portions of the city all railways are blocked up by roofs, stumps and chimneys. One of the most convincing proofs of the supernatural power of the shocks can be seen at the marble works, on Meeting street, near Broad. Firm granite monuments and marble shafts, some of them two feet thick, and now a dozen feet high, were broken in train and one lay in atoms on the ground. The older brick buildings were constructed of a very inferior material it seems. The bricks were so rough and small as to make the stucco surface highly desirable, and instead of locking or lapping them as is done now, and especially in the north, they were laid in even rows, furnishing no interlocking or bracing power. Quite a large number of business houses stand in canopy shape. The end walls have fallen leaving the roofs suspended over the sidewalks. These of course will have to be condemned by a commission of the city council and ordered to be torn down. For a while it was believed a request would have to be made to have the governor convene the legislature in special session, for the purpose of giving the city council sufficient authority to condemn dangerous buildings, but later it was determined that sufficient authority was already contained in the statute. Pressure will be brought to bear on the officers who are designated to condemn buildings to spare as many as can be saved by repairs. Merchants inform The United Press reporters that but few of the buildings condemned will be replaced by new ones. There will be many repairs, however. It is proposed.

TO LINK THE WALLS TOGETHER.

By bolts, and as most of the buildings have but two stories, and very few have more than three, the fractured walls can be made to stand provided this is the last of the earthquake business. Telegrams have poured in from northern and southern cities to the mayor and prominent citizens, tendering assistance, and acceptances have been made. A delegation of citizens has arrived from Wilmington with \$1,000 and a promise for an additional \$2,000, and instructions to ascertain what more should be done by that city. The money was placed to the benefit of needy families, in sums of \$10, \$15, or \$30, through religious and other societies.

Distressing scenes have been witnessed all along the railroads leading into Charleston during the last twenty-four hours. Many of the best-to-do citizens were in the north at the time of the shocks spending the heated term. Being unable to receive any definite information as to the extent of loss of life or property they started to return. At every stop of the train they rushed into the telegraph offices, called for or sent messages, and gave the people along the way a tinge of the excitement. They could learn nothing. Telegrams banked up in the offices here and were not delivered. In many instances the messages were not sent. As the returning citizens neared Charleston they learned less and less of the true condition of affairs, and their suspense became agonizing.

They could not sleep, and paced the floors of the coaches wringing their hands and evincing painful alarm. Even the outgoing passengers, who were hailed by those incoming, could give no accurate or useful information. Only the most courageous of the citizens returned to the city. Many stopped at suburban places, and opened up unsatisfactory communication by telephone or telegraph. Up to yesterday it was with difficulty that the railroads could run trains into the city, owing to the fact that employees, and especially the colored ones, feared to enter the city. An old colored porter when informed at one of the cities above Charleston that he had been ordered out on a run, said he would not do so. "Cause me captin'g, but I don't want to go to Charleston." When informed that he must, he took off his cap, laid it down, and bowing with deference said: "Then I resign, sah; I don't go down there to be killed by the quakes, sah; I huddled about in one of the parks with a lot of colored men and women in the afternoon discussing the future. When asked if he knew what caused the earthquakes, one of the brightest of the crowd turned his eyes and said: "It's the handiwork of the Lord. We are not to know whence it cometh, or whether it goeth." Professor W. J. McGee, of the United States geological survey, has arrived from Washington. "I came," he said to a United Press reporter, "to ascertain the origin of the earthquakes. The effect of it is of little moment to science. The origin is of great interest to the entire scientific world. People want to know the conditions of the earth under which earthquakes occur. It seems to be a settling of the earth."

"What do you think, professor, of the statement that there was an atmospheric disturbance at the time of the first shock?" was asked. "I take no stock in such a report," was the quick reply. "It was imagination. Of course, there would naturally be a great deal of smoke and dust in such a commotion as that created by the earthquake, and the terrific shaking would produce a sensation which would very naturally be taken for atmospheric affection."

"How do you account for the absence of a tidal wave?" "By the fact that the movement was from west to east, thus carrying the wave out to sea. Had the movement been in an opposite direction, there would doubtless have been a heavy tidal wave to land. As it was, there was nothing to come on shore but the rebound or release of the outward tidal wave. This rebound was caught by the broad shoals for over 100 miles along the Atlantic. In this region there is 'shoal' land half a mile in width. This would break a tremendous tidal wave, but hardly as heavy as the one which went to sea when the heaviest shock came on Tuesday night. Tidal waves are likely to come at any time in this region from this settling of the earth, and there is

DANGER OF SUBMERSION.

In New Jersey whole forests have been sunk beneath the water along the coast and small trees are growing beneath at this time."

Professor McGee, as well as local scientists, discredit all statements about atmospheric pressure of any character and boiling water or sulphuric discolorations at points where fissures appear in the earth. It was even reported that at one place in the city hot water had gushed from the ground, sending people who were compelled to rush through it. There is but one theory advanced by scientists as to the cause of the earthquake and that is that it is due to some kind of settlement in the earth. There were no upheavals. At all the places where surface indications of trouble are visible the earth is sunken for several miles. Immediately outside of the city this sinking was so positive that the railroad tracks were thrown out of level, and section hands have been at work putting in new railroad ties, raising old ones and rebalancing the road. In a number of instances culverts and bridges were thrown out of place and had to be repaired.

At a special meeting of the city council yesterday the mayor and aldermen were constituted a committee to investigate the condition of buildings in their respective wards and to order any unsafe walls or buildings to be taken down. It is estimated that over 500 buildings will be condemned. A prominent real estate agent says that while some of the wooden

buildings are habitable under fair circumstances most of them are badly wrecked, and that there is scarcely a safe brick building in the city. The same gentleman estimates the cost and damage of real and personal property in the city at from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000.

Yesterday morning the patients were all moved from the city hospital to the Agricultural hall, where they are being made as comfortable as possible. No more deaths or new cases were reported at the hospital during the day. There are now in the hospital 119 patients, 100 of whom are those suffering from injuries sustained Tuesday night. About half of them were bruised by falling buildings and the others are prostrated by the excitement. The bulk of the earthquake sufferers are being cared for at their homes. There is considerable sickness among children, resulting from exposure and sleeping out at night.

"PAINTROTAKIANA" is the name suggested for a little one brought into the world a few hours before the great upheaval. Mother and child, it may be said, are doing well, notwithstanding the fact that they are quartered in Washington square. The police are quartered in the main station stables, and have purchased a gross of new balsters with which to secure prisoners.

A gentleman advances the theory that there is a burning marl bed under the disturbed portions of the city, and that its bursting out was the cause of this calamitous trouble.

There are citizens here who claim that they felt two distinct thunders of earthquakes during yesterday evening, but most people believe such imaginary. At Summerville, twenty-one miles south, it is ascertained there were rumblings of unmistakable earthquake a number of times during the day. Everybody has fled from the town except the station agent and telegraph operator, and the excitement of the surrounding country are terrorized. The reports from Summerville do not have a salutary influence in Charleston. On the contrary, they are re-awakening the agitation and increasing the fear.

Printers, telegraph operators and others who are asked to work in the larger buildings comply reluctantly, if they do not positively refuse. Under the present pressure telegraph service is unstable, and liable to suspension at any moment, although the Southern Telegraph company is working heroically to keep working. Manager M. S. Harris has been working an instrument almost continually since the reign of terror began.

Charleston's People Gritty.

William A. Courtney, mayor of Charleston, S. C., who has arrived on the Eturia, was questioned as to his plans for the repair of the wrecked city. "How to meet the exigencies of the hour is something that I am not prepared to say. I see that some of the newspaper correspondents denounce the city government as weak and inefficient. What can be done in a disaster like this? The city government has its hands full, and it takes time to right such a catastrophe. In a few days, however, order will be restored, for the people are gritty and will be restored to get upon their feet again." Mr. Courtney's first intimation of the Charleston disaster was received from the pilot who boarded the steamer with papers and mails on Saturday night.

Mayor Courtney left for Washington. He received telegrams here informing him that his wife and children were camping out in a tent, their handsome horses being ruined. Mr. W. F. Fattam and Mr. H. W. Frost, prominent merchants of Charleston, also arrived on the Eturia and received news of the loss to their property.

MR. FOLSOM'S EXPERIENCE.

He says the Atmosphere was Breathless and the Sky Laid.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—Mr. Thomas H. Folsom, of Baltimore, who experienced the earthquake while a guest of the Charleston hotel, has arrived in this city to-day. In detailing the occurrence of the eventful period he said that the evening of the earthquake was remarkable for a breathless atmosphere and lurid sky. The depressing atmospheric conditions led him to his room at an early hour, and just after reaching it he felt a startling sensation as if the hotel was being raised from the ground and swayed in the air. The lights were instantly extinguished and plaster began to fall. In total darkness he groped his way down stairs amid falling plaster and while the whole building swayed and trembled. An unearthly dim and meaning sound came from the sunken streets, mingled with the crash of falling walls and timbers. Escaping from the house amid falling bricks he took refuge in a park, where hundreds of people in an agony of fright awaited the coming of daylight, and experienced the successive shocks. He does not believe that a single building in Charleston escaped injury.

WAS IT A LANDSLIDE?

What the Scientists Think Caused the Earthquake.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6.—Maj. Powell, chief of the geological survey, speaking of Professor McGee's "displacement" theory to account for the earthquake at Charleston, says: "That is simply a theory which the scientific value at this time. I am surprised that Professor McGee should have published such a theory, but I am glad that he states it merely as an idea. This is not the time to theorize. The people down here are in a state of excitement, and will accept almost any explanation. This one should not have been promulgated by a scientist at the present time because it is valueless. There may be some basis of truth in it, however, which further inquiry will develop." Maj. Powell thinks there is nothing to show volcanic action in the Charleston quake.

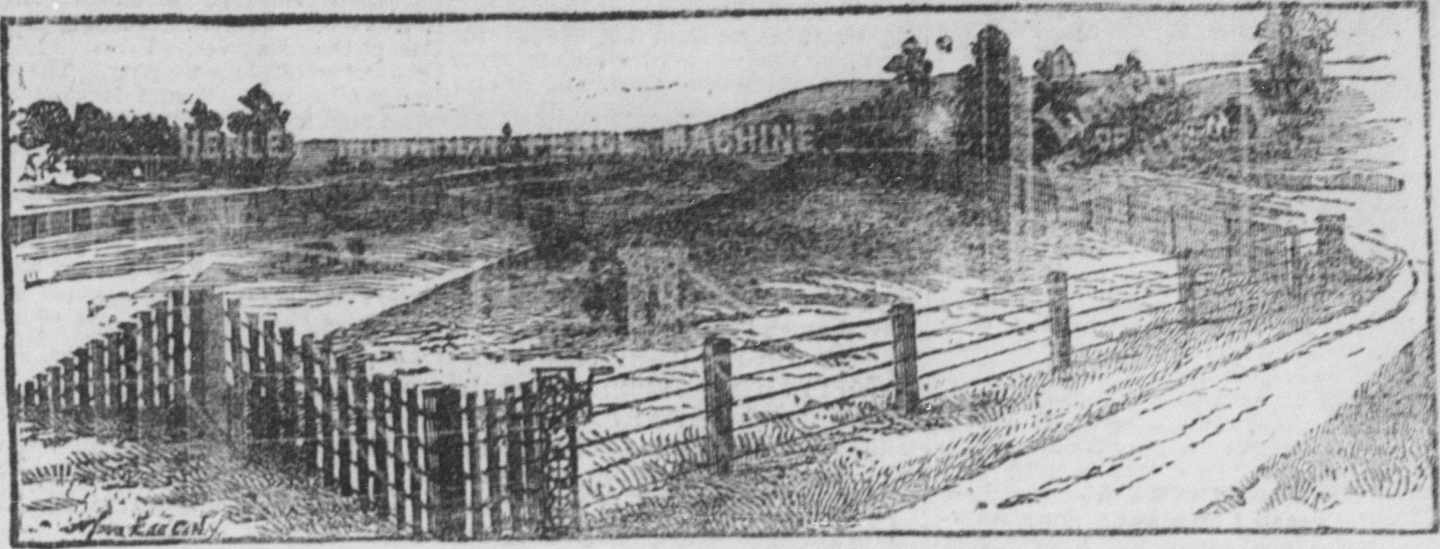
He doubts whether there is any truth in the stories about the streams of hot water bubbling up through the fissures of the earth. To some he says throwing up of blue and yellow mud and the presence of sulphurous smells would be evidence enough of the volcanic origin of the earthquake, but it does not necessarily follow. The mud might easily enough have been thrown up by the contractions or expansions of the earth under the influence of the "seaward slip" described by Professor McGee, as all along the coast from Richmond through North and South Carolina the waters beneath the surface are strongly impregnated with sulphur. Another scientist connected with the survey thinks there may have been a "slide" at Charleston, but such a supposition would not account for all the effects which are said to have been produced.

The descent of the land to the bottom of the sea is much more sudden at Cape Hatteras than at Charleston, and the slide, he thinks, would therefore have been more likely to have occurred at that point than where Prof. McGee places it.

The sacred concert here last night at Herzog's Opera House, for the benefit of the Charleston sufferers, was a gratifying success in every sense. The programme was excellent, the performance fine, the house was crowded, and the receipts—more than \$1,000—were forwarded to Mayor Huger to-day. The police of the city in their round Friday and Saturday sold nearly 1,600 tickets. Many people purchased who could not or did not attend.

Howells Will Not Come. Boston, Sept. 6.—Harry G. Corey has received a cable dispatch stating that Howells, the professional bicyclist, is not coming to America.

THE LITTLE GIANT



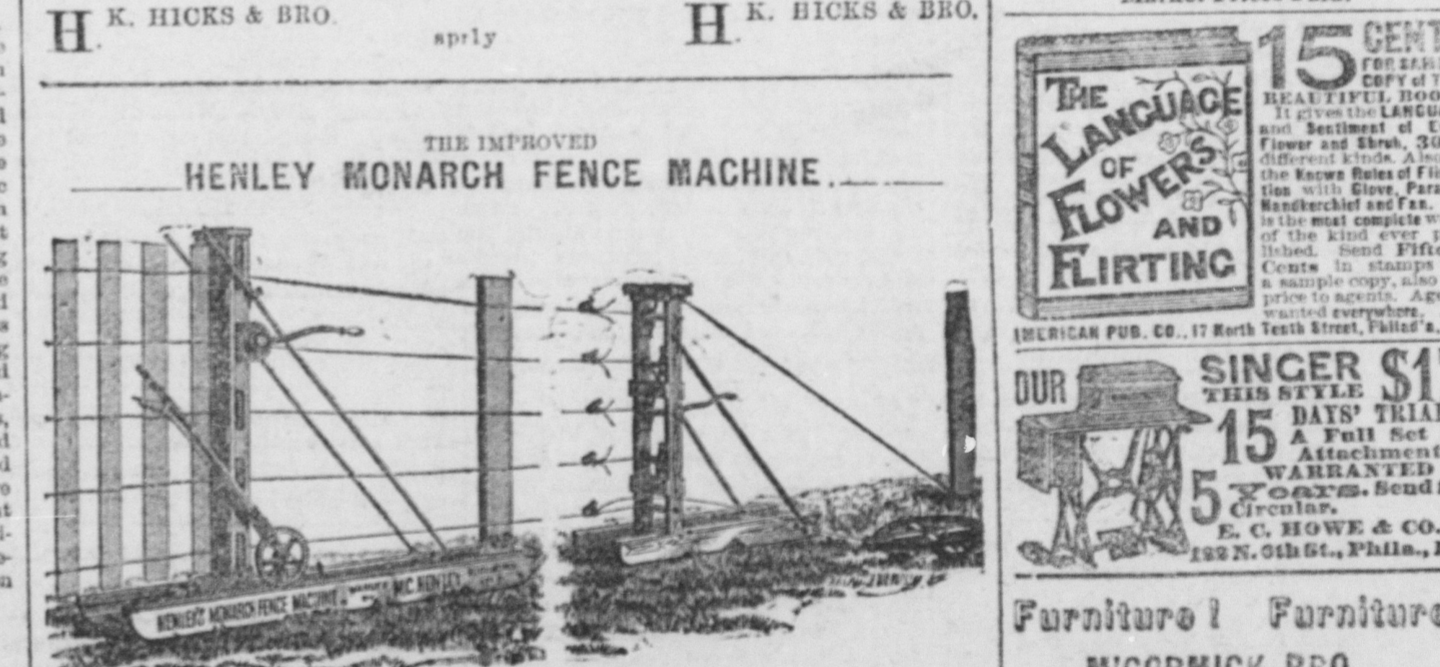
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