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Vol. IV. No. 16.

DURHAM, Co. Grey, JUNE, 2, 1881.

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Cash or Farm Produce.

Terrible Disaster London.

Further details of the Calam-

(From the Globe.) The magnitude of the disaster at Londo on Queen's Birthday by the capsizing of the Steamer "Victoria" was underestimated altogether in the despatches which appeared in yesterday morning's Globe. It was only as yesterday progressed that the full extent of the calamity was recognized by the country, and a thrill of horror passed through every heart when it became certain that nearly 250 lives were lost. The following despatches from the Globe's heartrending details :-

London, May 25, 8 a. m .- The people of London will have cause to remember the Queen's Birthday of 1881 with the deepest sorrow on account of the unparalleled catastrophy in the toundering of the steam er "Victoria" on Tuesday afternoon, where only a few short hours before there was universal merry-making. To-day there reigns the deepest gloom. There are few but have lost relatives and connections; and none but have been bereft of friends. It s impossible for any but those who witnessed the horrible scene of last night and this morning to form a conception of the magnitude of the disaster. Latest reports show that the number of victims is much larger THE famous Cavalry Horseshoer has than at first estimated, and every few minutes swells the list of the unfortunates o'clock. as their bodies are recovered from the river. It is accertained that 150 bodies were brought to the city by the "Princes-Louise" immediately after the accident. Up to eight o'clock this morning eighteen additional bodies were brought to the surface by those engaged at the work, and when to this is added a dozen or more that were taken away from the scene of the wreek by private conveyances and the constant addition to the list, it may reasonably be estimated that the number of victims cannot be far short of two hundred. There are no doubt a good many bodies to be recovered yet, as there are nearly a score of missing ones of whom no tidings have

vet been received. WAS THERE A PANIC ON BOARD ? It appears that after the boat start from Springbank the rassenger began to realize that the boat was over crowded. Some of them demanded to be put on shore at Ward's Hotel, about 100 yards further up on the opposite side of the river. They begged Captain Rankins to touch at the wharf and let them off, but it is stated an eye-witness on the bank and also by Mr. Ward that Rankins refused to accede to their request. On they came the boat making a swaying motion, as if in a dead struggle to support her tremendous burthen. There is no d ubt from the statements many of the survivers that there was more or less fear, and a dreadful consciousness of the perilous nature of the trip, among th . see, 6 s. There was an unusual degree of motion among the passengers, which the captain did his best to keep in check. He kept continually reminding them of the danger of moving about, and urget them to keep as quiet as possible. He evidently was aware of the cranky condition of the boat, and evinced ait anxiety about the general safety which took his attention greatly away from the work of navigation. It is stated by the survivers that just before the collapse there was a commotion among the passengers. They crowded to the sides, and in the midst of a movement which was probably bordering on a panic the ship broke assunder, and crumbled down to the water's edge, as if it were a piece of waste paper.

STATEMENT OF A SURVIVER. Wm. Dekert of London East, was found by a Free Press reporter huddling close to a heap of burning logs, endeavoring to dry his clothing. He made the following statements ;-- I was a passenger on th steamer "Victoria" this evening and passes through an ordeal the like of which I 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 passages; and shortly after leaving the dock at Springbank a good many pas passengers began keeping time with the listing of the steamer, and went as far as they could from side to side each time the tessel stirged. Many people made fun of it at first, and a good deal of halloaing was done, such as "Get out your life-boats !" and screamed in a most terrific manner as

which upheld the hurricane deck gave way, vessel leaked water, because when I sent Cline; Rosa Bai'y, a nurse in the house in consequence of so many people helding the boy down, the engineer said there was hold of Mrs. Dr. Wilson.—She was a sister on to them to save themselves from being half an arm's length of water in the hold. of Mr. Baily, pressman in the Advertiser; swept overboard, and the deck itself fell I was praying earnestly that we might Minnie Amesbary, of London East; Joseph with a crash upon the heads of those be- reach the sand-bar, where I intended to Gahan, a brother of Mr. Gahan, of the neath it. All who bottld do so grabbed at beach her thill we could get Help. I spoke | Herald; Charles Bonner, 16 years of age; something to hold on by, and very many to the people on the upper deck to keep Mrs. Pike; a dailghter of Mrs. Mackay, of were drawn into the water by their nearest quiet and they were tolerably as eable, Miss Annie McAllister, nieghbors. Those who could swim were On the lower deck the Puesce! it "the of of Horton street, James Pendergast, Win prevented from doing so, first by the crash | Manager Parishtad Ille greatest difficulty. Pike. Thomas Davidson, a man name of the decks upon their heads, and second- He came up and told the that there was a Shore; Mr. Edinud's two children, Mr. ly in consequence of the crowds of people lot of young fellows below whom it will im- Kilburn, Miss Minnie Tierney, Samuel huddled together underneath the lumber. possible to keep quiet. I would have run Pile (baker at H. H. Gore's) Alfred Shayes, Then came a general crash, and the boat her on the shore only the bank was too E. Stewart, Chas. Gorman, Thomas Walappeared to break up into several pieces, steep and I knew it was no use because she lace, Miss Ida Bachelar, Mr. and Mrs. principally from stern to stern. The cat- would have turned outwards on striking Diver, of Wellington street, and two child-

fifteen people who had freed themselves said. They were a pretty bad crowd. from the floating timbers. Many of my pupils were thi board. I have no hesitation in saying that there were from 200 to 300 more passangers on board than there anglet to have been. The extursionists, as a rule, generally take the toat from home "Victoria" was overloaded. My watch

THE CAPTAIN INTERVIEWED.

plenty of footh on board, but while the got large crowd waiting, and before I could get drowning at the wreck. the passengers off the boat the others rushed on the after part, jumping and climbing in every direction. I ordered them down off the top deck and the main deck and threatened that I would not leave the wharf till midnight if some of them not get off. One gentleman, Mr. Powell of London East, said to me, "You are not going to put me off, are you?" And said, "You had better get off." He did so and is now alive. Very few paid any attention to my orders, and only about fifteen or twenty went off the boat. After we started a number of people on the lower deck began singing and moving aroun Presently I noticed a slightly different action on the beat, and being unable leave my post at the wheel I sent a boy down to the engineer to ascertain if there the starboard, and as I was setting me anxious I sent the boy down again and returned with word from the engineer that tuless the boat straightened there was dan ger. I was looking to a sandbar about 200 yds ahead, on which I intended to beach the boat. That was my determination, because I was beginning to get anxious. Just ther a cour le of row-boats came alongside, the occupants of which were racing, and the crowd rushed to the side of the boat to them. The engineer then sent word I should try and get the crowd to go because the water was coming in. Ju then the crowd made a rush to the side, and as they did so the vessel just too a lurch and went to port bow down. Ther the boiler shifted from its position went through the side. I believe the ve sel would have recovered herself only for the boiler going over, and as it went carried away the main deck stanchions; ar that let down the top deck with the croy that was above. There was not one hun dred people on the lower deck, because the space beolw is largely taken up with th boiler and machinery. The aft part of the boat went down, but the forward part camto the surface, and the boat was spread about six feet apart. The result was tha many of the pessengers were imprisone between the water and the top deck, which came down above them, but they had breathing space of a foot or so between the water and the deck, which would have saved

SMOTHERING THOSE UNDERNEATH. the deck for four minutes before it went street : Dolly Tatham, daughter of Robt. down and I did all I could to keep the Tatham Colborne st.; Mr. Thos. Stvens and While this was proceeding up stairs, the people from climbing on it. A great from: three children London West; Mrs. G. Trepassengers on the lower deck were running ber had the presence of mind to swift but mear's two children, London West; Wm. to and frow, endeavouring to keep their from under the deck at the side of End, and Hay, schoolmaster, Westminster; Mary feet from getting wet i and fully fifteen in. in this way were saved: In a few minutes Craddock, daughter of Geo. Craddock, arch ches of water ran from gangway to gang. all who were thus imprisoned were drown- itect, Maria Connell, young woman, way across that portion of the boat when ed. and I then swam to the shore and sent Richmond street; Mrs. Wm. Ashbury, ed. she surged. The passengers below yelled to the city with all speed for help. The James Robertson, Manager Bank of British Mr. Montgomery, who was on a short his brother officers, if there was any on gers. I do not think we had more than young son of A, Westman, London South; when they decided to go they determined board. Captain Rankins was at the whee'. 450 on boadr, because there is not standing Mrs. Wm. Dagon, and child; J. Shires, to return by whatever boat took them down. works and buried in the wreck w While nearing the bend below Cove Bridge, from on the boat for that number at 8 in. Mr. Fryer, sen., Mrs Fryer, jun., Priscilla They accordingly went to the "Forest City." strong men and prattling chi probably 200 yards west of it, a greater rush space to each person. The boiler left the Mustill, daughter of John Mustill, black which was then lying at the wharf. As soon slike helpless." In speaking of the collapse of the passeng rs than had hither o been ex. deck before I left the wheel. The stan | smith; a daughter of Mr. Middleton, Lon- as the steamer was ready to start, however, a cracking noise. The women screamed, supports of the upper deck. She was well Griffith, London South: a young son of J. | She had gone hard aground. At this time In closing his remarks Mr. Montgor the children yelled, and for the moment the stanchioned, but there were no braces ; we S. Descon, merchant ; W. H. Millman and the "Victoria" came steaming up the river, expressed the opinion that there must be

many had not the others persisted

climbing on the ficating deck, thus crush

astrophy was but the action of a couple of the bank. The boat was managed by myminutes. I was caught between two stanself; an engineer, fireman, two deck hands;
Ben. Hall (cabinet-maker), wife and child;
before the disaster, the captain passed Special Correspondent, as well as from chions and after floundering about in the and the purser. She made two trips on Mary Kernoham dengitter of the janitor of water for a few inometite, managed to free Saturday, two on Monday, and three yes- Dundas Street Centre Church; J. Peterkins, myself from the debris, and swam to the terday previous to the disaster. She now son of J. Peterkins the butcher; Mrs. Mcshore. The shouting and calls for help lies in the river with her top works all brok- Carron, and grandson, King street; Wm. were of the most heartrending description. en up. I never was asked to run the boat Wonnacott, Wellington street; Polly They lasted only for a few minutes, how- ashore, as was stated by Mr. Parish. The Grafton, a young woman; Mr. Ferguson, listed heavily to the port side which was know, swam to and from the wreck a doz- were obedient to my orders, but those on en times or more, and saved fourteen or the lower deck would not mind what we

> ADDITIONAL INCIDENTS. The following additional incidents will

be found to be interesting :-Thomas Nichol, of Westminster, as soon as he heard of the disaster came into the city with all speed to search for his daughwhich leaves about half past five, and that ter (a High School pupil), who was in the is the principle reason, I fancy why the boat. On calling at the first friend's libitse in the city he was horrified to find the man stopped at exactly eleven minutes past six with his wife and two little ones all laid out and in their coffins. Mr. Nichol's daughter was among the saved.

Captain Rankin, who had charge of the The work of rescuing and resuscitating ill fate I Victoria at the time of the disaster, the bodies was willingly joined in by the was found at his home this mornilig, and citizens. Several persons undertook the he made the following statement:-"We difficult task of bringing back some of the were on the last trip for the day, having bodies to life, and in some instances success made three trips previously. We hadn't rewarded their effort. Mr. John Curran a very beavy load going down as there was | was festiscitated through the persistent efforts of Mr. David Glass. Many instances to the whart at Springbank there was a are related of persons being rescued from

LIST OF THE LOST AND MISSING. We publish the following revised list o the names of the lost and missing passengers, from which it will be goen that 192 persons have been accounted for, and five, so far are missing :-Of London-Emma Prescott; and Nellie Prescott, Oxford street, Sam. Coldwell, Richard Flizgibbon, Annie F. Goss, James Darcy, son-in.law of M. O'Mara, A. Anderson, son of E. Anderson; Thames street, Patrick Welsh, Willie Glass, Joseph Young, boy; Charles Boottler, High School pupil ; Joseph Gain, High School, pupil; Alfred Wastie, boy; Young woman named Cornish, tailoress at Glen's; John Phillips, two children; Mrs. Stonehouse, Mr. Smith, John Le Clair, London South, Miss Taylor, Maria Kendrick, George Thoroughgood, two children; Mr. Mc-Pherson's child, John Moore's wife and child. Mrs. Jones, two children, Jos. Coughlan's two children, Henry Oronhyatekha, young son of Dr. Oronbyatekha; little son of A. Smith, Lizzie Steward, engaged at Robert Carnthers, on Horton street; Harvey Magee, aged 13, Richard Vick, aged 16, Adelaide street ; Miss Minnie Smith, aged 17, South street, Miss Fanny Cooper, daughter of John Cooper, of Clarence street, aged about 20; Miss Kattie McPherson Miss Jennie Coughlin, Col. Cole's little boy, Mr. and Mrs. Heeman, and child London East, Rosetta Bailey, Dundas street at Dr. Wilson's; J. Clarke, shoemaker ! Breeze wood-sawyer; Ida Burns, daughter lington and Orent Market streets; aged 17, | supplied by the authorities, and a trouble alive, but below this and again deeper in D. S. Perrin & Co.'s; Miss Maloney, Maple | made in several grounds. The attendance | had swept down beneath it scores and street, Addie McIntosh, daughter of Frank at the different funerals varied. The society scores of victims. None of these could be James Heront John Willie and Nelly Mor: | an Odd Fellow, &c., could be plainly dis | ancholy story of the scenes incident to the rison, children of James Morrison, of Lon- tinguished by a large attendance to pay identification of the bodies, but these have don East; Lilly and Jonny Beaton, children of Henry Beaton; Lilly Skinner, daughter of Mr. Wm. Skinner ; Thomas Lister; Wm. McBride, Secretary of the Westerii foot formed the procession. Fair; John C. Meredith father of the Meredith family; Mrs. Harry Smart, and two children, Mrs. Chas. Matthews: (of the Advertiser) and London West; John Baskerville, (workman accompanied the remains to the grave. at Carling's Bredery); James Weatherhead, Alice Deadman, datighter of Widow Deadman, London South; Ed. Coughlin. I rescued one man who had been under youngest son of Joseph Coughlin, Maitland

most instantaneously thereafter the posts I attribute the disaster to the fact that the Hudson Abbot, c.rae maker; Mrs. W

of York and Ridout street; Henry Shain, son of John Shain ; Jessie Elliott, daughter of Mr. Charles Elliott, London South; Charles Major, aged 12, Clarence Street; S. B. Graham, aged 13, soil of Eimoit Graham; man named O'Brien; stipposed to belong to city! Geo. Hall, salesman at Frank Smith & Co's ; James Short, son of Job Short; Wm. Short, son of Pettien Short, Mrs. Irons, young boy named Ardie, of London East; Miss Ida Hazen, of Houghton Centre, cousin of Mrs. D. Logan and Mrs. McConnell, London South Walter Gibling, 10 years; John McCarty, Horton street; Daniel Harper, Western Hotel, Fred. Mooney, 17 years; Minnie Armstrong, 17, London East ; Annie Foxton, Jane go. and child ; Anthony Baker, W. G. Hardy, Asylum engineer; Mary A. McLetlan, Alfred R. Fryer; Emma J. Fisher; Frederick Roe, Westminster Edwin Smith;

young lad, Westminster. Samuel Evans, son of Geo. Evans. aged 7, boiler woker G. W. R.; Mr. Evans lost a wife and four children.

Jas. Johnson, aged 7, Lobos Miss MeDonald, Godelich: The two Misses Fox, of Clinton: Lizzie and Minnie Shipley, Falkirk. Charles Martin, South Drochester: Wife and child of M. Glenn, McGillivray. Hannal: Denis, Palermo, county of Hal-

A man named Jones, said to belong to

John Boone, Petersville, aged 22.

Mr. and Mrs. Andy, of the Southern sec tion of the city, are reported missing. Ben. Hall, named above. James Mill. Wm. Hay, Wilton Grove. Woman named Lyman. Boy named Kawls.

Mr. Wm. Hay, the School Teacher at Pond afternoon by some men. Geoge Moss, drayman, conveyed the remains up. The face flung the end of it to a man whom he saw was much swollen, being almost unrecogniz-

funeral processions all day from the city ed, as he was hauled to the side of the wreck. to the cemeteries. From early morning but he managed to gaspout "save the boy." the undertakers were busy arranging the They did save the boy and his gallant preburials, and ministers were doing their server too. Those working on the wreck, Turner & Burns, and a young sister, aged grave and giving Christian burial: How- managed to raise up the awning, the upper 12; Mrs. Smith, South street; Henery ever in a number of cases the remains edge of which still rested partially upon Conroy, son of Sergt, Conroy, of the Militia had to be laid under without any ceremony. the sunken hull, and from beneath this Department; Miss Quinn; torner of Wel- A special staff of grave diggers had to be many women and children were rescued Joe: Walsh, aged 18; employed at Messrs. arose where the interments should be the water lay the promonade deck which McIntosh, plastefer; Miss Lawson, Mrs. | men turned out in full force, and a Mason, resuscitated. Mr. Montgomery tells a meltheir last respects to a departed brother. been pretty fully described. One man that others were not so well attended, and a he knew named Dyer, and whom he row "for hire" wagon and a few walking on get aboutd the steamer at Spring Bank, was

> Miss Julia McEllistrum, aged 21, who among the drowned at London, were in ferred to-day. A large number of friends

count of the Disaster.

From the Globe.

ant particulars from those already publish-

faces of several men in my vicinity turned had life saving apparatus for 400 persons. two children; Minnie Hogan, of Waterloo and many of the passengers (Mr. Mont-steamboat inspection if such a craft or the by one man jumping overboard, and all siphon and pony pump were both working. Mrs. M. Glavin and child, George street; to the latter boat. The "Victoria" was sengers.

soon heavy ladened, and steamed down the river to Springbank. As soon as she arrived at the wharf a large number of the better class of excursionists, and especially the women and calldren, who did not wish to come home with the more noisy and disorderly class, hurried aboard the "Victoria". Very few of the downward bound passengers left the boat, however, and the result was that when the steamer started up the river on her return trip she was greatly overloaded. Mr. Montgomery, who was on the promenade deck, says that he does not know what may have been going on down on the prain deck; but he was sure that all the people he saw were thoroughly quiet and orderly. There was no chasing about the beat nor pranks of any kind. As soon as the boat started, however, she proved to be deeply listed to starboard, and the passengers on the promenade deck were requested to move over to the port side. Some of tuem did so but still the steamer did not straighten up any perceptible extent. Mr. Montgomery says that he expre sed his surprise at this, and spoke of it to the friend who was accompanying him. Again the passengers were requested to move over to the port side. though a large number of those on the promenade deck were already over there. At this time he looked down the companion-way and saw a considerable depth of water on the main deck which was as he over to to that (the po.t) side, you'll have to swim for it." at this several more of the passengers moved over to the port side. chants, London South; Miss Swannville, Down she went with astonishing rapidity, and to save themselves those on the promenade deck clutched the staunchions that supported the awning overhead, but these snapped like pipe stems, and a second later the supports of the promenade deck gave way, and the whole wreck slid down to the port on shore side of the hail into the water. Mr Montgomery caught hold of an iron rod on a bracket of some kind in the awning, and holding to this managed to keep his head above water for some seconds after the collapsed promenade deck be neath his feet had gone down into the water. His position at that time was a terrible one. Below the deck, which had sank from under him he knew that scores were perishing, drowning like rats in a hole, while the awning to which he was cinging

was rapidly sinking, and lu ying beneath it men, women, and . h ldren, whose pit-Sotts siffickes rent the air on every . 110. Mothers, with children clinging about their necks, would beat the water madly with their arms, and with eyes starting from their sockets utter shriek after shriek, till at last a half-smothered cry that ended in a sickening gargle told that they had gone down beneath the flood. But even this was not the most horrible of Mr. Montgottery's experience. While he still held his head above the water he could teel the drowning children, whose little heads were swept under water some seconds before his own, clutch at his legs, in what he well knew was their dying struggles. Drowning mothers grasped him frantically, and piteously implored his help. His coat and waist-coat were almost torn off him. At length she sunk so low that he, too, went down over head in the water, and then by a protracted and desperate effort, during which he was more than once on the point of giving up, he dragged himself hand over hand along the iron rod to which he had been clinging, and finally crawled upon the half sunken hull of the wrecked steamer. One or two who had clung to him were saved. As soon as he found himself safely on the wreck he caught a rope lying near swiming on the starboard side of the wretk with a boo on his back. This man, From the London Free Press of Fri. had tumped out into the river with the boy jus as the wreck was falling in the opposite di-There has been a continual stream of rection. The brave fellow was nearly exhaust of Mr. James Burns, of Messrs. Stevens, duty by preforming the last rites at the including Mr. Montgomery himself, now drowned with his wife and two children. Guelph, Ont., May 27,-The remains of He leaves four boys between eight and six-

It will be obserred that Mr. Montgomery asserts that there was no "teetering" or rolling of the steamer from side to side. She was listed to starboard all the way up Toronto Merchant's Ac- the river till just before the accident, and then she rolled suddenly to port and went to pieces. He is of the opinion that the boiler or some heavy portion of her machin-Mr. R. O. Montgomery, leather mer- ery nast have been loose or out of place chant, 52 Colborne-Street, Toronto, one of and that when the boat listed to port it the passengers who escaped from the wreck rolled over and upset her. He is very sure of the illstarred "Victoria," gives a version the steamer was overloaded, but a gravef sults had the steamer been properly con tonnage of the boat was about 190 tons, North America; Mrs. McNorgan, Mrs. visit to London, was persuaded by a friend over to the port side, which was not prove structed. "Why," said he the vessel continued to lurch, and not a she was flat-bototmed, scow-shaped at both | Scott, Mill street, W. H. Dyer, piano sales- to join him in a trip down the river to than forty feet from the bank, many, or single effort was made by the captain or ends, and registered to carry 400 passen- man, wife and child; Willie Westman, Springhenk, but as it was nearly 4 o'clock perhaps nearly all, might have been saved perienced took place, followed instantly by chions from the main deck are the main don South; Miss Griffith, daughter of T. it was found that she was so loaded that would sweep a house of cards off a table?