

THAT DISASTROUS LANDSLIDE.

Twenty-two Victims in the Awful Catastrophe that Overtook Haverstraw, N. Y.

Not a Trace Found of Those Who Perished Under Tons of Brick Clay.

Haverstraw, N. Y., Jan. 9.—Hundreds of men are working frantically here to-day to uncover the ruins of the houses carried down in last night's landslide in the hope of finding the remains of friends or relatives who perished. Up to 1 o'clock this afternoon not a single body had been recovered.

The list of the missing, all believed to be buried under thousands of tons of clay, has grown to twenty-two. The names are as follows:

GREATEST CALAMITY IN HISTORY OF TOWN.

The landslide, which has brought upon Haverstraw the greatest calamity in the history of the town, took place between 10:45 and 11:15 o'clock last night. The land along Rockland avenue for two and a half blocks broke away from its foundation and slid down the precipitous incline of the cliff overlooking the Hudson, a distance of about 200 ft. It carried with it ten dwelling houses, with all their occupants except two.

Almost immediately after the great landslide the mass of debris at the foot of the cliff took fire in a dozen places. The flames raged unchecked during the greater part of the night, and to-day nothing can be seen but a black, smoking mass of ruins. The action of the fire baked the surface of the brick clay of which the cliff was composed into a solid crust as hard as stone. Not a vestige has been recovered of any of those who perished.

Haverstraw has no organized fire department, but fights its fires by means of a system of water pipes under high pressure. The pipes which might have been of service in fighting the fire were broken and carried away by the landslide and were of no use whatever. The nearest fire engine was at the town of Garnerville, three miles away. The entire equipment of the Garnerville fire department was rushed to the scene of the catastrophe as quickly as possible, but its utmost resources were taxed to prevent the flames from spreading to buildings adjacent to the landslide. For a time it was feared that the fire would get beyond control and would destroy the entire river front of the town. By the heroic efforts of volunteer firemen this further disaster was prevented.

CLIFF COMPOSED OF BRICK CLAY.

Rockland avenue runs along a high cliff parallel to and overlooking the Hudson River. The cliff is composed entirely of brick clay and furnishes the material for the leading industry of the town, which is brick making.

The landslide occurred above the brickworks of two rival concerns, the Thomas Gillies Brick Company and the Excelsior Brick Manufacturing Company, chiefly owned by the Eckerson Bros. The Gillies works are nearer Rockland avenue and at a higher level than those of the Excelsior Company. By last night's landslide it is estimated that more than \$300,000 worth of brick clay, which was part of the Gillies property, slid down upon the Eckerson land below. It was said that there was enough of this clay to furnish the Eckersons for ten years.

Last night's landslide, though appalling in its destruction of life, when considered as a natural phenomenon, was not a new one. Similar landslides on a smaller scale have been occurring periodically for years—in fact, ever since the Eckersons began excavating clay for use in their kilns. These minor landslides have been a source of constant litigation between the Gillies people and their neighbors, the Eckersons. Of late years several of the slides have involved property owned by the town, and the authorities have taken legal steps to prevent the dangerous undermining of the brickmakers.

Only two years ago the town obtained an injunction from Justice Maddox against the Eckersons, forbidding any further excavation in certain directions. The brick company appealed and the appeal is now pending.

At various times alarm has been felt by the residents along Rockland avenue, above the brick works, but like the dwellers on the slopes of an active volcano, their sense of danger became dulled by the frequency of the landslides and the apparent immunity from injury which they experienced.

WARNED TO THEIR DANGER.

This fight between the rival brick companies and between them and the town has extended over a period of twenty years. Warnings have been frequently issued by the operating companies, but the property owners along Rockland avenue gave them little or no heed. The fight against the brick companies was led by Joseph Albert, sr., a prominent citizen whose house was engulfed last night. Albert himself is among the missing.

Yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock an agent of the brick company visited the homes along Rockland avenue and warned them that the cliff showed signs of giving way. He said that they should be on their guard, but that there would be no real danger until the spring thaws. Several of the heads of families conferred together and decided to send their children to the homes of neighbors.

Thus it happened that all the children of families living over the brick works were removed from their homes yesterday afternoon. Not a

single child was lost. This fact makes the catastrophe all the more pitiful and sorrowful, as the task of telling the children of the great calamity and their orphaned condition falls upon those who have them in charge.

During the early evening there were a few premonitory quakes felt by those who occupied the houses along the cliff, but they were not of an alarming nature. Most of the residents retired early last night and some of them were asleep in their beds when the final disaster came.

At 10 o'clock last night there was a shaking and shuddering felt in all the houses much more pronounced than any previous ones. If this quake waked the sleeping residents they went to sleep again. Nothing more happened until 10:45 o'clock.

At 10:45 there was a sudden settling back of the land for a distance of 500 feet. A wide chasm opened along the centre line of Rockland avenue. Then, too late, the people in the doomed houses realized in part their peril. They did not fully realize the extent of the danger, but most of them began making preparations to leave their homes.

Others made preparations to support the rear part of the houses with beams and joists. It was while this work was going on that the foundations of the cliff finally gave way and all of the ten houses which overlooked the brickyard were precipitated a distance of about 200 feet to the base of the cliff.

So sudden was the catastrophe when it finally occurred that none except those in the immediate neighborhood were aware of the great slide for a considerable time.

RABBI ARNSTEIN'S SAD DEATH.

The only person who appears to have realized the imminence of the danger was the Rabbi Arnshtein. He was a highly educated Russian clergyman who came to this country about a year ago to escape the service against the Japanese. He took up his residence at Haverstraw and soon became well known and universally esteemed. Six months ago he married a wealthy and beautiful young woman of the place. Mrs. Arnshtein was one of those who was earliest at the scene of the disaster and has been there ever since the time weeping and going about in a distracted manner. It is said that Arnshtein escaped from the house in which he was visiting and rushed to the home of Nelsons next door to warn them and assist them to escape. It was he who waked Moses Nelson, the head of the family. Mr. Nelson the head of the family, ran to the roof of his home and leaped just as the house was falling. He succeeded in reaching the edge of the cliff and escaped with slight injury, mainly to his nose. Arnshtein himself went down with the house.

LOST THEIR LIVES WARNING OTHERS.

Mrs. Joseph Daly, whose house was not engulfed by the slide, lost her life while warning those in the adjoining houses. John Burke, who was in the house occupied by the two Arabs, escaped. He had left the house earlier in the evening, and had not returned at the time of the disaster.

The town is naturally in a chaotic condition, so far as information or systematic investigation is concerned. District Attorney Thomas Gagan when seen today by an Eagle reporter, said he could not tell until the full extent of the calamity was known, what steps he would take. He said he was certain, however, to proceed against the proprietors of both of the brick yards whose workmen digging into the cliff had undermined the area and caused the slide.

He spoke of seeking indictments for manslaughter but said that he would be better able to specify his action later in the day.

Coroner Charles Eberle said that in his opinion all of those in authority at the brickyards should be arrested immediately and held for manslaughter. So far as could be learned no arrests had been made up to 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Mayor Wilson Poss, who is the well known billiard expert, has been at the disaster all day. He has exercised his authority in every possible way in an effort to bring about some degree of order. It was upon his initiative that the dwellers along the cliff were ordered from their homes by the authorities. Mayor Poss said this afternoon that the calamity was so great that he was unable to formulate any definite plan of action. He said, however, that he would exert his authority to the utmost to bring to justice those guilty of causing the landslide.

On account of the unstable nature of the clay soil of which the cliff along Rockland avenue is formed, no definite prediction can be made regarding the probability of further slides of land. Some believe that all the property along that section of the water front is doomed. Every precaution has been taken to prevent any further loss of life, and a police picket has been established around the dangerous area.

RUSSO-GERMAN RELATIONS SUFFER PAINFUL BREACH.

Czar's Military Attache in Berlin Caught in Spying Operations.

Berlin, Jan. 11.—Confidential information has been received by your

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SHORT JACKET OF MILITARY LINES.

The very newest models in tailored suits, both of the severely tailored and semi-dressy order, show the coat of the eton or bolero variety of the hip length. The first of these hip length jackets were noted at the New York Horse Show this winter, since which time they have been making their appearance from time to time among the best dressers. Here is a lustrous black broadcloth cut to several inches below the waistline,

and fronts and backs both semi-fitting just suggesting the graceful lines of the figure. An inch wide black military braid trims the edges of the coat, and a double row runs either side of the front, closing half way between the neck and sleeve seam. The collar is a straight military band, and a dainty, dressy touch is added by the narrow pale blue cloth vest, stitched in black, which peeps from out the braided edges of the fronts. At the neck is a small pointed strap of the broadcloth, this with the tiny black velvet buttons making the necessary fastening.

Weak Kidneys.

A change in the weather—the slightest imprudence—and O! what excruciating pain in the back. A cold flies to the weakest spot. And Kidneys that take cold easily, prove weakness—perhaps disease. A slight weakness soon becomes a serious disease in such vital organs as the Kidneys. Heed Nature's

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correspondent that Russo-German relations have suffered a painful breach as a result of the discovery that the Czar's military attache in Berlin, Colonel Schebeko, for a long time has been engaged in spying operations in collusion with the military attache of France. Colonel Schebeko was formerly connected with the Russian Embassy in Washington, and is doubtless well remembered in military and diplomatic circles there.

Count Schlieffen late Chief of the German General Staff, laid the proofs of the Russian attache's guilt before the Kaiser, in the closing days of December. Emperor William confronted the accused officer with the documents, and suggested that an international military scandal could only be avoided by the Colonel's asking for his immediate recall. This Colonel Schebeko did at once, and has now left Berlin on a "furlough."

Colonel Schebeko's specific offense is said to have consisted in revealing certain plans for raiding French and Russian territory in time of war by "officers' patrols," which were to ride far into the interior under cover of night and destroy the communications in the rear of the enemies' armies.

Colonel Schebeko was well liked by the Kaiser, but it seems the general staff long ago suspected him of excessive zeal in the performance of his duties. Colonel von Dergoltz, the German military attache in Australia, was recalled in 1880 for spying, only a few months after the foundation of the Triple Alliance.

WHAT CAUSES SNORING?

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At Wednesday's session of the local government in St. John the Grand Falls Water Power Company filed its plans, and the provincial engineer reported in favor of them. After notice, as required by the act, has been given the boom companies, and there are no objections made, the plans will be approved. The projects of the company have already been told of in the Herald and include development of the great water power at Grand Falls for a number of industrial purposes.

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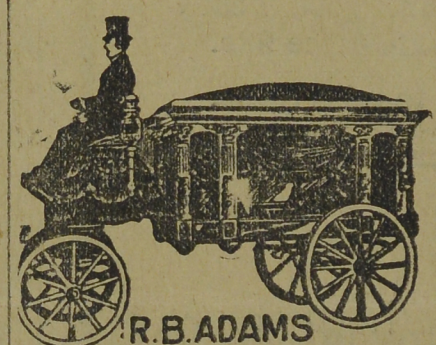
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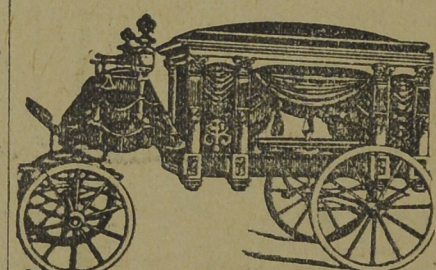
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