

SIXTEEN HUNDRED LIVES LOST OCEAN-LINER TITANIC SINKS

Iceberg Struck and the Mammoth New Steamship Plunged Into the Depths Before Aid Arrived—World Famous Passengers Are Among the Dead.

STORY OF THE AWFUL OCEAN HORROR

Titanic's Band Played "Nearer My God, To Thee," As the Perishing Host Kneels To Offer Silent Prayer—Steamer Carpathia Docks With Only 739 Survivors.

New York.—From the lips of the survivors of the ill-fated Titanic themselves the story of one of the greatest ocean catastrophes in history was told in all its terrifying details.

Mingled in the recital of the horror are descriptions of the sublime heroism of the crew and most of the passengers, and of the childlike faith in the mercy of a forgiving Providence, and hope for a tearless heaven evinced by the perishing host on the doomed leviathan.

According to the wife of Jacques Futrelle, the renowned author, the ship's band, which had been playing from the time of the impact of the big craft with the iceberg, in order to buoy up the spirit of the crew and passengers, was heard to play "Nearer My God, To Thee" shortly before the ship began to sink.

Many Kneelt in Prayer.

As the strains of the familiar, soul-stirring hymn resounded over the waves, men, women and children uncovered their heads and hundreds knelt and prayed.

Mrs. Jacques Futrelle says that the members of the crew had to use force to separate wives and children from husbands and parents, and had to throw them into the lifeboats.

Jacques Futrelle was one of the first cabin passengers who parted with his wife and steadfastly refused to accept a chance to enter a lifeboat when he knew that the Titanic was sinking under him.

"When the Titanic hit the iceberg there was the most appalling excitement," said Mrs. Futrelle, "and who, after they have passed through such an experience, could blame those poor people for the panic that overwhelmed some of them?"

Gives Up All Hope.

"I do not doubt that my husband is dead; but even that knowledge can not make me suffer more. There could be nothing worse than the mental anguish through which I have passed since we were rescued.

"Jacques is dead, but he died like a hero, that I know. Three or four times after the crash I rushed up to him and clasped him in my arms and begged him to get into one of the lifeboats.

"For God's sake go!" he fairly screamed at me as he tried to push me away, and I could see how he suffered. "It's your last chance, go!" Then one of the ship's officers forced me into a lifeboat and I gave up all hope that he could be saved."

The Carpathia's gangplank rattled onto the floor of the pier and two minutes later the first passenger, Miss Elizabeth Allen, of St. Louis, walked down the plank and told her story of the disaster. Miss Allen is the niece of Dent Robert, a prominent resident of San Francisco.

"When the ship struck all the passengers rushed on deck," said Miss Allen, "but were told to go back to their berths, as there was no danger. An hour later they were all ordered to reassemble on deck.

Asleep as Crash Came.

"We were asleep in our berths when the Titanic crashed into the iceberg

We immediately rushed on deck, only stopping to throw on a coat over our nightgowns. The night was bright and starlit. We could see the crowds of passengers falling down the stairways while the officers sought to reassure them of their safety. Maj. Butt and Col. Astor stood by the lifeboats bravely and helped the women. They did not think the boat was going to sink.

"The Titanic kept settling lower and lower, however. Then word came that the engine room was flooded.

"There was some shooting. They would not allow those half-crazed men to get into the boats.

"I was in one of the lifeboats. After we were lowered away the men in our boat started to row. I looked back to the Titanic and could see the big ship settling. She seemed already to be only half her former height.

Ordered To Row Harder.

"The officers in charge of our lifeboat kept urging the men at the oars to row harder. Some of the oarsmen fell exhausted. Then we women took turns at the oars. We must have been about a mile away from the Titanic when she went under.

"There was a big wave. The sea was calm otherwise, and I asked a sailor what it was. He said, 'The Titanic has sunk.'

"It was bitterly cold. We half-dressed women suffered intensely until we were picked up."

According to one of the first passengers ashore, the Titanic struck the iceberg at 11:41 p. m. Sunday night, and went down at 2:30 Monday morning. The Carpathia reached the scene at 4:10. She picked up 19 lifeboats.

Broke in the Middle.

J. B. Thayer, of Philadelphia, said: "The Titanic struck about midnight, as near as I can guess. It rode upon the ice, hesitated for a few seconds and then slipped off with a tremendous crash and broke in the middle. The mauling of the lifeboats immediately began.

"Bruce Ismay manned one of the boats as a sailor. But he had no sooner taken his seat at one of the oars than he jumped up again and gave his place to a woman. Then Ismay, with an oar in his hands, got into a second lifeboat. About 20 minutes afterwards our lifeboat pulled away. Then the Titanic sank."

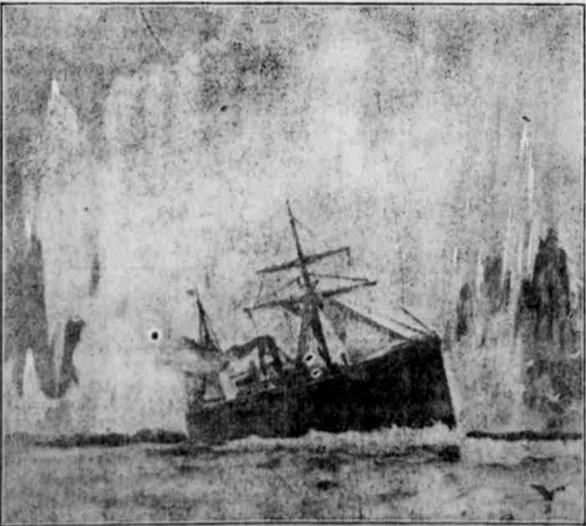
SAVED BY AN ANKLE.

New York.—J. Pierpont Morgan's star of good luck was still in the ascendant in the 75th year of his life, for the banker had thought earlier in the year to return to America on the ill-fated Titanic.

Henry Clay Frick, in February, had engaged a suite on the Titanic, but Mrs. Frick sprained her ankle when the Adriatic stopped at Madeira and went to a hospital in Naples.

Mr. Morgan took over Mr. Frick's bookings. Then Mr. Morgan decided to lengthen his stay abroad, and passed the reservation over to J. Horace Harding, a banker. Mr. Harding was obliged to take an earlier boat and sailed last Saturday.

ONE OF THE PERILS OF THE "NORTHERN ROUTE"



CLOSE CALL FOR VESSEL MAKING ITS WAY THROUGH THE ICE FIELDS.

SCENE OF OCEAN DISASTER



WHERE THE TITANIC MET HER FATE.

CARPATHIA THE HEARSE OF SEA

Passengers Say Captain Smith And the Chief Engineer Killed Themselves

SIX REFUGES SUCCUMBED

Three Explosions in Boiler Room as Vessel Filled Added to Panic—Big Liner's Side Ripped By Iceberg as if a Gigantic Knife Had Been Hit—Major Butt Believed to Have Felled 12 Men Before He Himself if Felled.

New York.—Freighted with her agony of woe, disaster and death, bringing glad reunion to some but misery unutterable to many, the Carpathia, with the survivors of the lost Titanic aboard, came back to a grief-stricken city and nation.

The story she brought home was one to crush the heart with its pathos, but at the same time to thrill it with pride in the manly and womanly fortitude displayed in the face of the most awful peril and inevitable death.

When the great liner went down it took with her to death all but 745 of her human cargo of 2,340 souls.

Six Die After Being Rescued.

To this awful death list six persons were added. One died in a lifeboat, which was put off from the liner's side, and five subsequently succumbed on the rescue ship Carpathia.

The list of prominent men missing stands as previously reported, and the total death list as brought to port by the Carpathia is 1,601.

As the Titanic sank, according to the story of those who were among the last to leave her wounded hulk, Capt. Smith stood to his post, calm, resolute, efficient to the last, and when all that mortal man could do for the 2,000 lives entrusted to his care he raised his revolver and shot himself while standing on the bridge.

The chief engineer is also reported to have taken his life, and three Italians are said to have been shot in the struggle for the boats.

Butt Said to Have Killed Twelve.

It was reported to the White House that Major Butt killed 12 men who were scrambling for the boats before he himself was killed by the crazed passengers.

The passengers who told the story of the captain's end said that he made two attempts upon his life before he succeeded, fellow officers wresting his weapon from his hand the first time as he stood in the ship's library. He then broke away and, standing at his post on the bridge, discharged the revolver into his mouth.

Henry B. Harris, theatrical manager of this city, was one of the men who showed superb courage in the crisis. When the lifeboats were first being filled, and before there was any panic or extraordinary excitement, he had been assisted into one of them at the side of his wife before the boat was lowered away.

"Women first!" shouted one of the ship's officers. Mr. Harris glanced up and saw that the remark was addressed to him.

Goes Back to Meet Death.

"All right," he replied coolly. "Good-by, my dear," he said as he kissed his wife, pressed her a moment to his breast and then climbed back to the Titanic's deck.

The night was clear and the majestic ship was steaming, it is said, at twenty-one knots when she struck the iceberg that sent her to the ocean bottom 2,900 fathoms deep. Her hull rose on a shelf of the berg, just as has been surmised, and in so doing and in the subsequent recoil her bottom plates and her port side were badly torn and shattered, but there was no such terrific shock from the impact as might have been supposed, according to the evidence.

The captain and officers at once reassured the passengers, believing that there was no immediate danger.

Return to Their Staterooms.

Under his encouragement many of them went back to their staterooms, and not a few calmly returned to their berths. That is said to account for the fact that many of the women were

not even on deck when the imminence of their danger was realized, and scores of them were drowned in their staterooms like rats in a trap.

About one hour before the ship plunged to the bottom there were three separate explosions from the boiler room as the vessel filled. These were at intervals of about 15 minutes. Until then there had been no panic and but little disorder. From that moment, however, there was a different scene. The rush for the remaining boats became a stampede.

The officers had to assert their authority by force, and the three Italians from the steerage who had tried to force their way in among the women were shot down without mercy.

Practically every woman and child, with the exception of those who refused to leave their husbands, were saved. Among these last was Mrs. Isidor Straus.

WIFE'S DEEP DEVOTION

SEEN IN CONDUCT OF MRS. ISIDOR STRAUS, WHO PERISHED WITH HUSBAND.

John Jacob Astor, Major Archibald Butt, Henry B. Harris and Innumerable Others Exhibit Heroic Conduct.

By Mrs. Churchill Candee, of Washington.

New York.—The action of the men on the Titanic was noble. They stood back in every instance that I noticed and gave the women and children the first chance to get away safely.

Particularly heroic was the conduct of Isidor Straus, Major Archibald Butt, John Jacob Astor and Henry B. Harris.

They formed a group. Most of the passengers were on the stern of the Titanic, for the leak was forward, and it was known that if she sank it would be bow first.

An officer of the Titanic ordered Mrs. Straus into a boat. She said: "I will not leave my husband. We've been together all these years and I'll not leave him now."

It brought tears to our eyes to witness her great devotion for her husband.

Mr. Harris insisted that his wife get into a lifeboat. She refused at first, but was finally forced into the boat.

As we put away I observed Mrs. Straus waving her handkerchief at us. The Titanic was then settling. Her stern was out of the water and she was going down bow first. There must have been 1,400 persons gathered together on the stern.

I saw Col. Astor helping get the women and children into the boats. Then he went below, remaining there several minutes. I believe he was searching for more women and children.

Finally he came back again. He was on deck when the Titanic sank, I believe, for when I last saw him he was still aiding in the work of rescue.

Major Butt was one of God's noblemen. I saw him working desperately to get the women and children into boats.

What need can there be of recounting the heroic deeds performed by these men who remained on the Titanic? To dwell upon them only sickens the heart, with the realization of how they perished.

TO FELLOW-SUFFERERS

London.—The widow of Capt. Smith, the commander of the Titanic, has written a pathetic message which was posted outside the White Star office. It reads as follows:

"To my poor fellow-sufferers: My heart overflows with grief for you all and is laden with sorrow that you are weighted down with this terrible burden that has been thrust upon us. May God be with us and comfort us all. Yours in deep sympathy—Eleanor Smith."

HALF-MAST FLAGS, PRESIDENT ORDERS.

Washington.—The tribute of a sorrowing nation will be paid to those who went to their death on the Titanic. President Taft issued a proclamation ordering flags at half-mast throughout this country, its insular possessions and on all vessels flying the national emblem.

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"I made a bad mistake to-day," said Blank to his wife. "I went to pay that subscription to the daily, which was \$5. I found out afterwards that I had handed the agent a \$10 bill and didn't notice it until he was gone—guess he didn't either. I suppose that fellow is honest and I'll get my money back, but it'll be some trouble."

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