

COLLAPSE OF A RESERVOIR

Wall of Water Rushes Down a Ravine Near Matteawan, N. Y.

DEATH AND DEMOLITION IN ITS WAKE.

Lives of Seven Persons Lost, While 150 Are Rendered Homeless.

RECENT HEAVY RAINS CAUSE THE DISASTER.

Miraculous Escape of an Express Train—Saved by a Vigilant Nightwatchman.

MATTEAWAN, N. Y., July 14.—With a roar which was heard for miles, even above the battle of the elements, a mighty wall of water swept down the narrow valley east of Fishkill three hours before dawn this morning, tearing down trees, lifting bowlders and bearing destruction to everything in its course.

Five bodies have been recovered, among them that of Mrs. John Conroy, a survivor of the Johnstown flood. The reservoir which caused the disaster was situated high upon the hills and its overflow ran into the Hudson in a small stream known as Towanda Creek, running through a narrow ravine for about a quarter of a mile, which opens into a plain between the river and the foot of the hills.

The heavy rains of the last few days had swollen the reservoir to the brink. Every little rivulet that fed it had become a rushing stream. At 2 o'clock this morning, when everybody was asleep, the dam between the upper half of the reservoir and the lower half gave way and the full weight in the upper part was precipitated against the lower dam, which could not stand the strain.

Between the ravine and the river are the New York Central tracks on the edge of a little plain. Between them and the hills on the lowlands were about a dozen buildings, chiefly dwellings, and the extensive brick works of Van Burn & Timoney. Two of the houses were occupied as boarding-houses for the employes of the brickyards and contained a large number of persons. When the flood poured out of the funnel-like ravine and spread over the hillside it gained an awful impetus and demolished the brickworks utterly. Not a vestige of the extensive building was left. It tore away a hole in the railroad tracks 100 yards wide and hurled one of the workmen's big boarding-houses bodily into the Hudson.

Many residents rushed from their beds for safety, but many did not. One family, Perry by name, in its wild flight left the baby behind. Most of the killed were in the workmen's boarding-houses. The Montreal express, which left here last night, had a narrow escape. It was due at the place just about the time the flood came. The watchman at the brickyard heard the roar of the torrent and thought of the train. He snatched up a signal lamp and ran wildly up the track. As he heard the whistle of the locomotive it was drowned by the crash of the flood striking the buildings behind him. The express rushed on, and in an instant the glare of the headlights was in the watchman's eyes. He waved his lantern frantically, and the engineer put on the air brakes and reversed the lever.

Before the train could be stopped the forward trucks of the locomotive were in the water. In another second or two the train would have plunged into the wash-out. Passengers thronged out of the cars and shuddered when they realized their narrow escape. The damage to property is estimated at \$100,000.

The reservoir is of oval shape and about 500 feet long and 300 feet wide and thirty or thirty-five feet deep. It is used as an auxiliary supply to the regular waterworks system of Matteawan and Fishkill Landing, from the main source of which it is distant about four miles.

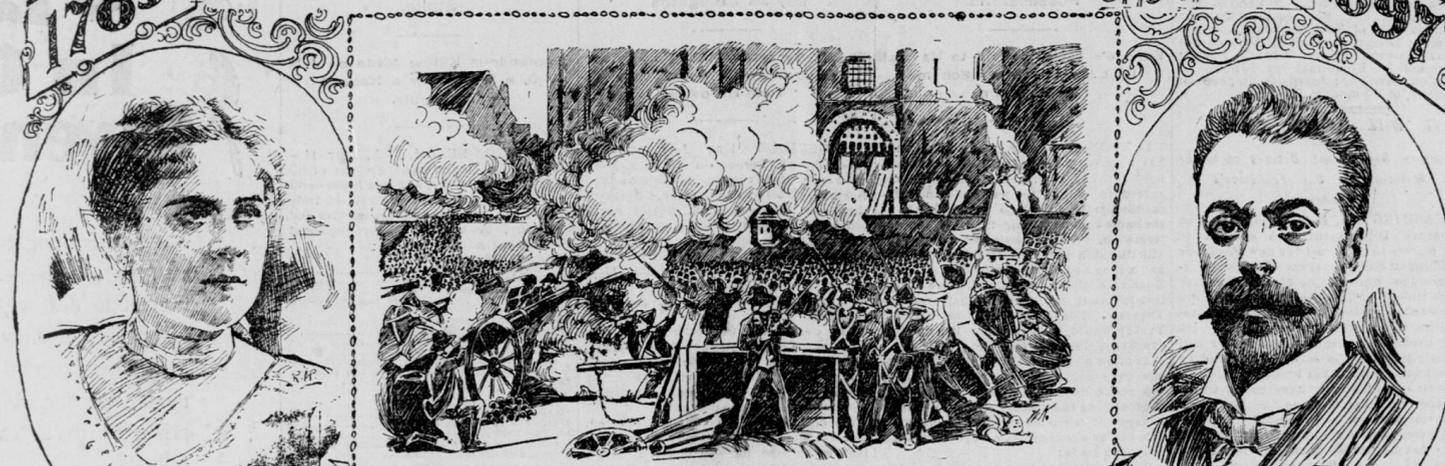
The largest reservoir of this system is a considerable one in North Beacon, which has massive masonry and is intact. A second reservoir, situated much lower down the mountain, which was built to reduce the pressure in the pipes, is also unbroken. These two have no direct connection with the Dutchess Junction reservoir, though all three feed into the same pipes.

THE MOORS COME TO TIME.

Prevention of Warships Brings Punishment to Robbers.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 14.—The United States Consul-General at Tangier, Morocco, has informed the State Department that the men who assaulted and robbed the agent of an American firm in Tangier have been arrested and punished by the authorities. This tardy action was secured by the presence of the cruiser San Francisco and Raleigh at Tangier. The Raleigh reached Gibraltar yesterday and the San Francisco joined her to-day. The State Department will make a demand for indemnity.

Prise de la Bastille, 1789-1897



MISS JULIE COTTE, M. J. S. GODEAU, MRS. L. FICHTER, M. L. DE LALANDE, MRS. BERGEROT, PRESIDENT OF THE DAY.

The loyal sons and daughters of France yesterday celebrated with that enthusiasm for which every true descendant of Gaul is noted the anniversary of the taking of the Bastille. The tricolor was flung to the breeze, and its folds lapped the glorious stripes and stars of the sister republic. All business was suspended for the day in the active French colony. The "Marseillaise" was on every tongue and its sentiment shined in every heart.

As on all the previous anniversaries the arrangements for a fitting commemoration were all that patriotism could prompt and perfect co-operation of devoted citizens could do.

At the Chutes, where the public celebration was held, the innate taste of the children of sunny France and their true love of the beautiful were everywhere apparent in the tasteful and elaborate decorations.

The tricolor, the stars and stripes and wreaths of evergreens only were used, but the artistic arrangement made a beautiful ensemble.

The general committee of the fête consisted of the following gentlemen: President of honor, L. de Lalande, Consul of France; honorary president, Sylvain Well; president of the day, P. A. Bergerot; vice-presidents, E. J. Dupuy and J. Bayle; treasurer, Jules S. Godeau; secretary, J. Deschamps.

Following were the sub-committees: Finance—E. J. Dupuy, J. Bayle, Charles L. P. Marais, O. Bozlo, A. Bousquet.

Invitations—A. Goustaux, S. Levy, C. Mailheban, A. Bousquet, E. Ramond, J. Longe.

Literary exercises—C. L. P. Marais, X. Meirel, A. Goustaux, C. Melquiond, E. J. Dupuy, A. F. Blanchard.

Decorations—J. Godart, G. A. Berger, C. Pauchon, L. L. Remy, A. Laplace.

Announcements—C. L. P. Marais, E. J. Dupuy, L. L. Remy.

Music—R. Bigue, M. Fuchs, J. Couden, J. Arce, L. Godon.

Order—J. Arce, J. B. Carrere, P. Bigue, L. Lacaze, C. Mailheban.

Bail—A. Laplace, J. B. Carrere, L. Lacaze.

Dancing—J. B. Carrere, floor manager; A. Laplace, J. Clerly, assistant floor managers.

Aids—L. Lacaze, B. Oymrie, M. Andichou, F. Medevielle, J. Bauchou, E. Montauban, J. Longe, P. Belloch, J. Lasserre, F. Merle, T. Capdevielle, M. F. Berges, F. Sehabague, B. Cascon, J. Noble, M. Clavere, C. Robert, T. J. Lacoste, L. Leger.

The general committee comprised the reception committee.

The exercises were held in the big pavilion at the west end of the Chutes, and the stage was a bower of flags and fragrant blossoms. After the overture from "William Tell" Alexander Bergerot, president of the day, was introduced. His address was in part as follows:

France and all her children spread through the whole world glory to-day the one hundred and eighty-ninth anniversary of the opening of a new era in the history of humanity. In seeing the road she has traversed France has the right to-day to be proud of herself and her children. She has been able to raise herself up with an indomitable energy after the most cruel trials. And now that she has attained, if not passed, the end which she proposed to herself she pursues in calm and peace the work of progress and civilization, and the century which she will so gloriously crown by the approaching universal exposition will leave a luminous, unforgettable trace in her history.

Without, France has taken an eminent place in the concert of the nations of Europe and among all the powers of the entire world. She is counted in all questions concerning the European equilibrium. She can be proud, also, to see her friendship sought on one hand,

her susceptibilities regarded on another, for all this shows that among foreign nations there is a consciousness of her force and political importance. The stability of the republic, demonstrated by an experience of twenty-three years, is doubted by no one, any more than the wisdom of the nation which has sufficiently proved that if she remains mistress of herself and makes herself respected, she will not give her neighbors cause for inquietude, nor be a brand of trouble and discord in Europe.

When the applause that this stirring oration had created subsided, Mlle. Julie Cotte was introduced and sang with much dramatic effect "Salut a la France."

Laurence de Lalande, the French Consul, was the next speaker. Among other things the Consul said:

Our national commemoration has become a general fête, because of all people being in sympathy with our country.

This is true in the different countries where I have been, but particularly in the United States, where we meet republicans of a very patriotic character themselves.

I am glad to see here a number of American friends and people from many lands, and I especially thank Mayor Phelan and Mr. Sydney Smith for their participation in our celebration.

Then came more music, a trombone solo, "l'Alsace et la Lorraine," by Alfred Roncovieri, and Mayor Phelan followed, speaking as follows:

Ladies and gentlemen: San Francisco is one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the world, and from its very beginning its French population has been conspicuous in its development. Their love of the Republic, their enthusiasm for freedom, their artistic tastes and accomplishments have contributed to the upbuilding of the City and the strength of the State. The character of California's soil and climate, resembling France, makes them feel at home, and has wedded them with ties of love and affection to the Golden State.

This is the French national holiday, and its significance is in full accord with the principles that underlie the structure of the American Government. America celebrates the 4th of July; France, a few days later, the 14th. The one following the other is more than a coincidence—it is a consequence. The example of America in 1776 was closely followed by the French people in 1789, and the success of freedom's cause in this country was the inspiration of French patriotism which overthrew that frowning emblem of despotic rule—the Bastille, so the Declaration of Independence was independence for America and France alike. The two nations thus born of a common cause celebrate a common birthday in this month of July. They are Freedom's children and are drawn together almost unconsciously by fraternal bonds. Therefore, my fellow-citizens, we are together to-day. The friendship of the two countries, formed in the infancy of national life, has been enduring, and long may it endure.

When France presented the statue of Liberty to the United States, what form did the acknowledgment take? American citizens forthwith set up in Paris a statue to Lafayette. For the fame of Lafayette, the lover of liberty, the pure patriot and generous friend, is as dear to the American heart as to the people of France. It is an obligation of the two countries to preserve his fame, and it should be honorable and becoming in humanity itself, as in the case of Washington, to assert that no country can claim him, and that he was a gift of Providence to the human race. The part that he played in establishing the independence of America perhaps saved

the revolutionary cause, which was the cause of mankind. He was an unselfish soldier for the right. He volunteered his services at a critical time; and when even forbidden by his Government, which at that time was despotic, to engage in the American conflict, which he was quick to see was a struggle for human rights everywhere, he evaded arrest, thrust aside considerations of family and fortune, fitted out a transport and sailed away to take part in the momentous struggle. Washington received him as a personal friend. He was made a major-general in the Continental army, and led our troops on many a hard-fought field. And when the fortunes of war were wavering in the balance he went back to France for aid, and without that aid which he secured we can only gather from the words of Washington which might have been the outcome of the Revolutionary War, upon which so much depended. Washington wrote at this time to the American representatives in Paris: "We are at the end of our tether, and now or never deliverance must come." It came with Rochambeau and De Grasse. France, moved by the ardor of Lafayette, saved the cause of the colonies and stirred Thomas Jefferson to exclaim in the transport of his joy, that henceforth every American has two countries—his own and France.

The Mayor's eloquent address, which was frequently interrupted by enthusiastic applause, was followed by "The Star Spangled Banner," sung by a quartet of soprano voices.

Jules Godart, orator of the day, was then introduced, and spoke in part as follows:

Frenchmen and friends of France, "salut et fraternité" to you present here, in the name of our native land, to celebrate an anniversary of the Revolution.

And let us express our feelings of gratitude to the men who gave that country freedom.

Let us express also our thankfulness to the United States for her noble and generous hospitality, which allows us to celebrate here to-day the glory of our native country. For fourteen hundred years the people of the world were to suffer and obey. The judgments of their kings were without appeal, and in the prisons the great defenders of humanity were dying.

But it is vain to try to arrest the march of progress, and on the 14th of July, 1789, the whole people of Paris were in full revolt. After a very hard fight the people destroyed that dark blot called La Bastille in a single day.

The people separated forever the dreadful past from a future filled with hope. On the 14th of July France showed her new banner and wrote upon it her beautiful motto, "Liberty, equality and fraternity."

In France public men forgot their quarrels, putting above them their patriotism, their love of liberty. The cry, "The country is in danger" was heard by the people and Carnot enrolled armies.

With these armies Kellerman, Hoche, Kleber and Marceau won fame on the battle-fields. At the same time Danton, Robespierre, Camille Desmoulins and St. Just gave humane and just laws which kept the integrity of the republican motto.

Very often men had to pay with their lives for the devotion to their country, but even on the scaffold their last thought was for the happiness of the people, promised by their doctrines.

Since the first revolution the march of progress has never been stayed. After the 18th Brumaire the republic, badly defended, fell into the hands of Bonaparte, who soon established the empire. Then after Waterloo the Bourbons took the throne again. But under the folds of the tri-colored flag the people regained their liberty.

In 1852 again the republic showed the King the way to exile. But a man who wanted to repeat the 18th Brumaire on the 24 of December and to deprive the people of their rights by sending them to Cayenne and Lambréssa arose, and after an eighteen years'

reign Napoleon III made a cowardly surrender.

"The republic called all Frenchmen to her defense, and then appeared Gambetta, Chanzy and Faidherbe, who saved the honor of the country. During the last twenty-seven years the nation has entered frankly into the path of progress; and developing continually the republican principles, she has given to the people the inheritance she received from the great revolution.

Strongly organized within herself France is able to defend her frontiers, but this word remains to us—that two of our most cherished provinces are still suffering under a foreign ruler.

Let us hope that the hour for deliverance for Alsace-Lorraine is approaching. Long live Alsace-Lorraine! long live liberty; long live the republic; long live France!

Next followed Mme. Lucie Fichter, who, attired as the Goddess of Liberty, sang "The Marseillaise." During the song the entire audience remained standing.

Sydney M. Smith was the last speaker on the programme. Mr. Smith said:

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: I beg to thank you for the compliment conferred upon the society by the honor of representing by being invited to be present upon this noteworthy occasion, and I appear before you as the representative of the Sons of the American Revolution, a society composed, as its name indicates, of the lineal descendants of those who participated in that great strife, and whose purpose is to teach respect to the American flag, to preserve historic landmarks, to rear monuments to deserving heroes, to stimulate a close acquaintance with our National history and to keep alive an observance of anniversary days of glory in the early life of our Nation, in the same way that you here to-day in this spot, so far removed from sunny France, meet to associate upon the occasion of the 14th of July, of over a century ago, that you may keep fresh in your own minds the cause of the episodes of that day that means much to you all, and to teach your children the source of that stream of liberty upon whose surface they so peacefully float a oak.

An anniversary is in its purpose a monument whereon men carve as on lasting bronze some great name or some historic event, but the same law which bids time to crumble the monuments taken in it by the French people, and how much their moral support, their personal participation in the conflict, and later, their political alliance contributed to the enfranchisement of the new world; and illustrious French names figure side by side with our own most honored heroes, for these same current of ideas were marked at the time in each

nation, and the progress of our strife was hastening the crystallization of events with you—that it was that was blown into flames in your country the smoldering embers of new ideas of government, and so fired were men with individual enthusiasm that those of the highest rank vied with each other in impatient zeal in soliciting commissions in regiments in our aid, and the passion for republican institutions increased with each success of our arms to such an extent that a profession of liberal opinion became as indispensable an passport to the salons of fashion as to the favor of the people, so general had the feeling become. With you, as with us, the logic of events had brought about a feeling of self-confidence in the people, that they could successfully resist oppression and that they were capable of governing themselves; and at the first note of alarm we see our yeomen and workmen leaving their farms and tools to rush to the defense of a principle, and as our General Putnam left his plow in the field and rode seventy miles to participate in the battle of Bunker Hill, whose anniversary we have just celebrated, so did your Louis Journey, a cartwright of the Hawaiian Islands, and for an attitude on the Cuban matter that has tended to lessen Spanish atrocities in that land. It urges upon Congress the earliest possible passage of a discriminating duty measure to protect American shipping. Congress is commended for fostering the best sugar industry by legislation. The question of equal suffrage to women is recommended to members of Congress as a matter of education. President Cleveland's civil service changes are vigorously condemned, and a modification of the rules and provisions of that law are favored in the interest of good service and to correct the injustice alleged to have been thus perpetrated. Restriction of immigration is favored and sympathy expressed with miners and other laboring men in their struggles for living wages.

Several resolutions were read and a resolution against lynching, but the president ruled it out of order on the ground that the convention had previously determined to refer all resolutions to the committee without debate.

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While the convention was assembling the delegates gave vent to enthusiasm over the entrance of the Young Men's McKinley Club of Dayton, Ohio, who had come to visit the convention. The boys were given seats of honor on the platform.

At 10:45 Chairman Woodmansee called the convention to order. The committee on rules made its report on order of business and rules of business. The rules of the Fifty-third Congress were recommended for the government of the convention, and the delegations were each to cast the full vote. The report was adopted.

The committee on credentials reported that the question of seats had been settled, with the exception that the Louisiana delegation of twenty-six headed by H. H. Blunt (colored) was recommended to be seated and the delegation of four headed by C. C. Wilson be excluded.

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Straker defended his action. He wanted to waive technicalities and pay no attention to the local quarrels from Louisiana.

Other colored delegates asserted that some of the contestants were free-silver men and that the delegation of four in which several black and white men tried to talk at once. Then Mr. Blunt's motion to table Mr. Straker's amendment was carried by a very large majority and the report of the credentials committee was adopted.

The resolutions, which were reported through the chairman of the resolutions committee, Colonel Bundy of Ohio, declare "unflinching allegiance to the principles of the Republican party, sound money and reciprocity as expressed in the St. Louis platform."

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