

AWFUL CATASTROPHE.
ENGINE NO. 12 BLOWN UP AT THE
ROUND HOUSE.
THE HOUSE A BAD WRECK.
Charley Hasemeier and John
Hardruba Instantly Killed.

Frank Mauer Seriously Injured but Thought not Fatally—Many Others Have a Narrow Escape With Their Lives

Last evening a little before seven o'clock people on Main street and in the south part of the city were startled by what seemed to be a heavy explosion in the direction of the B. & M. Shops. The Shop whistles began to blow for help which immediately gave notice to the public that some disaster had befallen the shops. Several shop men who reside near by responded to the call for aid and it was soon discovered that engine No. 12, which does duty on the Nebraska City bridge run, and which had been completely overhauled recently, had exploded with great force.

The engine was standing in the east round house near the middle. The explosion must have been one of singular force for beside leveling the walls of the brick and stone building it lifted the great iron roof high in the air from six of the stabs, numbered from 5 to 10 inclusive, which fell back with a crash, destroying even more than the first effects of the explosion.

The unfortunate victims of the explosion were Charles Hasemeier, John Hardruba and Frank Mauer. Charles Hasemeier, the fireman, it seems had been working about the engine getting it in readiness to go out at 7 o'clock, although he had aided work for the night with Sam Hinkle. The latter had not yet arrived to relieve him and Engineer McClenahan was four minutes away hurrying to the round house when the awful explosion shook the earth all about him. At the time of the explosion it seems that Hasemeier had just entered the cab of the faithful engine, and the engineer of 21 thinks he had turned the blower on to raise to steam. He was found in the gangway, pinned against the coal gate of his tender with a board through his chest. He presented a sickening spectacle, his entrails protruding and his left hand being blown off. His head was cut and the left side of his face was badly scalded.

John Hardruba was the wiper and was in the act of blocking up the 21, which was being put in place by Engineer Rasmussen. He was found under the broken brick and scrap iron with a hole in the top of the head from which his brains protruded. He must have been killed instantly, while Hasemeier lingered for a few seconds after he was found.

Frank Mauer, the other victim of the accident, it is thought may recover. He was engaged wiping the cylinder head of the 21 and was found among the debris jammed against the cylinder, his head badly bruised and his left ear cut off. He is seriously injured but the physicians think he will recover.

THE CAUSE
 Of the accident will probably never be known with any degree of certainty. The engine had been used all day and carried 135 pounds of steam, and it is said the steam gauge but a moment before the explosion showed but ninety pounds with the boiler well filled with water. The steam gauge might have been defective, though it is said the safety-valve was set to blow off at one hundred and fifty pounds which is not a dangerous head of steam for a good boiler.

Railroad men would not hazard an opinion but it seemed to the reporter that a defective boiler was the idea of the cause, as the boiler has been in almost constant use for about 18 years. And then the appearance of the boiler, twisted and cracked as it was, looked as though it certainly was not of as good material as a new one would be built of. The inquest in session to-day may be able to throw more light upon the matter.

THE WRECK.
 A visit to the scene of the wreck this morning, which has been made by hundreds of people, shows but little left standing above the wheels of what was known as the 12. The boiler flues lay in a heap, but there is no vestige of the boiler near them. The two locomotives on either side were badly wrecked by falling iron and beams from the roof. One piece of the boiler went up in the air and came down in stall 4, only harming the

roof in that stall. Charles Hasemeier, one of the victims of the catastrophe claimed by death, was but twenty-eight years of age and had resided with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Hasemeier, for more than twenty years on their farm five miles east of Louisville. He was an industrious steady, exemplary young man, his number of friends being limited only by the number of his acquaintances. He was married to a Miss Woods of Iowa about three years ago, who is so suddenly bereft of a devoted husband. The only child died a few months ago. The deceased held a \$200 policy of life insurance in the A. O. U. W. and one for \$1,000 amount in the Burlington Relief and one for \$1,000 in some co-operative association making a total of \$500.

The remains will be taken to Louisville this evening and the funeral will probably occur to-morrow. John Hardruba, the other victim, is said to have been 37 years of age and leaves a wife and three children, the eldest being about eight years of age. He held no insurance so far as we have been able to learn.

NOTES
 The company has kindly tendered a free train for the A. O. U. W. and immediate friends of the late Charles Hasemeier to attend the funeral at Louisville to-morrow. The train will leave the depot here promptly at 1:45 to-morrow afternoon.

The damage inflicted by the explosion will reach \$20,000, besides the loss of life.

The boiler on engine 12 once had a two weeks' bath in the Platte river.

No two men seem to agree as to the cause of the explosion. The consensus of public opinion seems to believe that the boiler was defective.

Charles Hasemeier's wife was sick and he was getting his engine ready for Sam Hinkle, who was a little late in getting around. Sam congratulates himself that he was late.

Charley Miller got a few bricks in the back but was not hurt to amount to anything.

The coroner's inquest begun last night and after viewing the scene of the explosion and examining two witnesses to-day adjourned 'til 10 o'clock to-morrow.

An attache of THE HERALD was standing in the door of stall 5 at the round house when the explosion occurred. He says the report was not loud enough for a heavy head of steam. He was struck on the arm with a brick and dodged a lubricator that was coming down through the air.

Judge Archer has a habit of going home through the round house but last evening he went around and was only a few steps away when the engine was blown to pieces. He thinks he had a close call.

Pieces of the bell on No. 12 were picked up in the shop yard several rods from the scene of the accident. A large force of men under charge of F. H. Steinker were rapidly clearing away the several carloads of debris from the old round house this morning.

Lisbet Waugh entertained a large company of her little friends last evening in honor of Miss Julia Savely and Miss Kate Tidball, of Crete, and Miss Myers, a niece of Mrs. Fred Herman, from Waverly, Wis. Suitable games were indulged in and choice refreshments were served and thoroughly enjoyed. Those presented beside those named above were: Rose Wintersteen, Lu Smith, Clair Drummond, Anna Pollock, May Baird, Edith Saal, of Ashland, M. White and Florence White, of New Leonard, Lu and Bertha White, Jennie McElwain, Berta Bennett, Myrtle Levings and Anna Hassler.

Benjamin Hasemeier, brother of the unfortunate fireman, together with James Robertson, brother-in-law, and Mr. and Mrs. Woods of Louisville, father and mother of the wife of the deceased, are in the city to-day.

Fuller & Wallinger threshed for Marten Frederick this week, getting 780 bushels of plump wheat off of twenty-seven acres, and 413 bushels of barley off of twelve acres. Certainly a flattering turnout.

THE HERALD office kid Gust Rhode, locally known as "Quong Lee," caught his third finger on his left hand in the press this afternoon tearing out the nail by the root. It must have been very painful, but the kid had plenty of nerve.

Two more of the massive passenger engines with three drive wheels on a side came in last night from the east. They were numbered 209 and 270.

The base ball boys still think they will get men as good as Motz and Adams to fill their places. Bert Dunn of Weeping Water may yet be engaged.

Tom Leach discovered a boy by name of Darwin Alexander up in the cut last evening in an unconscious condition. His foot appeared to have been crushed by the train which had just passed. He was brought in to the Cottage House and the doctor dressed the painful foot, finding it badly crushed but no bones broken.

A good lawyer was spoiled when Dr. Butler commenced the practice of medicine. He was attorney in the case before Judge Barr on Monday wherein H. D. Reed and M. M. Butler were plaintiffs and P. S. Armstrong and Smith were defendants. A. M. Russell appearing for the latter. The doctor proved himself to be a corker in his new role holding down the witness to base hits and ruling out all foul tips and high flies.—Eagle.

From Friday's Daily
The Funeral Train.
 Superintendent Bignell of the B. & M. very kindly tendered a special train free, from this city to Louisville and return for the A. O. U. W. and the immediate friends of the late Charles Hasemeier to enable them to attend the funeral of the deceased. The train consisting of four coaches and a caboose was in charge of conductor Raney, engineer McLennan (the man for whom the deceased had been firing) and Fireman John Fair.

The coaches were crowded with the friends of the deceased and 169 members of the A. O. U. W. who, wearing crepe and the badges of the order, made an impressive and touching appearance. The engine No. 77 which is usually run by J. B. Graham was beautifully decorated in black and white, while on the boiler head over the pilot was placed the shield and anchor of the A. O. U. W. heavily draped in mourning. Superintendent Bignell, Mr. Hawksworth and Mr. Grelselt were all present and gave their personal attention to the starting of the train. The city editor of THE HERALD had known the deceased for nearly twenty years and it is with unfeigned pleasure that we note so many testimonials of kindness and esteem from his employers and friends, many of whom carried elaborate floral decorations.

The Balloon Ascension.
 The balloon ascension last evening from the base ball park was the best we ever saw and was witnessed by fully 3,000 people. The great balloon was filled in fifteen minutes and Prof. Kyle went up almost out of sight without a hitch of any kind; swinging on a single bar with the earth far below him made quite a thrilling spectacle. When the daring aeronaut had reached a high altitude he pulled loose the parachute, let go of the balloon and down he came, like an arrow at first but in a second the parachute opened and he came down as gracefully as could the plumed denizens of the ethereal world. As soon as the balloon was released of its load it did not shoot up into the air but turned over, emptying out the smoke, looking like a veritable volcano in cloud-land. Prof. Kyle landed nicely, without a scratch, in Schont's yard, southeast of Ed Oliver's country seat, less than two miles from town, with timber all around him but which fortunately did not interfere.

The balloon drifted further south and west, landing in a lot near the fairground owned by Mr. Dove. A German woman seeing the monster air ship come down was at first terribly frightened but soon concluded that it was abandoned property and took possession. She was cutting the ropes off and no doubt would have completely ruined it had not Prof. Kyle's partner, who was watching it, driven up just when he did. The old lady was even determined not to give it up but was finally persuaded that the claimants were the rightful owners of the property. The old lady don't read the papers, hence she had not heard of a balloon ascension in Nebraska.

One thing should be said here and now and that is that the public treated the aeronaut shamefully by stealing a view of the entire show without paying a cent for it. Only \$18 was raised in a crowd of three thousand people, who were scattered about in the near neighborhood of the park. Such a niggardly spirit was a disgrace to the town. The professor will make an ascension from Glenwood to-morrow.

ONLY ONE.
 There has been but one new summer drink brought out this season. It is Cherry Phosphate and is dispensed from Brown & Barretts fountain.

Mayor Richey and A. B. Todd went to Elmwood overland this morning, a distance of forty miles.

Mrs. J. G. Roberts settled up all her business, got her insurance money and left last night for her home with her parents at Parkersburgh, West Virginia.

Koon, the photographer, took a fine picture of engine 67 this afternoon with its decorations.

W. J. Hesser is laid up with a sore leg, caused by striking his leg against the end of a gas pipe.

The regular teachers institute will begin at Weeping Water, August 16th and will continue to the 22nd.

The county fair management is wide awake, and have secured Prof. Kyle to make an ascension in his airship one day during the fair.

Weeping Water began shipping stone last week sending one hundred cars to Omaha which the Republican says will be rapidly increased from now on.

Mrs. Kenard and Mrs. Shadrach Cole departed this morning for an extended visit with relatives and friends in Ohio. They were accompanied to this city by friends.

A monster catfish, weighing sixty-five pounds, was purchased by Jonathan Hart to-day of a fisherman. It is well worth seeing and must be over five feet in length.

The funeral of the late John Hardruba was very largely attended at ten o'clock this morning. THE HERALD learns that Mr. Hardruba not only owned a neat cottage and two lots, but he also had a \$1,000 policy of insurance on his life which will go far toward making the widow comfortable.

Our kid took his first lesson in practical printing to-day by marking the rounds of all the offices looking for some italic periods. It is not necessary to state that he found everybody short, but that the next office was overstocked. Since returning to THE HERALD office he threatens to go on a strike, but the militia will not be called out.

The B. & M. Band has become justly popular through their Thursday evening public concerts. They were kindly remembered by Mr. Hackney, of the Hotel Ritz, last evening who invited the boys all in his dining room and treated them to light refreshments of the choicest kind. Mr. Hackney's thoughtfulness was duly appreciated by the band.

E. G. Vanatta, the lessee of the motor line, has petitioned the district court for a writ of mandamus to compel the electric light company to furnish power as per contract alleged by plaintiff. Argument on a demurrer was heard by Judge Chapman this morning and a decision will be given this afternoon. LATER—Judge Chapman decided against Vanatta.

High Five.
 A delightful high five party was given last evening by Mrs. Julius Pepperberg in honor of the "Jolly Six." A select crowd of the best young people of the city were present and enjoyed themselves in an eminent degree. About 12 o'clock choice refreshments were served, to which ample justice was done. The king prizes were awarded to Will Reinhardt, an immense cigar, and Nellie Taylor, a box of bonbons. The booby prizes, a toy rooster and a tiny cigar, were won by Janet Livingston and Charley Murphy. The commodious Pepperberg mansion was beautifully illuminated and everybody present expressed themselves as having spent an exceptionally pleasant evening.

Charley Cummins does not walk on stilts but if you wish to address him you must raise your voice and elevate your head, for Charley is the most important man in town and only with difficulty can he condescend to speak to common folks. His sudden elevation was brought about by the arrival of a fine boy yesterday afternoon. We think he will be all right when the novelty of the situation has disappeared.

He Takes it Back.
 George Grebe now admits that he did screw down the safety valve or pop valve as 'tis called although he had no business to touch it. He swore before the inquest that he did not touch it but but has since concluded to tell the truth, his may throw some light, on the explosion.

WHAT IT MEANS.
 The democratic party in Ohio recommends a 75-cent dollar and a method of securing governmental revenue which, as the democratic New York Sun declares, is "a tariff on integrity and a bounty on perjury."—Cleveland Leader.

C. A. R.
 McCormick Post, No. 43, meets every Saturday evening at 7:30, in their hall, Rockwood Block. All visiting comrades are invited to meet with us.
 G. E. Niles, Post Adj.
 F. A. Bates, Post Com.

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 Dr. J. F. KINCHLOE, Conway, Ark.
 ALLEN C. SMITH, FIVE, THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 77 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS Gauntlet Lodge No. 47 Meets every Wednesday evening at their hall in Farnelle & Craig block. All visiting knights are cordially invited to attend. G. C. Marshall, C. C.; T. B. Dobby, K. R. S.
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