THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

SIXTEENTH YEAR. OMAHA, THURSDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 2, 1886. NUMBER 67.

RAZED BY THE EARTHQUAKE.

The City of Charleston Leveled by the Convulsions of the Earth.

COMMUNICATION CUT OFF.

Sixty Persons Killed or Wounded By the Catastrophe—Fire Adds to the Horror—The Disturbances Elsewhere.

The Devastated City.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Sept. 1.—An earthquake, such as never before has been known in the history of this city, visited Charleston last night shortly after 10 p. m., causing far more loss of life than the cyclones of the year before. The city is wrecked, the streets encumbered with masses of brick and tangled telegraph and telephone wires, and up to an early hour it was almost impossible to pass from one part of the city to another. The first shock was by far the most severe. Most people with families passed the night in the streets, which even this morning are crowded with people afraid to enter their homes. More than sixty persons were killed and wounded, mostly colored. Among the killed are M. B. Lynch, Dr. Hammond and Ainsley Robison. Fires broke out in different parts of the city, but without danger of spreading. There is no way of leaving the city. The principal business portion of the city was destroyed last night by the earthquake and hundreds of persons rendered homeless. Men are frantic; women are beseeching mercy from the Almighty and children are in tears. The main station house, city hall, Hibernian hall and many other well known buildings, including St. Michael's church, were irreparably damaged. Many people were seriously, if not fatally injured. Broad street presented a spectacle of the utmost horror. Men with hatchets fought violently to rescue imprisoned unfortunates. Meeting street, from Broad to Hazel, is a wreck and lined with unfortunates. To add to the horrors of the scene, many fires broke out and were ineffectually fought by the fire department. The night was hideous with the groans of the dying, screams of the wounded and prayers of the uninjured. It is impossible to estimate the losses of life or property at present. Up to 1 a. m. to-day there had been ten distinct shocks.

At 8:25 precisely, this morning, another wave swept over the city, coming as the other did, from the southeast and going in a northwest direction. By that time the people who had been out in the public parks and open places all night ventured into the houses to get clothing and something to eat. The approach of the quake was heralded by the usual rumbling sound, resembling distant thunder. Then it gradually approached, the earth quivered and heaved, and in three seconds passed, the sound dying out in the distance. This is the only wave felt since 2:30 this morning. It was not destructive, all destruction having been done at 9:55 last night. The city is a complete wreck. The two most historic churches in the city—St. Michael's and St. Philip's—are in ruins, as are also Hibernian hall, the police station, and many other public buildings. Fully two-thirds of the residences in the city are uninhabitable, wrecked either totally or partially. It is impossible at this time to give a correct estimate of the casualties. It is expected that between fifty and one hundred persons have been killed and several hundred wounded. About twenty houses were destroyed by fire. Scarcely one hundred houses in the city are occupied at this time. The people are all encamped in the open places. All stores are closed and a scarcity of provisions is feared, not from want of provisions, but because no one can be got to reach the stores to sell them.

Two slight shocks of earthquake have been felt since the first, at 8:25 this morning and one about 1:25 p. m., neither doing any further destruction. The city is literally in ruins, and the inhabitants are living in open squares and public parks. There is a great rush to the railroad depots to get away, but owing to the earthquakes, no trains have been able to be dispatched from the city. Telegraphic communication is also cut off, save one wire of the Southern Telegraph company, which is crowded with anxious private messages. It is impossible to depict the ruin and desolation that prevail here. Not a single place of business is open save drug stores, which are busy preparing prescriptions for the wounded. It is impossible also to give any correct estimate of the killed and wounded, as bodies are constantly being disinterred from the debris of the wrecked houses. One undertaker states he furnished eight coffins up to noon to-day. Many of the dead are lying unburied, these being of the poor classes of colored people, who await burial by the county.

There are not half a dozen tents in the city, and women and children are experiencing great privations in consequence. As night approaches most of the heads of families are trying to construct tents out of bed sheets, spare awnings and other material. The sun is about to set upon another night of horror for poor Charleston. Heaven only knows what it may bring forth. Without any other violent shock of earthquake it is calculated that at least three-fourths of the city will have to be rebuilt entirely, if the houses are to be inhabited.

The city is wrapped in gloom and business is entirely suspended. The people generally remain in the streets in tents and under improvised shelter, and will camp out to-night, fearing another shock. The gas works are injured, and probably the city will be without light to-night. St. Michael's church steeple will come down, likewise the steeple of St. Phillip's. The steeple of the Unitarian church has fallen. The porticoes of the Hibernian hall and the station house are demolished. There is much injury to mansions on the east and south battery. The portico of the Ravenal mansion is down. Hardly a house in the city escaped injury, and many are so shaken and cracked that a hard blow would bring them to the ground.

The shock was severe at Summerville and Mount Pleasant and Sullivan's island, but no loss of life is reported there. Fissures in the earth are noticed, from which a fine sand, apparently from a great depth, exudes. A sulphurous smell is very noticeable.

Three or four fires started in as many sections with the first shock and the city was soon illuminated with the flames, thus leading all to believe what was left by the quake would be devoured by fire. However, the fire department was so well divided and handled that the fires were under control by daylight. From 125 to 150 residences and stores were consumed. The loss by fire and earthquake cannot be accurately estimated, but can be placed safely at $5,000,000. As far as could be ascertained during the night fifteen or twenty were killed and a much greater number wounded in all sorts of ways. The loss of human life will be large and it will take days to get at the accurate number. Shocks equally as severe were felt at a distance of five miles and have done inestimable damage to the railroads and telegraph property. Charleston is now entirely isolated from the outside world.

The compositors of the News and Courier decline to work to-night, expecting fresh shocks of the earthquake, and the paper cannot issue to-morrow. The following article was prepared for publication:

Necessarily the description that can be given of the disaster, which has befallen our city, consists in a narration of experiences and observations of individuals, the subject being the same and the experiences of all being nearly alike. The story told by one careful observer may well stand for a hundred others, with slight variations. While engaged in his usual duties in the second story room of the News and Courier office, at the time of the first shock, the writer's attention was vaguely attracted by a sound, which seemed to come from the office below, and which was supposed for a moment to be caused by the rapid rolling of a heavy body, as an iron safe or heavily laden truck, over the floor. Accompanying the sound was a perceptible tremor of the building for perhaps two or three seconds. The occurrence excited no surprise or comment. Then by swift degrees or, perhaps, all at once the sound deepened in volume, the tremor became more decided, the ear caught the rattle of window sashes, gas fixtures and other loose objects. Men in the office glanced hurriedly at each other and sprang to their feet with startled questions and answers. "What is that?" "Earthquake?" and then all was bewilderment and confusion. Then the long roll deepened and spread into an awful roar, that seemed to pervade at once the troubled earth and still air above and around. The tremor was now a rude, rapid quiver, that agitated the whole lofty, strong-walled building as though it were being shaken by a hand of immeasurable power. There was no intermission in the motion of the mighty subterranean engine. From first to last it was a continuous jar, only gaining force at every moment, and as it approached and reached the climax of its manifestation it seemed, for a few terrible seconds, that no work of human hands could possibly survive the shocks. The floors were moving under foot; the surroundings walls and partitions were visibly swayed to and fro, the crash of falling masses of stone and brick and mortar was heard over head, and without, the terrible roar filled the ears, and seemed to fill the mind and heart with dazing perception, bewildering thoughts and for a few panting breaths, or while you held your breath in dreadful anticipation of immediate and cruel death, you felt that life was already past and waited for the end as the victim with his head on the block awaits the fall of the axe. A sudden rush was made to endeavor to attain the open air and find a place of safety, but before the door was reached all reeled together to the tottering wall and stopped, feeling that hope was vain and that it was only a question of death within the building or without—to be buried under the sinking roof, or crushed by the toppling walls.

The uproar slowly died away in the seeming distance. The earth was still, and oh, blessed relief, that stillness! But how rudely silence was broken, as we dashed down the stairways and out into the street! Already, on every side arose shrieks and cries of pain and fear, prayers and wailings of terrified women and children, commingled with the hoarse shouts of excited men. Out in the street the air was filled to the height of the houses with a whitish cloud of dry, stifling dust from lime and mortar and shattered masonry, which, falling upon the pavement and stone roadway, had been reduced to powder. Through this cloud, as dense as fog, the gas lights flickered dimly, shedding but little light, so that you stumbled at every step over piles of brick, or became entangled in lines of telegraph wires, that depended in every direction from their broken supports. On every side were hurrying forms of men and women bareheaded, partially dressed, some almost nude and many of whom were crazed with fear and excitement. Here a woman is supported half fainting in the arms of her husband, who vainly tries to soothe her, while he carries her into an open space at the street corner, where present safety seems assured. There a woman lies on the pavement with upturned face and outstretched limbs, and the crowd passes her by, for a time not pausing to see whether she be alive or dead. A sudden light flares through a window overlooking the street. It becomes momentarily brighter and the cry of fire resounds from the multitude. A rush is made toward the spot. A man is seen doubled up and helpless against a wall. But at this moment somewhere, out at sea, overhead, or deep in the ground, is heard again the low, ominous roll which is already too well known to be mistaken. It grows louder and nearer like the growl of a wild beast softly approaching his prey. It is forgotten again in the frenzied rush for open space, where alone there is hope of security, faint though it be. Tall buildings on either hand blot out the skies and the stars and seem to overhang every foot of ground between them. Their shattered cornices and copings and tops of their frowning walls seem piled from both sides to the center of the street. It seems that a touch would send the shattered masses left standing down upon the people below, who look at them and shrink together as the tremor of the earthquake passes under them and mysterious reverberations swell and roll along like some infernal drum beat summoning them to die, and it passes away and again is experienced the blessed feeling of deliverance from impending calamity, which it may well be believed evokes a mute, but earnest, offering of mingled prayer and thanksgiving from every heart in the throng.

Again far along the street and up from the alleyways that lead into it from either side is heard that chorus of wailing and lamentation, which, though it had not ceased, was scarcely noticed a moment before. It is a dreadful sound, a sound of helpless, horror-stricken humanity, old and young, strong and feeble alike, where all are so feeble, calling for help from their fellow-creatures, and raising their anguished voices in petition to heaven for mercy, where no human aid could avail. It is not a scene to be described by any mortal tongue or pen. It is not a scene to be forgotten when once it had been witnessed, and when a witness has shared all the dangers and feels its agony.

The first shock occurred at seven minutes of ten, as was indicated this evening by the public clocks, the hands of which had all stopped at that fateful hour, as though to mark the end of time for so many, who had heard the preceeding hour pealed forth by St. Michael's chimes, without a thought but of a long and happy life. The second shock, which was but a faint and crisp echo of the first, was felt eight minuses later. As it passed the writer started homeward to find the scenes enacted on Broad street around the News-Courier office repeated at every step of the way. St. Michael's steeple towered high, and while above the gloom seemed uninjured. The station house, a massive brick building across the street, had apparently lost its roof, which had fallen around it. A little further on the roof of the portico of Hibernian hall, a handsome building in Grecian style, had been crushed to the ground, carrying down a part of the massive granite pillars with it. All the way of Meeting street, which in respect of its general direction and importance, may be called the "Broadway of Charleston," the roadway was piled up with debris from the tops of the walls of the Charleston hotel, which to carry out the comparison above indicated, occupies the position of Stewart's up-town store in New York.

The third shock was felt about ten minutes after the second, and, of course, caused the greatest alarm in that neighborhood as elsewhere. At Marion square, corresponding exactly with Union square, New York, a great crowd had collected, as even the edges of the wide spaces embraced in it could not be reached by the nearest buildings in event of their fall. From this crowd, composed of men, women and children of both races, rose incessant calls and cries and lamentations, while over the mostly half-dressed throng was shed the lurid light of the conflagration, which had broken out and just enveloped several buildings in flames. In three other quarters of the town large fires were observed under full headway and the awful significance of earthquake may be fully appreciated, perhaps, when it said, with these tremendous fires blazing all at once around them, and threatening their property with total destruction, the people, whom you met on the streets, or saw gathered together in groups in open places, evidently did not give them thought. No one watched the ruddy flames of pillared clouds rising high into the still night air. All were too intent on listening with strained senses for the dreaded occurrence of that horrible growl, or groan of power, under the seas and under the land, to give thought to a new terror, though it had threatened his own home and many homes in the doomed city.

Crowds poured in from every direction to the square, just described, as though it had been indeed a charmed circle and life depended on passing within its grassy bounds. Street cars, carriages and other vehicles were ranged in lines on the streets surrounding the square, while horses stood as though sniffing the ground in anxious inquiry. The colored people everywhere were loud and unceasing in their declarations of alarm, in singing hymns and in fervent appeals for God's mercy, in which appeals God knows how many a proud heart, who heard them arising in the night and in the hour of His wondrous might, devoutly and humbly and sincerely joins. Danger brings all of us to the level of the lowliest. There were no distinctions of place or power, pride or caste in the assemblages that gathered together in Charleston on Tuesday night. It was a curious spectacle to look back upon. It is a good one to remember for white and black alike. There were instances of unselfish devotion, of kind and loving regard between master and servant, mistress and maid, in the presence of a common ill and threatened ruin, that showed as nothing else could show, how strong is the tie that binds our white peole and our black people together, and this lesson of the dread visitor we may hope, too, will never be forgotten.

Arrived at his home the writer found the same scenes of distraction and wreck, which marked nearly evey home in the city. All the houses in the neighborhood had suffered seriously and the streets, yards and gardens were filled with fallen chimneys and fragments of walls, while the walls that were left standing were rent asunder, in many cases from top to bottom and were badly shattered in every instance. Women and children, roused from sleep, or interrupted in their evening pursuits by the sounds of the ruin being effected above and around them, rushed out into the streets and huddled together awaiting the end, whatever it might be. Invalids were brought out on mattresses and deposited on the roadway. No thought was given to treasures left behind in the effort to save that peculiar treasure, life itself, which suddenly became so precious in the eyes of all invalid women and robust men alike. Until long after midnight the streets were filled with fugitives in sight of their homes. Through the long hours that followed few were the eyes, even of children, that closed in sleep. Charleston was full of those who watched for the morning, and never in any city, in any land, did the first gray shades that mark the approach of dawn appear so beautiful and welcome to eyes as they appeared to thousands of people, who hailed them this morning from the midst of countless wrecked homes in our thrice scourged, but still patient, still brave, still hopeful, still beautiful city by the sea.

Women and children are running about in the open air terribly agitated. There are three or four steamers in port, including buoy tenders, and many inhabitants are provided with berths on these. Fortunately the weather has been good and hard ships are not as severe as they might have been. The situation, however, is becoming horrible. Cut off from communication with the rest of the world, afflicted and haunted with the prospect of immediate death—that is about the condition of this community. No trains have departed or arrived here in twenty-four hours. It is said that all the railroads leading into the city are crippled. The statement is also made that all railway tracks are twisted into the shape of snakes. The first shock was by far the most severe. Its effect can be judged by the experiences of Captain Dawson, of the News and Courier, who lives in a massive brick residence on Bull street, near Rutledge street. Captain Dawson was in his room on the second story when the first shock occurred. The house seemed literally to turn on an axis. The first shock was followed by a second and third, less severe than the first. The air was filled with the cries and shrieks of women and children. It was worse than the worst battle of the war. When the first agony was over it was found that the ceiling of every room in the house was cracked; a huge tank in the attic was pouring its flood of water into bed rooms. In the parlors, statues had been wrenched from their bases and thrown to the floor. In the hall a massive lamp had actually been turned around. In front of the house was a large porch with heavy pillars and solid marble steps. All this was swept away as though it had been shaved off with a razor. Among the casualties are the following: Mrs. Williams, who jumped from the second story of her residence at the corner of Wentworth and Meeting streets, and injured her spine badly; Mrs. E. Galliot, (colored), was struck by a brick, opposite the Pavilion hotel and her head badly injured. Her daughter was also badly hurt in the same way. Mrs. Robert Martin, wife of a shoe merchant on Market street near King, was badly hurt. Mr. M. J. Lynch was frightfully hurt in front of his son's store on Meeting street. A stone of great weight fell upon him and broke one of his legs, if not both. He was taken to a place of safety in what was thought to be dying condition. Walter Duffy was with him. Dr. Chase informed a reporter that he had been called away to attend to two persons who had been injured at the house of Mrs. Lastrus, at 45 Hazel street. No further particulars of their injuries could be had. A colored woman in an unconscious condition was found in front of the market on Meeting street, while a policeman said he had seen two dead bodies in King street, south of Broad street. Dr. Buist informed a reporter that there were in the city park, at the corner of Wentworth and Meeting streets, no less than twelve wounded persons, who had already received professional attention. Among them was a young girl whose leg was broken. A colored man named Charles Rivers, living at No. 3 King street, was struck by a falling wall near the corner of King street and the Battery, and his left leg was broken below the knee. His wife, Sarah Rivers was also badly wounded at the same time. Moses Brown (colored) was badly wounded on King street by falling bricks. One of the sons of Mrs. J. N. Robeson, living on Coming street, near Cannon, is reported to be badly hurt by the falling of a piazza. A very sad case was that of R. Alexander, a young chemist, who was crushed to death at his boarding house on Meeting street. He had just bought a small steam pleasure yacht and took his first and last trip in it last evening. Mr. Hammond, brother of Isaac Hammond, is thought to be fatally wounded, both hips and legs being broken, and also his left arm. He said to Mr. Paul that he did not know whether he jumped from a three story window on Broad street or was thrown down. He crawled from the sidewalk to the middle of the road, and on being removed uttered the most heart rending shrieks. A colored woman in Beausoin street was killed. Isabella Howard, of Ravenett's court, was seriously injured. It is reported that a factory girl living at a boarding house on the corner of America and Lake streets was killed. A colored woman, living in the yard of Captain Small's house on Bull street, was also killed in Pitt street. The house of Mrs. Anne Torke, on Session street, fell in and wounded her, it is thought fatally. A young girl, named Jessen, was also injured at the same place. On being taken home she commenced bleeding internally. It is thought that she will die. Miss Mamie Palmer, residence John street, received dangerous internal injuries by a falling chimney. Ainsely Robinson was killed by a falling piazza. Julia Smalls (a colored infant) was killed. Louisa Jacobs, (colored), of Chalmers street, was killed. J. C. E. Richardson, living at No 12 Friend street, was seriously injured in the head by his house falling in upon him. His condition is very critical. His colored servant was likewise seriously hurt, several of his limbs being broken. Mr. Edmund Lively, of Richmond, Va., who boards at 905 Fifth street in that city, was walking in front of the city hospital, when a side of a house fell on him and badly injured his back and head. He crawled from under the debris and saw some men at a store on the corner of Wazyek and Queen streets, whom he supposed to have been killed as he left them lying on the sidewalk. He staggered on as far as the City hall park and then fell completely overcome.

Owing to the demoralized condition of everything here it is impossible to give correct facts further than these: The number of casualties has not yet been ascertained. Probably from thirty to forty were killed and over one hundred injured. The loss to property will probably be eight or ten million dollars. Three-fourths of the buildings in the city will have to be rebuilt. There was very little shipping in port and none of it was injured. The disturbances have not at all affected the water in the harbor, although it is evident that the shocks came from a southeasterly direction, and therefore from the sea. There are no signs of a tidal wave as yet.

LATER, 11:50 p. m.—Another shock has just occurred at 9:55 rather more severe than any since last night, knocking down several houses.

From Other South Carolina Points.

NEW YORK, Sept. 1.—The following dispatch was received by the Western Union Telegraph company from Langley, S. C: "The shock burst mill dams here and some thousand feet of railroad track were destroyed and no trains running. The Western Union started hand cars from Summerville to restore communication. Great damage is reported to Summerville. The railroad is badly broken on both sides of the Branchville.

RAVENELS, S. C., Sept. 1.—The railroad is under water in some places between here and Charleston, twenty-five miles north of here, and the earth cracked in several places.

COLUMBIA, S. C., September 1.—At 9:48 last night this city was visited by a terrible earthquake. The first two shocks were fearful. Buildings swayed from side to side and the earth rose and fell like waves of the ocean. People rushed madly from their houses into the streets. Some sprang from windows and were injured. The experience of those in building at the time of the first shock was that of being rocked as if in a ship at sea. Many of the most substantial buildings were shaken to their foundations and walls cracked and sprung. Five minutes after the first shock a second came, and ten minutes later a third. Other shocks followed until 1:05 a. m., when the eighth shock was felt, and this one lasted for a minute and a half. At 4 o'clock this morning the ninth came, and at 9:30 and 10:20 a. m. the city was again made to tremble. Very little sleep was had by any of the inhabitants of Columbia last night. The negroes thought the end of the world had come, and they held prayer meetings on the street corners.

Summerville, twenty-two miles from Charleston, was nearly destroyed by the earthquake last night. The passenger train from this place to Charleston was thrown from the track near Summerville last night, and the engineer and fireman were killed. The passengers on the wrecked train and those of this morning's train, including the telegraph company's lineman, have reached Charleston.

Still Another Visitation.

NEW YORK, Sept 1.—A despatch says that at 5:19 p. m. another earthquake shock was felt at Charleston, S. C., Augusta, Ga., and Columbia, S. C. At Augusta the vibrations were noticable for about two minutes. William P. Clyde & Co. have received the following despatch from Charleston: "Disastrous earthquake here last night. Our steamers Delaware and Virginia and their wharves escaped any injury.

The Shock in Georgia.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Sept. 1.—Three distinct shocks have been felt here since midnight. The last occurred at 3 a. m. All the shocks were short and not violent. The people are still greatly excited and sitting out in the streets and squares or crowding avenues. Among the telegraph and newspaper offices there is an impression that Charleston suffered seriously. It is supposed the cables under Ashley river bridge were broken. At Tybee island, mouth of Savannah river, the lenses in the light house were destroyed. People on the island telephoned to the city they are in a state of terror. There was no communication with the main land till daylight and all inhabitants assembled on the high lands. Their chief cause of fear is from a tidal wave, the island having been swept in August, 1881. The earthquake is the topic of the hour. Efforts to reach Charleston from all points failed. At Tybee the shock was more severely felt than in the city. The people on the island rushed from their houses to the beach. The oscillation lasted several minutes. The lantern lenses in the lighthouse were broken and the machinery of the lamp disarranged. The keeper hurried up the tower as soon as possible and arranged a temporary light. The people on the beach ran hither and thither, not knowing where to go and fearing every moment a tidal wave would sweep over them. The water was agitated and the waves rose high on the beach. Houses on the beach swayed and shook as if they would fall to pieces. A telephone message from Tybee at 4 o'clock this morning stated the people were still gathered on the beach.

AUGUSTA, Ga., Sept. 1.—Two distinct shocks of earthquake were felt this morning at 7:50 and 9:20, city time. The excitement has somewhat subsided. A number of houses have been reported to the fire wardens as in danger. From all parts of the city and surrounding neighborhood come reports of small damage by shocks, such as falling of chimneys, parting of walls, smashing of crockery, etc. In the railway accident at Langley pond, ten miles from Augusta, the fireman was killed. Another South Carolina railroad train is in the ditch at Horse creek, four miles from the city, and the fireman killed. The latter is a stock train and is now completely under water.

J. H. Averill, master of transportation of the South Carolina railroad company, telegraphed from Summerville that many persons were killed and hundreds are homeless. The whole business portion of the city is badly wrecked.

On the Atlantic Coast.

NEW YORK, 8 a. m., September 1.—Telegraph officials in this city report the earthquake shocks continued on the South Atlantic seaboard during the night and great excitement is reported. Negros were paralyzed with fear and all classed of people excited, staying in open squares during the entire night. The Western Union agent at Richmond, Va., telegraphs the manager of the New York office saying: "Our men at Charleston, S. C., are demoralized. All his force deserted but one man. He says there is big loss of life and property. Am trying to get a bulletin of everything tangible, and will send it to you."

The Western Union manager at Wilmington, N. C., sends the following: "The train dispatcher of the Atlantic Coast line has just been in. He says the section master stationed twelve miles from Charleston reports the shock wrecked a bridge near there and says a darky from four miles north of Charleston reported the water tank down and the ground upheaved, misplacing the tracks. A special engine has been started to bring any reports available.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Sept. 1.—The earthquake shock last night was quite severe here and was felt as far south as Bartow. It commenced at 9:27, sun time, and lasted about thirty seconds.

The Country in General.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 1.—There was a decided difference in the severity of the shock in different buildings and different parts of the city. Many people did not observe it at all. The government building, the largest and strongest in the city, rocked violently with three distinct vibrations. A large clock stopped and mirrors were broken. In the large seven story flats the vibrations were severe. The most decided shock was felt in the northern part of the city and in Cumminsville, where the lights were put out and bottles in drug stores broken. Probably twenty or thirty meetings of lodges and societies were broken up.

Throughout the state dispatches indicate the shock was general and occurred almost at the same instant. At Hamilton the boarders in the hotels ran from their rooms in fright and the walls are said to sway one and a half inches. At Dennison a meeting broke up in a panic. Coshocton felt two shocks. The same story comes from nearly every town in Ohio, but no actual damage was done.

The shocks were felt at Cattlettsburg and Ashland, Ky., and at Huntington, W. Va., where it was most severe.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., Sept. 1.—Earthquake shocks were felt here at 9:30 and 9:36 o'clock last evening, and many persons were made sick for from two to three hours.

The Great Shock.

WASHINGTON, September 1.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Major Powell, director of the United States geological survey, was interviewed by a reporter to-day and made the following statement: "The earthquake was well observed by W. J. McGee, of the geological survey, in the third (and upper) story of the brick house on Corcoran street. After the culmination of the first shook the phenomena were timed. A rough substitute for a seismoscope was improvised out of a tumbler of water, placed on the stand in the centre of the room, and the high headboard of a bed stead served as a rude seismometer. The following is the record: Time, seventy-fifth meridian, 9:34½ p. m.; duration first shock (estimate), 80 deg; time of termination of same, 9:55; time of termination of light tremors, 10; several slight tremors followed but were not timed; time of recommencement of continuous tremors, 10:08; time of culmination of second shock, 10:09½; duration of second shock, about 30 sec; time of termination of second series of tremors, 10:13. Direction of vibration as indicated by the improvised seismoscope, the perceptible direction was from north 80 deg east to east, thence very little north to east; but there was an undeterminate component in an undulatory motion very perceptible in the motions of the liquid and of articles of furniture, slightly upwards. The impulse in each vibration appeared to be a one-half or one-half of the lateral impulse. The rate of vibration was measured on the spot by swinging the headboard of the bedstead during the second shock and found to be 115 or 120 per minute. Amplitude of vibration. During the second shock the headboard, eight and one-half feet high, swung through an arc of from one-half to three-fourths of an inch. It is estimated that the amplitude of the earlier shock was twice or thrice as great.

"During 1885 there were recorded the following earthquakes in the United States and Canada: Canadian provinces, 8; New England, 9; Atlantic states, 9; Mississippi Valley, 3; Rocky Mountain slope, 34; total, 59. During the twelve years from 1872 to 1883 there have been recorded in the United States and Canada 304 earthquakes, distributed as follows: Atlantic states, 147; Mississippi Valley, 66; Pacific slope, 91. From this list it appears that in the east area earthquakes occur on an average once in twelve days and once a month on the Atlantic slope. Many of these disturbances are, however, so slight as to be unperceived by the majority of people, and it should be observed that the list is more complete for the densely populated and frequently shaken Atlantic slope than in either the seldom shaken Mississippi Valley or the sparsely populated Pacific slope.

Prof. Mendenhall of the signal service, who has for many years made earthquakes a study and has felt the shock of a number of severe ones in Japan, says that of last night, while not especially severe, was nevertheless the worst he ever experienced in this country. He expresses surprise at the wide extent of the phenomena, and thinks it likely that when the reports are all in it will be found that the area affected is larger than that of any previous earthquakes of which there is a record. Upon a globe of ten inches in diameter, he says, one can usually cover the area of an earthquake, even a severe one, with the end of his little finger, but this one seems to have affected half a continent and we don't know how much more.

A Shock in Smyrna.

SMYRNA, Sept. 1.—Several well defined shocks of earthquake were felt here between 10 and 12 o'clock last night. No damage was done.

POLYGAMISTS EUCHERED.

Emigration Commissioners Refuse to Let Them Land at Castle Garden.

NEW YORK, Sept. 1.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—"Three hundred Mormons arrived on the Wyoming," was the message from Castle Garden that woke up Emigration Commissioners Starr and Stephenson yesterday morning. These anti-Mormon citizens made up their minds to make things hot for the 300 Mormons, and they hastened to Castle Garden. When the Wyoming's passengers were landed all the gates were closed, and no one was permitted to go out or to enter the rotunda. At the registration desks the commissioners asked each man or woman individually where he or she was going. Five modest looking English girls were nearly thrown into hysterics when told the kind of life they would lead in Utah. Over one hundred of the emigrants were detained, and will be sent back as paupers unless a bond for $500 is given in each case as security that they will not become dependent upon the city or county.

Commissioner Starr said: "We have been criticised in regard to admitting polygamists here. We have determined to take a step that no other commissioner ever dreamed of—I mean not recognizing church immigration by the wholesale only, but individual immigration. I guess we won't have many Mormons landed at Castle Garden again in a hurry. We have the law on our side this time."

THAT WONDERFUL WELL.

Efforts Being Made to Stop Its Flow. The Damage Exaggerated.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., Sept. 1.—A special from Belle Plaine says the artesian well there is still vomiting forth floods of water. The engineer from Chicago, George Morgan, is here but expresses no definite opinion yet, except that the steps so far taken were the best that could have been taken. This afternoon he will make an estimate of the volume of water and capacity, and ascertain as near as possible its source. His belief is that it will in time exhaust itself. A cone twenty feet in length and tapering from twelve to thirty inches is being made of heavy boiler iron. This will be fastened to a five inch tube loaded wito sand and will be sunk in the hope that it will gradually settle in the hole and plug it up. This will not be done before to-morrow. Stories about the immense flow doing great damage are exaggerations. The flow is being led of by two channels, which are sufficient to prevent an overflow.

A Test Case.

DES MOINES, Ia., Sept. 1.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Papers were filed to-day with the clerk of the United States district court, asking for a writ of habeas corpus for the release of Revenue Collector Thompson, who was arrested a few days ago on the charge of contempt of court, in refusing to produce in court certain books and papers pertaining to his office. The question raised by his arrest has been pending in the state district court, but the defense takes this new move to-day to bring it into the federal courts. He was originally summoned as a witness in a liquor case to prove a violation of the prohibitory law, and refused to make public the accounts of his office when ordered to do so. This is a test case and the first of the kind, the collector holding that a federal officer cannot be compelled to produce his books and papers at the demand of any state court.

Two Ex-Govs. For Congress.

DES MOINES, Ia., Sept. 1.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—There is very general satisfaction here to-night over the nomination of ex-Governor Gear for Congress in the first district this afternoon. This is one of the close districts, the present incumbent, Mr. Hall, democrat, having a majority of less than 100, which, it is believed will be wiped out. The republicans now have two ex-governors running for congress—Gear in the first district and Kirkwood in the second.

An Editorial Wedding.

DES MOINES, Ia., Sept. 1.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—This afternoon there was a wedding in newspaperdom that was the theme of very favorable comment. Mr. G. S. McFarland, editor of the Marshalltown Times-Republican, was married to Miss Minnie Elobeck, daughter of Colonel Jas. Elobeck, editor of the Staats Anzeiger of this city. Only a few intimate friends and representatives of the press of this city were present.

COMMENTS ON THE QUAKE.

The London Papers Declare No Such Earthquake Was Ever Known.

SOME SUPERSTITIOUS VIEWS.

The Catastrophe Occurs in a "Year of Fridays"—The Belfast Police Back on Shank Hill—Other Foreign Happenings.

Like America in Bigness.

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LONDON, Sept. 1, 4 a. m.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—The Daily News commenting on the earthquake of which it has a long detailed account by the Commercial cable says: "The United States enjoy their predominance in bigness, even in this catastrophe. No such earthquake has been known in our time, in its extent at least, if not, happily in its fatal effects. The loss of property at Charleston alone is estimated at $2,000,000, but this is hardly worth taking into account as a check on the enterprise of an America city."

HISTORICAL ON EARTHQUAKES.

All other topics than the earthquake have been passed in the last twenty hours. The Post becomes historical on earthquakes, and, alluding to yesterday's earthquakes, remarks: "The president of the British association, when he wrote his interesting address, had evidently no notion that before he could read it to his audience at Birmingham that the North American continent would be shaken by a tremendous outbreak of volcanic force. Were the superstitions of the dark ages still life, there is no doubt that this year would be set down as an annus mirabilis and that some fancied connection would be seen between the curious freaks of nature which have marked the year and the disturbances of social order in various parts of the globe."

SOME SUPERSTITIOUS VIEWS.

The St. James Gazette relapses into superstitious views, remarking: "Eighteen hundred and eighty-six began on a Friday, will rend on a Friday, and contains fifty-three Fridays. Four months in the year have five Fridays, five changes of the moon occur on a Friday, and both the longest and shortest days in the twelve months are on Fridays. This might, indeed, be termed a Friday year."

COMPARED WITH OTHER EARTHQUAKES.

The Telegraph exhibits a map of the terrible Lisbon earthquake, intended to portray the fact that the country shaken on Tuesday night was a part of the area of the American continent over which that great historic shock was felt. While the larger effects of the movement were experienced in Europe, the waves of the forces were propagated across the Atlantic and felt along the whole eastern seaboard of the states and Canada, from South Carolina to Labrador. It is not, perhaps, to be argued that there is any permanent connection between the two areas under the bed of the Atlantic, but at the particular moment when Lisbon was destroyed, the entire arch of the globe, as outlined in our map, was subjected to a tremendous subterranean strain which it was unable to resist. It refers to Sir William Dawson's address before the British association, in which he asked "whether the great forces which formed the Atlantic had finally ceased to operate," and then replied, "It is possible that after a long period of quiescence has elapsed there may be a new settlement of the ocean bed, accompanied by foldings of the crust, especially on the western side of the Atlantic, and possibly with renewed volcanic activity on its eastern margin.

The Times has a very incomplete cable dispatch about the earthquake and makes no comments.

ITS INFLUENCE ON SECURITIES.

The Standard takes a fiscal view in concluding a long leader and, apparently addressing a volcanite capel court, observes: "How the American earthquakes will influence securities time will show. The most substantial cities of antiquity were reared on a soil riven by volcanic violence, but possibly when shocks disrupt canals and level streets, investors and insurance companies may feel a little more timid."

SHANK HILL CAPTURED.

The Police Resume Control after a Sturdy Contest.

BELFAST, Sept. 2, 1 a. m.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—At 6 o'clock last evening the police resumed duty at Shank Hill, from which they were driven a month ago, and at 7:30 a crowd of boys and young men drove the police off the upper part of Shank Hill, firing several shots. Until 9 o'clock the police and troops made continual charges up Shank Hill and cross streets, capturing seventeen prisoners, but they were not compelled to fire, although the riot act was read soon after as a precaution to enable the troops to act promptly. At 9 o'clock

THE POLICE REGAINED CONTROL.

They cleared the streets and cleared out heavy reinforcements and now the town is so tranquil that the troops have been withdrawn. The whole evening was most satisfactory. No lives were lost, excepting a police had the head of his breeches cut by a bullet passing from hip bone to hip bone without touching the skin.

THE PROTESTANT CLERGYMEN

were out all the evening at work dispersing the crowds of roughs. To their aid, and to the fact that the police were not allowed to carry arms, the lack of bloodshed is largely attributed. Soon after 7, as I walked up the Shank Hill road, I found many indications of serious rioting. The street lamps were put out on all sides on the streets. Even the Shank Hill lamp lighters were not able to keep them lit. Shutters were closed up in the shops and private windows as bands of boys passed up and down yelling and

CURSING AT THE POLICE.

Soon after the patrols were drawn it was seen that a crowd had collected at the corner of Craven street. I stood within twenty feet of this crowd watching, with some curiosity, their method of shooting the police. They had only two old pistols, apparently of the blunderbuss type. The crowd were all boys under fourteen years old, and the pistol owner knelt in the middle of the street, aimed and fired at the police three blocks away, with the greatest deliberation and coolness. Why he hit no one was certainly a mystery. After standing fire fifteen minutes the police got up nerve enough to charge, but as they had not taken precautions to block the sides of the streets, the

BOYS EASILY OUTRAN THEM.

The police certainly charged fearlessly. I saw one man clubbed within arm's length of me, hence I know that this part of the police work was also well done.

TWO INCIDENTS WORTH REPORTING.

The church bells began ringing in the catholic district during the disturbance. "Bloody papists," yelled the orangemen. "Police are killing us." Dr. McKee, a clergyman, said, "Well done," when the police captured a rioter. Immediately several persons began the roughest abuse of Dr. McKee, and threatened to tell his congregation and have him discharged "as a liar unworthy to be a minister," etc. The night's work is regarded as the most satisfactory. The police now control the whole city, and with a little tact they will easily prevent future rioting.

IT WAS NO RACE.

Teemer Overcome by the Earthquake and is Defeated.

LONDON, Sept. 1.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—The American earthquake has been to the front, but the American sculler to the rear. The former event is said to have exercised a great effect over the latter, who just before starting handed me a special newspaper stating that his Pittsburg, with other cities, had been injured. His American friends here use that excuse for his palpable flunk. Ought I to describe the race? There was no race to describe. The day was most delightful, and the crowds of a university race order, and the display of a thousand launches, boats, wherries, and even canoes that might be described, but no race. Beach showed great power and dash. Teemer was a slow starter. The latter wore trunks of the lucky blue, the former the unlucky yellow and black shorts and cap. All the luck signs however, were reversed. Not only did Beach win by a hundred yards, but he turned and rowed back to meet Teemer, and placing his shell alongside, he extended his hand in amity, rather than condolence. The Australians are glad to have one victory to compensate what they call "their beastly ill-luck" at cricket. Interest now centers for Americans on the 25th, when Gaudaur of St. Louis, rows Beach over the same course. I I heard many river men say that it is considered from his trials that Gaudaur is far super