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PUBLICATION



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Fifteen Cents Per Week.

NO. 16.

VOL. VII.

MEMPHIS. TENNESSEE. FRIDAY EVENING. SEPTEMBER 18, 1868.

PUBLIC LEDGER. EVERY AFTERNOON, EXCEPT SUNDAY,

-87-E. WHITMORE AND F. A. TYLER. Under the firm name of

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No. 13 Madison Street,

The PUBLIC LEDGER is served to City subscribers by faithful carriers at FIFTEKN CENTS per week, payable weekly to the carriers. By mail (in advance): One year, \$8; six months, \$4; three months, \$2; one menth, 75

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EARTHQUAKES SOUTH.

Eight Cities Destroyed - Great Loss of Life Two American Men-of-War Lost-Reports from the Inte-rior-Lims and Callao safe.

From the New York Herald, 13th.] By the arrival of the steamship Guiding Star, from Aspinwall, we have received full particulars of the terrible earthquake in Peru, Chili, Equador, and along the west coast of South America, on the 13th of August. The scenes depicted by our correspondents are of the most appalling

LIMA, August 22, 1868 -On the 13th instant this unfortunate country was visited by the most terrible earthquake that ever has stricken horror in mea's hearts. At half-past five o'clock on that day, in the cities in the southern portion of the republic, a fearful noise was heard, which fortunately earned. fortunately served as an alarm, and en-abled many people to flee to the nearest elevation. A few moments after, the earth commenced to move visibly, and the motion continued for four or five minutes, when the shock became so severe as to destroy buildings constructed of the heaviest stone and coment.

All along the southern coast the sea was terribly agitated. First the waters in the different bays and harbors rose to a tremendous hight, and immediately following came an enormous tidal wave, Median.

The Equitable Life Assurance Society, purelymurnal; Jas. A. Swain, Gen'l Ag't, 13 Union.

Hernando Ins. Co., 19 Madigon; Ben. May. some cases half a mile in shore, and left them bigh and dry on the mainland. In the memory of man, no earthquake so general and so devastating in its effects has occurred, and Lima, to day, is but an assemblage of terror stricken and weep-

ing people. Arequipa has ceased to exist. This famous city, of thirty five thousand in habitants, built of the strongest granite and of the lava from the neighboring volcano, now is a thing of the past. It has absolutely been reduced to fragments. The strength of the buildings gave time for the population to make a hurried escape to the hills and plains in the vicinity, and the loss of life is estimated at about three hundred. All of the soldiers about three hundred. All of the soldiers in hospital and the prisoners confined in the jail were unable to flee, and were consequently crushed by the falling masses. Thus has passed away the town known as "fighting Arequipa," the Virginia of Peru and the mother of her Presidents. This loss has been acutely felt in the capital since the number of persons from the destroyed city sojourning in Lima is very great, and in the excitement and terror of the situation, the names of the dead and wounded have not been received here. Far more terrible has been the shock than that of Lisbon, many years ago, since this, in place of destroying one city, has ruined many, and has caused a whole country to la-

ment and mourn. The town of Arica, one of the most important ports of the republic, is also only to be remembered. This town, which contained nearly twelve thousand inhabitants, was visited at the same time by the same terrible phenomenon, and not one house is left standing. Here, as in Arequipa, the noise and premonitory symptoms of the calamity gave the people time to seek some place of safety, and by this providence only five hundred lives

The bay rose like a waterspout, the ressels moored there necessarily parting their anchor chains, and then, as at St. Thomas, a great tidal wave was formed, which, forty feet high and rearing like a whirlwind, precipitated itself on the de-voted ships and carried them far into the

mainland.

The United States atoreship Fredonia was capsized, and lost in officers B. Dyer, was capsized, and lost in officers B. Dyer, Second Lieutenant; D. Organ, Master; J. G. Cromwell, Purser's Clerk; Mr. Sinnt, Secretary to the Commander; and Mrs. Dyer, the wife of the lieutenant, with tweaty-seven sailors. The Fredonia had nearly \$1,800,000 worth of naval stores on board, which, of course, were entirely destroyed. In fact, the ship was broken into fragments before she reached the land, and only those officers who were fortunately for themselves on shore

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condition as the Wateree. The America lost her three chief officers, with thirty sailors and marines. The American merchantman, Rosa Rivers, the English ship Chaparcillo, and the French bark Eduardo were totally

The great force of the upheaving of the waters of the bay set these vessels all adrift, with the exception of the Wateree, she dragging her anchors, and for several moments they were in incessant col-

As I said before, all the edifices in this town were completely destroyed, and among them was the customhouse, containing more than four millions of dollars' worth of goods, all of which, of course, shared the same fate.

Cemmander Gillis, after the disaster,

endeavored to supply the wants of the people, liberally dividing with them the limited amount of provisions at his com-mand, and aiding the efforts of the popumand, and aiding the efforts of the populace to ameliorate their condition. His conduct is very highly spoken of by the authorities, and by his exertions many lives have been saved. Dr. Winslow, of this ship, and Dr. Dubois, of the Fredonia, especially distinguished themselves.

The towns of Iquique, Moquegua, Locumba and Pisagua are also reduced to

rains. In the first named, the rising of the sea destroyed more lives than did the earthquake itself at other points; over six hundred persons were drowned, and now people are perishing from the want

customhouses of Iquique and Arica have been totally rained, and more than eight million dollars' worth of property destroyed in them alone.

The loss of life is estimated at one thousand eight hundred in all the points definitely heard from.

This morning an express has arrived

from the great mineral province of Hu-ancavelica, and reports that all of the cities of that department are reduced to a shapelese mass. We are waiting anxiously to hear from the southern cities of Puno and Cazco, for the movement ap peared to come from that direction, and in all probability they have suffered the same horrible catastrophe.

The reports of the condition of the sufferers are terrible. A famine is threat-

ened, and the government here, as well as private mercantile houses, are busy preparing to dispatch vessels freighted with all necessary articles. Admiral Turner, in the United States flagship owhatan, sails to-day for Africa to aid our unfortunate sailors there, and has generously offered to convey all the material possible that the Peruvian government may wish to send. The different guano companies have come forward and subscribed \$500,000 to aid the sufferers Congress will soon make appropriations for the injured, and although the calamity is terrible for the moment, it will certainly give employment to many persons who, while idle, only think of plunging the country into civil war, and killing by powder and ball those whose lives seem destined to be sacrificed by a higher and more fearful power.
On the 13th inst., we also felt in Lima the most severe earthquake experienced

in Peru for eight years. The duration of the movement was about three minutes and a half, and the shock, instead of following the usual vertical motion, appear-ed to be lateral, and consequently was regarded as all the more dangerous. The aspect of the city during the movement was truly exciting. Every one in Lima, at the first coming of the shock, always seeks the protection of an arch, or the threshold of a door is selected as a safe place, and on this occasion, these favored spots were speedily occupied. In an
incredibly short space of time the great
public plazza was filled with frightened
men, women and children, and, as if by common instinct, all assumed a suppliant position—every one on their knees—and the air resonant with the shricks, lamentations and petitions, addressed princi-pally to heaven; the houses shook visi-bly and the high towers of the cathedral swayed to and fro like a ship's mast in a storm. The great length of the shock was particularly alarming; but fortunately no damage took place in this city; but Callao, the unfortunate, the bombarded, pest-ridden, revolutionized city, suffered terribly. The earthquake was felt severely there, and the people remembering the great calamity of 1753, hastened to place themselves beyond the reach of danger. At ten o'clock at night the sea commenced to become agitated, and shortly after that hour a tremendous wave burst over the line of houses edging the shore, and in some cases completely gutted them of their contents. The panic was extreme. Not one thought was given to the preservation of property; but all'endeavors
were directed to personal safety. Yet no
lives were lost. Throughout the night
the sea continued thus, and the
ships were swung in all directions by the force of the different currents. Several vessels collided, but no damage of importance took place. The men-of-war and steamers left the dangerons neighbor-

hood of the bay, and proceeded out to sea, waiting for daylight and quiet.

The next day passed quietly, but Callao was doomed to suffer still greater misfortunes. During the night fire was discovered proceeding from a hotel situated in the center of the business portion of the town, and despite the unremitting labors of the troops, police, fire engines sent from Lima, and of the citizens, the conflagration was not overcome until-fifty-seven houses and stores had been utterly destroyed, and a loss of a million and a half of bard dollars inflicted upon

the unfortunate victims.

The effect of the earthquake along the The effect of the earthquake along the immediate southern and northern coasts has been very severe. The Chinchas and the cities of Ica and Pisco, on the adjacent maidland, were handled roughly, and in Ica more than forty houses were overthrown. The number of lives lost at with persons praying for the Divine mercy, and the almost entire population of Callao have left their homes and are

yet no damage ensued. It is known that the force of this earthquake extended as far south as Taleahuano, in Chili, and north about one hundred and fifty miles

from this place.

So many theories are discussed concerning the origin of this catastrophe that the Peruvian philosophers cannot fix upon a definite point from which to argue. None of the numerous volcanoes in the southern portion of the republic are active; and it is difficult to locate the surce of a movement that is felt at La Paz, Bolivia, that casts a huge wave over the southern ports of Chili, together with those of Callao and Arica, and finally destroys the town of Arequipa, more than one bundred miles from the sea. All the reports given to the Herald in my last letter have been corroborated. The cities of Arequipa, Arica, Moquegus, Iquique, with the large towns of Sama, Locumba, Nasca, 10, Chala, Mexillones, Piasca, with a large number of smaller Pisagua, with a large number of smaller ones, together with a great many isolated villages, estates and factories, are en-tirely destroyed—by entirely is meant to be understood that the ruin is complete, and those buildings not demolished by the shock received such rough handling as to cause their immediate destruction necessary. The loss of life and property cannot now be correctly estimated, nor will it until the exact investigations and surveys be made by the parties appointed by the government here for that purpose. It is roughly conjectured that more than three hundred million dollars' worth of property has been destroyed, and that more than two thousand persons have perished from the effects of the catas-

The eve disposed portion of the community are taking advantage of the con-sternation which reigns supreme to com mit all descriptions of crime and outrage A party of robbers penetrated into the city at seven o'clock, a night or two since, and entering some grocery stores in the very heart of the town, boldly commenced their work of pillage. In this they were surprised by the police, and a lively mus ketry engagement ensued, in which the robbers, though prevented from carrying off any booty, came out victorious, killing two of the police and making their escape. Several incendiary fires have occurred, doubtless started by some ruffians who desired to attract the attention of the public to one quarter of the town while they rob and murder in anther. It is understood that Col. Balta has expressed his determination to inflict severe punishment on these malefactors, and he has given orders to the police to kill as many as possible in any combats which may take place, as the laws of Peru

allow no capital punishment.

The details of the loss of the United States ships Fredonia and Wateree have been communicated to your correspond-ent by one of the three surviving officers of the former. The two vessels were lying at anchor in the bay of Arica when the first signs of the earthquake were noticed. Of course the consternation on board was very great, and after the shock of the movement on shore had disappeared, the Captain, Surgeon and Paymaster of the Fredenia went in a small boat to land, desiring to learn the fate of their friends and acquaintances, and offer the services of the ship. Just then the tremendous upheaving of the bay took place, and the Fredonia, parting her anchor chains, was at the mercy of the currents, and after driving wildly around

lost.
The Wateree, more securely moored, dragged her anchors and was swept by the great tidal wave four hundred and fifty yards inland, about two miles north of the ruined town. There she now lies, between two hillocks of sand, apparently waiting for the water to restore her to her accustomed element. It will be impos-sible to extricate her from her situation, and the Admiral is hopeful only of saving her battery and stores. The ship was very slightly injured and lost only one man, a sailor.

The United States steamers Kearsarge, Nyacy and Powhatan are at Arica, en-deavoring to save something from the Wateree. The Kearsarge was the first provisioned vessel to arrive at Arica. She came from Coquimbe.

COBIJA, August 21, 1868.—On the 15th of August I was staying in Valparaiso, where the air had lately been so hot and oppressive that a volcanic outbreak was anticipated. That same day information reached us that the sea had invaded both Concepcion and Tome, two ports in the south of Chili, doing considerable dam-age to the stores and dwelling houses The whole west coast, as far as informa-tion was then reaching, had experienced a terrific earthquake, and in many places lows:

"We were safely anchored in the bay, cent maidland, were handled roughly, and in Ica more than forty houses were safely anchored in the bay, as information reaches rushes the destruction. Its extent cannot be judged till we made us all believe we had got upon a the churches in the capital are througed with persons praying for the Divine what was the matter. The next moment our craft shook and twisted as if it river bank. No one dares go to town, as Innufacturing Comp's,

North the devastation may reach, as no news has yet arrived from Calla Having gone on shore in Caldera we soon met refugees from the North, among acon met refugees from the North, among others a German photographer from Arica, who had been there at the time the catastrophe occurred and lost all his property. The town council of Copiapo was collecting provisions to succor the sufferers, and the United States steamer

Kearsarge was getting ready to proceed North. At Iquique, where all the condensing machines had been destroyed, great scarcity of water was said to be prevailing. Caldera also had experienced some heavy shocks and most of the inhabitants were on their way to the mountains. Nothing serious, however, oc-curred. The German photographer re-lated the following:

"On the afternoon of the 13th, shortly after five o'clock, I was busy at my house developing some pictures, when several shocks of earthquake were felt in rapid succession. My Chillan assistant, sharing the terror nearly all his countrymen have of volcanic outbreaks, rushed into the street and I was just about following the induce him to return, when the earthquake became so violent that a sensation akin to giddiness overcame me. Having reached the street I felt the ground moving under me as if I had been affoat. From that time I remember but little-I just recollect the falling of the church steeple at the moment I arrived on the market place. I clambered up over the fast falling houses, and, the roaring waters behind me, made straight for the mountains. It was the most perfect picture of the flood you can imagine; my hair was fairly standing on end. Everywhere lamentations and despair. Mothers seeking their little ones and wives without their husbands. Every-body was glad to escape asfe and sound, for all around the most frightful mutils tions might be witnessed. On the mountains near the coast we spent a wretched and anxious night, terrified by the ever recurring shocks of earthquake, of which we counted more than thirty. Next morning nothing was to be seen of our dwellings. The town was one great heap of rubbish; not a single street could be recognized. All I saved out of my property was a riding whip, which chance returned to me. At the time of departure on board the English steamer thirty seven dead bodies had been discovered.

Having taken in a considerable amount of coal and as much water as we could to assist the people in Iquique, we again went to sea late in the evening. Cosija, August 21, 1868.-Early this

morning we arrived in Cobija, where we met the Chilian war steamer Covadongs. We have not yet arrived upon the scene of disaster, for Iquique we passed in the night. Nevertheless, we are in posses-sion of reliable information from that place, for several of its former inhabitants came on board, and the Chilian Commander went thither but yesterday, naving taken up some provisions. Three fourth parts are in ruin, many lives lost, and hunger and thirst general. The loss of one single German house loss of one single German house (Gildemeister & Co.) amounts to \$400,-000. In Iquique the earthquake took place seventeen minutes past five, last-ing four minutes and twenty seconds before it experienced the least interruption. After this the sea receded about threequarters of a mile, so as to leave the island facing the town entirely dry. In in circles for some moments, was dashed literally to pieces on a reef. Nothing of the shore like a wall. It rose to the hight the vessel was saved, and the twentyseven men composing her officers and crew, together with Mrs. Dyer, the wife of the Lieutenant in command, were all its way. ARICA, August 22, 1868.—We have the

effects of the earthquake before us. The sight defies description. Arica, which, so to speak, but yesterday numbered seven thousand inhabitants, is to day one vast heap of ruins, and a beggared multitude is standing helplessly on the beach. So thorough has been the work of destruction that the very owners of houses are unable to find the spot where they once stood; so terrific has been the force of the convolsed waters that they have swept away the heavy cannon mounted on the island battery, and thrown them high up the shore, where they now lie buried in the sand. Four vessels, of which two are splendid war steamers, are high and dry; the Fredonia (United States steamship) was lost with all hands but two, while the brig Chanarcillo lost eight men. The launch of the America was lost, with forty-two lives, while the United States steamer Wateree lost but one. Railroad rails, cars, machinery, gun carriages, household furniture, baby inen, chests and barrels, dead animal and mutilated corpses were lying about in chaotic disorder. The stench was sickening. Here also the first and most fatal sheck took place shortly after and occasioning shipwrecks. Toward fatal sheck took place shortly after evening of the 17th I left Valparaiso in the steamer Paita for Callao. On the 19th, about two c'clock in the afternoon, stepped its accustomed limits by at least we arrived in Caldera, and here letters fifty feet. More than three hundred lives from up North came to hand which filled have been lost. Tacna and Arequipa us all with terror and consternation. numbering upward of forty thousand is habitants, have been terribly visited. The shocks are even now continuing, though had been submerged by the sea rising feebly. To the earthquake was soon above its habitual level. Cobija, Arica, added a general conflagration, and what Islar, Mejillones, Iquique, Ilo, Pisco, Pisagua, the Chinchas, and Chala are said to have all been more or less suffer rabble, who broke open every store and rabble, who broke open every store and liquor keg. A town after having been sacked does not present a spectacle nearly so horrible as the one before us; yet a ness had been entirely destroyed. The Pacific Steam Navigation Company's steamer Santiago has escaped destruction as by a miracle. She was coming tion as by a miracle. She was coming upon it. Everything had fallen as it had down from Callao and on the afternoon been left. I could not help being deeply of the 13th found herself in the port of Chala, whence her captain writes as follows: impressed by what I saw. Letters, checks and merchandise lay scattered everywhere, the intoxicated guards protecting property but indifferently. As far north as information reaches rushes the destruc-

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No. 250 Front Street (Up Stairs), MEMPHIS, TENN. MEMPHIS, TENN., September 1, 1868.

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DEAR SIR: REFERRING TO THE above Card, we beg to inform you that we have this day entered into a ceparatership, under the above style and firm, for the purpose of transacting a General Commission Business in all its branches.

Having had an active experience in the same for the past twelve years, we flatter ourselves that we will be able to give catisfaction in all business intrusted to us; and we respectfully solicit the patronage of our old friends, and hope, by stret attention to business, and faithful adherence to instructions, to gain many new ones.

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