

WRECK SURVIVORS TELL TALES OF HORROR

Grief Ship Reaches Port With Those Rescued From Titanic

Disaster Depicted Voyagers in Panic Ship Broken in Two

Many Passengers Saved From Icy Waters After Ill-Fated Steamer Had Plunged to Grave in Sea

Colonel Gracie Says He Was Last Person on the Titanic; Col. Astor Went to His Death Aiding Women

NEW YORK, April 18.—First details of the loss of the Titanic told by survivors who arrived here tonight on board the Carpathia described the scenes of horror which followed the crash with the iceberg. Hurling from their beds by the terrific impact, amid the rending of steel plates and the splintering of steel girders, they rushed on deck to meet the officers and crew already lowering the lifeboats.

"Get into the lifeboats! Never mind your clothes and valuables!"

This was the order that met scores of half clad women.

"The Titanic is doomed! It may sink inside of 15 minutes!" was all they were told. A shouting, frantic, fear crazed crowd poured from the steerage and rushed frantically for the boats, only to be driven back by the remnants of the shattered crew, 200 of whom already were crushed to death as they stopped in the bows of the huge steamer. Forward the vessel was a mass of splintered steel and pieces of ice which fell upon the decks.

Hurriedly the second, third, fourth and fifth officers were told off to command the first of the lifeboats lowered. Men crowded forward to be the first to leave, but the cry went up:

"Women and children first! Shoot any one attempting to crowd them out!"

Awed by the threat the fear stricken mob fell back and the officers picked out the women and thrust them into the first of the lifeboats. Enough men were chosen to man the oars.

No survivors can question the courage of the crew, hundreds of whom gave their lives with a heroism which equaled, but could not exceed that of John Jacob Astor, Henry B. Harris, Jacques Futrelle and others in the long list of first class cabin passengers.

E. Z. Taylor of Philadelphia, one of the survivors, jumped into the sea just three minutes before the Titanic sank. He told a graphic story as he came from the Carpathia.

"I was dining when the Titanic struck the iceberg," he said. "There was an awful shock that made the boat tremble from stem to stern. I did not realize for some time what had happened. No one seemed to know the extent of the accident. We were told that an iceberg had been struck by the ship.

"I felt the boat rise and it seemed to me that it was riding over the ice. I ran out on deck and then I could see ice. It was a veritable sea of ice and the boat was rocking over it. I should say that parts of the iceberg were 80 feet high and had been broken into sections, probably by our ship.

"I jumped into the ocean and was picked up by one of the boats. I never expected to see land again. I stood on board the boat until the lights went out."

Colonel Archibald Gracie, U. S. A., the last man saved, went down with the vessel but was picked up. He was met tonight by his daughter, who had arrived

RESCUE SHIP, SURVIVORS AND NOTED VICTIM

Captain E. J. Smith of the ill fated Titanic, J. Bruce Ismay, head of the White Star Steamship company; Mrs. John Jacob Astor, Vincent Astor, who was at the pier to meet his stepmother, and a picture of the Carpathia.



J. BRUCE ISMAY



CAPTAIN E. J. SMITH



MRS. JOHN JACOB ASTOR
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VINCENT ASTOR

DODGE IN BED WHEN CRASH CAME

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

NEW YORK, April 18.—"There was no one on the bridge when the Titanic struck the giant iceberg."

This was the startling statement made tonight by Lawyer Nathan Vidaver, brother in law of Washington Dodge of San Francisco. Vidaver had just reached the Hotel Wolcott in an automobile with Washington Dodge, Mrs. Dodge, Vidaver's sister, and Master Harry Dodge.

Vidaver had received this startling statement on the way to the hotel from Mr. and Mrs. Dodge. He said that the rescued passengers generally understood that this statement was true. In fact, it had been confirmed by one of the officers of the ship who was saved.

"When Mr. and Mrs. Dodge were seen after a brief rest at the Hotel Wolcott they confirmed the story told by Vidaver. They said the passengers understood generally that when the ship struck the watch was being changed and that at the moment of the impact there was only the man at the wheel.

"We had retired to our stateroom, and the noise of the collision was not at all alarming," said Dodge. "We had just fallen asleep. My wife awakened me and said that something had happened to the ship. We went on deck and everything seemed quiet and orderly.

"The orchestra was playing a lively tune. They started to lower the lifeboats after a lapse of some minutes. There was little excitement in the first part of this great tragedy of the sea.

ISMAY TELLS EXPERIENCE AT SEA

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

NEW YORK, April 18.—J. Bruce Ismay described how the Titanic catastrophe occurred.

"I was asleep in my cabin," said Ismay. "When the crash came. It woke me instantly. I experienced a sensation as if the big liner was sliding upon something.

"We struck a glancing blow, not head on, as some persons have supposed. The iceberg, so great was the force of the blow, tore the ship's plates half way back, I think, although I can not say definitely. There was absolutely no disorder.

"I left in the last boat. I did not see the Titanic sink. I can not remember how far away the lifeboat in which I had been towed from the ship was when it sank."

Ismay began his interview by reading a prepared statement to this effect:

"In the presence and under the shadow of so overwhelming a tragedy I am overcome with feelings too deep for words. The White Star line will do everything possible to alleviate the sufferings of the survivors and of the relatives of those who were lost.

MRS. ASTOR IS DAZED BY SHOCK

NEW YORK, April 18.—While utterly exhausted from her experiences, Mrs. John Jacob Astor was declared tonight by Nicholas Biddle, a trustee of the Astor estate, to be in no danger whatever. Her physicians, however, had given orders that neither Mrs. Astor nor her maid, who was saved with her, be permitted to talk about the disaster.

On landing from the Carpathia, the young bride, widowed by the Titanic's sinking, told members of her family what she could recall of the circumstances of the disaster. Of how Colonel Astor met his death, she had no definite conception.

She recalled, she thought, that in the confusion, as she was about to be put into one of the boats, Colonel Astor was standing by her side. After that, as Biddle recounted her narrative, she had no very clear recollection of the happenings until the boats were well clear of the sinking steamer.

Mrs. Astor, it appears, left in one of the last boats which got away from the ship. It was her belief that all the women who wished to go had then been taken off. Her impression was that the boat she left in had room for at least 15 more persons. The men for some reason, as she recalled it tonight, she could not and does not now understand, did not seem to be at all anxious to leave the ship. Almost every one seemed dazed.

"I hope he is alive somewhere. Yes, I can not think anything else," the young woman said of her husband to her father as she left the latter to go to the Astor home, according to some who overheard her parting remarks.

The chief steerage steward of the Titanic, who came in on the Carpathia, says he saw John Jacob Astor standing by the life ladder as the passengers were being embarked. His wife was beside him, the steward said. The colonel left her to go to the purser's office for a moment, and that was the last seen of him.

Death Toll Is 1,601 Four Die In Boats Wealthy Men Lost

Giant Liner Was Steaming 21 Knots An Hour When It Crashed Into Icebergs and Sank, State Witnesses

Captain Smith Went to Bottom With His Vessel; Band Played "Nearer, My God, To Thee," as It Sank

FIGURES SHOW TITANIC DEATH TOLL

The following tables show the number of persons on board the Titanic when it struck the iceberg and the number rescued by the Carpathia:

On board:	
First class	330
Second class	320
Third class	750
Total passengers	1,400
Officers and crew	940
Total on board	2,340
Rescued by the Carpathia:	
First class	210
Second class	125
Third class	200
Officers	4
Seamen	39
Stewards	96
Firemen	71
Total saved	745
Number lost in wreck	1,595
Died later	6
Total number victims	1,601

NEW YORK, April 18.—How the White Star liner Titanic, which was the largest ship afloat, sank off the Grand Banks of Newfoundland last Monday morning, carrying to their death 1,601 of the 2,340 persons aboard, was told to the world in all its awful details for the first time tonight with the arrival in New York of the Cunard liner Carpathia, bearing the exhausted survivors of the catastrophe.

Of the great facts that stand out from the chaotic account of the tragedy these are the most salient:

The death list has increased rather than decreased. Six persons died after being rescued.

The list of prominent persons lost stands as previously reported.

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

The survivors in the lifeboats saw the lights on the stricken vessel glimmer to the last, heard its band playing, saw the doomed hundreds on its deck and heard their groans and cries when the vessel sank.

Accounts vary as to the extent of the disorder on board. Not only was the Titanic tearing through the April night to its doom with every

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