DENVER DISASTER.

The Gumry Hotel Blown up at Midnight Last Night.

A FEARFUL SCENE OF DEATH.

Most of the Building Demolished by the Explosion.

THE REST OF IT BURNED.

Wounded and Imprisoned People Caught in the Wreck by the Flames and Burned to Death.—The Tremendous Force of the Explosion.—A Column of Dust a Thousand Feet High Overhanging the City.—The Streets Littered With Broken Glass and Tangled With Live Electric Wires.—A Five-Story Building Filled With Human Occupants Completely Wrecked in the Middle of the Night.—One of the Worst Disasters Ever Known in Colorado.

Denver, Colo., August 19. (Special.)—The boiler in the Gumry hotel exploded at 12:15 o'clock this morning, injuring a number of people, but how many and the extent of the injuries is not known. Rumors are to the effect that a number of people were killed, but this can not be established until the fire department has made a thorough search of the building where the explosion occurred.

The front of the building was blown out in many places, and the entire business section of the city trembled as though from the shock of an earthquake.

When the fire department arrived it was to find Mrs. Trainor jammed in between two walls, crying piteously for help. An effort to extricate her was made, when a call from the other side of the room attracted the firemen's attention. Then a man was noticed in the basement, under a pile of debris. There were cries from all parts of the house for help, and a second alarm was turned in.

At 1 o'clock it was announced that a number of the guests of the hotel had been killed, and a general afarm was turned in.

The air is filled with the wildest rumors as to the loss of life, but they can not yet be verified. It is now thought that the list of injured will be greater than at first anticipated.

The Gumry was a five-story building located on Lawrence street between Sixteenth and Seventeenth, and was usually a crowded house. The damage is not yet known. There is no means of computing it at this hour (2 a. m.)

Six years ago a fire in the same building caused a loss of $150,000.

THE TERRIBLE DETAILS.

Denver, Colo., August 19.—The Gumry hotel, No. 1725 to 1737 Lawrence street, was wrecked by a terrific explosion at 12:10 a. m., the entire rear half of the building, a five-story brick and stone structure, going down with a crash. The hotel was crowded with guests, and many of them must have been killed, as well as the entire force of hotel employes, who were sleeping in that portion of the building at the time. On both sides of Lawrence street from Seventeenthto Eighteenth street and on Lawrence street directly back of the Gumry, the plate glass windows of the business houses were blown in, and a number of pedestrians were injured by falling glass. The fronts of many buildings in the vicinity were badly wrecked.

The hotel structure for 100 feet along the alley and extending for 75 feet toward the front is merely a mass of debris. Brick and plaster are piled in a heap twenty feet high, and from this mass of wreckage can be heard the moans of the injured and dying.

At 12:35 five injured people had been taken out. They were all inmates of the upper story, and sank down with the floors, escaping more fortunately than thosebelow, who are still buried in the ruins.

The firemen are working like beavers, digging into the debris, but are making little progress. The remaining portion of the building is in danger of falling, and this adds to the peril to the firemen. One horse was killed by coming in contact with a live wire.

Two injured men had almost been extricated from the ruins when the flames approached so close that the rescuers had to abandon them for their own safety. Both voices have now been silenced, fire completing the work commenced by the explosion.

The bodies of three women are also to be seen in the back part of the building, but can not be reached.

At 1:30 the flames are still keeping the firemen back from the work of rescue, except just at the line of the alley wall. Of those pinioned beneath the debris only two are now thought to be alive, both men from the fifth floor, who are still lying in their beds. Both are covered several feet deep except about their heads, and can hardly survive another half hour. Almost no progress is being made at releasing them, as the smoke is blinding. The flames are kept back from their bodies only by half a dozen streams of water.

Thus far six persons have been taken from the ruins, all badly injured. In addition four were severely cut by glass falling into the street.

A piece of the cornice of the Cheesman block, at Seventeenth and Larimer streets, fully a block from the Gumry hotel, was torn out and fell to the street, narrowly missing several passers-by. The fragment weighed at least a ton.

In the wrecked hotel there was a tier of five or six rooms extending across the rear of the building, facing the alley, on each of the three upper floors. All of these rooms are believed to have been occupied, as people residing in rooms directly across the alley observed lights burning in every window during the evening.

Among the dead are Peter Gumry and R. C. Greiner, the two proprietors of the hotel, the day clerk and the night clerk, none of whom have been found.

Immediately after the explosion occurred a young baby was heard wailing in the corner of a room which had nearly all fallen away. Its parents had been carried down to death with the first crash. Soon after the little one's cries became weaker, and later, when the flames shot up into the skeleton of the building, became entirely silenced.

The firemen made a brave effort to save a woman caught in the debris at the north corner of the hotel, but were forced to abandon the attempt. The spot where she lay is now the hottest part of the fire.

None of the six people thus far taken out are conscious and indentification is impossible.

The force of the explosion carried away a large portion of the rear of the building next adjoining the Gumry house, on the side toward Eighteenth street crushed a stable and a small frame house, but no one was injured there.

The Gumry hotel was a five-story brick structure with a stone front, and was erected about six years ago. It was of the better kind of second class hotels, catering largely to trahsient family patronage. Thus many ladies and children were among the guests. The building was erected as the Eden Musee by the widow of General Tom Thumb, and was so occupied for about a year, being later remodeled for use as a hotel. Gumry & Greiner have owned it for several years. Mr. Gumry was a prominent contractor and had much of the work during the erection of the state capitol. Mr. Greiner acted in the capacity of manager. Both are dead.

A PUEBLO MAN WAS THERE.

Denver, Colo., August 19.—2:30 a. m.—No meals were served in the Gumry hotel. Every guest entered on the register occupied a room in the hotel tonight. Twenty-two people registered today, most of them late tonight, the list being as follows:

Mrs. O. H. Knight, Lake City, Colo.
Mrs. Knight's sons.
J. L. Kirk, Omaha.
J. A. Brown, Omaha.
Bud Buren, Colorado Springs.
J. W. Roberts and wife, Colorado Springs.
Miss Jennie Howard, Boston.
Mrs. C. H. Williams, Boulder, Colo.
Miss Hattie H. Williams, Boulder.
W. C. McClain, Huron, Kas.
Mrs. McClain and child.
Newey Sloan, Huron.
Mrs. Sloan.
George Burtc, Colorado Springs.
E. F. McCloskey, Cripple Creek.
F. French, Central City, Colo.
B. I. Lorah, Central City, Colo.
M. E. Letson, Denver.
W. J. Corson, Pueblo.

Thus far only 15 people who are known to have been in the hotel at the time of the explosion are accounted for. This leaves 60 supposed to be dead.

Henry Sloan and wife, of Huron, Kas., and W. C. McClain, cashier of the Huron State bank, arrived at the hotel tonight from Manitou and occupied the front south rooms. They are among those taken down by ladders, all are more or less injured. Mr. McClain states that he thinks there were 60 guests in the hotel, which with the employes would bring the number of people in the building at the time of the disaster up to 75.

Two blocks away and burned three one-story frame buildings, and set fire to other houses.

A brick wall fell on twelve men, who were standing on a roof that caved in. Ex-Fire Chief R. Q. King had three ribs broken, also internal injuries. Firemen Charles Thorpe, John Weir and Harry Todd were burned and bruised, but not seriously.

GREAT RAIN AND HAIL.

Pittsburg, Pa., August 18.—This city was swept by a heavy rain storm tonight which did considerable damage. Several buildings were blown down and telegraph and telephone wires seriously interfered with. The rain fall was remarkable, 45-100 of an inch falling in twenty minutes. Street car travel was interrupted for a time, and the many small losses throughout the city will aggregate a large amount.

A special telegram from Bradford, Pa., says: An electric storm, accompanied by hail, passed over this section at 7 o'clock this evening. At Custer City hail stones fell measuring six inches in circumference. Considerable damage was done.

Later reports show that the storm did more damage than was supposed. The towboat Ludkiefer was sunk, and the cook, Millie Colbaugh, drowned. This was the only fatality reported. The boat is a total loss. It was valued at $15,000.

The Dacotah, an excursion barge, was also sunk, but can be raised without much damage.

The Little Bill, the towboat of Homestead fame, which towed the Pinkerton guards to take possession of the Homestead steel works on the morning of the battle with the strikers in 1892, was badly damaged, and other craft sustained injury from the wind.

The loaded coal now in the harbor waiting for the stage of water that will float it to southern ports, amounts to 26,000,000 bushels, and it is thought a large amount of this is lost. Fleets of loaded barges were broken up by the force of the gale, and the extent of the loss will not be known until late tomorrow.

A FATHER'S VAIN GRIEF.

Elgin, Ill., August 18.—Frank Kazer and his four-year-old daughter, Sylvia, were burned to death in a fire which destroyed their residence and several other buildings at Algonquin, a small village near here, early this morning.

The fire started in Kazer's house. When aroused Kazer managed to get his wife and two children out safely, but before he could reach Sylvia a portion of the floor fell in, carrying the child down. Kazer was crazed with grief and resisted the efforts of neighbors to drag him from the burning structure, clinging to the door frame until the roof fell in, burying him in the blazing mass. The pecuniary loss aggregates but a few thousand dollars.

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1 lb New York full cream cheese	$ .20
1 lb imported Swiss cream cheese	.25
2 lb new comb honey	.25
3 cans sugar corn	.25
1 lb Gold creamery butter	.25
5 lbs tub creamery butter	1.25
10 lbs rolled oats	.25
2 lbs tea dust	.25
100 lbs Nonpareil flour	1.85
100 lbs choice potatoes	1.25
10 lbs pure leaf lard	.90
1 bottle pepper sauce	.10
1 bottle 2-oz Price's lemon	.15
1 bottle 2-oz Price's vanilla	.25
20 lbs table salt	.25
3 cans Eagle milk	.50