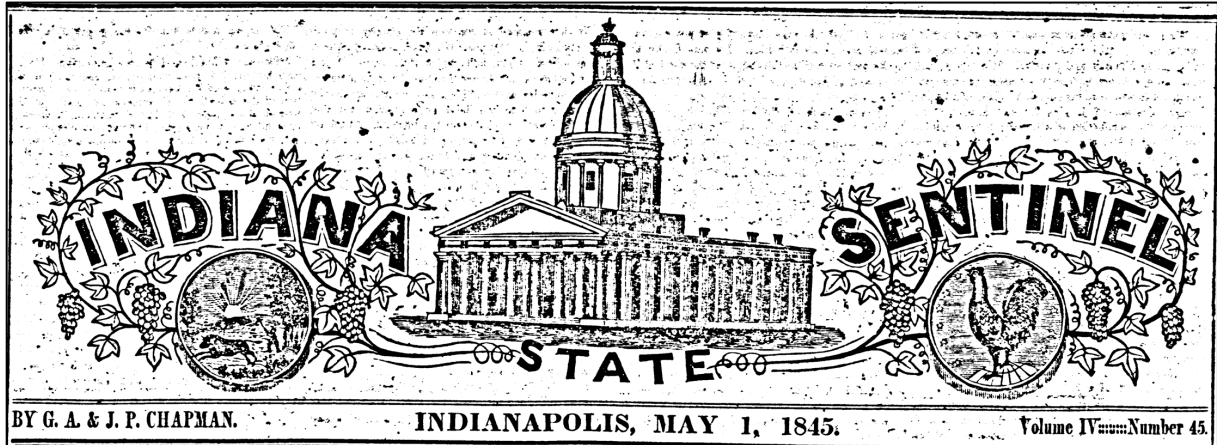


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Nobody to Blame!

A large number of the surviving passengers of the steamboat *Swallow*, lately wrecked in the Hudson river, as soon as they arrived in New York, immediately got together and adopted a series of resolutions exonerating all the officers of the boat from blame, and in effect thanking them for the humane manner in which they wrecked the boat, and sacrificed the lives of so many persons! Would those poor wretches who were drowned without a moment's warning, be likely to endorse, if they could, the resolutions of the survivors? But seriously,—what a humbug this resolution business has become! The survivors of the *Elizabeth*, blows up recently at the South, published similar resolutions, and the same farce is played off on almost every terrible occurrence of the kind. They thank the officers that they did not blow them up any worse, or any higher!

We are glad to see that the newspapers of New York, representing the parties irretrievably injured, or their friends, are exposing to just indignation the gross culpability of the officers of the *Swallow*, and the folly of those passengers who assented to the ridiculous exculpatory resolutions. The result of it we hope and believe will be, the enactment of just penal laws to meet such cases in the State hereafter, if any occur. The N. Y. Post says—

“The late news by the *Great Western* reminds us how differently these ‘accidents’ are treated in England. One of our papers contains an account of an explosion in a steam factory, by which three or four workmen were killed. The coroner’s jury which was summoned, immediately proceeded to inquire into the cause of the catastrophe, and because it proved that the machinery was a little defective, instantly returned a verdict of manslaughter against the owners. In this country, the jury without inquiring into the matter at all, would have found ‘no one to blame.’”