

GREATEST DISASTER

Finest, Fastest Ship of World Went Down—Over 1300 Drowned.

The most horrible ship disaster of history occurred last Sunday night, April 14, about 400 miles south of Cape Race, New Foundland, 1100 miles northeast of New York.

The "Titanic," largest and fastest steamer ever built, was making her initial trip to New York from Liverpool, loaded with 1320 people—these being, first cabin 325, second cabin 285, third cabin 710, crew 860.

About 10 o'clock at night, the vessel, which was running 18 knots an hour, ran squarely into a hidden iceberg, and was wrecked. It required an hour for the water to stop the engines, lights and wireless telegraph, and in this hour all the lifeboats were loaded with women and children, principally, and cut loose.

The vessel went down into water thousands of feet deep in four hours.

The call for help by the wireless instrument started several vessels to the scene, but the nearest one appears to have been 170 miles away. The "Carpatha" seems to have got there first, but found the ship gone. The "Olympic" and other vessels arrived some later. These picked up those rescued in life boats, but these numbered but 868 of the 2189 on the boat, and so 1312 must have been drowned.

Many rich and prominent people were on the ship, including John Jacob Astor and bride, one of the Guggenheims, Maj. Butt, of President Taft's official family, and a lot of New Yorkers you do not know, nor care about. Their wealth is put at hundreds of millions.

The ship cost \$10,000,000, and was insured for half that amount.

The nearest approach to this disaster, in loss of life, was the sinking of the *Bourgeois*, in 1898, when 571 lives were lost. In the "Titanic" case the death list is more than 1300.