

CURRENT LITERATURE

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The Stuff of Which Manhood is Made.

FROM an age that has been decried as material and sordid," says the *New York Sun* in comment on the disaster, "heroism has not departed. When the call comes, men and women are as brave and willing to die for others and for principle as in the days of old." The *Jacksonville Times-Union* calls attention to the fact that out of nine multimillionaires mentioned among the passengers, but two were saved. One of these, J. B. Thayer, stayed on the ship till it went down and was picked up afterward. The other one was J. Bruce Ismay. The remaining seven—six Americans and one Canadian—were among the lost. They were John Jacob Astor, Benjamin Guggenheim, George D. Widener, Isidor Straus, Washington Roebling, Clarence Moore and Charles M. Hays. "Multimillionaire and deck-hand," remarks the *Times-Union*, "for the moment standing on terms of perfect equality in the presence of death, met their fate like demigods. The world is getting better. The men and women who live in it are climbing above their ancestors—not dropping beneath them. The day of sham chivalry has passed. The day of real chivalry is with us now." The *New York Evening Post* feels reassured about our civilization. It says:

"We had been told so much about decadence and the fiber being eaten by luxury out of the old sterling qualities, that we could be pardoned a momentary apprehension lest those put to the supreme test might not meet it manfully. The result is such as to put all doubters to the blush. We see that the stuff of which manhood is made remains what it always has been."

