

UTICA'S GREATEST DISASTER.

CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.

was insured for \$1,000, but his loss will greatly exceed that amount.

F. P. Tuckerman succeeded in getting out his family safely. He owned a valuable collection of old war relics, which were completely destroyed.

Miss Leslie and Miss Dawson saved a watch, sealink sacque, and some valuable papers, but everything else was destroyed.

Mr. Arthur Aldred, who saw her mother, Mrs. Hughes, fall from the third floor to the ground, was taken in a prostrate condition after her mother's death.

Mr. Algase and his family escaped with only their clothing, and are now staying with friends on Blainville street.

There was some apprehension for the safety of Miss Cleveland, a school teacher who lived with Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Buck.

Dr. Urey and his wife were among the last to leave the building. Their apartment was on the seventh floor.

Mr. Arthur Clark and family escaped in safety, but the servant, Lillie, suffered from the smoke and excitement.

Mr. Escaper and Mrs. S. S. Lowery had a narrow escape from their apartments on the sixth floor.

Mr. and Mrs. DeLong occupied a flat on the fourth floor, and many friends were apprehensive as to her safety.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Embley escaped half clothed. Mrs. Embley's hands were blistered getting down the fire escape.

Those who were located on the first and second floors, except adjoining the main entrance, had no difficulty in escaping.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Sheffield were taken to the residence of Mr. Sheffield on Cottage street.

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ried it. His wife came down on the rope. Then Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Aldred's mother, came down to the fourth balcony on the rope.

Mrs. Van Sise said: "Mrs. Hughes came from the fifth to the fourth balcony after her daughter. As she swung on to our balcony, I said to her, 'Hold on.'"

Mr. Aldred from the fifth balcony saw the accident, as did Mrs. Hughes' daughter, who was on the fourth when her mother fell and was placed in the ambulance.

There is a mystery concerning the two people whom Mr. and Mrs. Van Sise stumbled against in the hall.

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ers on Clinton street were readily thrown open to the burned out people. Carriages were in great demand, and the poorly clad fire sufferers were taken to the home of friends or relatives or some hotel.

The good offices of those who took the sufferers in will be long remembered. Telephone messages were early sent for surgeons, as it was anticipated that there would be need of their services, and many responded.

Expressions of grief and sorrow were visible on all sides. No one saved anything of any consequence. One woman wanted to return to the sixth floor of the building to get a picture of a dead daughter. The picture perished in the flames, yet to her it was more valuable than any other article in her home.

Many were thankful that they had been so fortunate as to escape with their lives, and they realized that had it not been for the power house whistle a much larger list of fatalities would have been recorded.

SEARCH FOR THE MISSING.

Bureau of Information Established by Chief Dagwell.

Chief Dagwell at once set out to find out if possible who was missing. Detectives Cleveland and Barry were detailed to get a correct list of all the occupants of the building, and as they were ascertained to be safe the names were checked off.

The police station was made a bureau of information and from the information secured there the number of dead up to late last night was only four.

There is a strong impression, however, that there are some servant girls, who possibly did not escape from the building. The whereabouts of all the tenants except Mrs. Wood and daughter and Mr. Hopkins were practically located by the police thro friends calling at the police station and announcing their safety.

Anyone who thinks there is still someone missing should report the matter to the police at once. The entire list of the missing will probably be verified today.

THE BATTLE WITH THE FLAMES.

Utica Firemen Have Boldness and Harder Fight.

The fire undoubtedly started in the cellar, under the apartment of John F. Luther, near the main entrance. Some claimed that the employees of the building refused to turn in the alarm at first, rather trying to fight the fire with the meager facilities at hand.

Word was first sent to No. 1 engine house, then to Chief Dimbleby, and then to the chemical. The big whistle in the apartment power house was blown, and this speedily aroused all the sleeping inmates, and after some delay an alarm was sent in, quickly followed by the general alarm of ten taps.

It was 5:30 before the entire department was on the scene, and the services of the firemen were useless then for fire fighting purposes.

One piece of fire apparatus did noble work, the rear aerial truck. It was run up to the roof entrance, but it was found that the ladders would not go to the third story from the street.

An effort was made to break the iron railing in front, but was unsuccessful, and as a consequence the service of the truck were brought down on it at once from the third floor, and they surely would have been burned but for the truck.

The firemen worked hard, and did the best they could to save the lives of all. The firemen could have saved Mrs. Hughes had she been able to hang on to the sheeting by which she was being lowered to the balcony reached by the ladder.

Officer Coakley was on the top of the ladder and assisting the firemen in the good work. One woman from a balcony above was passing down to the officer what appeared to be a bundle of bed-quilts. "Drop that and come down yourself," yelled the officer. "No," cried the woman. "Why not, my baby?"

Her devoted mother were both landed on the ground in safety.

About 1,000 feet of the hose became useless by bursting. Steamer No. 2 was stationed at the corner of Genesee and Tracy streets; No. 1 was at the corner of Genesee and Oswego streets; No. 4 was on Oswego street, just west of Genesee street; and No. 5 was at the corner of Onondaga street and Clinton place.

Streams were used from three engines and all the hydrants, but it would have taken an immense amount of water to have drowned out the fire effectually. The residence occupied by Charles S. Brown, who is now in Florida, just north of the flats, was kept soaked with water. It caught fire several times, but no great damage was done.

WALLS WILL BE TORN DOWN.

Condemned by the City Surveyor and Architects George and Ague.

Mayor Johnson instructed City Surveyor Johnson to investigate the condition of the front and side walls yesterday morning and make a report. Together with Architects Ague and Fred H. Gouge a thorough investigation of the front and side walls was made. The architects both agreed that the remaining walls were absolutely unsafe and recommended that they be torn down at once.

Their report to the city surveyor was as follows: At your request we have visited and inspected the remaining walls of the late burned Genesee flats, and find them absolutely unsafe, and it is recommended that they be torn down at once as we consider it hazardous to public safety, and especially so should more be required, in view of the ruins of the building in its present condition.

A special meeting of the common council will be held sometime to-day to take action on the report. It is probable that some proceedings will be taken to compel the taking down of the wall at once.

Surveyor Johnson sent the following report to Mayor Gibson: UTICA, N. Y., March 3, 1896. Dear Sir: Pursuant to the suggestion made by you this morning I have this afternoon in company with Architects Jacob Ague, Jr., and Frederick H. Gouge, visited the scene of the late fire at Genesee flats for the purpose of deciding whether or not the walls now standing there are in a safe condition.

I herewith submit their report, in which I entirely concur. I may add, that I think it would be entirely safe to place thereon other structures, premises for the purpose of looking for the remains of persons supposed to be lost until their recoveries are carried out. Respectfully yours, CHAIRMAN L. JOHNSON, City Surveyor.

A VERITABLE FIRE TRAP.

The Expected Happened in the Case of the Genesee Flats.

The destruction of the colossal building in less than two hours has been expected by many. Its construction was such that it has not been regarded as at all safe in case of fire, and there were some things about the building which made it resemble a "fire trap."

The woodwork and flooring throughout the whole seven floors were as brittle as white bread and furnished choice food for the flames. The house has always been well patronized and so successful was the venture that the owners, Northrup & Letcher, now have in course of construction another flat on the opposite side of the street, adjoining the residence of Charles W. Mather. The burned building is said not to have been fire proof and was not erected in such a sound manner as a building of its importance should be. There are accommodations for 70 families in the building and the rents have ranged from \$35 and \$45 per month upward.

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There are accommodations for 70 families in the building and the rents have ranged from \$35 and \$45 per month upward.

The disastrous fire is being used as a sound argument by many citizens for the necessity of building inspectors, whose duty it shall be to prevent the shooting up of such architectural skeletons unless they are finely built and surely fire proof.

Mayor Gibson has advocated the appointment of such an official, and it is highly probable that he will take some decided action in this regard in the near future.

Chief Dimbleby made an inspection of the building two years ago, and at that time warned the proprietors of the danger of fire in the building. He said that if a blaze ever started in the basement, where it was discovered there was not water enough in this locality to quench it. His prediction has been fulfilled.

It is exceedingly doubtful if the other flat now being erected by Northrup & Letcher will be a paying venture. Uticans have had one apartment house horror and that is sufficient.

It was expected that the front wall would go down any time yesterday, but it still stands as a sorrowful monument to hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of destroyed property.

The wind caused the upper part of it to work as much as a foot yesterday. It will probably be removed before any attempt is made to search the ruins for the dead.

Coroner Ward was about the scene of the all day and doing all possible to ascertain who were missing. He will institute inquiry proceedings and if there is any blame or negligence in the case, he will endeavor to locate it and call the offending ones to account.

The Genesee flats, as shown on Sanborn's map, published for the use of insurance companies and agents, and intended to show the interior construction of buildings, is accompanied by the following explanation: "Admission refused. Seventy tenements. One elevator. No firewalls are shown on the map. 'Admission refused' means that when the inspector called he was not allowed to enter the building to make an outline of the interior for publication."

WORK ON THE RUINS.

The Coroner Hopes to Begin the Search for Bodies To-day.

Coroner Ward said last night that the search for bodies in the ruins will begin as soon as the debris becomes cold enough to be handled. He believes that the remains of Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Wood and her daughter are under the piles of rubbish on the southern part of the site.

Dr. Ward did not think that it would be able to begin the search this morning, but he hopes the ruins will be cool enough to permit it this afternoon.

Dr. Ward said that the front wall should be taken down before the search is commenced. In his opinion it is a menace to life in its present condition, and he does not want any more cases of look after than he has at present.

His authority in the matter extends only to the search for the bodies.

A jury will be impaneled to-day and will view the remains of Mrs. Hughes. The inquest will be put off until after the search for other bodies has been completed. Dr. Ward says he has good reason to believe that more than four lives were lost in the fire, and he is afraid that the revelations of the examination of the ruins will make the horror greater than has yet been imagined.

LOSSES AND INSURANCE.

The Total Loss May Reach \$500,000 - Insurance Loss Than Half That Sum.

It is impossible to estimate the total loss with accuracy, but it will not be far from half a million. Practically nothing was saved from the burning building, and the aggregate value of the property of the 45 families in the building was over two hundred thousand.

Most of the tenants were well to do, and the contents of single apartments in some cases were worth over \$5,000.

The building itself was worth about \$120,000, outside of the furnishings belonging to the firm of Northrup & Letcher. The insurance on the building, which goes with a Mutual life loan of \$125,000, covering both the Genesee and Reynolds property of the firm, is as follows:

Table listing insurance companies and amounts: Commercial Union, E. G. Henry, \$5,000; Scottish Union, J. H. J. M. Turnbull, \$5,000; Manchester, E. G. W. G., \$5,000; etc.

ON BOILER HOUSE.

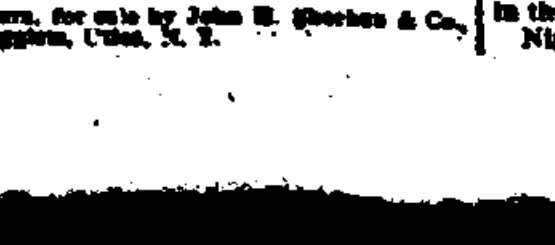
American Central, Carr, Simmons & Carr, \$1,000.

The following shows the insurance carried by occupants:

Table listing insurance amounts for occupants: Eugene Stearns, Williamsburg City, \$1,000; F. T. Wood, Williamsburg City, 500; etc.

FAUCIAL RIVULUS.

Prevented by Cuticura Soap.



Mrs. F. S. DeLong, Queen of America, 1,000; Anna C. Arnold, Northrup, Hartford, 1,000; etc.

Among the early visitors to view the ruins was Rev. Dr. Brown of Westminster church. He realized that eight members of his congregation occupied flats in the ill-fated building, and when he learned that they had all escaped unharmed he seemed relieved, although greatly shocked at the fate of the other unfortunate ones.

Mrs. John A. Goodale, who occupied one of the burned flats, was greatly prostrated by the shock and exposure, but was able to go down town yesterday afternoon and do some shopping. She is at present stopping at her father's home in Genesee street.

There were many servant girls in the building. Most of them were in meagre circumstances and the losses they sustained embraced nearly all their possessions.

John O'Hanlon, a call fireman, was one of the heroes of the day. He rescued many women and children and was not afraid to climb to the highest story in order to save them. He was badly burned about the face and hands.

There were 23 upright pianos in the flats. Of course all were destroyed, together with other valuable furniture and bric-a-brac that in some cases took years to collect.

H. K. Van Sise says a day or so ago purchased a valuable piano and did not increase his insurance.

THE HERALD'S EXTRA.

Subscribers in the City served with a Special Edition at Nine O'clock.

The Herald published a special edition at nine o'clock which was delivered to its subscribers in the city. It contained a cut of the flats, a full list of the occupants of the building and the story of the fire. The principal points of the account are here given:

The burning of the Genesee apartment house on upper Genesee street shortly before daybreak this morning was one of the most horrible catastrophes which has ever occurred in this city, involving as it did, the possible death of many men, women and children, who were sound in an early morning sleep.

Escapes were miraculous and hairbreadth, men and women being carried down ladders to the ground below, while the interior of the building was a seething, roaring mass of flames.

At 5 o'clock a fire alarm was sent in from box 32, at the corner of Oswego and Genesee streets, and it was accompanied by the prolonged blowing of a whistle. Ten minutes later a general alarm of ten taps was sounded and the entire department called out.

The building, however, 15 minutes after the sounding of the alarm was certainly doomed to destruction, and strong efforts were put forth to save the sleeping people of the seven floors of the burning building.

A strong west wind prevailed, and it came with full vent against the destructive flames as it swept over the vacant lot opposite the apartment house. The firemen at once realized that fighting the flames was impracticable.

The fire at once seemed to be centered in the middle of the elevator way and spread out to the north and south with almost fearful rapidity.

Whether all escaped from the burning building or not can not be told as yet. Fathers were running around in the crowd outside looking for a missing member of their families and the neighbors adjoining the apartment house liberally threw open their homes. About 30 families occupied the seven floors of the building. Among the tenants were:

Rev. G. N. Smith, Katherine S. Walker, Levi M. Algase, Frank T. Wood, Barney Albeson, John F. Lath, Charles H. Thorn, Althea M. Ledbe, Miss Lillie Weaver, Frederick H. Brewer, John A. Goodale, C. F. Hoagland, Seymour D. Letcher, Ellis E. Roberts, George A. Embley, Edward M. Harter, Eugene Stearns, Wilbur E. Hoover, Samuel S. Lowery, Miss Julia M. Johnson, Anna C. Arnold, Devilo W. Northrup, Henry D. Babcock, Edward B. Brown, Caldo E. Fisher, Miss Caroline E. Harris, Patrick H. Smith, R. Leo Fairbank, Mrs. Hannah C. Butcher, Mrs. George F. Fowler, Mrs. Eva F. Fowler.

Does anybody want to know the quality of the mortar used in putting up that tinder box? Look at the brick strewn under the ground south of the ruins, and beneath the floor of mortar. It is as a rule as clean as mortar as brick fresh from the kiln. It Eudonick used "mortar" of poorer quality his sentence to prison was too mild.

Miss Minnie Bagley and Mrs. Thomas are at William M. Storrs', 203 Genesee street. They attribute their escape to the coolness and bravery of Dr. Urey.

Several firemen had their faces and hands badly burned while trying to assist people out of the building.

The power house in the rear, which supplied heat and water to the building, was completely destroyed.

The Syracuse Herald of yesterday says: Mrs. Mary Wood, who with her daughter, Mary Brandegee Wood, perished in the Genesee flats fire, is a daughter of A. H. Green of No. 708 East Fayette street, Syracuse. The first information that Mr. Green or any of his family received of the fire was a dispatch to Andrew H. Green, Jr., assistant superintendent of the soda and glass department of the Solvay process works, which read as follows: "Genesee flats burned. Mary and Sarah missing." As soon as Mr. Green learned of the fire he hastened down town and informed his parents. The family was overcome with grief, and did not know what to make of it, because there was no definite information given. They feared the worst, but still had hopes that all would come out right. Mr. and Mrs. Green, with their son, left for Utica on the southwestern limited at 11 o'clock this morning.

The man who was married some years ago to John Wood, then a rising young lawyer in the east. They moved to California some time afterwards, where they remained until last summer, when they went to Utica for the purpose of educating their daughter, who was a student in the academy in that city.

Night Operative Phillips at the telephone office received a call from the fire at 8 o'clock. He called the assistant and No. 1, and then Chief Dimbleby. At 8:30 he called Dr. Glass and Palmer. Dr. Glass said that he would go at once, and that his house was open to any who were suffering.

It was rumored yesterday that the proprietors of the flat said oil in the cellar. One tenant said that practice had been in vogue up to a year ago and then discontinued.

James R. Goodale had some personal effects insured. Yesterday he received a check for \$260, the entire amount. William McQuade cut his hands while breaking a window. Both are badly lacerated, but he considers himself lucky by escaping with so slight an injury.

Mrs. Platt and Miss Sarah Brown have placed clothing and other necessary wearing apparel at the disposal of the ladies who lost part or all of their wardrobe in the fire. This is done as an accommodation until the dressmakers are able to provide new dressing apparel.

A gloom has been cast over Mrs. Platt's seminary, where Miss Wood, who is thought to have perished in the flames, was a student. She was loved by her associates, and her terrible fate is a source of much sorrow to them. Yesterday afternoon the young ladies visited the scene of the catastrophe and several of them were moved to tears when they gazed on the ruins and thought of the probable fate of their friend.

Among the early visitors to view the ruins was Rev. Dr. Brown of Westminster church. He realized that eight members of his congregation occupied flats in the ill-fated building, and when he learned that they had all escaped unharmed he seemed relieved, although greatly shocked at the fate of the other unfortunate ones.

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