and the stand of the second of the THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, MONDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 29, 1908

CONDUCTOR TELLS OF FATAL PLUNGE DIVERS SEEK BENEATH THE WAVES BODIES OF THE DEAD LATCH KEY MISSING, SHOT CLIMBING IN

Continued From First Page imment

dow and got out-I-I will not talk any more.'

The conductor was clad in a strangely assorted suit, made up of parts of a borrowed uniform, parts of clothing supplied to him by Atlantic City friends and parts that he secured at the Camden station after his arrival there. He appeared almost in a daze, and while talking eagerly with some friends refused to say one word regarding the accident to others. ell went to the office of the West Jersey and Seashore Railroad and made his official report to Trainmaster G. W. Gregg and Assistant Trainmaster Harry Or.

Bridge Partly Open, Say Officials

The ailroad officials used the conductor's statement, together with the telephoned reports from officials at the scene of the wreck to formulate the official statement of the railroad made public at 9 o'clock last night. Almost immediately after the news of teh accident reached Philadelphia General Manager Atterbury, of the West Jersey line of the Pennsyl-vania Railroad, secured a special train and personally supervised the work of re-covering the wreck and caring for the victims.

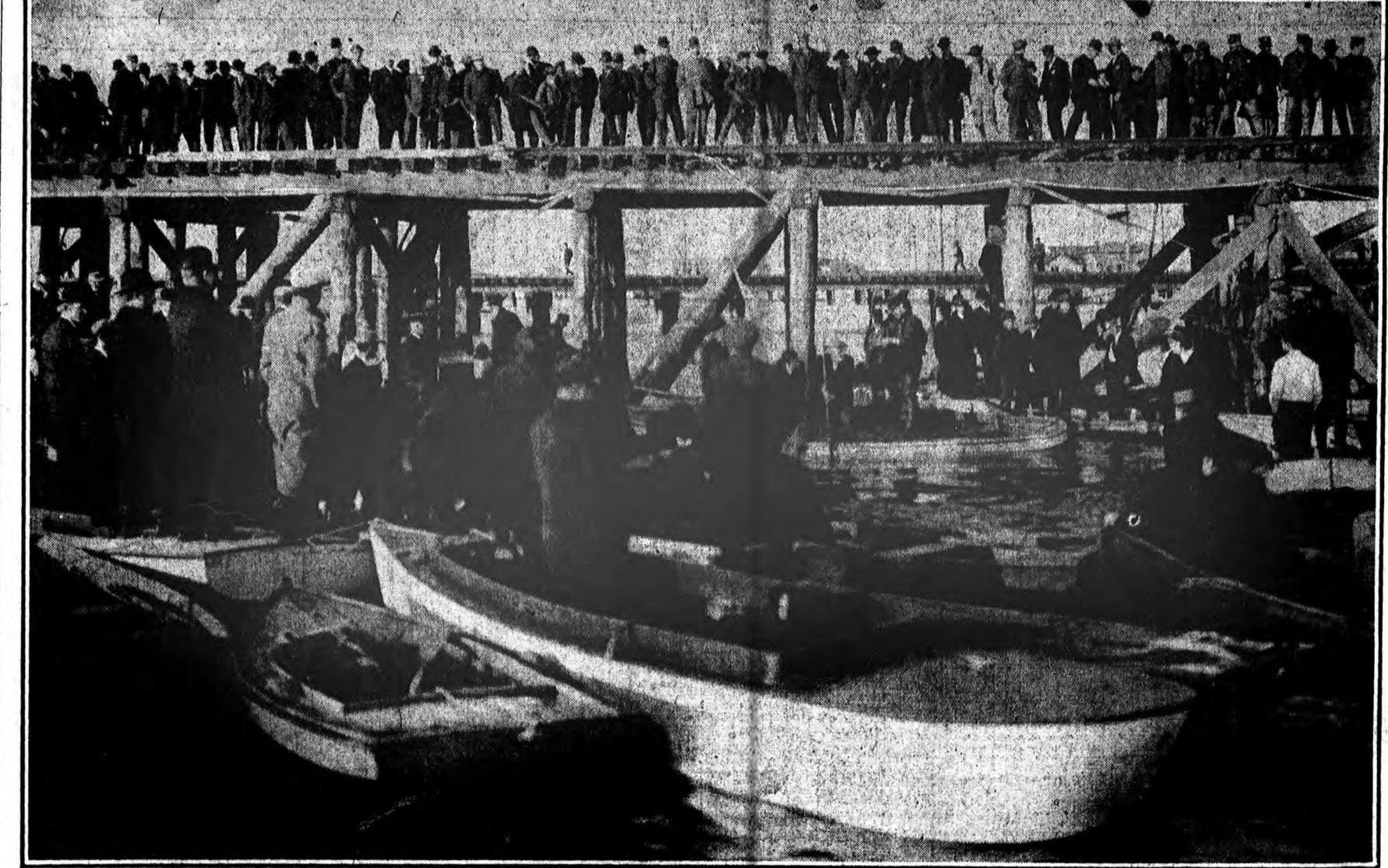
The company's explanation of the wreck as given in the official statement last evening is as follows:

"The wrecked train left Camden at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, and a few minutes after 2 reached the drawbridge across the 'thoroughfare.' Shortly before the electric 'express reached the bridge the draw had been opened and was thought to have been closed again. There must have been some failure on the part of the man in charge to properly close the man in charge to properly close the bridge, for as nearly as can be learned the bridge was not closed completely and the rails did not face up properly, being about one inch out of alignment.

"The wheels of the first car thus mis-sing the rail at the opening of the bridge fell upon the supports of the bridge, and the entire train was hurled over the south side of the bridge, the cars falling into about fifteen feet of water.

"The first two cars were entirely buried. The rear quarter of the third car remained above water. There were seventy-seven passengers upon the train and three trainmen. Out of the eighty persons aboard the train the railroad company at this hour only has information of the safety of nineteen or twenty.

"The train crew was composed o James L. Curtis, conductor, who escaped by breaking through a window and swim-



Bryn Mawr Man Perhaps Fatally Wounded, Being Taken for a Burglar on Porch

Special to The Inquirer. BRYN MAWR, Pa., Oct. 28.-Clayton French, son of Harry French, returned home at 1.15 this morning, accompanied by William N. Franklin, when, on :eaching his boarding house at the Montgomery Inn, he discovered that he had left his latch key in his room.

Instead of awakening the boarders he tried to enter a room he had formerly occupied and which he supposed to be vacant, by climbing on to the roof of the porch. This room, however, was occupied by W. G. Audenried, Jr., a stock broken in the Drexel Building, Philadelphia, and his wife. On hearing the intruder trying to open the window Audenried reached for his revolver. His wife, awaking, screamed, and Audenried fired at the supposed burglar on the porch.

French fell off, bleeding from a wound in the back under his shoulder-blade, which pierced his lung. Dr. Councill was called and ordered the injured man sent to the hospital, where he lies in a critical condition.

JENKINTOWN CHURCH WAS CONSECRATED

Special to The Inquirer.

JENKINTOWN, Oct. 28 .- Consecration services, following the completion of an addition to the Church of Our Saviour, the Protestant Episcopal building at this place, under the rectorship of Rev. Roberts Coles, attracted many York road people, prominent in Phila-delphia society and members of the church, today. The sermon was preached by Right Rev. Alexander Mackay-Smith, Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese. The consecration services were held in the morning.

The church fronts on the old York road. The improvements consist of a 27-foot addition to the front elevation, giving an additional seating capacity of 125, with a total seating capacity in the

ming to the surface. Walter S. Scott, motorman, 776 North Michigan avenue, Atlantic City, drowned. Ralph P. Wood, brakeman, 607 Pearl street, Camden, es-

caped. "The bridge was about fifteen feet above the surface of the water. So far as we know there were seventeen persona. slightly injured, treated at the Atlantic City hospitals, and most of these were occupants of the last car. The one iden-tification of a body taken from the cars that we have as yet heard of is that of James G. Dempsey, of Camden, who was employed by this company. Wrecking crews and divers were sent to the scene at once, and the divers are now at work recovering the dead.

One Survivor in First Car

sau street, who said that he believed he was the one survivor of the first car.

trated with the shoek as to be almost unto speak. He was ghastly white decked out in borrowed clothing. "I cannot talk do not ask me," he asped, leaning heavily all the while upon the arm of a physician who had accom-banied him to this city. "I was in the first car of the train.

"I was in the first car of the train. How I escaped I scarcely know myself. Oh! It was swill, awful! I can never forget it." Mr. Bacon's physician had already telephoned Mrs. Bacon of the safety of her husband and he insisted upon the prostrated man being taken at once to his home.

One of the few bits of brightness that appeared in the midst of the stories of black tragedy was the account given by H. E. Wood, of 4419 Germantown avenue, of his escape from the ill-fated train. "No smoking cars are run upon these electric trains," said Mr. Wood, "and I am exceedingly fond of a cigar, so as we began nearing Atlantic City I thought I would slip out upon the rear platform of the car and have a few whiffs. The train had been making fast time, but had seemingly slowed up a bit as we approached the shore.

Jumped From Rear Platform "I had hard work opening the rear door to get to the platform, but finally mastered the combination of the knob and stepped outside. Just as I had placed a cigar between my teeth and lighted a match I saw the forward cars of the train toppling over the side of the bridge. "By pure instinct I threw myself off the rear of the train, preferring what injury might come that way to being buried alive in the train. I fell off and was severely bumped and bruised, but managed to stick upon the bridge trestles without falling through the trestles and

without breaking any bones. "I never knew I was hurt at first, for as soon as I found myself alive I tried to do something to rescue the poor victims in the cars that had plunged under the water. It was the most awful sensation imaginable. From the first two cars there came no sign of life. A moment before they had been filled with people, and now they lay at the bottom of the water, almost invisible.

From the rear of the third coach, how ever, men began to appear, swimming or forcing their way to the surface from the front part of the car, which was submerged. I did all I could to help two or three men ashore. They appeared to be foreigners and spoke little English." Wife and Children on Train While Wood was telling his story George F. Benckert, of 2138 South Sixth street, came into the station in a state of despair. He had just learned of the wreek, and his grief can be understood when it is told that a few hours before he had seen his wife and two little girls leave for the shore upon the ill-fated train. Mr. Benckert went about beseeching the officials to give him some tidings, but they had none. While he was waiting for a train to get him to the scene o the accident a special train was being made up. Upon the special were John Wulder, of 101 Walnut street, a professional diver; William Timmons, a diver, and Captain Bellview, of Peter Wright & Sons, who was to take charge of the diving party. Benckert begged the divers to take him with them on the train, but before the necessary permission could be secured other divers, engaged by the John L. Mills Company, reached the train and it started, leaving Benckert to follow on the next regular train. Mrs. Curtis, wife of the conductor o the wrecked train, was one of the first to learn of the wreck, but the early tidings brought no news of her husband and she kept walking the platform of the station until he arrived in advance of any report of his safety. E. Toska, of 810 South Tenth street. director of the band which was to have played at one of the Atlantic City piers yesterday afternoon, was brought back upon a stretcher and placed in a rolling chair, from which he was carried to a cab. Toska appeared to be paralyzed in both legs. He said:

GRAPPLING FOR BODIES IN SUNKEN CARS

among all the railroad men, and those who escaped from the wreck that every occupant of the first two cars had per-ished. Late in the evening, however, a train from Atlantic City brought to Phil-adelphia John Bacon, of 2450 North Nas-sau street, who said that he believed had CARS INTO THOROUGHFARE AT ATLANTIC

CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE

For an instant the train trembled and reeled like a druggen man as the wheels bumped over the tracks.

PASSENGERS SCREAMED IN TERROR

Passengers, shaken from their seats, screamed in terror. Motorman Scott, hero-like, stuck to his post and put on the brakes. The reeling train twisted and writhed, and then plunged headlong over the side. The couplings of the cars were rent asunder as the train fell. The two first cars plunged down, and were completely submerged under eighteen feet of mud and water. The third car went in front first, but swayed to one side and reeled against the cement pillar of the bridge. There it stuck at an angle of about thirty-five degrees, with the rear end protruding from the water, the only visible evidence of the terrible disaster. Those who escaped were mostly passengers in the rear car.

An hour after the wreck the story of the picture of what was beneath the water was brought up by John W. Cooney, an Atlantic contractor. Cooner is an old-time diver, and immediately after the wreck he volunteered to go down and fasten a derrick chain under one of the cars. An old diving suit was procured from somewhere. There was no air pump, so an old beer pump from a neighboring brewery was brought into service.

DIVER WITH THE DEAD

"I could only stay under the water a few minutes," said Cooney, "for my improvised pump would not work. I found the first two cars had been wrenched apart from each other and were sunk in water and mud at an angle of about 45 degrees. The forward ends had been driven fast in the mud and the two cars were sort of rolled on their sides and were about seven feet apart.

"I raised myself up and peered through a window of the forward car. The face of a dead child, perhaps four years, was pressed against the window. It had a horrible gash clear across its forehead. I sa whe body of a man in some sort of a uniform wedged up tightly in one of the package racks. Bodeis were piled up in a great heap at the forward end of the car. At the top of the heap I saw the form of a woman. A pair of diamond earrings glistened in her cars. I never saw such a horrible spectacle in my life. The car seemed pretty much intact an dthe people must have all been plunged in a heap at the forward end by the shock."

Those in the rear car were carried up and out to safety by the rush of water. They found themselves suddenly fighting their way out to safety through breaking windows, and struggled in the water until picked up by boats. Curtis, the conductor, happened to be on the rear car, counting up his tickets. To this he owes his life. Many of the victims were members of the Royal Italian Band. There are Many of the victims were members of the Royal Italian Band. There are

wagons and vehicles were hurried to the scene. Virtually all the bodies taken out have been brought from the rear car.

The scenes in the city me distressing. Hundreds have rushed here from

the city hoping for news of Hives sayed. The newspaper offices, the police stations, the telegraph offices are besieged. A regular mob hangs around the railroad terminal on Tennessee avenue. Women are walking about wringing their hands in agony. Up to a late hour. no arrangements have been perfected for a central morgue. The bodies are being distributed to the various undertaking establishments.

Fourteen bodies all told had been recovered up to midnight. Of these not more than ten have been identified.

MIRACULOUS ESCAPE **OF PHILADELPHIANS** THRILLINGLY TOLD

From a Staff Correspondent Both were taken to the Atlantic City Hospital, Mrs. Deemer with a fractur-ind should and source within a few hun-other passengers who were wholly under dred feet of the drawbridge when I heard trated by the awful news, which also wife were saved.

said. "Every window was closed. Sud-denly we felt the jar when the train jumped the track. I looked from the window and saw the first car as it splash-ed into the water. The second car fol-lowed, and then the front end of our, ation were drowned. That all of them

George J. McGee, of 2510 North Thir-ty-first street, one of the survivors of the lived wi wreck, reached his home in this city Stevens about 8 o'clock last night. He was seat-| man in seemed, to make every one attempt to ed in the third coach at the time of the electric ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Oct. 28.- get free of the mass of tangled bodies. disaster and had a narrow escape from met dea Almost miraculous was the escape of Being near the top, I was fortunate. As death. He said last night: Philadelphia, and the rescue of his wife. Both were taken to the Atlantic City pulled my body free. I was half sub-members of an Italian band. We were vers street of their death in the disaster.

ed shoulder and severely injured spine and husband suffering from many bruises. With his head swathed in bandages, Deemer told the story of how he and his only a few moments had elapsed, although it seemed an age to us, aid came in the aisle. I could see the two cars only about two years ago. They were

lowed, and then the front end of our, zation were drowned. That all of them the battern the bridge and of MUSICIANS' FRIENDS car plunged from the bridge and came to were not killed was due to the fact that to the bottom.

home, at 1018 Brandywine street, are | and recover the bodies. It is hoped with the Lawrences' two children, Pearl, the removal of the cars that a critical aged S, and Florence, aged 13.

was drowned before he had a chance to attempt to escape. A survivor of the wreck stated that before the train plung-ed from the drawbridge into the water water await identification. Walter Scott, the motorman of the ill-

applied. If this be true, and from the doubtful, Scott would appear to have foreseen the danger and to have attempt-ed to bring the train to a standstill. While on their way to Atlantic City Kelly, of Jeffersonville, N. Y., were sud-denly seized with a strange desire to get off Neither of them is able to give any Twelve bodies have been recovered off. Neither of them is able to give any explanation of how this desire came upon employe, James I them, but at Pleasantville they both arose from their seats and alighted.

CAMDEN M SURVIVOR IN LAST CAR DESCRIBES RESCUE

examination of the equipment can be made so that the cause of the accident

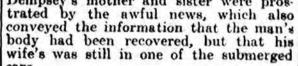
ed from the drawbridge into the water a certain jerk was felt, as though the power had been turned off and the brakes weeks and is believed to have been per-

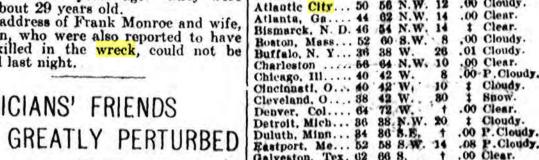
Yesterday's Local Weather Report from U. S. Weather Bureau from the water, only one of which, an ---inspectors, Camde

Dempsey, foreman of car en, has been identified.		4	ber	um	lad	eloc
AN AND WIFE	8 A. M 2 8 P. M 2	9.72 9.85	48 50	56 49	8.W. N.W.	20 11
ONO THE DEAD	Temperatu	re 1	2 1	oon		

ARE AMONG THE DEAD	Temperature 3 P. M. Maximum temperature 12.01 A. M.
	Minimum temperature 7 A. M
Tomas D. Doman al and the Mark	Mean temperature
James P. Dempsey, who, with his wife,	Normal temperature
as killed in the Atlantic City disaster.	Sunshine (per cent.)
and with his mother and sister at 990	Deficiency in temperature
The should be and the store at 000	Excess in temperature since October 1

street.	Mr. Dempsey was a fore-	Accumulated excess in temperature since
one of	the departments of the	January 1 627
road or th. He	a which he and his wife and Mrs. Dempsey left	Excess in rainfall since October 1 1.75 Accumulated excess in rainfall since Jan- uary 1





PLACE.

Abilene, Tex 58 \$70 S.E.

main auditorium of about 500. The alterations were the gift of a member of the vestry of the Church of Our Saviour, Clement B. Newbold, the Philadelphia banker, and involved a cost of thousands of dollars, no figures having been made

Closely interwoven with the growth of the church and its history is that of the Newbold family. The parish was instituted fitty-two years ago. The cornerstone of the first, or original church, was laid September 19, 1858. This church was the gift of William Henry Newbold and his daughter, Marie Newbold, the first rector being Rev. Ormes B. Keith, who died only a few weeks ago. The founder of the church died in March, 1862, and a memorial tablet was placed in the chancel in his memory. John S. Newbold, his son, took up the work, and when he died in 1887 the almost a first thought.

Weather.

.01 Clear.

Special to The Inquirer.

Philadelphia, Oct. 28, 8 P. M. (Eastern Time.)

Hatteras, N. C. 56 58 N.W. 80 .00 Clear.

Washington 46 54 N.W. 10 \$ Cloudy.

Movements of Ocean Steamers

Highest temperature during the day. y Light wind. 1 Trace of rain.

.00 Cloudy

Weather.

Cloudy.

Snow.

?. Cloud

.00 Cloudy. .00 Clear.

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T Clear.

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1 Show. .00 Cloudy.

.00 Clear. .00 P.Cloudy.

.00 Clear.

.00 P. Cloudy.

The Church of Our Saviour, within the

While on their way to Atlantic City City Hospital, and it is believed that sev-upon the train which was wrecked, J. C. eral more escaped. The motorman, Wal-Smith, of Newfield, N. J., and A. K. ter C. Scott, was drowned. The conduct-erts Coles, since 1888.

Fifteen of Band Escaped

"Most of the members of the band who were not in Atlantic City took the 1 o'clock train for the shore. I scarcely know what happened. There was a smash and everyone in our car was thrown forand everyone in our car was thrown for-ward. I struck the iron of a seat and stuck fast in the little part of the car that stayed above water. I do not recall anything for a time. There were seven-teen in our band party and I am told that fifteen escaped. We were in the rear of the last coach. We were the lucky ones."

thirty members in this organization, which was on its way to fill a Sunday night's engagement in Young's Pier. Most of them were together in the rear car. Their escape was so swift that most of them are unable to describe it. Among the members of this band known to have been saved were Elenda Tasca, leader; Joseph Davoto, manager; Camillo Vitocoloma, Flippo Frega, Giuseppe Pulli, Nazario Faetini, Federic Salomone, Annibale Vincenzo. Frank De Casare, Mazzella Pasquale and John Fortuno.

CAMDEN MAN'S EXPERIENCES

John Taylor, of Camden, was one of the first to fight his way to the rear car. As the car plunged he kicked the glass out of a window, dived out and struck out for his life. He swam to the bridge and held on to the pilings until rescued by J. S. Deford, a railroad man, who was near-by. Within a few minutes after the wreck men attacked the roof of the car with axes, and a few rescues were effected.

Word was flashed to Camden and Atlantic City and in a few minutes wrecking crews and relief trains were on their way to the scene. One of the first persons to hear of the tragedy, outside of official circles, was George H. Wonfor, a photographer of 318 Federal street, Camden. Soon after word of the wreck was received in Philadelphia, a newspaper called Wonfor up on the telephone.

"The 1 o'clock train from Camden has plunged off the drawbridge and we want you to rush down and get photos," he was told. Wonfor dropped back as if shot and exclaimed, "My God! My father and mother are on that train."

Wonfor reached Atlantic City at 8 o'clock, to find his worst fears realized The body of his mother was among those already reached. It had been found in the last car. His father's body has not been recovered.

TIDE ADDED TO TERROR

It seemed as though all the elements combined to make the tragedy the more severe. The tide began to come in right after the accident. The higher the water reached the more difficult it made work. At midnight hope of getting the bodies out of the forward cars was about abandoned. The divers may. they cannot work in the swift current and must wait for low tide.

It was some minutes after the accident occurred that the work of rescue be gan: A dozen small boats put off from shore, and these used their oyster and ! clam tongs effectually. To those nearby who sought to lend help, from the bridge the third rail was a deadly barrier. One amateur rescuer was hurled back almost to death by touching the current-carrying rail.

The relief train made up by Station Master Brennan from Atlantic City was the first to reach the scene. At the same time the relief train bearing important officials of the road was started from Philadelphia, hearses and dead the surface and at once thought of the window. I struck it with my fist, but the first blow failed to break the glass. Then I jabbed a hole in the pane with my elbow. The hole was not very big, but I managed to squeeze through. Then I got a good breath of air and turned to

ed her arm. 'Don't Harry, it's broke, afternoon and several physicians have

she screamed, but I held on, and with been powerless to quiet him the aid of another man who had escaped | Lawrence, his wife, and her sister, Mrs. through the window I had broken I got Lorman, of 1911 Fairmount avenue, had her out."

her out." The Deemers were taken to the Hotel train. Mrs. Lorman missed the train by Mervine, where Mrs. Deemer was found to be in a critical condition by the physi- "When I reached here," said Mrs.

went to the rear of the car to get a glass "He remembers nothing more until he merged and teh third car partially subwent to the rear of the car to get a glass of water. As the crash came the glass was hurled from his hand, and he was plunged headforemost into a mass of strug-gling humanity. The rear, end of this car, rested against one of the abutments of the bridge, while the front was submerged in the water. "He reached out to grab, her, when

the front was submarged in the water. "He reached out to grab. her, when

the surface and at once thought of the veyed to half a dozen different undertak- were groaning and crying for help all starred train.

I got a good breath of air and turned to look for my wife. "I crawled along the car, breaking win-dows with my bleeding fist. Then I heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 Westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 Westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' of friends at 144 westminater avenue, heard my wife has completely turned his reason. neard my wife cry out, 'Save me, Harry!' wife has completely turned his reason. I reached through the window and grasp-Like a madman he has been raving all to shock.

a few minutes. To this fact she owes her life. She followed on the 2 o'clock train.

The passengers, who managed to leave their seats were hurled together in the submerged front of the car. It, was on top of this pile of human beings that De-vitto fell. "It was a terrible experience," said Devito, when seen at the hospital where he was having injuries of the head and ribs dressed. "It is hard to remember just what happened." "There was no time to think. Instinct does not to grab, her, when suddenly he shot up through the window and above the surface of the water; his cork leg was responsible. He floated on the surface of the water for half a min-ute, when some men in a boat picked him in a dock for his just what happened." "There was no time to think. Instinct termine the cause of the accident. It open it."

Jupiter, Fla.... 70 78 N.

Seventeen members of that musical or-ganization, headed by Euclide Tasca, the leader, of 810 South Tenth street, and Manager Joseph De Vitto, of 1151 South Nineteenth street, went down to Atlantic City to open their season at one of the piers. Twenty-five of the musicians went It was thought at first that the entire St. Louis. Mo... 44 46 N.W. † lelegation of seventeen but the entire St. Paul. Ming.. 86 88 8. 6

delegation of seventeen had been lost, and numerous friends and relatives of the other musicians flocked to Leader Tasca's home, 810 South Tenth street, to sym-pathize with Mrs. Tasca, who was nearly

SRIDGE, CLOSED SAYS ANOTHER STATEMENT The Pennsylvania Railroad last night gave out the following statement: "Electric train No. 1065, consisting of three coaches, which left Camden at 1 A. P. M., left Pleasantville on time and run-he ning at a speed of about twenty miles and per hour, left the rails at the west end nd per hour, left the rails at the west end and per hour the the rails at the west end and per hour the the rails at the west end and per hour the there at the per hour the the rails at the west en Saved Because Standing To the fact that he was standing in the aigle of the last car, Joseph Devitto, man-ager of the Royal Italian Artillery Band, owes his life. Devitto a moment before the Thoroughfare arose from his seat and the t near Atlantic City at about 2.25 P. M. and plunged into the water. "The first two cars were entirely sub-merged and teh third car partially subied the band, was also at the Tasca home

Eleventh and Oxford streets | loss ar

SAILED. From. |Date | For. Lancastrian.... Oct. 28 London... Boston Caledonian..... Oct. 28 Mancter Boston Campania..... Oct. 28 Mancter Boston Hungarian..... Oct. 28 Montreal. London Furoessia..... Oct. 28 Montreal. London Furoessia..... Oct. 28 New York Moville Ultonia...... Oct. 28 New York Palermo FIRE RECORD OF THE DAY 6.00 A. M .- Dwelling of J. Bigus, 228 Noble street ; origin, explosion of oll stove ;

loss \$25.
1.15 P. M.—Dwelling of J. Cilic, 1320
Poplar street; origin, explosion, of oil stove; loss triffing.
2.00 P. M.—Dwelling of C. W. Coffee, 4729 Tackawanna street; origin, defective flue; loss \$25.
6.00 P: M.—Hotel Donaghue, southeast, corner Eighth and Vine streets; origin, de-fective flue; loss triffing.
7.45 P. M.—Saloon of Casper Behasitier, feleventh and Corner Schastform.