

THE DROWNING OF TWO

R. C. POWERS AND MISS ANNIE M'BRIDE IN RIVER.

WERE CARRIED OVER THE DAM.

RETURNING FROM A PICNIC ON NORTHFORK'S SHORES.

BODIES HAVE NOT BEEN FOUND.

Approaching Too Nearly to the Edge of the Northfork Mill Dam in the Darkness Last Night, Two Prominent Young People Went to Death.

[From Saturday's Daily.]

All Norfolk mourns today. A cloak of gloom overhangs the city from one end to the other, and every heart is aching with grief and saddest, sincerest sympathy because of the terrible fate of two of the community's most prominent and most highly esteemed young folk, R. Carroll Powers and Miss Annie Vail McBride, who were swept in a boat down over the milldam in the Northfork river late last night and who, carried into the swirling, foaming depths of the eddies below, sank into an awful dual death by drowning. The story goes down upon the pages of Norfolk's history as the saddest of all sad tragedies.

A pleasant picnic supper on the green banks of the Northfork river at Hille's grove, a mile north of the city, participated in by a little party of four happy young people, was fundamental in the disaster which followed. Mr. Powers and Miss McBride, in one boat, together with Mr. John Bridge and Miss Ruth Harding, in another, were returning from the outing after dark and it was just before their landing that the two who went to their deaths in sixty feet of water, and whose bodies had not yet been found at noon today, were hurled by the current down the fall of fourteen feet, from the top of the dam to the death pool below.

The fact that the Northfork had raised six feet above its normal condition, bringing a tremendously increased current, and the fact, too, that the boating folk little realized this change, resulted in the fatal, awful accident. Approaching too near the edge of the dam before heading into the mill race, where the landing was to have been effected, and losing control of the boat too late to recover and fight a way out of the madly flowing swirl, the young couple were sent helplessly into the swollen waters which rushed over the dam, down the long, sharp incline, over the slippery apron and into the bottomless, foaming, angry chasm beneath.

The drowning occurred at about 9:30 o'clock. But one man, Henry Klug, who resides in Edgewater park, was witness to the pitiful drop of the human-laden boat as it shot down toward death. Klug was just driving across the first street bridge over the river, enroute home, and as he neared the center span he was startled by the vision, off in the water, of the shadowy form of a boat gliding silently, yet ever and ever so swiftly, into the terrible channel.

In the boat, whose long nose turned so straight down stream, Mr. Klug saw, against the dim color of the water, the dark forms of the two passengers who were lost.

Not a Shriek Nor an Outcry.

And from these passengers, in their last moment alive, there came not a shriek, nor an outcry of any sort. Dothly silent and stricken with terror as they realized the fate before them, they sat calmly motionless in their places and sank into the river with no call for help, no word, no sound.

Other Boat Followed.

The companion boat in the party, occupied by Mr. Bridge and Miss Harding, followed some distance in the rear of that which went over the dam. Mr. Powers had started ahead in the rowing and had kept well along in advance of the other party during the entire course of the stream from Hille's grove into the city. The boats came in close proximity for the last time near the railroad bridge which crosses the river two blocks above the dam. Here the Powers' boat was sighted by the other, and after that it was lost sight of. A few moments later, when Mr. Bridge drew into the mill race, having passed through the waters which carried away the preceding boat, he was surprised to find that the boat of the other couple had not been landed alongside the shore. No thought occurred to him, however, that anything serious had occurred.

Called and Called in Vain.

Believing that Mr. Powers and Miss McBride had landed somewhere upstream, he turned back against the current and rowed for some distance over the course that he had just covered. Failing to sight the missing boat along the shore, he called out in the evening air. But there came no answer and he called again. Then he called and called in vain, with never a sound in the still night, no slightest sign of a reply from the fellow pic-

nickers. Some alarmed by this time, but still hoping that the others had landed and gone on home, Mr. Bridge returned to his landing, walked home with Miss Harding and then, failing to find evidence of the missing couple, returned to the river for a search.

Klug Notified the Police.

Henry Klug, dumfounded at the sight of the boat that went over the dam while he drove over the bridge, stopped his team and ran down along the bank of the river, looking sharply for the boat that had gone. Unable to locate the boat and no trace of the human beings being revealed by the waters that churned against the apron, he hurried quickly back to the city and notified Chief of Police Hay of the dramatic scene that had just passed before his eyes.

The Story Revealed.

The report spread like a flash and the police, with a large crowd which quickly gathered, rushed at once to the river. Here it was that Mr. Bridge was found. A comparison of notes by the two, the one who had seen two persons go over the dam and the other who had lost Carroll Powers and Annie McBride, brought out the awful story of what had really happened.

An alarm was given by ringing the city firebell and hundreds and hundreds of people from all over Norfolk, all anxious to do any possible act that might aid in the search, assembled on the water's edge.

Parents Are Prostrated.

It was just shortly before the firebell began ringing that the parents were notified that the missing picnickers could not be located. Judge and Mrs. Powers had been worrying for some time over the late return of their boy, but did not realize that a heart-breaking story awaited them. Mrs. Wells, mother of Miss McBride, was also informed that her daughter had not yet come from the river and that there was alarm in regard to the delay.

Mrs. Wells was unable to make the trip to the river.

And so it was that these parents, together with Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Reynolds—Miss McBride being the only sister of Mrs. Reynolds—hastily started down town. One party were hurrying down one side of Norfolk avenue and the other down the opposite side when the fire bell began to sound out its call.

"What's that?" asked a man on the street.

"Carroll Powers and Annie McBride are drowned," came an answer from the darkness and this, such a sudden impression of a fact—no longer a doubt with some slight hope—brought prosopration to the mother whose child at that moment lay lifeless in the waters of the river.

Find the Boat.

It was an hour after the searching began that the boat which had been missed, was found, overturned, and with its nose pressed tightly against the apron of the dam, at the south end. Mr. Klug thought that the boat had gone down at about the middle of the dam, but the location of the boat would indicate that it had dropped at the end. One oarlock and a part of the right side of the boat were torn out, showing the tremendous force with which the load had dropped from the top of the dam. It was not until a long search in the almost absolute darkness—there being no moon—that the boat was struck by a grappling hook in the hands of Mr. Reynolds.

The boat was fourteen feet long and very narrow. It was of the flatbottom type and the property of C. D. Jenkins.

Hundreds of Willing Workers.

Hundreds of very willing workers lined the banks of the river and with grappling irons continued their searching all through the dark night, until 5 o'clock this morning when, exhausted by their labor, they left the spot for a cup of coffee and a bite to eat, returning at 6 o'clock to resume the search. A guard was left on shore during the interval.

Huge headlights were brought by a switching engine from South Norfolk and these placed on each shore of the river, illuminated the waters with almost the brilliancy of day. The street lights, too, were kept going all night long for the benefit of throngs down town.

Iron Hay Rake Used.

When it was found that no headway was being gained with the use of the grappling hooks, an iron hay rake was secured, which might sink to the bottom of the channel repeatedly in an effort to find the bodies. The strength of men finally gave out in this work and a team of horses were hitched, by means of ropes, to the rake but this, too, was unavailing.

Four row boats with strong men worked incessantly all night long in the foaming waters, using hand irons in trying to locate the two forms that were hid by the dark liquid, but these failed, also, in their purpose.

Tirelessly and constantly, taking no moment's rest, Superintendent Reynolds worked like a Trojan in the search, and after a bite for breakfast he resumed the searching early this morning. He has telephoned to Omaha for larger grappling hooks, which arrived on the noon train and which, it was hoped, might be more effective.

Built a Raft.

A large raft was built this morning which, anchored heavily to the bottom of the river, is being used as a platform for workers while they drop hooks down into the eddy directly beneath the dam.

Two Thousand Blacken Shores.

Fully 2,000 people blackened the shores of the river at 9 o'clock

this morning, everyone of them willing and anxious to lend a hand in any way that could possibly assist.

Plunge of Fourteen Feet.

The plunge from the top to the bottom of the dam is a distance of fourteen feet, there being an eight foot fall perpendicularly and a six foot slide on the apron, where the whirlpool of the water is too strong for human resistance of any sort.

Both Could Swim.

Both Mr. Powers and Miss McBride could swim and Mr. Powers was an expert oarsman, cautious in every stroke, and strong. But he was not strong enough—nor would any man have been—to battle against that tremendous Northfork current as it was last night, at the brink of the dam.

Both Teachers.

Mr. Powers has been principal of the Norfolk high school for two years and was elected for next year. He was a graduate of the Nebraska state university, class of 1902, with Phi Beta Kappa honors. He was a graduate of the Norfolk high school, class of 1898, and was valedictorian of that class. He had planned to attend Columbia college later, and become an attorney.

Miss McBride was a primary teacher in the Norfolk schools. She was a graduate of the class of 1899 and had attended Hyde Park college, Des Moines, Northwestern university, Evanston, Ill.

A Wierd, Terrible Scene.

It was a wierd, terrible scene—that picture presented in the hollow of the great basin below the dam, white with the foam that leaped high into the air; with those four little boats fighting upon the rough surface, and all lit up with the strong yellow rays that sprang from the darkness of the shore, cutting long, widening triangles in the blackness of the night. And centered in the whole picture, and the one feature of it all were those determined visages of the men in the boats and the tensely strained faces of those of the shores, peering anxiously down into these awful depths of death—those relentless realms which refuse to surrender the bodies of two whom Norfolk loved.

Relatives have been notified. William Powers, a brother of Mr. Powers, arrived from Neligh. Bud will be here tomorrow. Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Whitney are at Lake Okoboji. Mrs. Whitney is a sister.

Willis McBride has arrived from Elgin. He is a brother of Miss McBride.

Another disaster was narrowly averted this morning when the raft that had been built very nearly turned over with Mr. Reynolds and four other men upon it. Coolness prevented the accident.

A diver arrived at noon from Omaha and is looking over the situation, preparatory to diving.

Interview With Klug.

"I was driving home between half past 9 and 10 o'clock," said Henry Klug this afternoon to The News, "and when I crossed the bridge I heard oars paddling in the river. Looking down, I saw a boat standing alongside the flood gates of the dam. It was apparently not moving at that moment. Suddenly the boat swerved, turned around with its head toward the dam and with a lunge shot over the dam. I heard it pounce as it went down."

"Yes, in the boat there were two people. They were a man and a woman. The woman was in the front end of the boat as it went over the dam. They each clutched the sides of the boat with both hands. They sat up straight and were braced back against the ends of the boat."

The Broken Oarlock.

One theory advanced this afternoon regarding the breaking of the oarlock was that it had been broken against the bridge and that with the one remaining oar the boat had been revolved above the dam until the current struck it. Another was that the oar may have been used as a lever in holding the boat against the flood gates and that the current finally became too strong and snapped the oarlock and the side of the boat out. And that, when this was done, the boat, having no brace left, turned and dived down across the dam.

It was impossible to run more water through the mill and thus decrease the amount of water below the dam because the mill race was already carryign its full capacity.

At 2:30 o'clock this afternoon the bodies were still in the river.

DOUBLE FUNERAL TODAY

BURIAL OF CARROLL POWERS AND ANNIE M'BRIDE.

AT 5 O'CLOCK THIS EVENING.

The Bodies of Mr. Powers and Miss McBride Were Recovered From the Norfolk, Whose Waters Had Dealt Kindly With Them in Death.

[From Monday's Daily.]

A double funeral will be held in Norfolk at 5 o'clock this afternoon to pay a last fond tribute to the memory of Robert Carroll Powers and Miss Annie Vail McBride, victims of the dual drowning tragedy of Friday night. The services will be held

in the First Congregational church, of which both Mr. Powers and Miss McBride were lifelong members, and will be conducted by Rev. J. J. Parker of Plainville, former pastor, and Rev. W. J. Turner, present pastor. And a little while before the setting of this evening's sun all that remains mortal of the young couple who met that sad, tragic fate, will be lowered into the earth at the cemetery on Prospect Hill.

Twelve young men of Norfolk, friends of them both, will act as pall bearers. Those for Miss McBride will be: Wynn Rainbolt, Norris Huse, Gene Huse, Clarence Salter, Charles Madsen, Jack Wells. Those for Mr. Powers will be: B. Elaefer, Oliver Utter, John Bridge, Kimball Barnes, Julius Hulif and Charles Mathewson.

The Bodies Are Recovered.

The bodies were recovered from the waters below the dam. Both of them rested about twenty-five feet from the south shore, and well toward the apron, where they had been carried by the back-current. They were at a depth of about thirty-five feet. Miss McBride was found at 10:10 o'clock Saturday night, just about twenty-four hours after the accident. A hook from the boat occupied by Wynn Rainbolt and Gene Huse, caught in the clothing and drew the long sought form to the surface.

Carroll Powers was found Sunday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock, located by a hay rake which was being dragged systematically back and forth across the stream, by fireman and others. The dragging began at the apron of the dam and every foot of the river's bed was covered on the way east. The sixth time it was drawn across the stream, from south to north, the recovery was made. C. E. Burnham and John Krantz directed the roping at the south end and C. P. Parish, M. C. Walker and W. H. Blakeman at the other. They knew that the rake had found the body when it had gone thirty feet from the south shore, for every bit of gravel made a distinct impression upon the rope. When it had been drawn across, Charles Dugan who had been diving for many hours from the moment the accident occurred until then, went down under water to the rake. He found the form of Carroll Powers and it was drawn ashore.

Dynamite was used in the river just shortly before the finding of each, and it is believed that it aided in each case, perhaps loosing the bodies so that they were the more readily located.

Search Unremitting.

During the search for the bodies Norfolk developed hundreds of heroes, unheroes and unsung, perhaps, but heroes just the same. From the time of the drowning until the last body was recovered, from a dozen to several hundred men were on duty, working tirelessly, ceaselessly to restore what remained of the loved ones to their families. Everything that could be thought of in aid of the search was done. The stringing of arc lamps along the shores for the night workers, the bringing in of boats from a distance, the provision of all kinds of hoozes, grapple and tackle, were but evidences of the thoughtfulness and foresight of an intensely interested people. Many lost their hours of sleep, their regular meals, that the search might go forward unremittingly. It was an evidence of fellowship and kinship that all who noted admired, and if it was work appreciable to strangers it was a thousandfold more appreciated by family and friends.

Both families have asked that The News attempt to express their appreciation, and they wish it emphasized that their loads of sorrow have been immeasurably lightened by this evidence of sympathy and unbounded good will. They realize that many have not only sacrificed pleasure and comfort, but risked health, if not life itself, that loving eyes might again look upon the forms of those held dear, and loving hands prepare them for sepulchre. The News realizes that the gratitude which wells up from the depths of their hearts can never be expressed by mere words but is certain that all that was done was done gladly and would be done again should occasion offer, without thought of reward or thanks.

The Waters Had Been Kind.

The cold waters of the Northfork had dealt kindly during those long hours with the two who were held tightly in death's embrace, far below the surface. There was no bruise, no mark of any sort upon the clear, young features to indicate the crisis that had been gone through. There was no expression upon the faces to show that there had been a struggle for life, or to give evidence of a terrible moment. Both of those young people looked, and look today as they rest in their biers, just as though they had lain gently and peacefully down for a quiet, undisturbed nap and as though, when you approached, they might awaken at any moment.

How the Accident Occurred.

The most feasible theory of the accident, according to the best evidence at hand, is that the right oarlock on the boat was broken while going under the First street bridge, just above the dam, and that Powers, with but one oar to work, used it with all force in an effort to swing into the mill race. So strenuously was it used, it is presumed, that the boat was turned completely around and back into the current. Once there, it was impossible to stop its swift glide down the dam. The current is not so swift that with two oars the boat could not have

been held. Powers had been over the same course many times and knew just how to make the turn. He knew, too, that with no accident he could make the turn and have many feet of margin between his boat and the dam, to spare. And the fact that the boat went over stern first, according to the eye witness, indicates that the theory of revolving by means of the remaining oar is correct.

Once in the waters below the dam, it was impossible to swim, for both were heavily dressed, Miss McBride wearing a very heavy cloak which would have prevented her from jumping if she had attempted it. And the current tossed the boat out of reach so that there was nothing upon which to effect a rescue. A boat containing two young men was rowed into the current on the apron of the dam Saturday afternoon and this capsized in the water's force. The boat was carried down in the current and then was returned by the back current to the spot where the Powers boat was found. The men swam out with difficulty. An umbrella, tossed into the river, was carried down the current and then back to the locality where the bodies were found. It was brought up by the rake, showing that the rake covered every foot of surface.

Among those who have arrived at the Powers home are Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Whitney of Omaha, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Powers of Omaha, Bud Powers of Jacksonville, Ill., Mr. and Mrs. Will Powers of Neligh, Will Logan of Elgin, Mrs. J. H. Logan of Ponca, sister of Judge Powers.

Among those who have arrived at the Reynolds and the Wells homes are Mr. and Mrs. Willis McBride and children of Elgin, Jack Wells of Omaha, and Miss Helen Welsh, roommate of Miss McBride last year at Northwestern university.

Mrs. and Mrs. H. G. Correll of Plainview arrived this morning.

Miss Annie Vail McBride,

daughter of Horace and Helen McBride, was born near Middletown, N. Y., May 31, 1881. She came to Nebraska in June, 1889. She joined the Congregational church when about twelve years old. In January, 1900, she went to Des Moines and took a special course in primary teaching. She was elected teacher here and had taught for four years. Last year she secured permission for a year's absence and attended Northwestern university, taking a special course in music. Her father, Horace McBride, died in June, 1898.

THE SAD FUNERAL OF TWO

LAST RITES ARE SAID OVER VICTIMS OF THE DROWNING.

ARE TENDERLY LAID TO REST.

The First Congregational Church Was Filled to Overflowing With Friends of Miss Annie McBride and Mr. Carroll Powers.

[From Tuesday's Daily.]

At 5 o'clock last evening a double funeral was held in the First Congregational church in which one of the largest concourses of people ever assembled upon a like occasion in Norfolk, paid tender tribute to the memory of Miss Annie McBride and Carroll Powers, who were drowned in the Northfork river last Friday night.

At 4 o'clock the church was crowded with friends of the two young persons and at the hour set for the services there were as many outside the vast auditorium as within. The casket bearing the remains of Miss McBride was tenderly taken down the aisle to the altar, resting just at the left of it, while the casket of Mr. Powers was placed just at the right. Rev. J. J. Parker, led the way for the first sad procession and Rev. W. J. Turner, pastor, for the second. Rev. J. F. Poucher gave an impressive invocation, after which the choir sang softly, "Asleep in Jesus."

Rev. W. J. Turner read the twenty-seventh Psalm and a portion of the fifteenth chapter of First Corinthians. Rev. J. J. Parker followed with prayer, the choir later singing "In the Hour of Trial," which was one of Miss McBride's favorites.

Mr. Parker then spoke of the sad tragedy and of the inability of the world to say why the lives that are loved and admired should be taken away. He spoke of the lack of proportion in the cause and effect; there had been a little darkness, perhaps a broken oar, a slight rise in the river—and two exemplary lives were dashed to death. He gave characterizations of the beautiful lives of them both, merely to attempt, he said, to pierce the cloud of gloom by sending brightness into it. And perhaps, after all, both were better off—they had left a world of temptation for one that has no temptations. It must be the good lives taken from the world. It is not the ignorant whom we wish to follow into death.

Mr. Turner followed, speaking of them both—the admirable characters whose influences are still remaining. Both were members of his church—all remembered them as they worshipped among the congregation a week ago, Carroll Powers was a leading influence in the Christian Endeavor society, and uplifted young men. He had withstood the temptations of the world. Miss McBride was a most excellent teacher, and her services were felt by all. Her voice, trained during the year, was charming to hear and a comfort to her friends. But perhaps, he said, there was little to say that could console.

Mrs. C. E. Greene very beautifully sang a solo, "Thy Will be Done," at the close.

Flowers—almost a countless number of them from the friends of everywhere, and all of them bearing a beautifully touching bit of comfort to the sorrowing families, filled the homes and filled the mammoth church. Never had the floral decorations in Norfolk been more perfectly beautiful and never more befittingly so.

At the cemetery, where the burial

places had been most beautifully decorated with limitless flowers, commitment services were read while the casket of Miss McBride, first, and later Mr. Powers, were tenderly, slowly lowered into their perpetual resting places. Just as the slowly sinking sun in the west had gone almost out of sight with its day's course done, and just as the coolness of the evening came down from out of the heavens to send away the heat of the day and to give its parting caress to all that remained mortal of Carroll Powers and Annie McBride. The choir sang softly and sweetly, "The Day is Dying in the West," "Abide With Me."

Robert Carroll Powers.

R. Carroll Powers was born at Dakota City, Neb., May 19, 1880. He came to Norfolk in 1884 with his parents and had since made this place his home. He graduated from the Norfolk high school in 1898 and was valedictorian of his class. He immediately entered the Nebraska university, from which he graduated in 1902 with Phi Beta Kappa honors. He was a member of the English club at the university, which is an organization of writers limited in number, to which membership is gained by meritorious work. After graduating from the university he was selected as principal of schools at Chehalis, Wash., in which capacity he served for one year. He was elected principal of the Norfolk high school after that, which position he held at the time of his death. He was preparing and had arranged to enter Columbia law school. He had been a member of the Congregational church for about nine years and was conspicuous in Christian Endeavor work.

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daughter of Horace and Helen McBride, was born near Middletown, N. Y., May 31, 1881. She came to Nebraska in June, 1889. She joined the Congregational church when about twelve years old. In January, 1900, she went to Des Moines and took a special course in primary teaching. She was elected teacher here and had taught for four years. Last year she secured permission for a year's absence and attended Northwestern university, taking a special course in music. Her father, Horace McBride, died in June, 1898.

FINDS MANY CORNERS MISSING.

Resurvey of Portions of Rock and Brown Counties Needed.

Under the act of congress passed at the last session, providing surveys of parts of Rock and Brown counties, N. B. Switzer, who is connected with the general land office in Washington, has been in Bassett for the past two months and has just completed his work. He, with his assistants, have run 250 miles of lines in the thirty-two townships covered by the act. The investigation has demonstrated that many of the corners were ever established or not, it is a fact that a resurvey is necessary, and it is universally desired by the settlers in the territory concerned that a resurvey be made.

On account of the extremely wet weather Mr. Switzer has found the work arduous and difficult, but he and his force have worked industriously, not resting even on Sundays, and the people there are much pleased with his efforts, and they are hoping that when his report is made steps will be promptly taken for a resurvey by the government.

Mr. Ross Mayo, a brother-in-law of Mr. Switzer, has been assisting him, and their families have lived in Bassett during the period of their stay.

As soon as he has completed his report Mr. Switzer will go to Wyoming to make a retracement of the boundary line between that state and South Dakota.

TRAPS A LARGE BADGER

Fred Wolfe Caught a Big Animal One Mile West of the City.

A large badger was trapped yesterday at the farm of Obed Raasch, one mile west of the city, by Fred Wolfe, a 16-year-old boy. The badger had for a long time been stealing chickens from the farm.

Meat Dealers to Merge.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Aug. 1.—Unless all signs go astray the convention of retail butchers begun here today will result in an amalgamation of the National Retail Butchers and Meat Dealers' Protective association and the Master Retail Butchers of the West, heretofore separate organizations, having common aims and purposes. The two associations when united will prove one of the strongest organizations of business men in the United States and it is believed will be in a position to obtain many concessions of public benefit from the railroads and from the so-called beef trust. The convention, which has its headquarters at the Livingston hotel, will be in session three or four days.

Relief For Expedition.

Halifax, N. S., July 29.—The Newfoundland sealing steamer Neptune, under charter by the Dominion government, sailed today for Hudson Bay with supplies and relief for the Canadian expedition sent there last year on the steamer Arctic. The Neptune will land supplies of coal at Cape Chedley, near the Hudson strait entrance, and Cape Wolstenholme, at the extreme end of the eastern coast of the bay. A small force of mounted police goes along to relieve those now on the coast of Hudson Bay.