

THE RICHMOND PALLADIUM

AND SUN-TELEGRAM.

VOL. XXXIV. NO. 52.

RICHMOND, IND., WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 30, 1908.

SINGLE COPY, 2 CENTS.

HALF POPULATION IS DEAD, SURVIVORS ARE WEEPING; FACE OF GLOBE IS ALTERED

CALAMITY ALMOST BEYOND GRASP OF IMAGINATION

All Italy is Entirely Stunned by
the Terrible Calamity and
the Loss Can Not Be Esti-
mated.

DEATH LIST MAY NOW
REACH TOTAL 200,000

King and Queen Arrive at
Scene of Disaster, But are
Overcome by the Awful
Scene.

MANY REFUGEES CRAZED

Water Now Covers the Site of
Former Prosperous Town of
Calabria — Pope Orders
Prayers.

Rome, Dec. 30.—Half of the popula-
tion of Calabria and eastern part of
Sicily are dead or injured and the other
half is weeping.

As the great extent of the terrific
seismic disturbances becomes apparent,
it seems impossible to exaggerate
the horrors which have followed
them. The calamity which has over-
whelmed Italy is almost beyond the
grasp of imagination, not only because
of the dead now known to number
many thousands, but because of innum-
erable injured buried in the ruins,
many of whom will perish, because it
is impossible to rescue them from the
wreck of their former homes. The
whole of Italy is absolutely stunned,
and at the scene of disaster the bulk
of the people are literally demented
with the suddenness and the extent
of the blow.

King and Queen on Scene.

King Victor Emanuel and the Queen
Helena arrived at Messina today. As
they made their way into the ruined
town the scene of the disaster, the hor-
ror was too much for the queen who
almost swooned. Crowds of terror-
stricken persons swarmed about the
royal party and throwing themselves
in the mud, screamed for pity and aid.

Heart Rending Stories Told.

Many terrible stories are related
in connection with the rescue work.
The rescuers had to contend with a
superstition so deep rooted in the Sicilian
mind, that in many cases, injur-
ed men and women clung to the
crumbling walls, refusing to let go
their hold and seek a safer position.

200,000 Are Dead.

At six o'clock this evening it is esti-
mated two hundred thousand human
beings met death in the earthquake
which swept Sicily and southern Italy
Monday. Every additional report con-
firms or increases the gravity of the
situation. Every hour brings fresh
news of desolation.

Search for Cheney.

Every effort is being made here
to determine definitely the fate of
Consul Cheney and his assistants and
all correspondents have been instructed
to make this their first work.

The king and queen are at Messina,
both so overcome that they are com-
pelled to spend the greater part of the
time in their apartments.

Reggio Beneath Sea.

Refugees are now arriving hourly
from Calabria and other stricken sec-
tions and stories told by these are full
of horror. Not a building remains
standing at Reggio, according to in-
formation brought by the wanderers
and only a few score of people es-
caped death. The sea rolled in with
mighty roar that was at first mistaken
for the rumblings of an earthquake.
The site of the city today is covered
ith water.

Looters Fired Upon.

Italian soldiers were compelled to
fire today on bands of looters in Mes-
sina district. Public bank buildings
were shattered by Monday's earth-
quake and vandals banded together
with leaders sought to enrich them-
selves at the expense of the awful con-
ditions prevailing by securing the
gold. Commands were given to open
fire and a number of deaths are re-
ported today. Marines from the ships
have also been given the prerogative
of firing on the looters and sailors

have been landed to assist in the
work.

Tourists Are Killed.

It is known that thousands of tourists
from many foreign lands have
lost their lives. Thirty cities of size
were swept into the ruins and many
people have perished whose remains
were incinerated in the fires which fol-
lowed. The huge tidal wave also car-
ried many bodies to the sea which are
being picked up by ships.

Trenches Are Graves.

Reports from stricken districts say
burial is being carried on rapidly and
long trenches are being dug for this
purpose, to prevent a plague from
breaking out. No time is wasted in an
attempt to identify the dead.

No report from Sicily or Calabria
regarding the demolition by earth-
quake and the elements, can be pictured
in phrases too lurid. The wild re-
ports which first emanated from the
ravaged lands are confirmed and then
fade away before the newer and truer
reports which come sifting in. The
numbers now dead are growing with
such rapidity that no one can foresee
where it will end. As yet no attempt
has been made to estimate the damage.

There were 150 guests at the Hotel
Trinacria, at Reggio, 80 of whom were
English and American. All of them
perished.

the sea, which advanced in a huge
wave there, as at Messina.

Only five survivors of the city's
50,000 inhabitants have yet been ac-
counted for. These unhappy wretches
reached Catanzaro and Palmi half de-
mented by fright. They were scarcely
able to talk intelligently, but their in-
coherent stories are sufficient to con-
firm the horrible fate of the city. One
of them was mainly impressed by hav-
ing seen the sea cover the cathedral.

The others were deafened by the roar
of the sea and the falling houses
which they compare with the roar of
heavy artillery.

The Government is withholding the
news concerning Reggio for the pres-
ent, hesitating to publish the appalling
tale until it is fully confirmed.

In view of these latest develop-
ments of the catastrophe, the death
roll may well reach 125,000.

There were 150 guests at the Hotel
Trinacria, at Reggio, 80 of whom were
English and American. All of them
perished.

Relief Work Rushed.

Relief funds have already been
started, and a hundred ships and
trains are on their way carrying sup-
plies and re-enforcements to the South.

Rome, Milan, Florence, Naples and
other cities are sending physicians, poli-
cemen and firemen. Yesterday all the
Ambassadors and Ministers expressed
sympathy with M. Titon, Minister of
Foreign Affairs, whose emotion was
foreign. The Bourses and the
theaters have been closed throughout
Italy and dispatches of sympathy con-
tinue to pour in from all quarters of
the globe.

At the time of the earthquake the
torpedo boat Sappho was lying in the
harbor at Messina, and out of the offi-
cers told of the occurrences as fol-
lows:

"At 5:30 in the morning the sea sud-
denly became terribly agitated, seem-
ingly literally to pick up our boat and
shake it. Other craft near by were
similarly treated, and the ships looked
like bits of cork bobbing about in a
tempest. Almost immediately a tidal
wave of huge proportions swept across
the strait mounting the coasts and
carrying everything before it. Many
ships were damaged, and the Hungarian
boat Andraszay parted her anchors
and went crashing into other vessels.
Messina Bay was wiped out and the
sea was soon covered with masses of
wreckage which were carried off by
the tides of the receding waters."

Eight sailors from the Sappho were
landed and took up the work of res-
cue. Officers and men from Italian
and British steamers also went ashore
as soon as possible, the Britishers
having a family of five who were im-
prisoned in a burning house. Many
prisoners from the jails made their
escape and looted right and left. Hun-
dreds engaged in the work of robbing
the banks and business houses. In the
opinion of the officers of the Sappho
half the population of Messina per-
ished.

GREAT LOSS TO CHURCH.

News of Disaster Received by Pope—
Aid to Distressed.

Rome, Dec. 30.—Six o'clock—Special
delegations visited the vatican this after-
noon relative to the woes wrought to
the ecclesiastical centers in the earth-
quake stricken territory. The Pope or-
dered daily prayers for the afflicted.
The Vatican has reports of great damage
done to church property. Many
churches and cathedrals were swept
away, relics of the saints destroyed
and many priests have perished. A
large delegation was dispatched this
afternoon to Calabria and Sicily to give
succor to the suffering. Subscriptions
from all over the world are com-
ing in.

TIDE WAVE HIGH.

Rescued Sufferers Tell Vivid Stories
of Catastrophe.

Naples, Dec. 30.—Six o'clock—The
Russian battleship Makaroff, bearing
five hundred wounded and highly ter-
rorized refugees from Catania and
Messina, arrived this afternoon. Lurid
tales are told by the sufferers confirming
the belief that the disaster must
have been the result of an earthquake
changing the bed of the sea, this caus-
ing a great tidal wave which swept
mountain high over the land.

The Devastating Shock.

All accounts now agree that the time
occupied by nature's gigantic
shock was but 32 seconds. It was
some time later that a great wave
came to complete the havoc in the ill-
fated coast towns. The violence of the
shock seems to have been unpre-
dicted, except in volcanic eruptions of
limited area. The buildings in Mes-
sina were not merely shaken down,
their foundations were literally yanked
from beneath them, to one side or the
other they were toppled from the per-
pendicular and fell in alongside their
original states; that was the experi-
ence of Messina. That of Reggio, on
the opposite side of the strait, must
have been more violent, for scarcely
one stone remains on another of what
was a flourishing city only three days
ago.

Messina probably will not rise again
from her ruins and ashes. This last
overwhelming calamity will alter the
future history of Sicily and Southern
Italy. It may be regarded as certain
that a considerable portion of the pop-
ulation of this land will bow before
the wrath of the gods and seek homes
elsewhere.

Next to Italy itself America will feel
the effects of the calamity more than
any other country for a large propor-
tion of the stricken population will
seek refuge there as soon as the means
of flight can be secured.

The first stories of the rescue work
at Messina reveal to the full horrors
which accompany such catastrophes.

In addition to tons of corpses, often
hideously mangled, hundreds of injur-
ed are lying beneath the wreckage,
many of the fair women and children
in their night clothing. Shrieks and
cries of pain are heard on all sides.

Now and again some unhappy wretch,
mad from terror or grief, is seen sit-
ting in the mud the sea deposited in
the streets or clinging with useless
energy to some support, fearing the sea
will return and wash him away.

Instances are recorded of such de-

(Continued on Page Eight.)

GRAPHIC PICTURES.

Dazed Refugees Tell of the Cata-
strophe.

Rome, Dec. 30.—The towns and
villages on both sides of the
Strait of Messina have been
leveled to the ground, and nothing
but ruins are left to indicate where
they formerly stood. The coasts of
Calabria and Sicily are separated by
the narrow waters of the Strait of
Messina, and were thickly populated. The
earthquake has changed the aspect of
one of the most picturesque and smil-
ing places in Southern Italy.

Reggio Has Vanished.

The ominous absence of details con-
cerning Reggio proves to be due to the
fact that not only the city itself,
but its whole population, with the ex-
ception of a mere handful, has dis-
appeared. The warships which were or-
dered to relieve the survivors were un-
able to approach the coast, owing to the
changed configuration of the strait.

Ultimately a torpedo boat ran close
to the coast, but was unable to dis-
cover a trace of the city. Where two days
ago stood an aggregation of buildings
and busy streets, there was nothing
but rocks and earth. The city had
vanished as completely as Aladdin's
Palace under the magician's spell.

It is impossible, of course, as yet to
speak certainly of what happened, but
such observation as is possible indi-
cates that Reggio was completely swal-
lowed by the earth collapsing beneath
it, and the yawning site was filled by

BUREAU CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION IS URGED IN MESSAGE

President Roosevelt Will At-
tempt to Force on Congress
Merger of Various Secret
Service Police.

THE MEASURE HAS VERY MANY ENEMIES

President's Plan Supported by
Chief Wilke and Attorney-
General Bonaparte — Intricate
Spy System.

By Sheldon S. Cline.

Washington, Dec. 30.—President
Roosevelt's proposal to merge the vari-
ous secret police systems of the govern-
ment into a bureau of criminal inves-
tigation under the supervision of the
Department of Justice is likely to

meet with determined opposition on
the part of Congress. Just at this
time, with the mind of Congress inflamed
by the President's pointed reference in
his annual message to the need of investi-
gating the conduct of its members, the fate of such a mea-
sure is extremely doubtful.

In fact, the present open hostility to any extension

of the secret service along the lines pro-
posed by the President, may yet result in a serious rupture between
the legislative and executive branches

of the government.

At the time of the earthquake the
torpedo boat Sappho was lying in the
harbor at Messina, and out of the offi-
cers told of the occurrences as fol-
lows:

"At 5:30 in the morning the sea sud-
denly became terribly agitated, seem-
ingly literally to pick up our boat and
shake it. Other craft near by were
similarly treated, and the ships looked
like bits of cork bobbing about in a
tempest. Almost immediately a tidal
wave of huge proportions swept across
the strait mounting the coasts and
carrying everything before it. Many
ships were damaged, and the Hungarian
boat Andraszay parted her anchors
and went crashing into other vessels.
Messina Bay was wiped out and the
sea was soon covered with masses of
wreckage which were carried off by
the tides of the receding waters."

Eight sailors from the Sappho were
landed and took up the work of res-
cue. Officers and men from Italian
and British steamers also went ashore
as soon as possible, the Britishers
having a family of five who were im-
prisoned in a burning house. Many
prisoners from the jails made their
escape and looted right and left. Hun-
dreds engaged in the work of robbing
the banks and business houses. In the
opinion of the officers of the Sappho
half the population of Messina per-
ished.

At the time of the earthquake the
torpedo boat Sappho was lying in the
harbor at Messina, and out of the offi-
cers told of the occurrences as fol-
lows:

"At 5:30 in the morning the sea sud-
denly became terribly agitated, seem-
ingly literally to pick up our boat and
shake it. Other craft near by were
similarly treated, and the ships looked
like bits of cork bobbing about in a
tempest. Almost immediately a tidal
wave of huge proportions swept across
the strait mounting the coasts and
carrying everything before it. Many
ships were damaged, and the Hungarian
boat Andraszay parted her anchors
and went crashing into other vessels.
Messina Bay was wiped out and the
sea was soon covered with masses of
wreckage which were carried off by
the tides of the receding waters."

Eight sailors from the Sappho were
landed and took up the work of res-
cue. Officers and men from Italian
and British steamers also went ashore
as soon as possible, the Britishers
having a family of five who were im-
prisoned in a burning house. Many
prisoners from the jails made their
escape and looted right and left. Hun-
dreds engaged in the work of robbing
the banks and business houses. In the
opinion of the officers of the Sappho
half the population of Messina per-
ished.

At the time of the earthquake the
torpedo boat Sappho was lying in the
harbor at Messina, and out of the offi-
cers told of the occurrences as fol-
lows:

"At 5:30 in the morning the sea sud-
denly became terribly agitated, seem-
ingly literally to pick up our boat and
shake it. Other craft near by were
similarly treated, and the ships looked
like bits of cork bobbing about in a
tempest. Almost immediately a tidal
wave of huge proportions swept across
the strait mounting the coasts and
carrying everything before it. Many
ships were damaged, and the Hungarian
boat Andraszay parted her anchors
and went crashing into other vessels.
Messina Bay was wiped out and the
sea was soon covered with masses of
wreckage which were carried off by
the tides of the receding waters."

Eight sailors from the Sappho were
landed and took up the work of res-
cue. Officers and men from Italian
and British steamers also went ashore
as soon as possible, the Britishers
having a family of five who were im-
prisoned in a burning house. Many
prisoners from the jails made their
escape and looted right and left. Hun-
dreds engaged in the work of robbing
the banks and business houses. In the
opinion of the officers of the Sappho
half the population of Messina per-
ished.

At the time of the earthquake the
torpedo boat Sappho was lying in the
harbor at Messina, and out of the offi-
cers told of the occurrences as fol-
lows:

"At 5:30 in the morning the sea sud-
denly became terribly agitated, seem-
ingly literally to pick up our boat and
shake it. Other craft near by were
similarly treated, and the ships looked
like bits of cork bobbing about in a
tempest. Almost immediately a tidal
wave of huge proportions swept across
the strait mounting the coasts and
carrying everything before it. Many
ships were damaged, and the Hungarian
boat Andraszay parted her anchors
and went crashing into other vessels.
Messina Bay was wiped out and the
sea was soon covered with masses of
wreckage