

## BURNING OF A STEAMBOAT.

### Loss of the Sea Bird on Lake Michigan with her Passengers and Crew.

#### Upward of One Hundred Persons on Board and Only Two Saved—Statements of the Survivors.

CHICAGO, Thursday, April 9.

The side-wheel steamer *Sea Bird*, belonging to Goodrich's Line, which left Milwaukee last night, was burned up off Waukegan this morning.

The vessel and cargo are a total loss.

No communication has been, as yet, had with the wreck from the shore, and it is supposed that all hands were lost.

The vessel was valued at \$70,000, and was not insured.

#### LATER DISPATCH.

The steamboat *Sea Bird* belonged to the Two Rivers, Manitowoc and Chicago line of steamers. She had made four trips this season, and was on her fifth when she met with the terrible disaster reported this morning. When off Waukegan, about 6:30 o'clock this morning, fire was seen issuing from a pile of miscellaneous freight stored around the afterguards, outside of the ladies' cabin, and in ten minutes' time the entire stern of the boat was wrapped in flames.

From the statement of one of the persons rescued it appears that all on board became demoralized, even the officers, and no effort was made to lower the small boats. The only survivors, as far as known, are C. A. CHAMBERLAIN and EDWARD HANNA-BURY, passengers from Sheboygan. The latter makes the following statement:

There were in all about 100 persons on board, including eight or ten ladies and seven or eight children. I saw smoke arising from the main deck. Below the ladies' cabin was a lot of tubs and straw lying near, and the fire got among them. I cried Fire! and the crew and passengers rushed from their rooms. There was great confusion; the fire spread so rapidly as to convince him that it had been burning a long time; within five minutes the after part of the boat was in flames. I do not think all the ladies had time to get out of their state-rooms, and some of them and the children must have been burned. An effort was made by a portion of the crew to reach the small boats, but they failed. CHAMBERLAIN states that about 6:30 he was looking over the side of the steamer and saw a porter come out of the ladies' cabin with a scuttle of coals and ashes, and going to the bulwarks near where a quantity of miscellaneous freight was stored, he threw the contents overboard. In about a quarter of an hour he heard an alarm of fire and saw flames issuing from this pile of freight. It seemed to be not more than ten minutes before the whole after part of the steamer was in flames. In his opinion when the porter threw the coals overboard the wind blew some back into the freight. He heard no explosion and thinks if the fire had caught from the boiler exploding, it would have been discovered sooner.

Capt. YATES, of the schooner *Cordelia*, states, when off Waukegan, saw burning steamer; was distant from her four or five miles; bore down to her and succeeded in rescuing two passengers, one of whom was in the water and the other on the steamer; think it not probable that any others were saved; learn from one of the survivors that after the steamer took fire the helm was locked hard a port, causing her to whirl around and around as long as the engine worked. CORDELIA did not leave the wreck until she burned to the water's edge.

#### LIST OF THE PASSENGERS AND CREW.

The following are the names of those on board, as far as ascertained:

PASSENGERS.—G. B. Davidson, Robert Scott, George Nieman, Thomas Carpenter, Peter Sullivan, G. A. Goss, L. Lincoln, Edwin Neighbor, H. Comstock, Rome, N. Y.; Geo. W. Emery and S. C. Watkins, clerks.

OFFICERS—Captain, John Louis; first mate, Richard Hocklin; first engineer, Thomas Hunchin; clerk, Jas. Hodges; steward, John Morrison.

CREW.—M. Morrissey, M. Malone, John Glennon, Jason and Jas Rourke, J. Burnes, cook and assistant; H. Simpson and J. Brennan, cabin boys. The following embarked at Sheboygan: H. A. Gaylord and wife, W. G. Mallory, Mrs. E. E. Sharpe, John O'Brien, T. Stein, D. C. Daggett, Edwin Hunneburg, L. Packard, Dr. L. Bock, Edward Proomsall, Henry Ullrich Glennbuth; A. C. Chamberiar and Mrs. S. C. Sprague, both of Sheboygan Falls; O. Perry, of Detroit, M. Gallagher, of Xenia, Ohio, Mr. Ruper and wife and J. M. Leonard, of Chicago, F. Lester, wife and children and two traveling agents, names unknown.