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The Daily Examiner.

VOL. XLIV. SAN FRANCISCO: MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 17, 1887. NO. 17.

DYNAMITE.

Awful Destruction by the "Parallel's" 40 Tons.

The Departed Glory of the Famous Cliff House.

A Scene of Confusion and Wrecked Frescoes.

Huge Bowlders Hurled Through the Air Like Pebbles.

The Cliff Cottages Totally Demolished.

Windows Shivered on the South of the Hill.

Numerous Hairbreadth Escapes from Death.

A Startling Suggestion that the Explosion Was Premeditated.

The Theory of Harry N. Morse on the Disaster.

Sundry Strange Circumstances Connected With the Schooner.

What Captain Miller Says of Deserting His Vessel.

Forty Thousand People Visit the Ruins—Matters on the Hights—The Wounded Life-Saving Men—Relics.

Ink and types will have their hands full if they give any fair idea of the force of the explosion that occurred at the eastern point of Sutro cove, near the world-famed Cliff House, at 34 minutes past 12 o'clock Saturday night. Fortunately, it has been unattended by loss of life up to date, and this alone saves it from being one of the most terrible cases of sudden and forcible expansion on record. The force exerted cannot be appreciated without a view of its results, and even then a great deal cannot be realized unless one be familiar with the locality. Probably a better assertion would be made by the substitution of the words "was formerly" for "be," as such a complete change in the appearance of the point has been wrought by the disaster that the aspect is not at all familiar to even the oldest residents. Yesterday morning the news of the location of the wreck was not received until too late for more than a general hurried outline to be sent in by telephone before the hour arrived for closing the forms.

The EXAMINER's corps of attendant reporters remained upon the ground, however, and from 2 o'clock until 11 worked like beavers in gathering every scrap of information concerning the wreck and the explosion of the Parallel's cargo. The result is a complete and graphic detail of one of the most exciting events that has occurred on the peninsula of San Francisco for many years.

THE "PARALLEL'S" START.

In the first place the schooner Parallel, instead of being 200 or 300 miles up the coast on her way to Astoria, as her owner, S. B. Peterson, thought Saturday night, was not out of the shadow of Fort Point, and had not even reached the bar in any of the three attempts made to put to sea. She was driven back by adverse currents, which the light breezes could not stem, and it was 6 P. M. before the final and fatal start was made under favorable auspices. At her anchorage near the fort there was quite a likely breeze, and as the tide was running ebb it looked as though she would be able to beat out, and go along about her business very comfortably. Two tacks carried her to a point abreast the Point Lobos Signal Station, and then she filled away for Point Bonita Light. In mid-channel the breeze died away to a mere breath, [illegible]

WRECKED R"ARS.
This cut presents a side and rear view of the shattered cottages, and the end of the Cliff House, as seen from the rocks above the point where the schooner exploded.

DEBRIS DISTRIBUTING.

An Upheaval of Tons of Rock and Cords of Timber.

As soon as day dawned sufficiently to permit views to be taken with profit, the EXAMINER's reporters began inspecting every bit of the country for a mile around.

Commencing with the exact point of the explosion, one of the staff instituted a comparison of the scene with a photograph taken of it a few days ago, where quarrying was being done a few yards to the westward. In the picture the rock [illegible]

THE EARLY CONFUSION.

Scenes Along the Beach Immediately After the Explosion.

The moon in its last quarter shone down upon a scene of destruction in the vicinity of the Cliff House early yesterday morning when an EXAMINER reporter arrived at the spot where an hour before the wrecked schooner had been blown into thousands of pieces by the force of the terrific explosion.

[illegible]

THE MAIN BOOM'S MARK.
This drawing is a presentation of the lower ocean balcony of the Cliff House, at the point where the Parallel's main boom crashed through the planking.

There was no flame, they are certain, but when they tried to gather themselves together the earth was still quaking and the air was black with the bursting stones and timbers, the black objects only being relieved by the sheets of falling water, transformed into silver by the bright moon rays. [illegible]

SOUTH OF THE CLIFF HOUSE.

Souvenir Gatherers—Description of Damages and the Estimates.

[illegible]

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

IMPORTANT REDUCTIONS IN PRICES!

Extraordinary Bargains

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SILKS! SILKS! SILKS!

We respectfully inform our friends and the public that we have made a GENERAL REDUCTION IN PRICES throughout our Silk Department and invite special attention to the following

EXTRAORDINARY BARGAINS:

200 pieces Fancy Striped Velvets, former price $1 a yard	REDUCED TO 50c a YARD
250 pieces Fancy Striped Velvets, former price $1 50 a yard	REDUCED TO $1 a YARD
100 pieces Black Velveteens, extra quality, regular price $1 25 a yard	REDUCED TO 50c a YARD
950 pieces Colored Velveteens, all shades, three different qualities, former prices $1, $1 25 and $1 50, ALL	REDUCED TO 50c a YARD
50 pieces Black Gros-Grain Silks, regular price 75c a yard	REDUCED TO 50c a YARD
50 pieces Black Gros-Grain Silks, regular price $1 25 a yard	REDUCED TO 75c a YARD

SPECIAL!

100 pieces Black Rhadames, All Silk, regular price $1 25 a yard	REDUCED TO 75c a YARD
150 pieces Black Rhadames, extra quality, regular price $1 50 a yard	REDUCED TO $1 a YARD
200 pieces Black Rhadames, superior quality and very heavy, regular price $1 75 a yard	REDUCED TO $1.25 a YARD

Our regular customers should not neglect to see these goods at once. They are all extraordinarily cheap.

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