

THE RED MEN

Celebration of Tammany's Day

A VERY IMPOSING PARADE

Oration at the Chesnut Street Rink

"The Order of Red Men is the oldest benevolent organization of American birth and growth. My brethren, let us strive to make it the most efficient one in the world. You can do it if you resolve to be true to yourselves, true to your duty and faithful to your vows. Let no trials cause you to falter. Trials will come and you must meet and bear them. They come sometimes to test men's faith and teach them that there are no pleasures so sweet as those earned by effort, and no victories so glorious as those won by hard fighting and much sacrifice. One bright and sunny morning, on the waters of Lake Erie, a steamer sailed with a happy group—fathers, mothers, children and lovers were grouped upon her decks for a day of pleasure. Her banners floated gaily in the breeze, and 'she walked the waters like a thing of life.' Presently there was a whisper of 'fire in the hold.' The captain quietly gave orders to the crew, and efforts by them were made to quench the flames, but in vain. He then organized all the men in the boat into lines of fire combatants, and though they fought it bravely, the flames yet increased. Agonized mothers clung to their children, wives clung to their husbands, and despair was depicted on every countenance. An old, rough, and weather-beaten pilot was at the helm. Enveloped in smoke, his nerves were yet steady. The captain, as the boat was nearing the shore, sang out, 'John Maynard, can you hold on a little longer?' A voice came back in reply—'I'll try sir.' The curling, wreathing fire crisped his hair, shriveled one hand, and then the other; and yet he held on. The boat was beached, the passengers saved, but where was honest John Maynard? Gone to his reward among the beautified angels of God. My brethren, hold on a little longer; stand firm to the helm; be true to your duty, and regard no sacrifice too severe that you may be called upon to make for your fellowmen. Work nobly on, and the day will come when

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