

AFFAIRS IN INDIANA.

INTERESTING ITEMS GATHERED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

What Our Neighbors Are Doing—Matters of General and Local Interest—Marriages and Deaths—Accidents and Crimes—Personal Pointers.

—Richmond has a population of nearly 17,000.

—William Johnson, a well-known citizen of Madison, is dead.

—Jeffersonville's ship-building industry is enjoying a great boom.

—Frank Pitts was killed by lightning fourteen miles east of Rockville.

—Charles Eckler was killed between cars on the J. M. & I. siding at Seymour. He was aged 17.

—The barn of Matt Willet, jr., near Greenfield, was burned, with contents. Loss, \$1,000; insured for \$600 in the Continental.

—A strange wild animal, about the size of a bull-dog and jet black in color, is exciting alarm in the vicinity of Anderson.

—David Henry, a plumber of Greensburg, was asphyxiated by gas while working under a floor, and was nearly dead when discovered.

—Thomas J. Davidson, of Paoli, was badly hurt by a bear he was exhibiting. The beast was the property of H. E. Wells, of French Lick Springs.

—Daniel B. Newkirk, of Rush County, was thrown from his buggy in a runaway, losing part of his ear and suffering other injuries.

—A child of Alexander Dubes, 9 years old, was kicked in the face by a mule near Calhara. The boy's face was crushed in and one eye destroyed.

—Harry Bratcher dropped his cigar ashes in a sack of powder at Evansville. One of his eyes was destroyed, and he was terribly burned about the breast and face.

—Emiline Woods has sued the city of Greenfield for \$5,000 damages for the death of her son, who was drowned in a pond that had formed in one of the streets.

—Goshen will hold a bond election under the Australian ballot law July 22, to vote on a proposition to buy \$52,000 bonds of the Toledo & Chicago Air-line.

—Mrs. Alice Campbell, residing near Elizaville, wrapped the reins about her fingers and braced herself against the opposite side of a fence to hold a horse. It tore off her fingers.

—John F. James, of Terre Haute, a freight brakeman on the Vandalia, had his arm terribly mashed while coupling cars at Bowers, Montgomery County. Amputation may be necessary.

—Joseph Carthy, an aged resident of Allen County, tied one end of a string around his tooth and loaded the other end into a gun, which he fired. The tooth was extracted without pain.

—O. M. Tyler, aged 59, died very suddenly, of heart disease, at his home in Muncie. He was a Director in the Muncie Savings and Loan Company, and was a well-known insurance agent.

—Nathaniel Straight, of English Crawford County, is 99 years of age, and is so robust that he was accepted, last week, by the road Supervisor as a competent hand to labor upon the highways.

—The large flouring-mill of Messrs. Ritterskamp & Sons, at Freelandville, was destroyed by fire, together with a large quantity of grain and flour. The mill was newly refitted. Loss, \$10,000, with \$4,000 insurance.

—The musical congress to be held Aug. 8 and 9, at Manlove Park, near Cambridge City, promises to be a great musical treat. Among the leading attractions are Blind Tom and Mrs. Shaw, the greatest living lady whistler.

—At Burney's Station, on the C. H. & G. division of the Big Four, Eli Davis, a prominent farmer and stock-dealer of Bartholomew County, dropped dead. He was 68 years of age and strong and robust. Heart disease was the cause of his death.

—John H. Burford, recently appointed register of the land office of Oklahoma Territory, was badly injured at Crawfordville. He was kicked on the left shoulder, and thrown from the buggy by a lively horse, the horse proceeding on and demolishing the rig.

—At Hope, Bartholomew County, Nesbit Merridith, a young man 18 years of age was accidentally shot through the right knee, shattering the bones, with a thirty-two calibre rifle, carelessly handled by himself. It is thought that amputation of the fractured limb will be necessary.

—Mrs. Nancy Lightcap, who escaped from the Woman's Reformatory at Indianapolis and went back to her home at Crawfordville, and subsequently was captured and returned, was married in the Crawfordville jail before she was taken back, to "Can" Seering, the man who was the indirect cause of her occupying her present quarters.

—John McCormick, who lives seven miles west of Fort Wayne, fell from a load of hay on the prongs of an up-turned hay fork. The points penetrated his abdominal cavity and tore an awful gap, exposing his entrails and lacerating his body in other ways. One of the prongs was broken by the fall and the point lodged in the young man's flesh. He will probably die.

—Mr. and Mrs. Louis Griebel, of Fort Wayne, celebrated their golden wedding recently. The aged couple have lived at Fort Wayne all these years, and all the children and grandchildren were present at the celebration.

—While Miss Rebecca Martin, a young lady of Elkhart, was crossing a railway track in Goshen, she was struck by a freight train which was rapidly backing and approaching from the rear, and thrown through the air fully twenty-five feet. Her escape was marvellous, for she scrambled up unhurt and boarded the Lake Shore train for her home in Elkhart. Her deafness was the cause of the accident.

—Lit Moore, George Moore, Isaac Moore, Frank Peters, George Elliott, Sam Roberts, Link Davis, Henry Black, all of Blue River Township, Harrison County, have been arrested on warrants sworn out by one James McKinney, who claims to have been "white capped" by them one night last March. The defendants were brought before Justice Kirkham of Corydon and a preliminary will be held immediately.

—The White Caps of Harrison County took August Colin from the side of his sweetheart and gave him a severe flogging. He is a young man of good reputation, and it is not known why he was whipped. John H. Denbo was severely flogged by about thirty White Caps. He is Superintendent of the County Poor Asylum, and is charged with mistreating the inmates of the institution. He was taken from his bed, tied to a tree in his yard and given seventy-five lashes.

—The Postoffice Department has established money order and postal notes offices in this State as follows: Money order—Fairfield, Franklin County; Ferdinand, Dubois County; Newcomer, Delaware County; Perrysville, Vermilion County; Prieto, Wells County; Ramsay, Harrison County; Rosedale, Parke County; Sharpsville, Tipton County; Swaysee, Grant County; Young America, Cass County. Postal notes—Fallen Timber, Randolph County; Holo, Washington County; Kingston, Decatur County.

—John Petillott and his wife, Mary, who have resided in Columbus for the last ten years, quarreled some days ago over a trifling matter and separated. The wife refused to return and live with her husband, and took rooms at the Western Hotel. Petillott called at the hotel and sent a messenger to call his wife. When the two met he pulled a thirty-eight bulldog revolver, shooting her five times in the head and breast, killing her instantly. He then attempted to escape, but was run down, arrested and placed in jail. A mob is feared.

—A serious accident occurred at Rich Valley, five miles west of Wabash, which may result in at least one death and a suit for damages. John Beggs and family were driving from Wabash to their home in Peru, and, when near Rich Valley, while descending a steep hill, the carriage was overturned and the occupants thrown out, and all more or less hurt. Mrs. Beggs' leg was broken so badly that it was necessary to remove a large piece of the bone, and she is now in a dangerous condition. The sides of the road at that point are very rocky.

—A few months ago William Simmons returned to his home in Muncie after serving a term in some Western penal institution. The other day he was arrested at Lima, Ohio, and is now in jail under bond of \$400, charged with breach of trust. Simmons got caught at a trick he has been working with success for some time, going into a shoe store, buying a pair of fine shoes, paying the cash for them, and after getting well acquainted with the proprietor or head clerk, professing to go home with the shoes, but returning in a short time, saying the shoes did not fit and asking to take one, two, three, or more pairs to try on. Securing them he would not return.

—At Vincennes, the two-story grain warehouse of Thomas Barrowman collapsed, burying the proprietor and two laborers, George Miles and William Hunter, beneath the ruins. Miles escaped by his own efforts. Hunter was released greatly bruised and crushed about the head and legs by the axes of the firemen. Great timbers pinioned the proprietor to the floor, but after an hour of toil the timbers were raised from him by jack-screws and he was taken out. It is feared he is fatally crushed about the hips. The building was new and the mortar was green. There were about five thousand bushels of new wheat on the floors at the time of the collapse. The building was designed to hold fifty thousand bushels.

—Patents have been granted to Indiana inventors as follows: Charles Anderson, assignor to South Bend Iron-works, South Bend, sulky plow; Jacob Barrow, Windfall, pressure regulator; John G. Campbell, Majenica, corn planter; James Milley, Richmond, wire and picket fence machine; William Leoney, assignor of one-half to J. Pickering, Oxford, grain measuring or weighing apparatus; Herman Prether, Jonesville, corn planter; James W. Quinn, assignor of two-thirds to C. C. Copeland, North Madison, and to M. Copeland, Madison, motor vehicle; James E. Bemington, Scott, device for building wire and picket fences; Frank W. Samuels, Indianapolis, game; Jesse Warrington, assignor of one-half to Nordyke & Marmion Company, Indianapolis, hominy mill.

WYOMING AND IDAHO.

TWO NEW STARS ADDED TO OUR CONSTELLATION.

Something Concerning the Two Youngest Sisters—Resources to Be Developed—One Rich in Mineral Deposits, the Other a Grazing Country—Remarkable Increase in Population.

The admission of Wyoming and Idaho to the Union has been accomplished, increasing the number of States to forty-four, and necessitating the addition of two more stars to our national flag. The following facts relating to the two new States will be found interesting at this time:

Wyoming was the youngest of the Territories, having been organized under an act of Congress passed July 25, 1890. Its area is about 100,000 square miles, its breadth from east to west being 365 miles, and from north to south 275 miles. The general appearance of the country is mountainous, with valleys, broad rolling plains, sloping foot-hills, and bold bluffs and buttes. The elevation ranges from 3,500 to 14,000 feet above the sea level. There are lofty

counties in Wyoming. Cheyenne is the capital and largest town.

IDAHO.

Idaho is an Indian word signifying "Gem of the Mountains." The new State is 410 miles in length from north to south, and 257 miles wide at the extreme southern part. There are 16,400,000 acres of agricultural lands, 7,000,000 acres of forests, 25,000,000 acres of grazing country, and 600,000 acres of lakes. In 1890 the population of the Territory was 32,510, but it has since increased until the figures have passed the 100,000 point. There are sixteen organized counties in the State and a large number of thriving towns. The capital and largest city is Boise City, situated in the southern part of the State on a branch of the Union Pacific Railroad. The total valuation of taxable property in 1897 was \$20,741,192. These figures represent only a fraction of the wealth of the newly admitted State, as the valuation itself is placed very low and does not include the rich mining properties and their products on which there is no tax. Growing crops are also exempt, and as assessments are made early in the spring but little grain, fruit, hay or other products of the farmer is ever on the assessment rolls.

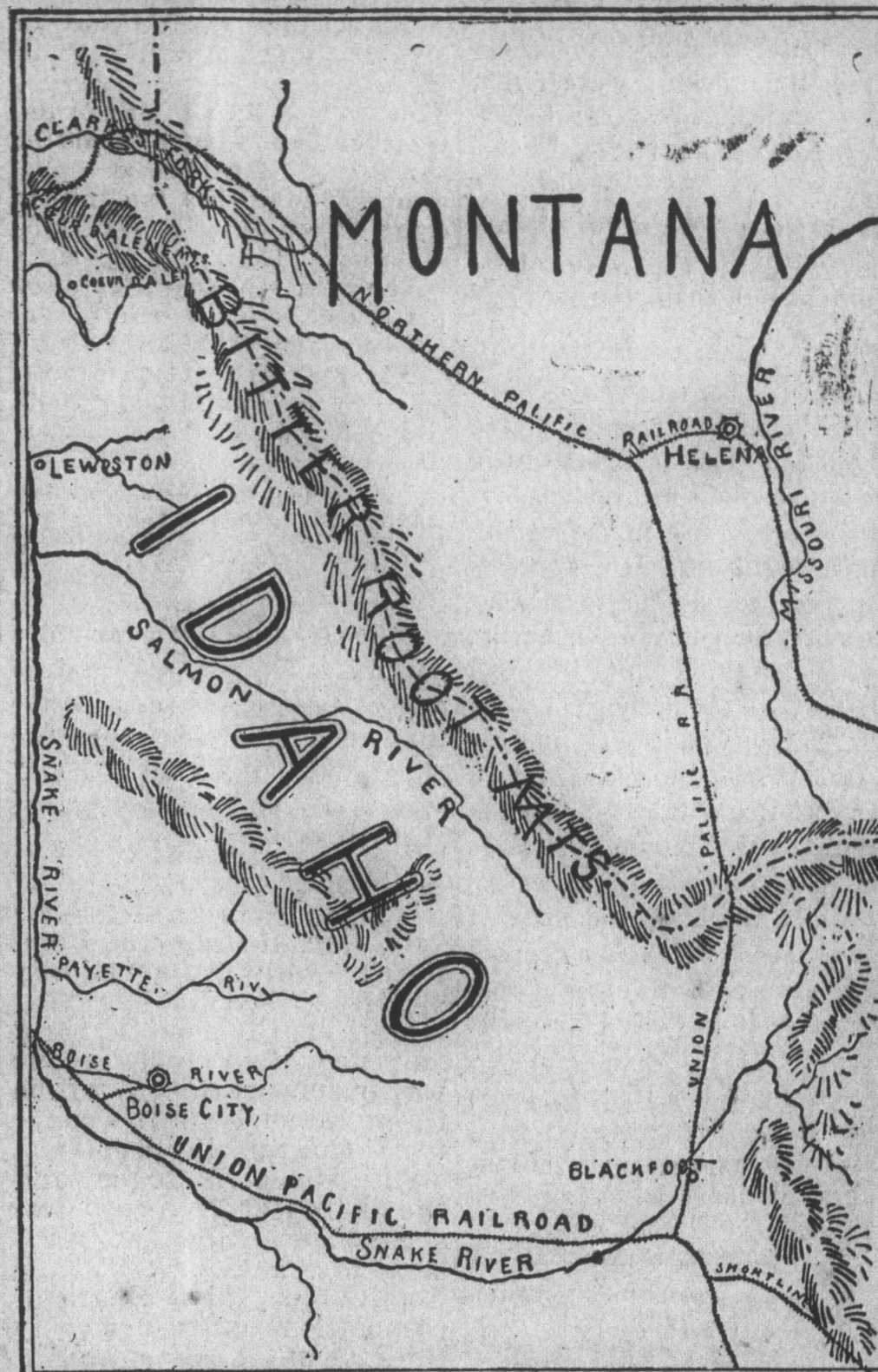
The agricultural lands of Idaho are almost exclusively sage-brush lands and require irrigation to make them productive. They occupy a large portion of the available area of the State and generally consist of broad plateaus. A stranger unacquainted with sage-brush lands would regard any attempt to reclaim them useless, but with irrigation the soil becomes exceedingly productive. The best farms in Idaho were once sterile sage lands. The soil is especially adapted to the raising of all kinds of grain, the warmth of the earth and the mellowing of the soil always warranting an abundant yield when watered.

The product of Idaho's numerous and extensive mines is one of the great reasons of permanent growth and prosperity. The production of gold, silver and lead for the year 1897 is estimated as follows: Gold, \$2,417,429; silver, \$4,633,160; lead, \$2,195,000; making a total of \$9,245,589. The placers of Boise County alone have yielded for years at the rate of upward of \$1,000,000 worth of precious metal each twelve months.

There are 313 school districts in Idaho, and 212 schools, with 10,000 enrolled pupils. The total number of children of school age in the neighborhood of 20,000. There are ten school libraries, and the yearly expenditure for schools is over \$200,000.

The Indians of the new State are peaceably inclined and live upon five reservations. The mean temperature of the State is 50 degrees above zero.

Some of the finest agricultural and mining lands are in the counties of Shoshone, Nez Perce, Latah, and Kootenai, in Northern



mountain ranges covered with everlasting snow, deep canyons, and elevated plateaus forming natural parks, of which the most celebrated is the Yellowstone National Park. The present population of Wyoming is estimated at from 60,000 to 75,000 whites. The Indians are all on reservations, are peaceful, and are being educated to mechanical and farming pursuits.

Stock-raising is the most important industry. In 1898 the range stock numbered 2,000,000 cattle, 1,000,000 sheep and goats, and 100,000 mules and horses, all worth in round numbers \$75,000,000. The grazing lands represent about one-half the area of the new State.

The new State is rich in minerals, 30,000 square miles of its surface being underlain by coal-bearing strata alone. The output of coal in 1899 was 1,513,490 tons. Besides coal there are iron, deposits of soda, sulphur, salt, slate, gypsum, copper, tin, mica, marble, sandstone, magnesite, and other minerals. Both lode and placer gold mines abound. Extensive placer mines have been discovered during the last year near the head of the Big Sandy River, and a company has been formed to construct a canal to work the mines by hydraulic methods. The oil fields are extensive, covering a belt thirty miles wide and 200 miles long. Mineral springs of different kinds have been found in various sec-

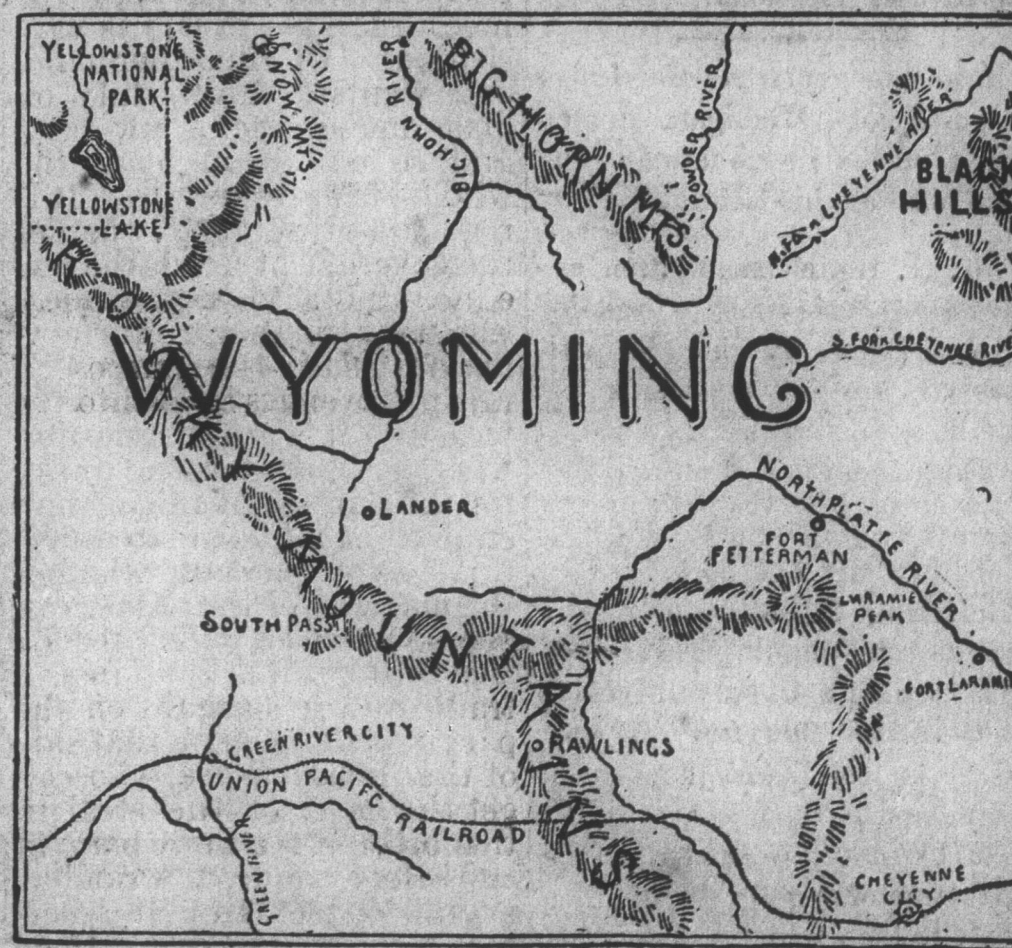
tion, and some of them have become popular resorts.

The farm products are alfalfa, from two to three cuttings a year, and aggregating about five tons to the acre at a value varying from \$10 to \$15 per ton, oats which yield from thirty-five to ninety bushels to the acre, wheat, which is gathered from thirty to fifty-five bushels to each acre of ground, and barley, an acre of which yields about fifty bushels. Potatoes grow to perfection and ordinarily the crop from a single acre is from 500 to 800 bushels.

The Union Pacific Railroad traverses the southern border of the new State, and has several branch lines to the north and south. There are schools wherever there are enough children to attend, and good teachers.

Wyoming is larger than New England, and has more natural resources of all kinds. Its water power is unlimited, and the facilities for manufacturing industries are of the best.

At the present time there are ten organized



Idaho. Here are situated the thriving towns of Lewiston, Moscow, Murray, Wardner, Weber, and Chloride.

A Different Quotation.

"And what is this whisky wuth, sah?"
"A dollar a pint."
"In Kentucky, sah, we do not buy."
"Oh, you are from Kentucky? Excuse me. We can let you have that liquor at \$110 a barrel, with a further discount of 10 per cent. in lots of five barrels or more."—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

SEVENTEEN MEN PERISH

AWFUL EXPLOSION ON A STEAMER IN CHICAGO.

The Tioga, of the Union Line, Wrecked by the Ignition of Gas in Her Hold—Flames Attack the Wreck and Char the Bodies of the Unfortunates—A Horrible Catastrophe.

Chicago dispatch: By a terrific explosion that shook all the buildings in the center of the city and startled thousands of residents the stern of the magnificent freight steamer Tioga was blown out and no less than seventeen men met instant death.

There was a rush of steam and smoke, a cloud of shattered timbers, and the agonizing cries of those not killed who were unable to escape from the flames that at once began to eat up everything within reach of their awful fury.

Thousands flocked to the docks of the Union Steamboat company, on the river back of Market street between Washington and Randolph, and the fire engines were soon in the vicinity doing good work to prevent the threatened complete loss of the big vessel.

Theories differ as to the cause of the explosion. Some claim that the combustible cargo of oil stored in hold 5, directly aft the boilers, was the cause. Others claim that the water in the boilers had been allowed to run low and they were unable to withstand the strain brought to bear upon them.

At 7 o'clock the porter, William Palmer of Buffalo, descended into the hold with several lamps, which he placed about on the deck that the roustabouts might see to continue their work far into the night, as the vessel was to have left on her return trip to Buffalo this evening.

No sooner had Palmer ascended to the upper deck after joking with the men below than the explosion came. It is believed that the vapor from a few barrels of naphtha communicated with the light of the lamps and did the fearful work.

The noise of the explosion was heard nearly a mile distant from the scene. Immediately following it came a shower of wood and iron thrown hundreds of feet into the air, with here and there a human being plainly visible to the horrified spectators, and then falling into the murky waters of the river, probably never to be seen again.

A sheet of flame wrapped the gigantic vessel from about amidships to the stern, shooting a hundred feet up into the air, lighting up the neighboring warehouses and shipping with a dull glow which only added terror to the scene.

From the depth of the vessel could be heard the roar of the flames and the occasional explosion of a barrel of oil, while the forms of half a score of unfortunates penned in the fiery furnace could be seen writhing in agony and unable to escape.

The sight was an awful one and the firemen, who made heroic efforts to render assistance, were steadily driven back from their position.

On the upper deck lay the unconscious forms of several men who were hurled up from below by the force of the explosion.

The first body taken out was that of a colored roustabout. It was found hanging partly over the combing of the hatch leading into hold 5. Not a vestige of the clothing remained, the body being burned almost to a crisp and twisted and distorted in a horrible shape. The face was entirely unrecognizable and the body was quickly conveyed to the morgue. A dozen patrol wagons and the ambulance, which had been summoned, now drove up to the dock to receive the dead and wounded.

The surviving members of the crew, under the command of Capt. Phelps, and the truck companies, lowered themselves into the hold, and, supported by planks laid across the open hatchways, recovered five more bodies and carried them out to the dock. Two of these were white men and two were colored, but they were so burned and distorted as to be entirely unrecognizable. They were taken to the morgue and placed among the unknown dead.

The seventeen men killed were all stevedores or members of the crew. About as many more were injured, some of them fatally.

DISASTER AT HALIFAX.

Several Lives Lost by the Falling of a Bridge.

A Halifax (N. S.) dispatch says: A terrible accident occurred at Dartmouth, in which a number of people were drowned. The exact number of the victims is not known. The disaster happened by the slipping off of place of the chain attached to a ferry float, allowing the front of the bridge to sink and precipitate a crowd of about 700 men, women, and children into the water. The people were crowded waiting for the new ferry steamer Annex, just arrived from New York. When the steamer got within two feet of the landing a number of persons jumped on board, and at that moment the accident occurred. The outer end of the bridge went down suddenly and the terror-stricken crowd slipped off into the harbor as though they were descending a slide, piling upon each other, shrieking for help and scrambling for means of safety.

Those on the wharf did all they could to help the unfortunates, but several lives were lost. Five bodies have been taken from the water. It is believed that several more will be found to-day.

Minor Mention.

POLAVIEJA has been appointed captain-general of Cuba.

The Missouri Republican State convention will be held in Jefferson City Aug. 25.

EX-CONGRESSMAN SMITH of Pekin was thrown from his buggy and severely bruised.

MICHAEL WELCH, aged 70, fell from a viaduct last night at Rockford, Ill., and broke his neck.