

## 20 PERISH IN A NIGHT LANDSLIDE

Twelve Houses on Haverstraw  
Clay Embankment Sud-  
denly Fall to the Bottom.

### FIRE ADDS TO THE HORROR

Search Made for Bodies With Small  
Success Last Night, for Gas Pipes  
and Water Mains Were Broken  
—Firemen Were Injured  
Trying to Save  
Lives.

HAVERSTRAW, N. Y., Jan. 9.—Twenty are dead, some bodies being recovered, and some still in the ruins, at the twelve wrecked and fire-destroyed homes which slid over the clay embankment at midnight. Rescuing parties who had remained on the scene all night, powerless to help because of the intensity of the flames, at daylight began the work of recovering what is left of the dead. The victims, mostly women and children, were either killed outright, slowly smothered, or burned to death while imprisoned in their overturned homes by the sudden precipitation of twelve frame houses over the brink of a clay bank.

The dead are:

JOSEPH ALBERT.

MRS. JOSEPH DALEY.

MR. AND MRS. LAWRENCE MANION.

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM COHEN.

MICHAEL BARRY.

H. NELSON.

RENJAMIN NELSON, his son.

MRS. SELVERMAN and her baby.

RABBI ALIGEN.

An unknown Jewish man.

The PROTICH family of three.

BARTLEY M'GOVERN.

ABRAHAM DIAS.

WILLIAM HUGHES.

JOHN BONNET.

Joseph Albert, Benjamin Nelson, Bartley McGovern, Abraham Dias, William Hughes and John Bonnet were firemen who went to the rescue of the burning, shattered dwellings and were buried. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Manion were safe in a club house on Division street, just above Rockland street, when the landslide occurred. They went around to see the destruction and were killed.

Without a minute's warning the entire row of houses, which comprised one family residence and three stores, shot over the edge of the bank, turning completely over in their descent of one hundred feet, carrying many of the inmates to a distressing death. The situation was rendered additionally appalling when the overturned stores spilled their fiery contents among the dismantled interiors, setting fire to the collapsed houses, in which many of the inmates were imprisoned beyond hope of rescue before the flames reached them. The remarkable accident happening close to midnight, when the domiciles contained their full quota of sleeping inmates, served to lengthen the list of fatalities.

The houses were located on Rockland, near Division street, and stood in a uniform row near the edge of the bank, at the foot of which are located several brickyards. Recent demands for clay for brick manufacturing purposes caused the diggers to delve deeply into the bank. With recurring frost and thaw the bank, unknown to the operators, became a trap. With the fall of snow yesterday the danger increased.

The row of houses, perched on the edge of a precipitous bank, slid, slowly at first, rearward, and then crashed down the slope. The screams of terror of the inmates was the only alarm which gave warning to the neighbors. When the latter rushed from their homes, all in night dress, the space upon which the row of houses had stood was vacant. Every vestige of the former homes was swept out of sight, as if cleft from the earth by some mighty hand. The cries of the injured and imprisoned drew the would-be helpers to the edge of the clay cliff in time to see a sputtering of fire and then a general outbreak of flame throughout the mass of wrecked homes. The rescuers witnessed the frantic endeavors of some of the imprisoned to escape and noted with terror the encroachment of the flames. Hundreds rushed to the scene and the several fire companies of this place, together with apparatus summoned from Garnersville, dashed to the rescue.

The firemen, however, were confronted with a horrifying handicap when they discovered that there was absolutely no water with which to fight the flames. The downward rush of the toppling houses having carried away the water mains, as they had the gas mains and electric wires, deprived the fire fighters of means with which to combat the flames which consumed the demolished homes with their imprisoned living and dead.

In the region which has suffered by this dreadful disaster, are mostly persons employed in the brickyards or were small merchants occupying the few stores in the doomed houses.