THOMAS WARD JR. LOSES HIS LIFE.

Son of Distinguished Citizen Instantly Killed With His Chum Neuman.

TERRIBLE CALAMITY.

Miss Katherine Ward Engaged to Mr. Neuman — Received First News of Shocking Accident— Lieutenant Gridley Also Among the Dead.

ABOARD THE MISSOURI.

The press dispatches in another column carry complete details of the terrible accident aboard the battleship Missouri yesterday which resulted in the shocking death of twenty-nine men and officers and the injury of five, of whom two will die.

The tragedy is the worst since the blowing up of the Maine and it is made more appalling because of the sad deaths of Midshipman Thomas Ward, Jr., a son of Brigadier General Thomas Ward, one of Oswego's most distinguished citizens, and Midshipman W. E. T. Neuman, who was engaged to General Ward's daughter, Miss Katherine Ward. The announcement has cast a gloom over the entire city. Tom Ward was a brilliant young man and his chum, Midshipman Neuman, was a bright, ambitious fellow with a great future before him. Both were popular with their numerous Oswego friends and heartfelt sympathy goes out to the stricken family and relatives.

Sister Received News.

The awful calamity was caused by the explosion of 2,000 pounds of powder in the after twelve inch turret and the handling room of the Missouri, Captain William S. Cowles, a brother-in-law of the President, commanding. Only one man in the entire turret and handling room survives to tell the story. The accident occurred about fifteen miles off Pensacola, Fla., about 11 o'clock yesterday morning but no particulars were received in this city until about seven o'clock last evening when a telegram was received here for General Ward from Secretary of the Navy Moody. General and Mrs. Ward were absent from the city visiting their daughter, Mrs. Edwin Allen Stebbins at Rochester and when the message came Miss Katherine Ward was at the home of her grandmother, Mrs. Thomas Mott.

Received Second Telegram.

Thinking the message of no special importance she opened it and was shocked to learn of the death of her brother Tom. Later a message was received from Captain Cowles of the Missouri bearing the sad news that her betrothed Midshipman Neuman had also been struck down along with her brother. The young woman was completely overcome with grief. General and Mrs. Ward received with breaking hearts the sad news of their son's death later in the evening at Rochester and they arrived here at noon to-day to anxiously await further particulars. Captain Ray Ward, U. S. A., who is stationed at Key West, Fla. was, immediately communicated with and he started right away for Pensacola to take charge of the body of his brother and that of Mr. Neuman whose mother is now somewhere in Europe on a pleasure trip. Col. John T. Mott was in Washington yesterday in the interests of Oswego and he learned of the catastrophe shortly after the information was given out by the Navy Department.

The blow comes with crushing force not only to the people of Oswego but to the friends of Lieutenant J. V. P. Gridley, another of the victims, whose sister is Mrs. Frank Thomas of Mexico, N. Y. Lieutenant Gridley was also a warm personal friend of Midshipmen Ward and Neuman and the snuffing out of the lives of these courageous young men is indeed a regrettable thing.

Was Greatly Beloved.

The death of Thomas Ward, Jr., at his post of duty calls to mind the fact he was born and died, as one might truly say, "in the service". He entered the world at Governor's Island, the headquarters of the Department of East where his father was stationed, on January 2, 1883. His whole life was spent at military posts except when he entered the naval branch of the government's service. When a boy he was with his parents in Washington, then at Van Couver Barracks, later in Denver and finally in Washington, where his father was stationed at army headquarters when he retired after 40 years of faithful service. Young Ward was always fond of Oswego and from boyhood he spent his summers with his grandmother, Mrs. Thomas Mott, in West Fifth Street. He was appointed to the Naval Academy at Annapolis from this district by the late Congressman Chickering in 1899. He was graduated from Annapolis with honors over a year ago and was assigned to duty aboard the Alabama. He remained aboard the Alabama until shortly before the the first of the year when he was transferred to the Missouri one of the very latest of the battleships to go into commission. She was soon to start on a Europe cruise and he was looking forward to the trip with much pleasure.

Attended Sister's Wedding.

Mr. Ward was last in Oswego about election time when he came here to attend the wedding of his sister to Mr. Edwin A. Stebbins which occurred on election day. Midshipman Neuman was also a member of the wedding party his engagement to Miss Katherine Ward having been announced nearly two year previous. He had been serving on the battleship Oregon along the Pacific coast since graduation but he was also transferred to the Missouri. This reunion aboard the same ship was a source of pleasure to the two young men as they were class mates at the Naval Academy.

Letters received from Mr. Ward stated that he was in fine health and spirits. He was a clever ambitious young man and the sudden termination of a career so full of future promise is one of the saddest things that has happened in a long time. Young Ward had just passed his twenty-first birthday. His boyhood days were over, he was on the threshold of manhood with a splendid future before him and to be stricken down without a moments warning is indeed sad.

Mr Neuman from Honolulu.

Midshipman William E. T. Neuman was the son of the late Paul man of Honolulu, formerly Attorney General in the Cabinet of Queen Lilluokaland. The elder Neuman played an important part in the public affairs of Hawaii and was well known in Washington, where, during the second Administration of President Cleveland, he was a conspicuous figure in the controversies that arose over the Queen's dethronement.

Mr. Neuman was appointed to Annapolis by Representative Kahn of San Francisco, and entered the academy September 6, 1899. He was graduated last year and was assigned to the Pacific station. Last November he was sent to the receiving ship Franklin for duty with the Missouri, and later when she commissioned he was detailed to her. He and Tom Ward were class mates and he met Miss Ward in Washington where the family then resided. He visited here on numerous occasions and his death will cause general sorrow among his acquaintances.

Mr. Neuman has a sister living at Annapolis. She will probably take charge of the remains.

Gridley's History Known Here.

Second Lieutenant John P. Vincent Gridley was a son of Captain John C. V. Gridley, now deceased, who distinguished himself in the battle of Manilla under Admiral Dewey. He was for several years a student at St. John's Military Academy, Manlius and it was under Colonel Verbeck that he received his first military training.

Captain Gridley died at Kobe, Japan, in June, 1898. His son was appointed a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps in March, 1900, by President McKinley. He was promoted to be a First Lieutenant on December 1, 1908, and was assigned to the Missouri when that vessel was placed in commission last winter.

Lieutenant Fridley's mother lives in Erie, Pa., of which city young Gridley was a native.

Mrs. Gridley received the first news of the death of her only son through the following message from Captain Cowles:

"It is my sad duty to break to you the news of the instantaneous death, through explosion in the turret of the Missouri, of your son, Lieutenant J. V. P. Gridley, while in the performance of his duty. Where shall his remains be sent?"

Mrs. Gridley controlled her grief because of the presence of the boy's grandfather, ex-Judge John P. Vincent, who is nearly ninety years of age. He was not told of the accident until to-day. Besides his mother the young man leaves two sisters, Mrs. Lewis Luddy of New York and Mrs. Frank Thomas of Mexico. His father visited Oswego many times when he was in the lighthouse service.

A Reception Planned.

A reception was to have been given on board the Kearsarge to-night, to which the officers of all the warships in the harbor, including the flagships Olympia and Brooklyn were invited. Admiral Barker issued a card last night which said:

"On account of the sad accident on board the battleship Missouri, the invitations for the reception to be held on the flagship Kearsarge on Thursday, April 14, are withdrawn."

The accident has also forced the postponement of a series of athletic contests which were to have been held here next week.

Admiral Barker paid a visit to the Missouri and later he ordered a court of inquiry assembled to make an examination. Captain Cowles speaks in the highest terms of the heroism displayed by every man on board the Missouri who were ready to sacrifice their own lives to save those of their comrades.

A Parting Tribute.

Rear Admiral H. C. Taylor, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, says:

"We have met with a great disaster. The death of these brave officers and men is a calamity to the navy and to the country. They sacrificed their lives in the service of their country as much as if they had perished in battle against their country's enemies."

It is impossible to say anything about the details until the court of inquiry has examined the facts and made its report. This inquiry will be of a most searching character and it is hoped will clearly show the causes which have led to this great loss to the navy and to the country. The families and friends of the officers and enlisted men who have just died in the faithful performance of their duty have the deepest sympathy of the Bureau of Navigation as well as of the whole navy."

Other Accidents in Navy.

There have been two accidents in the United States Navy somewhat similar to that on the Missouri.

Nine men were killed in February, 1903, in one of the eight-inch gun turrets on the battleship Massachusetts by a gun charge exploding while the breech was open.

About the same time as the accident on the Massachusetts several men were killed on the battleship Iowa by the bursting of one of the 12-inch guns outside the turret. Pieces of the gun crashed through the deck and killed the men while they were at mess.

The gun had been in service some time but had not been fired nearly up to its supposed limit of absolute safety. The accident was attributed to a weakness of which there had been no premonitory indication.

Archambo sells Armour's best 10c toilet soap for 5c.

Card Party at St. John's Hall.

An enjoyable card party was given last evening by the Ladies' Aid Society of St. John's Church. The prizes were won by John Galvin and Mrs. Thomas Loftus.

Four Took Exams.

Four men, two from Syracuse University, one from Dartmouth College and one from Hobart College, took the examinations for the Cecil Rhodes scholarships, held yesterday afternoon in the Hall of Languages at Syracuse University.

Real Estate Sale.

Ruth A. McCavlin has sold to Jas. A. Schufelt a dwelling in East Third Street between Utica and Albany Streets. Consideration $2,000.

$2 The Twentieth Century $2
No More DERBY No Less

The best hat in the market at the price. Sold in only one Oswego store.

C. M. BARNES, 207 W. 1st

Karo
CORN SYRUP
The new table delicacy that coaxes a new appetite and *makes you eat.*
10c, 25c, 50c, at all grocers.
CORN PRODUCTS CO., New York and Chicago.

HEARING TO-MORROW.

Mr. Burton's Detention Causes Postponement of Hearing on New Breakwater.

[Special to the Times.]

WASHINGTON, April 14.—Owing to the fact that Chairman Burton of the Rivers and Harbors Committee of the House of Representatives was detained at Cleveland to-day the hearing on the Oswego breakwater before that Committee has been postponed until to-morrow. D.

CENTRAL INTERESTED.

Attorney Burns Sent to Washington to Urge the New Breakwater.

[Special to the Times.]

WATERTOWN, April 14.—Attorney Thomas Burns of firm of Purcell, Walker & Burns, left yesterday for Washington to appear before the River and Harbor Committee of the House of Representatives in the interest of New York Central Railroad Company in its effort to have the breakwater at Oswego rebuilt.

Attorney Burns is expected to make an argument to-day setting forth the needs of the breakwater and its importance to the railroad company on account of the large shipments of coal by boat received there. L.

Canal Appointments.

Supt. David S. Burleigh of the Oswego, on Monday announced the following appointments and the crews were started at work.

The State shop will be manned by Walter Drury, first carpenter; David Jewitt, second, and Monroe Reynolds third.

The State scow was also put in commission Monday, with Freeman C. Mosher as admiral; John Ellis of Oswego as Superintendent of Motive Power; Mrs. Alfred Cole as Chief; Alfred Cole, Giles Fox, Patrick Casey and Theodore Roberts of Fulton, E. C. Spencer and H. T. Yeomans of Phoenix and James Houser of Volney, as man-o'wars-men.

The lock appointments will not be made until it is definitely known when the canals will be opened. Supt. Burleigh says there is considerable work to be done to get in readiness for the opening date.

Assassination of Lincoln.

Thirty-nine years ago to-night, Abraham Lincoln, one of America's greatest Presidents, was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth. He was the first American President to fall a victim to an assassin's bullet and the first of that great trio of martyred Presidents, Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley.

Finger Amputated.

James Feeley, a machinist living at No. 221 East Fifth Street had one of his fingers so badly crushed yesterday that its amputation was necessary. Dr. Ringland attended.

A STORY BY BROTHER FRANCIS.

IT IS TOLD FOR THE BENEFIT IT MAY BE TO OTHERS.

Brother Francis of St. Phillip's Home for Industrious Boys, 417 Broome Street, New York City, in a letter written June 6, 1902, says: "Having given all other remedies a trial without success, I consider Father John's Medicine the best for bronchial troubles, it being the only remedy to give me permanent relief. I recommend it to others likewise troubled with the same results."

WET CORN FOR SALE.

This corn is in excellent condition for feed at 25c per bushel. Oswego Starch Factory. 14d4t

First M. E. Church will hold a Rummage Sale, April 28-30. Contributions will be called for if D. S. Stone is notified by 'phone. *

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS.

DEPARTMENT OF WORKS,
OSWEGO, N. Y., April 8, 1904.

TAKE NOTICE.—That application has been made and the Department of Works proposes to order the construction of the following local improvements:

PUBLIC SEWERS.

In Yates Avenue, between Scribe and Division Streets.

In East Seventh Street between Bridge and Cayuga Streets, together with the necessary inlets, wells and connections

All in accordance with specifications on file in the Office of the City Engineer. And objections, if any, to the said proposed improvements, will be heard by the Department of Works, at its office in the City Hall at 7:30 o'clock, P. M., Monday, April 18, 1904.

By order of the Department of Works.

M. A. COOKE, Clerk.

April 8, 1904. d5t

A NAVAL DISASTER

Explosion In Missouri's Turret Killed Twenty-nine.

FIVE OFFICERS AMONG THE DEAD

Commander Cowles Showed Great Coolness and Courage.

MAGAZINES FLOODED TO SAVE SHIP

Warship Was Off Pensacola, Fla., at Target Practice, When Charge of Powder Ignited From Gases Formed by Former Shot and Extending to Handling Room Caused Disastrous Explosion.

PENSACOLA, Fla., April 14.—By the explosion of 2,000 pounds of powder in the after twelve inch turret and the handling room of the battleship Missouri, Captain William S. Cowles commanding, twenty-nine men were instantly killed and five injured, of whom two will die. The Missouri was on the target range with the Texas and Brooklyn at practice about noon when a charge of powder in the twelve inch left hand gun, ignited from gases, exploded and, dropping below, ignited four charges of powder in the handling room, and all exploded.

Three rounds had been fired from the after twelve inch gun, and a shell had been seated and two sections of powder rammed home when the explosion occurred, killing every officer and man in the turret and all but three in the handling room.

The second pointer had fired the third shot of his string when the charge ignited. The fourth shot was being loaded and from all indications the first half of the charge had been rammed home and the second section was being rammed home when gases from the shot previously fired, or portions of the cloth cover, ignited the powder. The breech was open, and a dull thud gave notice of something unusual. No loud report was made, but flames were seen to leap from every portion of the turret. A few seconds later another explosion, somewhat more fierce, occurred. This was in the handling room below, where 1,000 pounds of powder, or four charges ready to be hoisted above, had ignited. Five quarters were sounded, and every man of the ship responded, and the magazine and handling rooms were flooded with water.

In less than five seconds after the first explosion two streams of water were being played in the rooms, and when volunteers were called for every man of the ship responded, eager to go into the turrets and rescue the crew. Captain Cowles gave his commands, and but for his presence of mind and that of the officers of the ship the Missouri would have gone down.

The second explosion occurred near one of the magazines, and so hot was the fire that the brass work of the magazines was melted. Smoke and the fumes of the burned powder made it almost impossible to enter either the turret or handling room, but officers and men, with handkerchiefs over their faces, made efforts to rescue the men inside.

Leading the rescuing party was Captain Cowles. The officers endeavored to keep him from going below as men fell unconscious as they entered and had to be pulled out by their comrades, but unheeding their advice the commanding officer rushed below, followed by Lieutenant Hammer, the ordnance officer, and Lieutenant Cleland Davis. Captain Cowles caught up a dying bluejacket in his arms and staggered to the deck with him. The bluejacket, with two others from the handling room, had crawled partly from their places of duty when they had been overcome. Before the fumes of the burning powder had left the turret officers and men were lifting out the dying and dead men.

Three minutes after the explosion all were on deck, and the surgeons from the Missouri, Texas and Brooklyn were attending to those not dead. The twenty-five men of the turret were found lying in a heap. They had started for the exit when the first explosion occurred and had just reached there when the more terrible explosion in the handling room occurred, which burned and strangled them to death. Lieutenant Davidson, the officer in charge of the turret, evidently had given some command to the men, as he was on top of the heap of men, having fallen there after he had allowed them to pass him to get out of the turret.

The bodies were hardly recognizable, the terrible and quick fire having burned clothing from the bodies of the men, and the flesh hung from them in shreds. The faces were mutilated by the smoke and flames only. One man was breathing when the turret crew was rescued, and he died a moment after he reached the deck.

The names of the dead follow; Lieutenant W. C. Davidson, Lieutenant E. A. Welchert, Lieutenant of Marines J. V. P. Gridley, Midshipmen W. E. T. Neumann and Thomas Ward, Jr.; Boatswain's Mate (first class) J. K. Peterson, Seamen W. J. Bogard, O. N. Sonder, E. R. H. Alison, Ordinary Seamen C. Rice, C. J. Killen, J. Gedris, J. F. Kennedy, J. P. Starr, J. C. Nunn, C. H. M. Franks, Landsmen H. S. Cherbarths, B. J. Milligan and J. M. Roach, Electrician (second class) T. F. Rowlands, Gunner's Mate (second class) A. Smith, Chief Gun Captain T. J. Braun, Private Marine W. L. Shipman, Apprentices (second class) J. C. Hardy and P. R. Castler. The two men who cannot live are J. T. J. Donelly, ordinary seaman, and O. B. Moe, apprentice, second class.

But for the prompt and efficient work of Captain Cowles in flooding the handling room and magazine with water one of the magazines would have exploded, and the ship would have been destroyed. Captain Cowles is completely overcome by the disaster.

The Missouri is the very latest of the big battleships to go into commission. The flag was hoisted on her in December last at Norfolk by Captain Cowles, brother-in-law of President Roosevelt. She collided with the Illinois off Pensacola a few weeks ago and has had very little firing with her big guns; in fact, the nine or ten rounds which had been fired from each big gun were in the course of official trials, and she is now going through her first regular target practice.

In the absence of any statements in the wireless telegram as to the nature of the accident naval officers, and particularly the chief of the ordnance bureau here, would not express any opinion as to the cause. Privately, however, naval experts, for the most part, believe that what had happened was an occurrence like that on the Massachusetts a year ago last February, when what is known as a "blow-out" occurred. That means that the powder charge in the breech of a gun becomes accidentally ignited before the breech is completely closed, sending the blast back into the turret. The Massachusetts accident resulted in the immediate death of the nine men in the turret, and for that reason great difficulty was found in ascertaining the cause of the accident.

To guard as far as possible against the ignition of the powder in this way Admiral Converse, chief of ordnance, issued a stringent circular forbidding any bag of powder to be raised from the magazines above the floor of the turret until the gun had been discharged and the breech thrown open. It is feared that the great spirit of rivalry between the crews of the various warships in the matter of rapidity of fire has led the gun crews into such haste as to prevent them from observing proper precautions in the turrets. In the charge for the twelve inch gun of the Missouri there was 360 pounds of smokeless powder contained in four separate bags; enough to blow the top of the turret off, perhaps.

The naval officers say they do not understand how so many men happened to be in the after turret at one time, as an ordinary turret crew is made up of about nine men. Young Ensign Weichert, although attached to the cruiser Cleveland, was in the turret of the Missouri, probably as an umpire, a modern naval custom, but why more than two officers were there is not known.

Itching piles? Never mind if physicians have failed to cure you. Try Doan's Ointment. No failure there. 50 cents, at any drug store.

Two packages of garden or flower seeds for 5c at Archambo's.

Athenean Public.

Subject, "Civic Art," under the leadership of Miss Mary Colestock, Friday at 11:20 A. M. in Assembly Hall, Normal School.

Program.

Music.....Orchestra
Paper—The Evolution of the City.....Elsie Penny
Talk—The Making of Cities.....Ethel Howard
Vocal Duet.....Evelyn Wyman, Bess Schilling
Talk—First Impressions..Bertha Metcalf
Vocal Solo.....Susie Sawyer
Paper—The City Beautiful.....Jane Spier
Talk—Social Influence of Parks and Public Squares.....Rene Spenser
Piano Duet..Jane Gavin, Winifred Offord
Paper—A Visit to Oswego in 1929.....Julia Alexander
Stereopticon Views.....Dr. Piez

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The Best Advertisement

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Bet. Mohawk and Utica Sts.

DIED.

HENNESSEY—In this city April 14, 1904, Francis David, son of David F. and E. Lamoyne Hennessey, aged 5 months.

Funeral from the parents' residence, No. 38 Erie Street, Friday at 2 p. m. Friends are invited.

ALLEN—At his home at Lansing, Thursday, April 14, 1904, William Allen, aged 72 years and 10 months.

Notice of funeral hereafter.

PIERCE, Funeral Director
Corner West Third and Bridge Sts
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P. J. CULLINAN, Undertaker,
98 East Second Street.
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Black Bass
Weak Fish
White Fish
Salmon Trout
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Clams
Fresh,
Well Cleaned and
Promptly Delivered
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Monday Night, "Blue Grass of Old Kentucky"
High Class Vaudeville. Carload Special Scenery. Electrical Effects.
A limited number of ladies' 15c tickets will be sold for Monday night only.
Prices 10c-20c-30c. Seats Now On Sale.

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CRYSTAL Spring Water has been carefully analyzed and declared absolutely pure by J. Edmund Burr, Chemist, of Syracuse, N. Y. Order received at Kiner's Grocery by 'phone or postal card. Delivered in gallon and half-gallon bottles.

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W. J. Long	William Miller
Walter Mongin	Stone's Drug Store
John Lepintina	Mead's Drug Store
Mooney & Parker	H. Morgan

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And only twenty five of them at that, but the manufacturer promised us as many more for Saturday and they are perfect beauties--cheap, too
Covert Jackets
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