

TERRIBLE DISASTER

Steamboat Collision on the Ohio River —Both Boats in Flames—Seventy or Eighty Lives Lost.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Saturday, Dec. 5.

It is reported that the mail boats *America*, bound up, and the *United States*, bound down, collided near Warsaw, between Cincinnati and Louisville, last night. One hundred lives were lost. There were a great number of ladies on board the *United States*, who perished.

Second Dispatch.

MADISON, Ind., Saturday, Dec. 5.

The Madison *Courier* says: A terrible accident occurred on the Ohio River last night, at about 11:30 o'clock. The magnificent steamers *United States*, descending, and the *America*, ascending, collided at Ray's Landing, about two miles above Warsaw, on the Indiana side. The *United States* had a quantity of petroleum on her deck. The *America* struck the *United States* on the right-hand side, forward of the steps, cutting into her a considerable distance, and sinking her to her main deck in about two minutes. A fire communicated in some way to the petroleum, and as soon as the boats collided they were in flames. It is said that some mistake was made in the signals of the *America*. She blew her whistle twice, which the pilot on the *United States* apparently did not hear. The *America* again signaled by two blasts of the whistle, which the *United States* answered, but it was too late. The excitement was terrible, and it is supposed that seventy-five or eighty people were lost. Several citizens, three of whom are SILEE BRIGHT, LEWIS VANCE and O. B. SAPPINGTON, of Madison, are among the missing. The receiving clerk, JAMES JOHNS, of the *United States*, is also missing. It is estimated that thirty-three women, who were passengers on the *United States*, were lost. W. C. TAYLOR, clerk of the *America*, after securing the books, register and valuables, went through the cabin, kicking in the doors of the state-rooms. Because of this precaution and cool intrepidity of Mr. TAYLOR, there were no lives lost on the *America*. Mr. INSKOP and wife jumped from the *United States* to the deck of the *America*, a distance of fifteen feet, and were saved. The survivors of the terrible accident unite in praise of the management of the *America* after the collision.

Not thirty seconds elapsed after the boats collided before the *United States* was a mass of flames from stem to stern. The *America* might have been saved, had she not attempted to rescue the passengers on the *United States*. Those who were saved owe their lives to the coolness and courage of the officers and crew of the *America*. The pilot stood at his post until the pilot-house was burning around him. He then left to avoid suffocation. The destruction of these fine and costly steamers, resulting in such a terrible loss of life, and the fears for the fate of those who are missing, have cast a gloom over the entire community.

The New York Times

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