

HOW DUTCH HEROES DIED

SAILORS FROM THE AMSTERDAM LOST WHILE TRYING TO SAVE LIFE.

A GLOUCESTER FISHING SCHOONER ASKS FOR HELP, AND IN ANSWERING THE CALL SIX MEN ARE DROWNED—ONE OF A BOAT'S CREW RESCUED.

Six heroes, sailors on the Netherlands-American line steamer Amsterdam, went to their death on Sunday, leaving behind them records that will be cherished as long as noble deeds are praised in song and story.

Chief-Officer J. Meyer and six men volunteered to rescue the crew of the waterlogged American fishing schooner Margie E. Wells, and in doing so the chief officer and five men were drowned. The sole survivor was A. Vanderwilt, a powerful swimmer.

The gallant men who thus died were:

- MEYER, J., chief-officer, twenty-eight years old; married.
REQUAERT, F., boatswain, twenty years old; married.
OUDYAN, A. J., carpenter, twenty-nine years old; married.
BOSCH, A., stowage steward, twenty-nine years old; married.
EYKHOFF, F. G. E., quartermaster, twenty-nine years old; married.
VAN VLIET, A., seaman, thirty-five years old; married.

By a strange freak of fortune, A. Vanderwilt was the only single man in the rescuing crew, while all those who died had families in Holland.

CAPTAIN STENGER'S STORY.

Captain Stenger, the commander of the Amsterdam, which arrived in port yesterday, tells the thrilling story.

On January 14, at 11 a. m., while in latitude 43 21, longitude 58 18, during a strong northwest breeze, and moderately high sea, he saw a fishing schooner to the south, and on the port side, with the American flag ensign down, showing that she was in distress. The Amsterdam went out of her course to aid the schooner. The sea was constantly washing over her. She appeared to be in a sinking condition. There appeared to be a crew of about fourteen



THE SURVIVOR TELLING HIS STORY.

aboard her. Two of the men were lashed to the pumps, and were not for their efforts it seemed that the schooner must sink. The rest of the crew were lashed to the mainmast or the rigging.

"What's wrong?" shouted Captain Stenger when the Amsterdam had come near to the schooner, which proved to be the Margie E. Wells.

One man, apparently the captain, replied, but his answer could not be heard.

"Have you any boats?" shouted Captain Stenger.

For reply two of the schooner's crew waved the broken pieces of a wrecked sail.

Captain Stenger had the reputation of having saved many lives on the sea. He received the Robin Hood prize—a high honor—for 1893 for having made the most gallant rescue of that kind in Holland several years ago for rescuing the crew of a Norwegian bark. True to his nature he instantly called for volunteers. First Officer Meyer and six men were selected from among the numerous volunteers. The port life-boat, No. 4, was sent away at about noon, and every man on ship crowded to the port rail to watch the sturdy Hollanders battle with the tremendous seas.

STRUCK BY A SNOW SQUALL.

All went well until the rescuing party had gone a short distance from the ship, when a fierce snow squall from the north came up and the boat went up and down with alarming force. Now a wave would carry it up, and then the crew would battle to keep the boat's head steady in the trough of the sea. The passengers who had crowded to the steamer's rail to witness the rescue became alarmed and over a hundred life-servers were thrown overboard; the crew on the ship threw out a number of lines in expectation of the overturn of the boat.

SWAMPED BY A HUGE WAVE.

When the little craft was within several boat-lengths of the schooner a huge white-capped wave carried it up on its crest, and before it could be steadied another wave struck the boat on the port side, overturning it.

"Look out, boys! Hold on tight!" was the warning cry from First Officer Meyer. But two men had lost their hold and were swept away almost immediately. They cried "Help!" once, and were seen no more. Hensch, the steward, was carried directly under the boat, and he was heard by Vanderwilt, the only survivor of the rescue party to say, once, "My God, help me!" Vanderwilt, once he had been rescued, was carried to the shore and he was heard by Vanderwilt and the other three men clung to the boat. It was bitterly cold and the men were exhausted and benumbed.

TRYING TO SAVE THEIR COMPANIONS.

The Amsterdam at once steamed to the scene, and the second officer and six men made preparations to lower another boat to save their mates. The steward was ordered to prepare for the reception of the unfortunate seamen. Just as the boat was about to put off, Captain Stenger countermanded the order, saying that no boat could live in such a sea.

Lines were thrown to the men, and three of them seized hold of them, but they were so thoroughly numbed with cold and so exhausted that they were unable to hold on, and they were swept away and drowned. Vanderwilt, who is a large, brassy seaman, had more stamina, and he was hoisted on board amid roiling rollers. His rescue was a horror at the face of his companions. The excitement over the loss of the men was intense. When Vanderwilt was rescued he raved like a madman because he was restrained from jumping overboard after his ill-fated companions.

The snowstorm raged all day, and the Amsterdam could not move nearer the schooner with safety, owing to the extreme roughness of the sea. The helpless lifeboat drifted off and was lost. The last seen of her was at 6 o'clock, when a light was seen on the aft deck. Three hours afterward the Amsterdam was positively known. It is not as yet positively known how

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Dr. Lyon's Perfect Tooth Powder.

Thoroughly cleanses the teeth and purifies the breath. Used by people of refinement for over a quarter of a century. Sold Everywhere.

THE STATE CAPITOL.

A MAGNIFICENT BUILDING BEGINS OVER THIRTY YEARS AGO.

WHAT IT HAS COST PLANS FOR FUTURE WORK.

—THE EASTERN ENTRANCE STAIRWAYS.

—THE STATE LIBRARY.

FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.

Albany, Jan. 18.—William Henry Russell, of "The London Times," a few years ago made a tour through the new Capitol in company with the Duke of Sutherland. When upon the point of leaving the building Mr. Russell exclaimed: "This is the grandest structure in America. We have just



CENTRAL REFERENCE ROOM.

visited Washington. None of the public buildings there can compare for a moment with it, and I do not know of a building in the United States which approaches it in design so far as its interior is concerned. And as for the Senate chamber, which equals it in beauty."

Since Mr. Russell's visit the most beautiful part of the Capitol, the rooms of the State Library in the west end and the grand western stairway, have been completed, and therefore the building is more worthy of eulogy now than it was at the time of his inspection. It is, moreover, the architect, Perry has designed an eastern approach to the Capitol, comprising a series of granite steps, platforms, balconies and balustrades, now nearing completion, which greatly enhance the beauty of the Eastern wing of the great structure. The tower which will crown the building has also been pushed upward 100 feet, and now overlooks the entire structure, giving one an idea of what the completed design will be.

THE COST OF THE BUILDING.

Capitol Commissioner Perry last year expended \$20,723.03 upon the building. This brought up its total cost to \$27,735,811. The State took the first step toward the construction of the building as far back as 1851, by buying some land near the Old Capitol, which had been used since 1835. It is thus thirty years since the State deliberately resolved to house its legislators and State officers in a new project. The cost of the building has been enormous, but not, it is believed, because of any dishonesty upon the part of the State officials who from time to time have had charge of the work, but because the State hired the labor. The State has paid the laborer the highest market wages and thus has not exacted from him the amount of labor demanded of laborers upon buildings being erected for citizens. Moreover, politics has put many incompetent workmen to work among the Capitol force. It is interesting to note the appropriations for the Capitol during these thirty years:

Table with 2 columns: Year and Amount. Rows include 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, 1859, 1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865, 1866, 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894.

tainly is the most beautiful. The last year has seen great changes and a vast improvement in this part of the building. In that time the grand double staircase, of red Corse Hill (Sutherland) sandstone, has been carried from the second to the fifth floor. The staircase was designed by H. H. Richardson, of Boston, but Mr. Perry has embellished the design in many ways. "I regard this staircase," he said yesterday, "as the grandest on earth." Its proportions certainly are magnificent. It is magnificently beautiful.

Mr. Dewey also has brought the State Library into touch with the people of the State by his system of "traveling libraries." There are 10,000 books in this "traveling library." Books of the State Library to the number of fifty are boxed up in neat wooden cases and are loaned for six months at a time to local libraries needing such additions to their stock, or are sent to communities which do not yet have permanent libraries. A few of \$25 in the books, the supply of catalogues and needed blanks in this manner the best of modern books are now reaching isolated communities in the State. The Public Library Department promotes through its "traveling library" the best of modern books free public libraries.

Mr. Dewey also established a Library School, which has become now one of the leading institutions of this kind in the United States. It now has twenty-eight pupils, twenty-five of whom are in the first year's course and seven in the second year's course. Two of the seven are men, and five are women. The total number of scholars in any one year is limited to thirty. The most careful training in cataloguing, classification and all other duties upon securing at the library a book fresh from the press upon some political or historical topic than he formerly could.

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