

Commercial Advertiser and Journal
OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.
BUFFALO:
WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUG. 11, 1841

THE *ERIE*.

PAGE 2, COLUMN 1:

We hoped that we should learn something today to relieve the details published yesterday, but every thing we hear serves to deepen the horror. All that the imagination can conceive of the terrible and heartrending was realized in the awful destruction of the *Erie*. Scores sank despairingly beneath the wild waters, but there is reason to fear that many, very many, strong men, helpless women and tender children perished in the flames.

The *Clinton*, as soon as she could discharge her cargo, yesterday morning, returned to the scene of the disaster, to pick up whatever could be found. She found no bodies, nor any thing scarcely to repay the search. The water was covered for miles with cinders and fragments of the wreck, more or less charred, and that was all. At one time those on board the *Clinton* had their feelings excited in the liveliest manner. At a distance was seen a fragment floating, apparently supporting half a dozen men. On approaching it was found to be nothing but a portion of the guard, the timbers which connected it with the hull, black with fire, and standing out of the water in a manner that created the strong illusion. Dr. HARRIS, the Coroner, who accompanied the *Clinton*, has furnished us the following :

“ALEXANDER LAMBERTON, musician, from Erie, and FREDERICK PARMALEE, bar keeper, were picked up by a small boat after the *Clinton* had left. PARMALEE was on the water seven hours, and showed great presence of mind in exerting himself to save Mr. GELSTON, the brother in law [sic] of Col. REED. He gave Mr. GELSTON a plank, which he had secured for his own preservation – and when the boat had ceased to move, after waiting to find some one else to whom he could render assistance, he took one of the fenders of the boat, and by managing to keep upon it, he succeeded in preserving his own life. Small pieces of charred wood and portions of the boat were found floating, as well as part of the goods that remained without being entirely consumed. The boat also picked up the wheat measure, which was the means of saving Mr. WILLIAMS. This is about all that has not already come to your knowledge.”

Notwithstanding the heroic and self-sacrificing act of PARMALEE, we fear there is no reason to hope that GELSTON was saved. In addition to what is stated respecting PARMALEE's gallant conduct, we learn from the *Republican* of this morning, that Mr. EDGAR CLEMENS,

too, the engineer, abandoned a plank on which he was floating to three children, and after some search found a box or bale, which he also resigned to an old man, and after being some time in the water, at length reached the boat to which Capt. TITUS was clinging.

We learn that Mrs. LYNDE, too, the only lady saved, evinced as much coolness and intrepidity as any one on board. Her presence of mind never forsook her for a moment.

The *Republican* farther states:

“Capt. Squires was not on board of the boat, but Mr. P. Smith, the mate, and Mr. F. Wheeler, who accompanied him, are deserving of the very highest praise; they did every thing that men could do, and proved themselves gallant seamen and humane men, they deserve the thanks of the city.

Mr. Parmalee gives a most terrific description, among other things he says, that while watching the boat from the water, he observed that the mast head was one sheet of flame, that the flagstaff was wreathed with fire, that the flames were bursting from the center of the vessel, he saw a man standing on the cross-head, (the highest part of the engine, the engine had stopped) and watched him until his clothes were burned from him, and he fell amid the flames.

A boy who is now at the American, behaved with the most perfect coolness, holding on to the rudder chains with hand, leg, and arm, relieving each, as the other was too much burnt, and desir.....[illegible reference to twelve-year-old Levi T. Beebee]....., and deserves the highest commendations.

Capt. Titus did all that man could do under such circumstances, and surely the people of Buffalo will remember the proclamation of their Mayor, and do something to show their sympathy for the sufferers, alleviate their distress, and commend the heroic conduct of those who have so well deserved the praise of a people.”

We give below a corrected list of the lost and saved. It is far from being perfect – the full extent of the calamity will probably never be known – but after diligent investigation it is as full as we could make it.

Among those on board were ten young men composing the Erie Band, who had consented to accompany Capt. TITUS to Chicago and back, whose names we were unable to ascertain until today. Of those ten only two were saved, viz. W. Wadsworth, named yesterday, and Alexander Lamberton, the person picked up with Mr. Parmalee, and alluded to above. The names of those lost were Rob. Hughes, James Heck, Jos Sterritt, John C. Cluff, Phillip, a German, and Dimm, another young man. Those persons were not professional musicians, but young mechanics, who had associated together for mutual improvement and recreation. Their loss will be sensibly felt and deeply lamented at Erie.

We have also gathered the following facts and additional names from Messrs. PARSONS & Co. – On examination of the 87 names of Swiss immigrants given yesterday, they actually count 108 persons, to which must be added some ten or twelve infants, not before enumerated, of whom no charge was made. To this list must also be appended the following from the same house, omitted yesterday:

A. Strugler, Cleveland,	2	persons
Mrs. M. Stember, Zanesville,	3	do
Mrs. Bargest, Portsmouth,	3	do
J. F. Byer, Chicago,	2	do

This swells the number of persons shipped by Messrs. PARSONS & Co. to one hundred and thirty. A mere fraction of whom were saved.

The following persons composing the crew, &c. may be also added to those lost:

Mr. Miltemore and wife, dentist, of Chicago.

Von Ockerman, a German, tinner, late in the employ of Mr. Hubbard, who was on a visit to his mother, near Erie.

Mr. Sherman and daughter, Hamburgh, Erie co.

Mr. Nelthrope, a Danish gentleman.

Henry Freeman, on his way to Milwaukie, clerk of a drugstore, formerly of Jamestown, Chautauque co.

Ansel Ricker, young man, farmer, formerly of Hamburgh, Erie. co.

John Harrington, late of White's Corners, Erie co. entered as fireman on the day she left port.

Luther Fuller, wheelsman.

Wm Cheats,	waiter,	colored.
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Wm. Winters,		do
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James Read,		do
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Robert Smith,	head cook	do
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Henry Vosburgh, 2d	do	do
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David Mills, 3d	do	do
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Israel Vosburgh,	porter	do
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Wm. Sparks, 2d	do	do
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Doctor Hackett, Thompsonian physician, of Lockport, (colored.)

The loss of property by the *Erie* was heavy. She had on board the first large invoice of merchandise shipped for the upper lakes this season. Some 30 tons, worth at least \$20,000. The immigrants had also a large amount of specie, not far from \$180,000, and the boat herself must have cost all of \$75,000, making in all a little short of \$300,000 loss.

PAGE 2, COLUMN 2:

The following, as far as we can ascertain, were shipped by her:

SHIPPED.	No. ARTICLES.	OWNERS.
Davis & Co.	211 pack.	Jas. McAdoo, Chicago
"	35 "	B. W. Raymond, do.
"	17 "	O. & D. Bailey, Bloomfield.
"	12 "	H. Harris, Chicago.
"	1 "	Marsh, Haskell & Co. Rockf'd.
"	1 "	W. H. Wells, Danville.
"	12 stoves,	B. B. Waldo, Southport.
"	1	L. S. Julian, Grand du Ion.
"	6 castings	W. Brown & Co. Chicago.
Cobb & Co.	17 pack.	Barnette & More, & N. C. Chicago
Kingman & Co.	2 boxes	C. J. Lynd, Milwaukie.
"	1 "	B. Barman, Southport.
Gelston & Evans	4 "	S. Samper, Como, Ill.
"	1 keg	" "
"	4 boxes	A. Green, Chicago, Ill.
"	1 bbl	" "
"	2 boxes	L. M. Bolce, "
Parsons & Co.	4 kegs	E. Wildman, Battle Creek.
"	1 box	" Chicago.
"	4½ chest	T. G. Williams, "
"	— —	E. Lasieur, Ann Arbor.

We annex the names of those given yesterday who were lost and saved: Mr. WILLET WEEKS, of Brooklyn, who was reported as among those who perished, it is said was not on board, having taken the boat for the Falls:

LOST.

W. M. Camp, Harrisburg, Pa.
John C. Pool, N Y city.
E. S. Cobb, Ann Arbor, Mich.
Otto Torp, N. Y., wife and 3 children.
Lloyd Gelston, Erie, Clerk.
Mr. Joles, Steward of the boat.
Mrs. Giles Williams, Chicago.
Chs. J. Lynde, Milwaukie.
Watts S Lynde, Homer, N Y.
Mrs. Wm. H. Smith, and child, Schenectada.

A. Sears, Philip Barber, Henry Weaver, Wm Thomas, ———Evarts, Peter Finney, painters,
 Buffalo, in the employ of Wm. G. Miller.
 Miss A. Miller, Buffalo, sister of Wm. G. Miller.
 J. D. Woodward, New York.
 Wm. Griffin, Mississippi.
 D. S. Sloane, Geneva.
 F. Stow, Canada.
 Wm. Sackett, Michigan.
 Mrs. Spencer and two children.
 Mrs. Dow.
 Mrs. Robinson, Ballston Spa, N Y.
 Miss Robinson, do do.
 Miss King, do do.
 Mr. Moore, lady and 2 children, from Yates Co., moving to Michigan.
 Orin Green, Rushville, Yates Co.
 Roome Button, from near Fort Plain.
 Charles S. Mather, Mt. Clemens, Mich., has got a family at that place.

List of Swiss passengers shipped by Messrs. P. L. PARSONS & CO.

Names.	Number.	Destination.
Geo. Zuggler & family	6.	Akron, O.
John Flang,	" 2½	"
Martin Zulgen	" 2	"
Geo. Rettenger	" 3	"
Geo. Christian	" 5	"
Geo. Neigold	" 7½	"
M. Reibold	" 3	"
Geo. Steinman	" 2	"
Peter Kling	" 2	"
L. Gilling	" 3	"
Peter Schmidt	1	"
John Netzell	" 1	"
Peter Schneider, & family	5	Cleveland,
J. Newminger	" 4	"
S Schapler	" 5½	"
R Filling	" 2	"
Mr Obens	1	"
J. Korten	" 1	Dover, O.
C. Durler	" 1	"
Mr. Lithhold & family,	" 5½	"
C. Deitcherick	" 2	"
C. Wilbur	" 6	"
C. Palmer	" 5	Masillon, O

J Garghum	"	5½	"
J Mulliman,		3	"
C. Kellerman,		1	Chicago.
C Mintch	& friend	2	"

Mintch was recently from Europe, and left his family in this city. He was on his way west to secure land for ultimate settlement.

This list comprises names of 87 persons; and as it is customary to pass children at half price, the whole number on this list must have reached one hundred souls. Only four persons of the whole, including Durler and three others, whose names we could not learn, were saved.

SAVED.

Jerome McBride, wheelman, badly burned.
 James Loverty, do.
 Hiram De Graff, passenger.
 Dennis McBride, 1st mate.
 C. Hogg, do. [badly burned.]
 William Wadsworth, one of the band, Erie.
 Alfred O. Wilkeson, East Euclid, Ohio.
 William Hughes, 2d mate.
 Luther B. Searls, fireman.
 Thos. J. Tann, Pittsford, N.Y.
 John Winchel, Buffalo.
 Edgar Clemens, 1st engineer.
 Son of Geo. Beebee, Cleveland.
 Harrison Forrester, Harbor Creek, Pa.
 Thos. Quinlin, Middlefield, Mass.
 Three German passengers, burned badly.
 Robert Robinson, colored man, barber.
 —Johnson do 3d cook.
 Giles Williams, Chicago.
 Capt. Titus, captain of boat.
 Mrs. Lynde, Milwaukie.
 Christian Durler, Holmes Co., Ohio.
 —Rice, Hydraulics, Buffalo, badly burned.

☞ From the fact that the disaster to the *Erie*, occurred shortly after leaving port, when many were suffering from sea-sickness, and before a record of passengers could be made, it is impossible to make out a perfect list. We shall therefore feel obliged to those gentlemen who are privy to persons going on board, but whose names have not yet been mentioned, if they will send them in with such information touching the accident as is in their possession.

For the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser.

MR. EDITOR: —I beg leave to inform you that to-morrow (Thursday) evening, the performances at the Eagle st. [sic: St.] theatre will be for the benefit of the sufferers by the late fatal accident. Circumstances have not enabled me to give a more timely notice, and it is only by the generosity of Mrs. MCCLURE and Mr. MASON, that I have been enabled to appoint that night. I presume, however, this will meet the approval of my fellow citizens.

D. MARBLE

Ever foremost in works of charity and the relief of suffering, this offer is in accordance with the free generous nature of DAN MARBLE. We hope the benefit will prove a bumper.

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EDITOR'S CORRESPONDENCE

FREDONIA, August 10.

SIR— We are waiting with much anxiety to receive from you the particulars of the dreadful catastrophe that occurred in this vicinity last night, in the destruction of the splendid boat *Erie* by fire, and the unparalleled loss of life attending it. This is the second time the hills of Chautauque have been illuminated by the devouring flames of noble steamboats, and her shores have sent back the wailings and groans of the lost — and these, too, the *only* two occurrences of the kind that have taken place upon our boundless inland lakes. Or friends have been flocking in to-day from the highlands back, where they could look down almost into this awful conflagration, to learn the melancholy particulars. As the *Erie* was not expected to touch at any of the ports in this county, we have to congratulate ourselves that few or none of our people were on board the doomed vessel; though we *fear* one young gentleman, a son of E. FREEMAN, Esq. of Jamestown, who was a passenger for Chicago, was among the lost.

During the alarm and confusion of the first discovery of the fire at Dunkirk, a poor inebriated Irishman rushed down to the wharf and said he was going to swim off to the burning boat— plunged in the water—was drowned, and has not been seen since.

Yours, &c.