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Another object lesson [the hospital fund]

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Published In/Presented At

Another object lesson. (1895, August 3). The Morning Call.

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ALLENTOWN, PA., AUGUST 3, 1895,

Another Object Lesson.

The people of Allentown had another object lesson of the need of a hospital in this city on Wednesday. Charles Eckley fell from the third story of the Sixth Ward school house to the ground below, a distance of forty-five feet. Eckley was not a permanent resident of Allentown. He had no relatives here and few friends. The only thing to be done under the circumstances was to remove him to St. Luke's Hospital at Bethlehem, five miles away. He was taken to the Lehigh Valley station. There was no train due for some time, and half an hour after Eckley was brought to the depot he died.

Who can tell what might have been accomplished in that half hour if there had been a hospital in Allentown where the unfortunate man could have been taken? Besides, it is not the best thing in the world for a man who falls a distance of forty-five feet to undergo a ride on a railroad train, especially if he is injured internally, as was the case with Eckley.

Have the people of Allentown no feeling for their fellow-beings? It is a disgrace to the city that a man who meets with a serious accident in a city of more than 30,000 inhabitants should be compelled to lie in pain and misery at a railway station waiting for a train to take him to a a hospital in a town five miles away simply because there is no hospital in the city. That such a state of affairs does exist should bring a blush of shame to the cheeks of all who have done nothing toward the establishment of such an institution; who sit idly by and see human beings suffer when they have it in their power to help to alleviate those sufferings. It is about time that the people of Allentown are brought to a realizing sense that they owe it not only to humanity but also to themselves that they assist in erecting a hospital in Allentown, for there is no telling how soon they, or some one who is near and dear to them, may be compelled to suffer because of the lack of such an institution.