

Record of the 1896 Sanriku Earthquake and Tsunami -4 From the graphic magazine Fuzoku Gaho

The 1896 Sanriku earthquake that occurred at 7:32 p.m. on June 15th, 1896 caused great damage along the Sanriku coast.

The tsunami was reported in the graphic magazine Fuzoku Gaho on July 25th, 1896. Drawings conveyed the horrific extent of the damage.

The following is an image from the magazine, courtesy of the Rias Ark Museum of Art collection, that relates to present-day Minamisanriku.



▲ Illustration of the People of Shizugawa in an Uproar After Hearing a Steam Whistle
(Shizugawa Town)

An incident on July 21, 1896 (Meiji 29). A steamship docked in the harbor sounded its whistle. The sound of the steam being released was so similar to the sound of the tsunami on June 15 of the same year that those who heard it mistook it for another tsunami approaching, causing a great panic and uproar.

Source: Fuzoku Gaho No. 120, special edition (Rias Ark Museum of Art collection)