## APPALLING CALAMITY

Great Loss of Life on the Thames at London.

COLLAPSE OF A STEAMER.

A Thousand Families Plunged in Grief.

250 LIVES LOST.

London, May 24. - A frightful calamity of curred on the river this evening at six o'cleck The steamer Victoria, with over 600 excur sionists on board, was returning from Spring bank and when near the Cove rail way bridge about one mils below the city, the boat auddenly collapsed like an egg shell and be came a total wreck level with the water's edge. All the passengers were instantly plunged into the stream, more than half

f them being underneath the debris.

The first news which reached the city was brought by survivors who straggled through the streets wet and weary. The news fell like a thunderbolt and a stampede took place for the spot. When your reporter arrived there a horrible eight met the view. Some fifty or sixty boules had already been recovered and were lying on the greensward some distance up the bank. Those arriving from the city from every direction crowded around anxious to see if any of their relatives were on board. About one thousand families were represented on the excursion and the wail of anguish that arose at sight of the victims was heartrending. Fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters rushed about panic stricken endeavoring to identify their friends. By seven e'clock about eighty bodies were recovered from under the wreck where the water is some two feet in depth. Almost every minute some poor victim was brought to the surface and conveyed in strong and willing arms to the bank. The steamer Princess Louise was early brought to the spot and the victims placed on the upper deck. Fires were lit on the bank overlooking the river, and petroleum torches were brought, and the search continued into the night. Up to the present hour (ten o'clock) about 150 corpses have been secured. Among the dead are: Mr. Jas. Robertson, manager of the Bank of British North America; Mr. J. C. Meredith, clerk of the Division Court; Wm. McBride, city assessor and secretary of the Western Fair Association; Mrs. Wm. Ashbury: Wm. Millman, of Montreal, commercial agent and his two sons; two children of Henry Beaton, merchant, and J. Rogers, plumber. All is confusion at the present moment. The landing at the foot of Dundas street is now crowded with people, all waiting in breathless expectation for the arrival of the steamer Princess Louise with the bodies.

THE BOAT. The Victoria was not a steamboat proper but a raft or scow, fitted with a stern wheel Her construction was in this wise: A num ber of 21 or 3 inch plank were placed side by side, two or three feet apart. Cross plank were bolted to the bottoms of these, and a floor laid on top. The front and rear were beveled off. On the main deck was a locumotive boiler, supplying steam to two engines of perhaps 20 and 40 horse power. The rate was about 80 feet long and 22 feet wide. Rising from the deck of this raft was a platform of equal area, called the upper deck, and this was surmounted by an awning. The upper deck was supported by stanchions, rest ing upon the longitudinal planks of the raft. The side of the raft was two feet deep. With an ordinary load, it would be immersed per haps eighteen mohes, kaving six inches freeboard, or space between the surface of the water and the level of the deck. With the immense load the boat carried on the fatal occasion, the freeboard must have been reduced to two or three miches. When, there fore, the boat careened by that distance the water floored the deck and acted as additional leverage in upsetting her. When she topple over to a certain distance the stanchions, un able to sustain the side pressure broke off. and precip.tated the weight above upon the people on the main deck.

## At the Scene of the Disaster.

Here and there knots of men worked vigorously to restore to me some beloved relative, practising all the arts known to them—rubbing the limbs and applying cloths, heated at a neighboring fire, but all to no purpose. Vitality would not return, and the sorrowing friends gave up in despair. Meanwhile the work of rescuing went on, and the list swelled and swelled until it seemed as if the end would never come. As dusk deepened into night the scene became still more weird and terrible. Fires were lit upon the bank, shed ding a lurid and fitful glare over the water and showing the dreadful outlines in thei

THE WORK OF RECOVERING THE BODIES was entered into with a heroic spirit by thos who arrived early on the scene. Merchants, lawyers, workmen, and all classes, plunged into the water, and, borne up by rafts, began to hand the lifeless forms of the drowner ones out to those on shore. Resuscitation was tried with all who were rescued within half an hour, but only in one or two instances were the efforts successful. Fire were hastily built and warm clothes were obtained, but, owing to the fact that nearly every one on the banks were themselves rendered helpless by the soaked condition of their clothing, and the excitement incident to so terrible an occurrence, the rescuere were in a sad plight. Among those, however who had escaped, many instances of heroism and self denial were noticed.

As the wreck subsided many of the bodies came to the surface and were quickly conveyed to the shore. When it had been known that resuscitation was out of the question the men carried the bodies on board the Princess Louise, which had drawn up beside the wreck. One by one, with surprising rapidity, the rows were added to. First the stern of the boat became filled, then the sides, th space in front of the wheelbox, and still the bodies were being handed in. When no more room could be found on the upper deck, the lower deck was resorted to and nearly all the available space taken up. Quite a number of bodies, however, were taken out upon the bank and removed by friends to the city, thus preventing an overcrowding of the boat. As each body was taken out of the water and car ried by willing hands out upon the bank it was immediately surrounded by trouble stricken men and women, who searched the features for traces of friends supposed to be lost. As a child, or wife, o a mother, a brother, a sister, or a friend was recognized a heartrending shrick told the story, and a low but solemn moun passed my children safe?" was the agonizing inquiry of many a mother and father as they arrive ed excited and breathless on the scene. In many instances the answers told the tale of a drowned boy, or a lost girl, and the scene scription. To present the picture as it reali was would be an impossibility. To those wh saw it no description is necessary, for while life lists it can never fade from the memory In numbers of cases the torn clothing of

the young ladies told how desperate the struggle had been for escupe from the water or be neath the fatal deck, and scarred faces, abrad ed arms and limbs gave evidence of injuries that undoubtedly went far towards hastening death by drowning. On the faces of four of five bodies there were bruises and abrasions which rendered indentification most difficult On the boat, as they lay side by side, the

scene was one most impressive in its character. To the left of the main gangway lay a mother with her child clasped in her arms, in that embrace which death so often brings to drowning people. Alongside were child-

ren who seemed asleep, and men whose faces were hideously distorted by the agony of the death struggle. Five young ladies lay side side, bearing no other evidence than that of speedy and apparently painless death. Ohildren were interspersed everywhere - rangng in their ages from innocent cabyhood to ove and girls of fifteen and sixteen. Beside one of the paddle boxes lay a little girl, with her hat fastened jauntily over her gelden hair, and her clothes but little disturbed since she had left the picnic ground prattling perhaps by her mother's knee. Near the wheelhouse lay a well formed young lady, dressed in picnic costume, who had been examined by hundreds, without finding any who could identify her. Directly opposite lay the body of Miss May Craddock, daugh ter of the architect, which was being watched by her lover when in life. Along the side nearest the shore were arranged the bodies of eight, who had passed the middle age of life and in striking contrast lay feet to feet as many who had not passed the age of twenty-one. Forward of the wheelhouse was a strange jumble of children and men, while in a corner of the paddle box lay the form of a well dressed and fair baired little girl, whom no one had been able to identify. Too much credit cannot be attached to the city doctors, who were present in full strength, and did all in their power to resuscitate when a glimmer of hope was entertained.

THE WORK OF IDENTIFICATION. As the finding of the bodies grew less num rous, the policemen in attendance, under chief Williams, began to permit the admission of inquirers by fours. This prevented any crowding, and was worked most satisfactorily; the friends were able to search more carefully and the bodies were thus undisturbed. Those on the several decks were provided with lantern and torches, and, aided by the light from the bonfires, the work of identification was begun. This was most agonizing in the extreme. As fathers or mothers clasped the cold forms of their children to their arms and broke forth into wails of sorrow, or a brother bent over a sister, a husband identified a wife, a wife a husband, strong men who stood by were moved to tears. One by one, however, the bodies were recognized until when midnight arrived there remained about fifty to be ticketed. At 12 o'clock, the boat being filled, it was deemed advisable to start for the city. This was done slowly and cautiously, and as the steamer moved between the darkened banks, and the faces of the dead were but visible by the glimmering light of a few lanterns, the scene was more sombre than it had appeared at any time be fore. Few words were spoken, and the stillness was broken only by the occasional sob of an agonizing sorrower or the splashing of the wheels. Around the decks there lay over one hundred bodies in the manner described. THE LOST ONES.

The following list is necessarily incomplete for several reasons. First, because many of of the friends of those on board did not reach he scene of the wreck until late at night.and then it was with very great difficulty that the features could be distinguished; and secondly, because many of the relatives drove down by the roads on the south side of the river, and vere consequently unable to cross until they had retravelled a portion of the distance, and walked over the railway bridge to the scene. By the time these persons reached the place, t was fully ten o'clock, and in the flurry and excitement incident to such a catastrophe. but little progress in securing the correct list of names could be made. It is possible that some of the persons whose names are appended were missing until a late hour, but in every instance the deaths were authent cated Emma Prescott and Nellie Prescott, Ox

ford street, city. Sam. Coldwell, city. Richard Fitzgibbon, city. Lizzie Collins, London West. Annie F. Goss, city.

James Darcy, son-in law of M. O'Mara, H. Anderson, son of E. Anderson, Thames street.
Joseph Welsh, city.

Willie Glass, city. Joseph Young, boy. Charles Boomer, High School pupil. Joseph Gain, High School pupil. Alfred Wastie, boy, city.
Lizzie and Minnie Shiçley, Falkirk. John Phillips, two children, city. Mrs. Stonehouse. Mr. Smith.
John Le Clair, London South. Miss Taylor, city. Maria Kendrick, city. Geo. Thoroughgood, two children. McPherson's child John Moore's wife and child.

Hannah Dennis, Palermo, county of Hal Two sisters named Cornish, tailoresses Glen's city. A man named Jones said to belong to Hamilton. Henry Oronhyatekha, young son of Dr

Jos. Coughlan's two children.

Dronhyatekha, city.
Little son of A. Smith, city.
H. Parish, tieket agent of the boat.
Charlie and Freddy Hobbs, of London

Lizzie Steward, engaged at Robert Carruth

rs', on Horton street.
Willie Steveley, son of W. Stevely, stove nerchant, Richmond st. Harry Magee, aged 15. Richard Vick, aged 16, Adelaide street

Young Graydon, 12 or 14, son of Mr. S. H. Graydon.
Miss Minnie Smith, aged 17. South st. Miss Fanny Cooper, daughter of John Cooper, of Clarence street, aged about 20.

Miss McDonald, Goderich, Miss Kattie McPherson. Miss Jennie Conghlin. Col. Cole's little boy. Mr. and Mrs. Heenan and child. London

Rosetta Bailey, Dundas street, at Dr. Wil

J. Clarke, shoemaker, city.

Thos. Breeze, wood sawyer. Ida Burns, daughter of Mr. James Burns of Messrs. Stevens, Turner & Burns, and a younger sister, Maud, and daughter aged 12. Mrs. Smith and daughter, South street. Henry Conroy, son of Sergt. Conroy, or

the Militia department.

Margaret Quinn, corner of Wellington and Great Market streets, aged 17.
George Walsh, aged 18, employed Iessrs, D. S. Perrin & Co.'s.

John Berne, Petersville, aged 22. Kelly, just out from England, aged 22. Miss Maloney, Maple street. Addie McIntosh, daughter of Frank Mc

ntosh, plasterer. Miss Lawson, city. Mr. James Heron (cigar maker) London. John, Willie and Nelly Morrison, children f James Morrison, of London East

Lilly and Johnny Beaton, children o Henry Beaton, London Lilly Skinner, daughter of Mr. Wm. Skiner. London.

Thomas Lister, city. Edwin Smith, young lad, city. Wm. McBride, Secretary of the Western Fair, citv.

John C. Meredith, father of the Meredith family, city. Mrs. Harry Smart and two children, city.

Mrs. Chas. Matthews (of the Advertiser) nd child. London West John Baskerville (workman at Carling's

rewery) city. James Weatherhead, city. Alice Deadman, daughter of Widow Deadman, London South. Ed. Coughlin, youngest son of Joseph Coughlin, Maitland street.

Dolly Tatham, daughter of Robt. Tatham. Colborne street. Mrs. Thos. Stevens and three children Mrs. Geo. Tremear and two children, Lon-

lon West. Wm. Hay, schoolmaster, Westminster. Mary Craddock, daughter of George Cradlock, architect, city. Maria Connell, young woman, Richmond

Mrs. William Ashbury, city. James Robertson, Manager Bank of British North America, city.

Mrs McNorgan, city. Mrs. Scott, Mill street, city. James Burns (Carling's brewery.) Willie Westman, young son of A. Westman ondon South. Mrs. William Dagon and child, city.

J. Shires, city. Two young boys, sons of Mr. Owens, of London West

Mr. Fryer, sen., city. Mr. Fryer, jun., wife and niece, city. Priscilla Mustill, daughter of John Mustill, lacksmith, city.

Wm. Manford, blacksmith, London South daughter of Mr. Middleton, London

Miss Griffith, daughter of T. Griffith, London South. A young son of J. S. Deacon, merchant. W. H. Millman and two children, city.

Wm. Laskie's wif- and child. Minnie Hogan, of Waterloo street. Eddie Laughrey, London West. Mrs H. Galvin and child. George street. Hudson Abbott, a little son of Mr. H. G. bbott, carringe maker.

Mrs. W. Cline. The eldest daughter of Mr. Geo. Gibson. Rosa Baily, a nurse in the household of Mrs. Dr. Wilson. She was a sister of Mr. Baily, pressman in the Advertiser.

Minnie Amesbary, of London East.
The body of Mrs. Wall is found. Her husband and three other members of the family are missing.

Joseph Gahan, a brother of Mr. Gahan, the Herald. Charles Bonner, 16 years of age. Mrs. Pike.

two Misses Fox, of Clinton. Mrs. McLennan. A daughter of Mrs. Mackay, of Richmond street.

Miss Annie McAllister, of Horton st. Mrs. Scott Murray and child, of London James Pendergast. William Pike Thomas Davidson. A man named Shore. Mr. Edmund's two children. Mrs. Kilburn. Miss Minnie Tierney. Samnel Pile (baker at H. H. Gore's). Alfred Shore.
Charles Martin, South Dorchester. Chas. Gorman. Thomas Wallace

Miss Ida Bachelor.

James Short. Mr. and Mrs. Diver, of Wellington street, and two children. WILLIAM D. ECKERT, OF LONDON EAST,

was found by a Free Press reportor huddling close to a heap of burning logs, endeavoring to dry his clothing. After being assured that his brother David was saved, he made the following statement:—I was a passenger on the steamer Victoria this evening, and passed through an ordeal, the like of which hope I will never be called upon to witness again. The decks of the steamer were packed with people, principally ladies and children I was on the upper deck during the passage, and shortly after leaving the dock at Spring bank, a good many passengers began keeping time with the listing of the steamer, and went as far as they could from side to side each time the vessel surged. Many people made fun of it at first, and a good deal of halloing was done, such as "Get out your life-beats! 'Come and have a teeter, etc., etc. While this was proceeding upstairs, the passengers on the lower deck were running to and fro, endeavoring to keep their feet from getting wet; and fully fifteen inches of water ran from gangway to gangway across that portion of the boat when she surged. The passengers below yelled and screamed in a terrific manner as the vessel continued to lurch, and not a single effort was made to stop the surging by the captain or his brother officers, if there were any on board. Capt. Rankin was at the wheel. While nearing the bend below the Cove Bridge, probably 200 yards west of it, a greater rush of the passengers than had hitherto been experienced took place, followed instantly by a crackling noise. The women screamed, the children yelled, and for the moment the faces of several men in my vicinity turned ghastly pale. The scene was heightened by one man jumping overboard, and almost instantaneously thereafter the posts which upheld the hurricane deck gave way, in consequence of so many people hold water by their nearest neighbors. Those who could swim were prevented from doing so, first by the crash of the deck upon their heads, and secondly, in consequence of the crowd of people who were huddled together underneath the lumber. Then came a general crash, and the boat appeared to break up into several pieces, principally from stem to stern. The atastrophe was but the action of a couple of minutes. I was caught between two stanchons, and, after floundering about in the water for a few moment, managed to free myself from the debris, and swam to the shore. The shouting and calls for help were of the most heartrending description. They lasted only for a few moments, however. One entleman, whose name I do not know, swam to and from the wreck a dozen timesor more, and saved fourteen or fifteen people who had freed themselves from the floating timbers. Many of my pupils were on board. I have no nesitation in saying that there were from 200

leaves about half-past five, and that is the principal reason, I fancy, why the Victoria was over-loaded. My watch stopped at exactly eleven minutes past six o'clock. INCIDENTS OF THE CATASTROPHE. Mr. Thos. Smith, of London West, who had charge of the refreshment stand, saw the approach of the disaster. He immediately caught hold of his little brother in law, Johnnie McDonald, saying, "I'll save you, Johnnie, if I die myself!" at the same time telling him to jump on his back. While thus making his way for the shore, a man caught hold of Smith's leg, and the two were landed in safety. Smith then turned to and rendered noble service in taking the lifeless bodies out of the water, nor did he cease until he almost dropped from sheer exhaus tion. He is of the opinion that the accident was caused from the boat being overcrowded. Mrs Evans, wife of the caretaker of the Drill Shed, was rescued by Mr. James Duffield, jun. She was brought to Mc Donald's Hotel, Kensington, in a row boat, more dead than alive, and it was some hours

to 300 more passengers on board than there ought to have been. The excursionists, as a

rule, generally take the boat for home which

before she had sufficiently recovered to permit of her being conveyed home.

A man named John Curran, an employe

Hyman's tannery, reached the shore alive by his own exertions. He was picked up insensible and brought to McDonald's hotel where at a late hour his life was despaired of Mr. Morrison of London south, who was on poard with his family, was thrown into the water, while his wife and children clung to the railing, and were rescued without getting even wet. He states that an order was given to

not answer to the wheel, and the growd rushing from side to side caused the frame work to separate and the upper deck to go down on the unsuspecting passengers on the lower deck, nearly all of whom were drowned. Ald. Boyd sprang on the ill fated vessel at Springbank, but on noticing that Ald. Browne ad been left behind, he changed his mind,

and jumped back to the dock.

Charles Matthews, the night editor of the Advertiser, was on board with his wife and two children. When the capsize took place he sprang off into the water with one child, and succeeded in reaching the shore. His wife, however, and the other child were found among the drowned. Every effort was made to restore life, but to no avail, and the frantic husband went sadly home with his only re-

Mr. Thomas Mortinger, of John Green & Co's wholesale warehouse, was on board with his wife, but miraculously escaped. Leaving his wife on shore, he did noble duty in saving

life.
William Ashbury, of Maple street, was on

partner of his life sank to rise no more.

Ashbury's torn coat and general appearance showed the desperate nature of his struggle Thomas Hobbs, of London East, was grant named Kelly, two sisters living in the sested on the side opposite that which first touched the water. He seized the upper deck as it began to slide, and clung to it until the Mahoney, two nephews of A. B. Powell, as it began to slide, and clung to it until the crash. He became entangled in the wire lrowned. He said he heard the captain say

The boat will certainly go over unless you are more careful " The saddest scene on board the boat was that in the case of George Evans, of Mait land street. He came on board, where the bodies were laying, fearful that his family might be among the lost. After searching for a time he was about to turn away when he discovered the corpse of his golden haired

little girl. He gathered her in his arms and sank down broken hearted with grief.

Beside the body lay that of another little
child, whom Mr. Evans did not think telonged to him. An hour later, however, he took his handkerchief and on wiping off the little face he exclaimed, "My God! here's another little one of mine!" Sitting, nursing and weeping over the inanimate forms of his two dead children, he remained for another hour. Near by lay the form of a woman, well dressed and comely. Searchers for friends came along one by one, peering wistfully into the upturned faces, and finally some one suggested that the watch of this lady be examined for initials. As the chain was being drawn out, Mr. Evans said "I know that trinket. Merciful God, it's my wife! Then my two other children are still in the water." Sad sight! His wife and four children gone from him forever on earth! Two young men sitting on the bow of the boat noticed the turn over, and sprang in

some to escape injury. They gave noble assistance in rescaing struggling men, women and children in the water.

Mr. James Robertson, the manager of the Bank of British North America, was sitting on the lower deck, smoking, and when the upper deck gave way he was crushed below the boards and prevented from rising to the surface. His body was not recovered for over two hours, and then it was taken home by

Mr. John Siddons was sitting on the lower leck with several members of his family, and when the capsize occurred he became wedged n by the falling timbers. As the water reached his neck however, he managed to free himself and clung to the floating portion of the wreck until rescued. One bright little son was drowned. He gave as his unqualified opinion that the accident was the result of lirect carelessness.

A young mannamed Smith, living on South

street, came aboard the Princess without knowing that any of his friends had been on the ill-fated steamer. Among the dead, how-ever, he found his mother and sister. William Scott, an elderly man, living on

Ann street, had got separated from his wife on board the boat. He was on the fatal side of the "Victoria," however, and was drowned.

Alfred Wastie, a promising, tright boy of 15, was the son of Capt. Wastie, who built and ran the "Victoria" up to this summer. His body was found among those who had been lost. Mr. Wastie had but gone to Manitoba about two weeks ago, and will be shocked to learn of the catastrophe and the drowning of his son

Mr. J. C. Meredith was on the lower deck at the time of the accident, but by what eans he came to be drowned no one was able to say. It is supposed, however, that he was crushed by the upper deck in a simi-ar manner to Mr. Robertson.

One man who had not been identified had evidently been killed by the collapse of the upper deck. His skull was crushed in at the

Mr. George White, of London South. his two daughter and brother also had narrow escapes. When the crash came Mr. White was imprisoned beneath the debris utterly helpless. On looking around he saw his youngest daughter, and, grasping her in one arm, he seized a small hook with the index finger of the other. After sustaining in this ing on to them to save themselves from being position for a few moments, he found his a crash upon the heads of those beneath it. tain Rankin heard the appeal, and rushed to All who could do so, grabbed something to his assistance. A couple of boards were pried hold by, and very many were drawn into the off and Mr. White released, just as he had given up all hope of rescue. As it was, he sustained a severe blow on the left temple I'he remainder of this party sustained only a

severe wetting.
Mr. Morris, another resident of London South, with his wife and three children, were on board. They were all rescued.

Mr. William McBride, one of the city's assessors, was supposee to be sitting under the fatal deck. His body was recovered at an early hour, and taken to the city in a

Willie D. Glass and Miss Fannie Cooper had been sitting on the boat as lovers, and went down together underneath the heavy machinery. They were in the very springtime

A sad sight was the mourning of Thoma Stevens over the bodies of his wife and familv. The frantic man threw himself prone upon the lifeless form of his partner, and refused to be comforted by the friends who

flocked about him.

Mr. A. B. Powell, D. Glass, Q. C., the firemen and others rendered noble service at the scene of the wreck. The two former were thoughtful in their supply of stimulants,

A young son of Jailer Kelly was among the first rescued. He was immediately conveyed to the house of Mr. Coleman where everything was done for his comfort and at a late hour last night he was expected to recover.

Miss Shipley, of Lobo, who had come with sister to the city on a holiday tour was ought out of the water with apparent sign of life. The spark soon died out, however, and three hours of incessant labor resulted in a failure to restore it in the least degree.

Mr. Henry Smart of the Free Press news room, lost his wife and two children, leaving but one child as the remnant of a happy Mrs. Smart was the daughter Mr. Coughlin, who also lost two other child

Mr. Octavius Weld was in a row boat about two hundred yards off at the time. He hastily rowed to the shore and deposited his companions, a couple of ladies, and then made his way to the scene of the disaster and succeeded in rescuing several boat loads of the drowning ones. Once his boat was nearly upset by the struggling mass of human

beings in the water.

J. W. Kilbourn had a hard struggle for life when the upper deck crushed in upon him. He was underneath the water for some time but never lost consciousness.

The instances of heroic rescues were umerous at the accident, but in the excite nent names were not easy obtainable. Mr. Thompson, one of the Advertiser porters, was one of the passengers on the ill-fated steamer, and by dint of hard swim-ming succeeded in reaching the shore in

safety. He was heartily congratulated on

THE RESUSCITATED.

his escape from a watery grave.

So far as could be learned from the physipians in attendance at the scene, there were only two of the sufferers resuscitated, one being Mr. Kearns, and the other a name unknown. It was only by the mossuperhuman efforts and unremitting labor and rubbing, that the persons mentioned were brought from the apparent trance back to life. Many, very many, tried hard to bring their nearest and dearest from death to life, but their efforts were, sad to relate,

unavailing. ADDITIONAL NAMES. James Burns, Mrs. W. Scott, Ed. Hogan, Mrs. M. G. Lavin and child, Mrs. Heron,

Hudson Abbott, Bauechlor, Dilly Gatham, Mrs. W. Cline, Mrs. W. McMorgan, Mrs. John Curron, W. Maddison, Minnie Ashbury, Alice Deadman, Mr. Hobbs, Albert Cole, Joseph Graham William Ashbury, of Maple street, was on board with his wife and when the crash came he found himself struggling in the Boomer, two daughters of the late Mr. Shipley water. He reached land in safety, but the

Carlile Mr Debeau is missing his wife and child are among the dead, Miss Hannah Demus, of Palermo, Mr. William Dyer, Julia Griffith, daughter of Mr. Tunis Griffith; Mrs. McLellan, Mrs. Kelly, an emi Margaret Quinn, Mrs. Scott, O. Smith, Thos. netting about the boat, but in the water he managed to escape by a desperate effort. The Young; Miss McConnell, Mrs. G Ferrogood's two little boys of his brother, however, were two boys; two children, a brother and sister named Jones, aged 6 and 8; J. W. Kilburn, Frank Stevens, wife and four children; Wm. Short, S. Pepies, S. Graham, Miss Middleton, John Berne Pat Walsh, Rosetta Marham, Geo. Evans and two colldren, Mrs. Smith, vidow; Mrs Etizabeth Evans, Miss Fergus a sister of J. Ferguson, lumber merchant; Jas. Clark, J. Perkins, Thomas Davison, two Edmunds, Mrs. Kilborn, Annie Jones, E. Stewart, John Phillips, grain merchant; eldest son of Jas. Harris, Nellie Maston, Wm. Wannott, Mrs. Swanville, Henry Shay. Samuel Pile, Miss Minnie Smyth. Missing—

Mrs. Scott Murray and child, Wm. Hay. Notes Gleaned in Hamilton. Miss Lawson, a cousin of Frank Lawson of the Spectator, is among the drowned. Mr. Lawson has gone to London. He fears that other members of the family are also

victims. C. C. Sprague, of London, a traveler for a Montreal house, was at the Royal Tuesday night, in a very excited frame of mind, on receiving news of the terrible catastrophe at London

Col. Campbell, of Nelson township, was visiting London Tuesday, and a friend urged nim to take a trip down the river on the illfated steamer, but declined to go, saying, "that boat is too crowded; I'd rather drive." Col. Campbell returned to this city at two o'clock in the morning and left for his home in Nelson township by the H. & N. W. His rela-

tives will be overjoyed at his escape.

Mr. Alfred Wigmore, of London, was the city Tuesday, visiting Mr. Hoodless. He left last night for home on the 11.30 train, very much distressed, as he did not then know whether any of his relatives had been drowned.

Mr. H. Oliver, timekeeper for Burrow, Stewart & Milne, this city, was in London and went down the river with his sister, Mrs. Ashberry, and her husband. They sou ht to induce him to remain for the Victoria, but, wishing to catch his train, he left on the Princess Louise. His brother in-law and sis ter waited for the Victoria, boarded her, and the unfortunate lady's name appears among the list of drowned.

Miss Badelia Maloney, neice of Ald. Thos.

Baine, this city, is among the dead. remains were so shockingly bruised and mutilated that it was found necessary to have the funeral at three yesterday afternoon. Miss Maloney was reared by Mr. Baine, and was his favorite niece. Mr. Baine went to London to attend the funeral.

Jesse Chapman, undertaker, has gone to

London, where his professional services have been engaged. The Excitement in Hamilton

continues unabated. Every scrap of news 18 eagerly looked for, and the suspense of the many people here who have relatives and friends in London, is painful. Many have already sufficient reason for grief, and Hamilton mourns with her sister city, in her great calamity. Latest. MORE BODIES RECOVERED.

LONDON, May 25 .- When the water was let off by the removal of the plash boards this morning the search was continued for those under the lower deck and 22 more bodies were brought to the surface, making about 200 in all recovered. It is not known how many more if any are lost. THE CITY COUNCIL

met this forencon and passed resolutions of MORE BODIES IDENTIFIED.

Nellie D. Glass, Charlie Siddons, Miss Meekey, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Hall, S. P. Graham, and a woman named Fitzgibbons. Almost ail business is at a standstill, and crowds line the streets discussing the sad calamity. The bitterest enmity against the Donnelly family, burial of the victims is at this hour (2.30) and it was decided to wait no longer on the proceeding. A solemn stillness pervades the incertainty of the law for a conviction. city. Flags are at half mast, and the bells are tolling a knell.

R. O. Montgomery, leather merchant of Toronto, was on board but escaped, and succeeded in saving many others. He stated to your reporter that on the passage up the captain went among the passengers urging them to keep on the other side. To one boy he said "For God's sake keen on the other side; if you don't

YOU'LL HAVE TO SWIM FOR IT." A little later on he saw the water pass in ver the deck, and the boiler go by the board, when the crash immediately took place. following list have been identified: John Wall. shoemaker; Ben. Hall, shoemaker, and child Rosetta Markham, J. Perkins, son of J. Perkins, butcher; Wm. Wanncott, city; Mr.

Masurett and two children, Polly Grafton.

[Special Dispatch to the SPECTATOR.] London, May 25 .- The only topic here to day is the terrible disaster which has fallen so suddenly upon the city. Groups of men are standing here and there, discussing the affair, but the streets are not crowded, all who can having proceeded to the scene of the wreck, where the work of recovering the bodies is still going on. At the hour of 1 p. m. over 200 bodies have been taken from the water, and many of them yet lie awaiting identification, while anxious men, women and children are looking around in frantic efforts to find loved ones who are missing. The morning train coming to the city wa boarded by persons at Paris, Woodstock, Ingersoll and other places, hurrying hither, some fearing the worst and others more cer tain of the loss of friend and relation. The wreck still lies in the spot where the disaster occurred, telling its sad tale of suffering and death. Inquiries have been pouring into the oity by wire allday, and the telegraph offices have been besieged. One man sends word to another with whom he had business, "Cannot come for the cattle to day
my son is downed," another the more happy intelligence, "John and Libby got off Business houses are closed throughout the city and a knot of crape on the door tells the sorrowful reason. Orders are pouring in upon the undertakers and coffins may be seen passing through the streets to the residences of afflicted families. Every assistance is being afforded by those in official positions. Mr. Hobbs' two children, who were reported drowned, are safe. A report just brough in

gives the number of corpses recovered at 250 -A case which has probably no precedent in the annals of justice has recently been tried at Heilbronn, in Wurtemberg. A laborer, fearing that a charge of fraud and embezzlement might be brought against him, commanded his own son to hang him, saying that he could never live if the disgrace of imprisonment fell upon him. The son was obedient, and carried out his father's order. The authorities arrested the son, and tried him for hanging his father. The son pleaded obedience. The court convicted him, and sentenced him to imprisonment for three years and nine months.

-Several members of the Italian Parliament, having recently had their overcoats rifled while they themselves were in the Chambers, a watch was set. The result was that Signo Teodosio de Demon cis, one of the members from the Province of Basilicate, who had often been seen wandering about the corridors at all times, was surprised while abstracting a twenty dollar bill from a col-league's pocket, and tried to evade the results by proclaiming it as a practical joke he was about to play. He has been forbidden access to the chamber, and will be requested to John O'Connor spoke so often in his testi ride, go ketchum. Who said bout leave the city.

## THE BIDDULPH TRACEDY

Once More is the Tale of Blood Before the Country.

The Murderers Split on Each Other.

ARREST OF TWO MEN.

[From the London Free Press.] Since the acquittal of John Carroll, at Lon-lon, in February last, on the charge of murlering Judith Donnelly, little

ALTERCATIONS AT LUCAN gave rise to rumors which startled the com munity for the moment, and then like the smoke of a boy's torpedo, were blown into obscurity. The surviving Donnellys settled down into that quiet life which long months of trouble bring. William remained at Lucan, Patrick came to London, and Robert went with his family to Glencoe. On the part of those at whose doors the guilt of the crime had been laid, Martin McLaughlin, John Kennedy, Thos. Ryder and James Ryder. returned to their farms, Carroll continued in Biddulph, as he had been before the trial, and

Purtell came to work in the city.

Thus the matter stood amid the general

A FEARFUL BOMB as exploded in the midst of the people of Biddulph. The circumstances which brought t about are somewhat complicated in their character, and will require a little explanation. It will be remembered that Johnny O'Connor in his thrilling story of the murder spoke of James Feheely's visit to the Donnelly homestead on the evening preceding the murder. It was said that he had come there, sat around for a time and then went away. young man had a brother named William, vito was summoned to appear at the various trials, but having nothing particular to say was never examined. The last trial had searcely ended before the aged father of these

is said to have had a SINGULAR EFFECT ON THEIR MINDS. They had been warm friends of the Donnellys up to the time of the tragedy, and nothing had then transpired to dissipate this eeling. Fear of the actual murderers on one hand, and that desire for rersonal safety which is said to be the first law of nature on the other, impelled James to seal h s lips at the various trials and keep to himself whatever information he possessed. Not long ago. however, he had a disagreement with the late prisoner, James Carroll-an unpleasantness which led to hard words and from that to still harder accusations against the latter. As mentioned in the Free Press at the time, he said

two young men died, and this circumstance

YOU ARE A MURDERER, AND I CAN PROVE IT!" The matter caused a strong wave of excitement to sweep over the township, but when the two Feheely boys shortly afterwards left for Michigan, the calm which had previously prevailed was restored. These facts were communicated to the officers of the Crown, but in view of the difficulties which had always beset them in the case before they were loth to act on what was necessarily regarded as words spoken under the heat of passion. Subsequently, however, facts of a most startling character were brought to light. Stung by the injuries he had received at the hands of Carroll, affected by the death of his father, and prompted by the troubled state of his sister,

lames Feheely made A FULL CONFESSION OF THE MURDER to severai competent witnesses in Lucan, prior to his departure for Michigan. That story was even more blood-curdling in its dark details than the accounts which have hitherto been based on the evidence of Johnny O'Connor, and the general appearance of the case. At the present time a number of obstacles stand in the way of the Free Press in telling the story as it has been communicated, but with a full regard for the interests of the Crown and the unfortunate ones who have been taken into custody, the general facts may be summed up as follows: Long-nursed feelings of injury and prospective failure in the Ryder barn burning case had stung the members of

whereby the committee should visit the Donnelly homestead on the night in question, take Tom and the old man out, hang them up, and otherwise torture them until a full confession was made of all the crimes for which it was held they were guilty. Then on their own testimony they could be sent to the Penitentiary or otherwise disposed of. It was not exactly intended to kill them, although it was understood that the limit of their proeedings should be as near the dissolution point as possible. Thus organized they sent James Feheely out to call at the Donnellys' house, and under the guise of friendship, aggertain whom the committee need expec to meet. This, he says, he was made to much against his will. On returning he gave the required information to the men in wait-

ing, and AS MIDNIGHT BROUGHT ITS CALM along the roadway and in the houses, they stole stealthily and noiselessly up to the doomed homestead. A moment passed, and then Carroll knocked at the door and demanded admission as an officer of her Majesty the Queen in the pursuit of his duty. It was granted, and, accompanied by a few, he passed through the door of the old log house and stood within the little

demonstration was made, and while the innates talked rather warmly on the subject THEY MANIFESTED NO RESISTANCE

kitchen, off which Tom had slept.

to the course which they believed Carroll was pursuing under the authority of the law-From this point out the story of John O'Con-nor is almost literally corroborated, and when the facts come out in evidence it will gurprise many to notice the wonderful correctness of the little fellow's testimony. Feheely's narrative speaks of Carroll's approach to the old man's bedroom and the remarks of the atter to Tom as he came out and saw that he had been handcuffed. This had been lone by Carroll and his assistants prior to the time when the father had been aroused from his eleep alongeide Johnny Connor. In man understood the nature of the visit from what he heard and announced his intention of dying rather than being handled in the way proposed. Maddened by that fire which comes of apprehended danger he began

A DESPERATE STRUGGLE.

at the very beginning of which those on the outside rushed in. In less time than it takes o write it the grev headed old father had been silenced by a few blows that broke his skull, and he fell to rise no more. Instinct ively the wife and mother herself into the struggle and fought like a wounded tiger. Overcome by numbers, however, and bleeding from many a wound, the old lady was soon laid beside her dying husband in the little back kitchen. Tom say all this, and freeing himself by a desperate effort from his captors, he rushed through the sitting room and out into the snow cover ed yard in front. Here he was FELLED BY A BLOW FROM ONE OF THE ASSASSINS

clubs and pounced upon by numbers of his blood-thirsty pursuers. He was stunned for the moment, and then however, but springing to his feet he fought as only a powerful man with his life at stake could fight. Blood filled his eyes, and as blow after alow fell with cruel force on his head, his arms dropped to his sides, and he was soon prostrated on the snow. Then they picked him up carried him into the front room of which

over him while the handouffs were being 10moved. This had scarcely been accomplished when Tom, with a sign of returning conscious-ness, raised himself slowly up, and with

THE BLOOD CLOGGING HIS EYES faintly endeavored to speak. Then, it is said, Carroll cried out, "Hit that fellow on the head with a rhade!" and, taking the weapon indicated in his hand, a grey headed old member of the committee sunk the bladedeep into Tom's skull. He fell back dead! This scene Feheely said to a friend, would never fade from his view while life should last, and often n the durkness of his chamber he saw the bleeding head of Tom rise slowly up, and his ips part as they did on the fearful night of the murder.

Meanwhile nothing had been done to Bridget, whose escape upstairs had been unnoticed;

HER SCREAMS AT THIS MOMEN'T

were heard sounding shrill and loud on the midnight air. Feheely said they must have been heard for a mile around. A number of the assassins rushed up the little stairway to the garret, and the prompt stilling of the cries for help soon told the story of her death. What a scene! An agonizing appeal for assistance by an unoffending girl, and no response but by the cruel slayers of

THE DEAD ONES DOWN STAIRS. Thus the work of bloodshed had been completed at the homestead. The men were excited, their blood was up, and hastly agreeing to proceed at once to William Donnelly's, they thought only of the quickest means of hiding the immediate marks of the tragedy by fire. Coal oil was poured on the beds, and after making sure that the bouse would burn they left the old homestead to its fate. In all the proceedings, however, Feheely contended most stoutly that he was only a witness and not a participant—and that only by force of the pressure which

THE VIGILANTS HAD BROUGHT TO BEAR ON

HIM. On the road as they stood and watched the house for a moment they numbered about forty persons. Some were disguised, but the majority were not. Hurriedly they marched down the sideroad to the 8th concession, and while the reflection of the flames of the burning homestead could be seen breaking through between the trees and over their teps they stood in front of William Donnelly's ittle house at Whelen's Corners. According to a previously arranged plan, the cry of "fire!" was raised as told in evidence, and two of the men prepared themselves at the

SHOOT AT T. E FIRST PERSON APPEARED.

It was John who came, although the murderers believed it to be William, and as he opened the door a charge of buckshot was poured into his breast, and a bullet sent crashing through his body. Those who had revolvers in readiness fired them into the air, and the entire party stood once more on the road It had been arranged on the way to not only kill the Donnellys but James Keefe as well who was looked on as altogether too warm a friend of the obnoxious family. As they paused for a moment, however, Feheely says. ne stepped forward and said, "There has been

ENOUGH BLOODSHED, BOYS; LET'S GO HOME. After a good deal of argument, during thich it was to be seen that the not blood o many had cooled down, it was agreed to separate. Thus Jim Keefe was spared, and this fact seemed to have been known to him previous to his sudden departure for Ne-

raska afterwards. – These are the unembeliished outlines of James Feheely's confession, which included the names of every man at the murder—those who struck Ton Donnelly on the head, fired the stots into John Donnelly's body, set fire to the house, killed the old man and old woman, and stopped Bridget's

HOPELESS SHRIEKS FOR HELP. as well as the part taken by each. In dealing with the arrests further reterence will be made to them. The main point of differ-

ence from Johnny O'Connor's story was to

the effect that JOHN PUBTELL HAD NO HAND IN THE MURDER. He had not in any way been identified with the vigilance committee, and nothing concern-ing its proceedings were made known to him. This revelation will not surprise many— more especially those who know him—seeing that a general opinion existed during the recent trials that he was not one of the murderers. Some one else had been mistaken for him by Johnny O'Connor. He had as a atter of fact been a friend of the Donnel up to the time of the tragedy, and this fact was especially dwelt on by Feneely in his statements. The conduct of Purtell during

his incarceration was also in his favor. This confession in its entirely was laid before Crown Attorney Hutchinson, who at once set to work in an energetic way to make it of some service to the Crown.

FEHRELY, HOWEVER, HAD REMOVED TO MICHI-

GAN, and before a direct move west could be begun a great nany preliminaries were necessary. Taking Constable Schram and Patrick Donnelly with him, he left for East Saginaw on Thursday morning last, and the result of the risit may be learned from the following special dispatch to the Detroit Euening News o

East Saginaw, Mich., May 20.—Detective Donnelly and a Crown attorney from London, Ont., arrived here, and caused the arrest this morning of William and James Feheely, who are alleged to be implicated in the celebrated Donnelly family massacre in Biddulph, "sid-dlesex county, Ont., near London, over a ye

igo. It is inferred that Detective Schram was meant instead of Detective Donnelly, as it appears in the dispatch. What the action of the Crown may mean further than the prosecution of the Febeelys on their own testimony, it is most dirhcult even to speculate.

THE TWO PRISONERS, James and William Feheely, are young men who have secured a wide reputation in Bid-

dulph and surrounding townships for their pugilistic qualities when under the influence of liquor. Whether they still adhere to the of liquor. Whether they still adhere to the story told to several reliable witnesses or not is a matter at present unknown. oircumstances, it is presumed that they will be brought to London to await examination on the charges of murder which have been laid against them. Before this can be done, however, certain extradition formalities may be necessary, and possibly a week may elapse before they will be on Canadan soil. The probabilities are that they will consent to some quietly. With their statements laid before the Crown, it is reasonably expected that most interesting deuelopments will take place within the next twenty four hours. The story presents a new phase of the tragedy to the view of the public, and on every hand there will be the keenest anxiety, not only as to the result of the immediate developments, but the course which will be taken at once by the Crown.

—It was a coup d'etat that kicked behind like an old gun. "Ah," said Paddy to the squirrel, "if you were at my end of the owlin' piece you wouldn't chipper that way."

—There is still running from the Piezza di Venezia to the entrance of the Vatican, in Rome, a line of omnibuses which has been running for fifty years; they are rickety and dingy, and are drawn by shabby horses. The

city has only two street tramways.

—Some one asked Bishop Peck at the recent Maine Methodist Episcopal conference if a clergyman ought to run for Congress. The Bishop thoughtfully replied, "Yes when it is perfectly evident that he is fit for nothing else.

-Captain Sam, the famous Piute Chiaf was told by a Nevada man recently that the iron horse traveled all the time and ate neither hay nor barley. Said the chief in reply: "What matter you 'bout that? S'pose he no eat uin no hay, he drink heap water, eat um wagon load wood before breakfast Pony you turn um out. S'pose you want to ride, go ketchum. Who said bout Injun want