

BOAT FREIGHT WRECKED.

**Fireman Murphy Seriously Injured—
Thirteen Cars Off at South Windham.**

At 5.10 o'clock Friday afternoon what is known as the boat freight No. 94, southbound, was badly wrecked about a half mile south of South Windham station at what is known as Hewitt's curve. The train was made up of 36 cars, caboose and engine No. 1221. Most of the cars were empties and at the time of the accident the train was traveling at a fast rate of speed.

The crew in charge of the Central Vermont freight was Engineer John Carrigan, Fireman Frank Murphy and "Student" Frank Carpenter. The conductor was A. J. Collier.

Fireman Murphy was the only one injured. He was in the engine cab and was thrown out and rolled beneath the engine's tender and the car behind, which was a flat, loaded with an immense stone, weighing 47,900 pounds that was consigned to the Lazzari & Barton company, Woodlawn, N. Y., a firm of monumental and mausoleum makers and was shipped by the Barre Granite works. Murphy sustained two broken ribs, a sprained back and arm and was cut about the head. It is feared that internal injuries may be found after a careful examination.

Conductor Collier stated that the wreck was caused by a broken rail. It is believed that after the engine passed over, the heavy car in the rear so spread the rails as to cause thirteen other cars to be thrown off the iron.

For something like 500 feet the rails are torn up and the ties ground to a pulp-like consistency. The cars are in many instances across the track in a zig-zag manner in the form of several letter w's. Some of the cars are ended into the banks of sand at either side of the track.

A wrecker from New London arrived upon the scene at 7.35 with Superintendent Costello on board. He was in telephonic communication with Hartford trying to get the steam derrick of the New Haven road to assist in clearing away the mess. A work

train from Palmer was hustled to the wreck also.

The engine and baggage car of the regular No. 12 C. V. passenger that is due to leave Willimantic at 6.02 p. m. were dispatched to South Windham and Murphy was brought to this city and the ambulance conveyed him from the station to St. Joseph's hospital. Murphy said that he had been in five wrecks and that he had railroaded it for fifteen years. He came from northern New York down this way in April and has been on the Central Vermont road hereabouts ever since. He has a wife and child in New London.

Dr. F. E. Guild of Windham was called and made a hasty examination beside the roadway that is only a short distance from the scene of the wreck. Trainmen carried Murphy there on a blanket and then the doctor carried him by team to the South Windham station.

It was reported at the hospital that Murphy was resting comfortably as could be expected and that unless internal injuries should complicate matters he would recover. Murphy did not want to go to the hospital but wanted to be taken to his home in New London. He said that he had not had a doctor before in seven years. Had the car loaded with the immense stone rolled forward another yard Murphy would have been pinned fast beneath and probably killed almost instantly.

It is extremely doubtful if the wreck is cleared away sufficiently to get trains over the road. A stretch of about five hundred feet of iron and ties will have to be relaid after the cars are righted. The boat train was sent to New London via Plainfield Friday night. It is the worst railroad wreck that has occurred in the vicinity of South Windham in many years.