The Anniversary of the Baptism of Five.

Nearly a Quarter of a Century Ago Condensed and Brought Up to Date.

into grandeur, out of lethargy into activity, out of obscurity into fame, out of squalor into splendor. On that day the World's Fair of 1893 was made possible, for then the genius which conceived and the energy which constructed it were stirred to life, and their irresistible progress was begun. In these short years the crazy wooden town, which then contained less than 400,000 souls, has become a wilderness of stone and steel, inhabited by nearly two millions of human beings and ringing with the sound of titanic industry, but yet informed with beauty and full of the glories of civilization. And this is what happened and how it happened on that memorable day:

Told by Citizens Who Took Part in the Stirring Events of Twenty-four Years Ago.

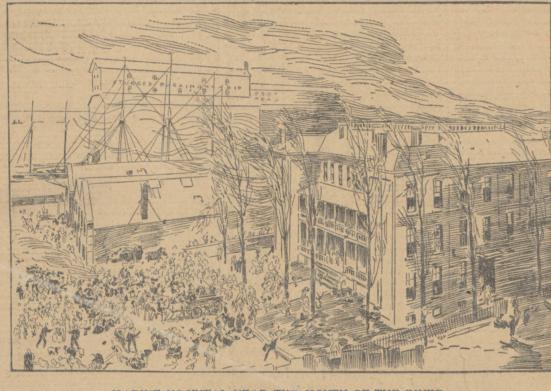
retribution!" was almost justified when one considers the conditions that existed in Chicago when the

occo from the southwest. The prairie for ourned as though swept by fire. The sur-

en turned to tinder by the sun and wind.

The picture shows scenes of wild excitement. The avenue is full of frenzied horses running wild.

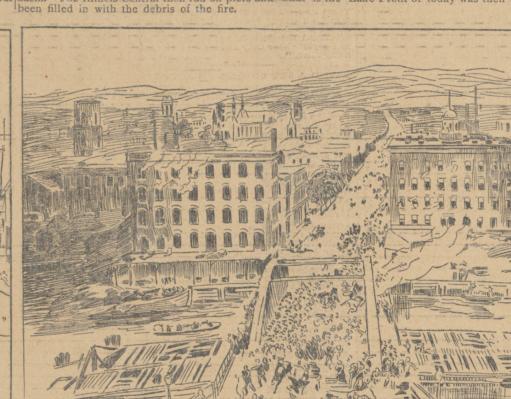
what goods you want and



MARINE HOSPITAL NEAR THE MOUTH OF THE RIVER.

Up to the hour of its destruction the Marine Hospital, then located in Michigan avenue, was the one oted landmark of Chicago and was in charge of Dr. Truman W. Miller, who is still living in this city. As Almost the first of the ruins to be seen is that of the famous Richmond Hotel, from the balcony of which the flames swept over the business district during the early morning hours of Oct. 9 it was seen that the the Prince of Wales was introduced to the people of Chicago by "Long John" Wentworth, then Mayor of famous old building was doomed—that its fate was inevitable. the city. Just beyond these ruins can be seen the first brick building which was ever built in Chicago. It

There were many patients in the building and when the last hope of the escape of the structure from was erected by Matthew Lastin, who is still living. He was scoffed at and laughed at when Chicagoans saw the flames had passed away provision was made to remove the patients to a place of safety. This was done with improvised ambulances. The illustration depicts the scene just as the hospital is catching fire, and it was not long after that when the whole building was a heap of smoking ruins. Just beyond the hospital time making the prophecy that Chicago would some day have 40,000 inhabitants. Across the street from were two large grain elevators known as the Sturges-Buckingham "A" and "B." One of these was swept away, but the other was saved. It is said that on the Illinois Central tracks was standing a car containing a and what in those days was known as Hibbard, Spencer & Co. Beyond these was the ball park and the ire engine which was in transit from the New York manufacturers to Peoria, Ill. This was seized and put basin. The Illinois Central then ran on piers and what is the Lake-Front of today was then water, having service and by its means one of the elevators was saved.



EARLY MORNING SCENE AT THE RUSH STREET BRIDGE OCT. 9, 1871.

When the almost maddened crowd of humanity, driven by the burning heat of the great fire, strug-At 7 o'clock on the morning of Oct. 9, 1871, the only approach to the North Side which had not been gled for a place of safety for themselves, their children, and their chattels, they seemed to turn with one burned was the Rush street bridge, and thousands of homeless, terror-stricken people made their way across it in the hope of finding a haven of safety from the fast-approaching conflagration. They believed their Where the Goodrich steamship docks are now located, at the foot of South Water street, there was a only hope was to reach the water's edge on the north shore.

But even here the flames reached them, and hundreds of men, women, and children were forced from large area in front of the Marine Hospital. Here the people flocked in the hope that some outgoing vessel the hot sands into the lake, where they remained for hours.

Finding their hopes would not be realized in this they rushed madly across the Rush street bridge.

In the cut can be seen on the north side of the river the Chicago sugar refinery, McCormick reaper works, the Goodwillie box factory, and Rathbone & Sard's stove manufactory. In the distance, at the mouth of the river is seen the old lighthouse, beyond which at anchor are dozens of vessels which had arrived with cargoes, but which could not go up the river owing to the burning city. It was the fall season and the shipping business was unusually heavy. In the center of the river is the last vessel that left the city.

He not sands into the late, where the river had to be seen north of the river being hours.

The first building to be seen north of the bridge on the east side of Rush street is the old Lake House, which at that time was such a modern structure it was looked upon as being years in advance of the city's needs. When it was opened to the pupilic there was a great barbecue on the Lake-Front.

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accord to the water-front of the city.

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posts by the flames that seemed to have marked out a straight path to the county buildings.

Mayor Roswell B. Mason came to the Court-House before the fire had jumped the river and remained there, giving orders and advice, until the cupola was ablaze and he was literally driven out by the flames. At 1 o'clock Ald. Hildreth came to him and said that the only hope of saving the city now lay in the use of gunpowder in blowing up buildings in the path ahead of the fire. The Mayor was convinced of that fact by this time and authorized the use of powder, but it was not employed until some time later.

The county jail was then located in the basement of the Court-House and for half an hour before the danger became imminent the prisoners had kept up a wild tumult and clamor to be let out. They clung to the bars, that were visible from the street, and shrieked in a frenzy of fear. Most of them were half naked and in the red light of the confiagration, as they hung to the iron bars, there was a thas thy suggestion of the gridiron about the scene that made the spectators shudder and

MOUTH OF THE CHICAGO RIVER THE MORNING OF OCT. 9.

would take them away from the terrible scene.

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