

THE WORST SINCE JOHNSTOWN. Oil City and Titusville Mourning Over Their Smoking Ruins and Their Beloved Dead.

OVER A HUNDRED BODIES RECOVERED And Hundreds More Sure to Be Found Under the Wreckage and in the Tide.

THE PROPERTY LOSS IS MORE THAN \$2,000,000.

*Titusville's Identified Dead Now 54—Oil City Weeping Over 43 Bodies Recovered—How Charity is Softening the Sorrow in the Stricken Cities—The Worst Expected When Oil Creek Subsides—A Belief That Hundreds Met Death in the Valley—Tales of the Living That Prove the Bravery of the Dead—Narratives of Narrow Escapes and Heroic Rescues—Relief Pouring In—Pittsburg the First to Respond to the Cry for Help—Graphic Stories of the Sad Sights and Scenes.

(FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.)

OIL CITY, June 6.—Oil City is buried in gloom to-night. Its citizens have just commenced to realize the extent of the calamity which has befallen them. Although the light of the mellow moon to-night casts a subdued shadow over the scene of distress and destruction the stench from the charred and smoldering ruins still permeates the atmosphere.

On every hand the full realization of the disaster is now apparent. Groups of people are gathered even now at midnight on every corner, each relating his individual experiences, and adding to the awful history of the flood and fire. The two elements combined have wrought havoc in a district where they were least expected. The people of the oil country are used to disasters, and from the time since Colonel Drake struck his first well the "devil's fluid," as it was then called, has brought desolation to thousands of homes. Never before, however, has it been assisted by the waters.

Had Signs of Death and Desolation. A pall of sadness hangs over the little city to-night. Specters of shrouds and coffins seem to promenade the banks of Oil creek and the valleys. Timid residents shudder as they look upon the dark, whirling waters that possibly carry in their bosom the bodies of those who were among the living only yesterday. People of large hearts, sympathetic natures and piteous hearts have been pouring into the crippled city rendering their aid, and their strength to assist in rebuilding the town and caring for the dead and injured. Already funerals with their melancholy drappings and sad faces following in the train have commenced to traverse the streets. Only a few, however, have yet been seen, but within the next three days two scores of victims will be laid away.

Titus Where Once Wealth Reigned. The ruins of homes, workshops and refineries drop into comparative obscurity compared to the loss of life. Oil creek was the center of the world in the petroleum trade. On its banks fortunes were made and lost. Recently it sunk into a depth of oblivion from which the present disaster only has rescued it. Two miles above Oil City on Oil creek is Rousseville, famous in its time. Directly opposite from it is the famous Steel farm, where Johnny Steel, the celebrated spender, got money which he threw away. Only a couple of miles above Rousseville is the world-famous Lynd farm, which produced wells of astounding capacity. Those early days of the oil business, Saturday it had a population of only 100 people. Following the Lynd farm up the creek is Petroleum Center, than which no other town in the oil country enjoyed a greater notoriety. At one time it had a population of 7,000 people. Now it has only 150.

Where the Dead May Be Found. Next comes the Miller farm. It was 11 miles from Oil City and at present consists only of a railroad station, although there was a time a few years ago when it teemed with a population of 5,000 souls. Then three miles below Titusville is Bountiful, where the Acid works are located. Next comes Titusville. All of the places mentioned are on the Western New York and Pennsylvania Railroad, and are located on the banks of Oil creek. They are all situated on low ground. Although the damage to each is not known at present, the people who are and have been familiar with the country for years entertain little hope that many of the inhabitants of the towns have been saved.

TITUSVILLE APPALLED. The devastation and death is greater than anticipated. Sixty Souls Given Up by the Flood—At Least 48 People Missing—On Thousand Homes—Charity Shows Through the Dark Cloud—Ruins Will Be Re-built.

(FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.)

DEVOURED BY FIRE.

Oil City Property That Was Licked Up by the Terrible Cataract.

LIKE A BLINDING CLOUD The Greasy Black Smoke Rises From Ruins of Many Homes.

TANKS BURST FORTH IN FLAMES And Add the Value of Their Contents to the Enormous Waste.

A LIST OF THE UNFORTUNATE LOSERS

(FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.)

OIL CITY, June 6.—Words are inadequate to describe even in the minutest detail the appearance of the burned and flooded sections of the city as they were seen this morning. The confusion among the residents still runs high and business is almost entirely suspended. To make matters far worse, a great number of strangers, many of whom are relic hunters and thieves, are crowding into the town from all available points. These at once make for the scenes of the tragedy, where they seriously inconvenience the men engaged in searching for the bodies and the lost treasures. The militia regiments, together with the police, are still patrolling the streets, and although they render effective service, their numbers are insufficient to cope with the vast throngs.

The First Train Out. It Starts for Dunkirk in Charge of Superintendent Ketchum.

(FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.)

TITUSVILLE, June 6.—[Special.]—The D. & E. Railway started a train to Dunkirk at 8 o'clock under the charge of Superintendent Ketchum. This is the first train since Saturday on this road.

Flames Reach the Business Center. Above the creek bridge, besides the residences in the inundated district as noted above, the fire raged on in the intermediate buildings in that section were destroyed. A train had run out on the New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio road to help in the removal of the debris.

At this time the entire creek was one solid mass of flame over 70 feet high from the Clapp farm to the mouth of the creek, a distance of a mile, and from there a burning oil from the flooded tanks allowed the fire to follow the river to Two Mile Run. The fire licked up the buildings on both sides of the creek which it curves along North Seneca street, a distance of three-quarters of a mile.

Estimated Loss in the Third Ward. The following is the list of estimated loss in the Third ward: United Lumber and Coal Company's mill and lumber, \$80,000, partially insured; Chautauque Lake Ice Company, \$1,000; William Diebold's house and furniture, \$100; Mrs. E. C. Blevins' house, \$1,000; partially insured; T. H. McNeil's general store and building, \$1,000, partially insured; H. H. Steinkamp, paper and paint store, \$1,000, insured; George Sigman's barber shop, \$1,000, insured; fire engine, cars on the New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio bridge destroyed; bridge damaged; stock of fixtures, \$800, no insurance; Ed Fitzpatrick's saloon, \$1,000; partially insured; H. R. Naylor's plumbing shop, stock and fixtures, \$2,000, building, \$1,000, no insurance; Fisher's dry goods store, stock and fixtures, \$1,000; building, \$1,000, partially insured; J. M. B. Herring's blacksmith shop and Leslie's harness shop, stock and fixtures, \$1,000; building, \$1,000, partially insured; J. M. B. Herring's blacksmith shop, stock and fixtures, \$1,000; building, \$1,000, partially insured.

FOR ADDITIONAL NEWS OF THE DISASTER SEE SECOND PAGE.

DEAD AND DAMAGED.

A Hundred Known Victims Offered Up on the Awful Funeral Pyre.

HORRID GHASTLY SIGHTS Greeted Thousands of Visitors to the Temporary Morgues.

WHOLE FAMILIES COLD IN DEATH.

Dreadful Fate of Many Who Dreamed Not of Their Pending Doom.

NUMBERS AMONG THE MISSING

(FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.)

OIL CITY, June 6.—It is when all is known the death list is nearly or quite 100. Coroner J. M. Warden swore in his jury this morning, and the work has been severe. The following are the names of the jurymen: C. H. Duncan, foreman; M. Lowenthal, William Gates, J. H. Payne, D. H. Merritt, W. L. Lay. To-night the list of those who have been identified or partially so stands as follows: WILLIAM EARIN, EDWARD EARIN.

THE TITUSVILLE VICTIMS. Over Half a Hundred Dead Already Identified by Their Friends—One Family of Eight Children, a Mother and Her

TITUSVILLE, June 6.—[Special.]—The revised list of dead up to 6 o'clock was: MRS. MARY MORIN and four children, Mammie, Gerie, Peter and Clara; MRS. FRED CAMPBELL and three children, OLIVER EDGAR, FRANK EDGAR, wife and two children; MRS. JOHN QUINN and two children, AUNT FURMAN (deceased); MRS. A. J. FURMAN (deceased); MRS. DELIAH ROUSE; AN UNKNOWN BOY; MRS. JACOB BINGENHEIMER, JR., aged 13; KATIE BINGENHEIMER, aged 12; LEE BINGENHEIMER, aged 11; EDWARD BINGENHEIMER, aged 10; EDWARD BINGENHEIMER, aged 9; HARRY BINGENHEIMER, aged 7; WALTER BINGENHEIMER, aged 5; EDWIN BINGENHEIMER, aged 3; JOHN NEIL WENZIE; JOHN M. WARDEN and wife; FRED LEVENS and wife; INFANT of Mrs. W. Eckert; MRS. G. C. COOPER and two children; GEORGE PRASE; MRS. J. A. PRASE and two children; JOHN PRASE and two children; FRANK PRASE, 12 years; MRS. GOLDIE COHEN; HENRY HULL; ENGLISH, a tailor.

DEVOTION OF A SON.

It Prevented John O'Leary From Marrying for Five Years—Now His Bride That Was to Be Weeps Over His Charred Remains.

OIL CITY, Pa. June 6.—[Special.]—The brave, honest, filial devoted and pathetic termination of a sweet romance, that is sadly coupled with the frightful death by fire of Adams' Express Messenger, John O'Leary, places this name among the ones that should be inscribed in letters of gold at the top of the list of martyrs. The sad tale was related to me by route agent H. I. Lewis, a venerable, a very desirable one, was offered to John O'Leary. He replied with a slight quivering of the lip from the disappointment, that he could not accept it, as his mother had wished him to leave her home in Oil City, and he could not leave her.

ON THE UPPER ALLEGHENY.

Thousands of Oil Well Rigs and Dwellings Near Franklin in Ruins—Not a Bridge Left Between That Town and Titusville—Lives Probably Lost. FRANKLIN, Pa., June 6.—[Special.]—Reports of the disaster caused by the floods of Sunday still pour in from every direction. The country north of Franklin has sustained a terrible loss to growing crops. The waters of the Allegheny are slowly receding, and along its banks is the wreckage of thousands of oil well rigs and dwellings, and it is feared, the bodies of many human beings. Northward, between Franklin and Titusville, there has not been a bridge left standing.

PHILADELPHIA SENDS AID.

Two Commissioners Appointed to Expend \$10,000 if Necessary. PHILADELPHIA, Pa., June 6.—A meeting of the citizens to form a permanent relief committee was held to-day in response to Mayor Stuart's call, and it was decided to send Rudolph Blankenberg and Robert M. McWade as commissioners to the burned city.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF CASH.

They Amounted to Over \$10,000 Up to a Late Hour Last Night. OIL CITY, Pa., June 6.—[Special.]—At the meeting in the Oil Exchange so far the known contributions are \$5,300 from Oil City and \$4,900 from outside of Oil City, including some money from Pittsburg, no number in the fund represented by the Committee of Relief from that city. Outside assistance offered Titusville amounted to \$8,800. The Adams Express Company has offered the use of all its privileges between this town and Pittsburg.

NECK AND NECK AT MINNEAPOLIS.

The Presidential Nomination Hanging on 100 or So Doubtful Votes, ALL FROM THE SOUTH.

Some Fine Work Being Done by Missionaries on Both Sides.

THE PATRONAGE AND PROMISES

Thicker Than the Far-Famed Leaves in Vallambrosa.

A Conservative Poll of All the Delegations Gives Blaine and Harrison

About 400 Each—A Desperate Struggle for the Necessary Votes That Are Lacking—The Contest to Be Carried

Up From Committee to Convention—C. L. Magee There to Be the President's Champion—Some Little Talk Yet for a Third Man—The Blaine Men

Anxious Only to Beat Harrison With Anybody.

(FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.)

MINNEAPOLIS, June 6.—One hundred uncounted, hesitating and scattering delegates, including those who have declared for Alger, hold the balance of power between James G. Blaine and Benjamin Harrison.

Of the absolutely certain votes the two leading candidates make almost an equal division, and the Republican nomination for the Presidency now depends largely upon the decision of the convention as to who are the delegates from Alabama and Louisiana.

A comparative handful of colored men, some of whom have offices and some of whom want them, are apparently in a position to name the man whom one-half or more of the voters of the United States will support for the highest honor in the land. Upon this group of uncertain quantities is now being bestowed the attention of a horde of enthusiastic workers and some of the shrewdest politicians of the party.

THE DISPATCH CORRESPONDENT HAS

The DISPATCH correspondent has devoted to-day a careful canvass of the various State delegations, and so far as possible has ascertained the probable result of the election. He has found that the Blaine men have 490 friends who can surely be counted on, and that the present occupant of the White House is only a short neck behind in the race as it now stands. Here are the figures for it:

Table with 5 columns: State, Blaine, Harrison, Uncertain, Total. Rows include Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming, and Totals.

CONTESTS THAT ARE OF IMPORTANCE.

In the above Michigan's 28 votes are placed in the scattering list, because it has been positively announced that the name of General Alger will be presented to the convention, backed by the solid vote of his own State, upon the first call of the roll at least. The seats from Alabama and Louisiana are contested, and for that reason are placed in the uncertain column in forming a conservative estimate. The National Committee, though, will place the names of the anti-administration contestants upon the roll, and the matter will be carried into the convention.

Here, it is expected, will come the test of strength which will definitely indicate the final outcome of the struggle. If the Blaine delegates retain their seats they will bring the vote of the Planned Knight to the very verge of the contesting line, and accessions from the Alger forces and those wavering ones who want to be on the winning side are depended upon to do the rest.

THE STRUGGLE TO DECIDE THE STRUGGLE.

The struggle will be fought and won or lost in the South, and the Harrison managers are as fully aware of this as the opposition. They will carry the Alabama and Louisiana contests to the highest possible tribunal, and a battle royal is expected on the floor. C. L. Magee is relied upon to lead the administration forces at this crisis of the proceedings, and there are many who predict riotous scenes before a decision is reached.

ALABAMA AND LOUISIANA ARE NOT THE ONLY DOUBTFUL SPOTS IN THE SOUTH.

Scattered all through that section are individual delegates and groups of two or three whom both the Blaine and Harrison leaders are afraid to trust out of their sight. It is upon this class that the managers and those wavering ones who want to be on the winning side are depended upon to do the rest.