

WOMAN AND CHILD SAVED

**Capt. Bouchard Rescues Them
from the Water in the Dark.**

**Adds Two to His List of Six Persons
Plucked from Death—Had to
Dive for the Girl.**

Capt. Frederick Bouchard of the barge Harvest Home, who is well known along the water front on account of his record as a life saver, accomplished probably the most difficult of all his rescues late Wednesday night. By a bold plunge and a dive he saved from drowning off the landing at Ellis Island an immigrant woman and her child, a feat that required, according to many spectators, much pluck, as well as considerable skill in swimming.

Salvo Cosima La Rocca was the woman's name. She was on her way to Ellis Island on the barge Louisa C., and in her arms was a little girl. A subsequent examination by physicians has shown the woman to be a slave to opiates, and it is supposed that she intentionally jumped overboard with the child. Nobody saw the act, however, but the other immigrants, hearing a splash and a scream, sent up a chorus of cries for help.

The Louisa C. was about twenty feet from the landing, and Capt. Bouchard, whose barge was moored there, heard the shouts. He rushed to the edge of his boat, saw two struggling forms in the dark water below, and plunged in. Two minutes later he was seen supporting both the mother and child, and some deckhands on the pier threw out ropes, with which the three were safely drawn ashore.



When asked how he did it, Capt. Bouchard declared that it was a simple matter. He is of slight build, twenty-six years of age, and holds a steamboat Captain's certificate in spite of his youth.

"It was no trouble at all," he said, in describing the incident. "When I saw them struggling in the water I went after them. Seeing the child sinking, I knocked the breath out of the woman as soon as I could reach her. Then I dived down through fourteen feet of water and found the little girl lying on the bottom. I guess she would have been lost for good if she'd staid there much longer.

"When I came up again the mother was still floating, so I grabbed her and then held both of their noses above water until a rope could be thrown to me. And that was all there was to it."

Officials of the John E. Moore Company, which owns the barge on which Bouchard is employed, said yesterday that the young Captain had rescued six lives before he saved these two, and that he will be promoted on account of this last achievement. Commissioner of Immigration Fitchie has written to the Life Saving Association asking that the rescuer be awarded a medal for bravery.

On the barge with the Captain live his wife and child. He himself is a happy-go-lucky fellow, apparently without a care in the world, and he says it is "lots o' sport to pull out a drownin' duck." Only a week ago he went down between two barges anchored off Battery Park and brought up a little Italian boy who had fallen from one of them.

The rescued woman is an Italian. She is on her way to her husband, who lives in Omaha. Both she and the child were considerably injured by their plunge and were taken to the Long Island College Hospital yesterday. It is said that they will recover within a day or two.