

DISASTERS. THE GREAT FIRE IN CHICAGO.

The Loss Over Two Million of Dollars.

Most Destructive Fire Ever Known in Chicago

(From the Chicago Journal of Jan. 29.)

The great Lake street fire last night, in four short hours, converted one entire five-story marble front business place, and the best portion of the finest front block in Chicago, with their valuable contents, into a mass of smoldering ruins and worthless ashes. It was the most destructive fire that ever visited our city.

The origin of last night's fire is wrapped in mystery. A few minutes before 7 o'clock, a young man boarding at No. 89 Michigan avenue saw three men emerge from the stairway leading to the upper floors of Nos. 89 and 41 Lake street, and a minute thereafter he saw smoke bursting through the upper windows, and he immediately gave the alarm.

The fire department, headed by Chief Harris, commenced at the scene and that, too, before the slightest ray of light had been seen at the windows. A volume of smoke was pouring from the windows at No. 129, through happily, it was not until at least fifteen minutes thereafter that flames burst through.

Nos. 89 and 41 formed a portion of that magnificent five-story ironed and marble palace, commencing at the corner of Lake street and Washburn avenue, extending south half a block on the avenue, and west nearly to State street, Lake street. This was known as "Burch's Building," and its beauty and strength rendering it an ornament to the city. It is now a mass of ruins. Within an hour from the time that the flames shot through the windows, the fire had spread to the building to Washburn avenue, and within another hour the Washburn avenue front was also destroyed and the walls in crumbling ruins.

On the opposite side of Washburn avenue stands the mammoth dry goods house of J. V. Farwell and Co. The escape of this building was witnessed and hottest we ever saw. The flames leaped entirely across the street, rendering it necessary to keep four streets wide dry goods dealers, the almost red-hot walls of Mr. Farwell's building, which, however, escaped in a somewhat sized and damaged condition.

While the fire was at its height in the Burch building, the fire descended into an area of No. 20, on the north side of Lake street, between Washburn and Michigan avenues, occupied by Carson, Pirie & Co. wholesale dry goods store, another conflagration was almost instantly in full blast. The fire spread communicated with the highly combustible contents of Burch's building on the east, and notwithstanding the desperate efforts of the firemen, the flames reached across the alley, and within an hour another fire-rampant, the main front block extending east to Michigan avenue, was in ruins, as was also an adjacent building to the north, on Michigan avenue.

Here was renewed the fire of the firemen, in which they had been the victors on Washburn avenue, to save the Adams House, which was now in imminent danger on Michigan avenue. Menes were sought out with axes and hammers, and poured out of that house, and the flames were kept, however, thanks to the heroic labors of the firemen, and this was their decisive victory over the conflagration—the most destructive that ever visited Chicago.

But for the fact that a recent snow-storm had rendered the roofs of buildings fire-proof, the conflagration would have been much more disastrous. Such countless numbers of sparks and myriads of flaming torches were never before seen driving through the air. The adjoining streets were agitated with fire, and as far as the eye could reach, would be traced the flight of the fiery shower.

At least fifty thousand people shivered in the cold or blistered in the fierce heat while the conflagration continued. It was an intensely cold night, but the crowd showed no perceptible thinning out.

The fire originated on the south side of Lake street, between State and Washburn avenues, and destroyed everything down to Washburn avenue and around the fire, the fire spread to the westward along the street. The second break-out occurred on the north side of Lake street, between Washburn and Michigan avenues, and burned its way to the westward to South Water street. There is no doubt that the loss will greatly exceed two millions of dollars, and as a general thing the losses are covered by insurance.

The following details will be read with interest: Burch's building, occupied Nos. 33 to 41 on Lake street, and 39 to 45 on Washburn avenue, was a five-story structure, and was built on the site of the old No. 43, occupied by Fiske, Kirtland & Co., the building is an entire loss. Nos. 39 and 41, together with the basement, were occupied by Messrs. S. C. Griggs & Co., wholesale book-sellers. Their stock, which was valued at about \$200,000, was entirely destroyed. Among the stock were many rare and valuable works, which cannot, in some instances, be replaced. The firm cannot, in some instances, be replaced. The firm cannot, in some instances, be replaced.

THE OHIO RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—PARTICULARS OF THE DISASTER.

(From the Cincinnati Commercial, of Jan. 29th.)

About 12 o'clock last night, a P. & M. train from Cincinnati, on the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad, when about one mile east of North Lewisburg, Champaign county, Ohio, was thrown from the track by the collision of the train with a freight train, when about one mile east of North Lewisburg, Champaign county, Ohio, was thrown from the track by the collision of the train with a freight train.

The freight train, which was loaded with coal, was moving westward, and the passenger train, which was moving eastward, was struck from behind. The passenger train was thrown from the track, and the engine and several cars were derailed.

The accident occurred near a curve in the track, and the passenger train was unable to stop in time. The engine and several cars were derailed, and the train was thrown from the track.

The passenger train was carrying a large number of passengers, and the accident resulted in several injuries. The engine and several cars were derailed, and the train was thrown from the track.

The freight train was carrying a large amount of coal, and the accident resulted in the loss of several cars. The engine and several cars were derailed, and the train was thrown from the track.

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CITY BULLETIN.

Those who are fond of sleighing, now having an opportunity to enjoy themselves. The sleighing has never been better in this vicinity. Even upon the streets occupied by the passenger railway tracks, the light cutters can glide along smoothly, as the salt prohibition with the ordinance has completely cleared the streets in full force.

The sudden change in the temperature on Wednesday had the effect of freezing up the spots leading from the roofs of dwellings, and the water in the gutters was frozen solid. The water in the gutters was frozen solid, and the water in the gutters was frozen solid.

SMASHING THINGS.—Thomas O'Neill and Henry Shaffer were before Alderman Massey this morning upon the charge of malicious mischief. It is alleged that they went to the tavern of Charles Bull, at Twelfth and Chestnut streets, and there they smashed the glasses and bottles of the bar.

BRITISH ASSAULT UPON A WIFE.—This morning, before Alderman Senix, Simon Fleming, residing at Richmond and Cumberland streets, was charged with assault and battery upon his wife. It is alleged that he kicked her on the head and back, and she was injured.

ANOTHER ARREST.—A man named Flanagan was arrested last night upon the charge of having been one of the party who created a disturbance at Turner's tavern, Market street near Thirteenth, knocked down the barkeeper and broke the glasses, &c. in the establishment.

DEATH.—John Donohue, who swallowed laudanum a few nights ago, because his wife had left him, died yesterday afternoon at No. 128 Broad street, where his wife had been temporarily residing. Donohue belonged to Montgomery county, and Daniel held an inquest in the case this morning.

TAXES OF 1868.—The Receiver of Taxes will not be ready before Monday, the 10th of February, to receive the taxes of 1868. The unavoidable delays in comparing the duplicates, which is being done in a very thorough manner under the supervision of the Board of Assessors, compels the postponement until the time named.

SOREK GYMNASIUM.—The tenth annual exhibition by the pupils of L. Lewis's Gymnasium (late Lewis & Hillebrand) will be given on Tuesday evening next, at the Academy of Music.

LARCENY.—Wm. Kelly was committed this morning for a further hearing by Alderman Dallas, on the charge of having stolen a lot of shoes from a store in Ninth and Suffolk streets, on Tuesday night last.

SKATING PARKS.

EASTWICK SKATING PARK. THE CELEBRATED MAIGHER BROTHERS, FROM CANADA, WILL SKATE AT THE PARK ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON AT 2 O'CLOCK. Single admission upon this occasion will be 25 cents, or three tickets for \$1.

CENTRAL SKATING PARK, Fifteenth and Wallace Streets. ICE REFRIGERATED ORDER. BEAUTIFUL SKATING ALL DAY. MUSIC AND ILLUMINATION. Second and Last Grand Coterie Fantastique.

HARBISON SKATING PARK. SNOW IS ALL REMOVED. The Ice is Like a Mirror. A Fairy Scene Nightly. MUSIC AFTERNOON AND EVENING. NO LIQUOR SOLD ON THE PREMISES. Special Police force always in attendance.

WEST PHILADELPHIA PARK. SNOW REMOVED AT GREAT EXPENSE. ICE FINE. GRAND FANCY DRESS CONTEST AND FIREWORKS BY PROFRASO JACKSON TONIGHT. Take Market Street and Walnut Street Cars.

STREETS PARK, SOUTH THIRD AND MORRIS. STREETS, was flooded at midnight. Endless new surface of ice. Snow all removed. Skating all day. No admittance after 10 o'clock.

AMUSEMENTS. See Third Page for Additional Amusements. MR. CHARLES DICKENS WILL READ AT THE CONCERT HALL, PHILADELPHIA, TO-NIGHT (FRIDAY), JAN. 31.

"DAVID COPPERFIELD" THE READING OF THE HOLY TRINE INN. THE READING OF THE HOLY TRINE INN. THE READING OF THE HOLY TRINE INN.

GROCERIES, LIQUORS, &c. TABLE SHERRY. Just received, a new invoice of One Hundred and Fifty Eight Cases 20 gallons each Choice Table Sherry, from the Cape, Demijohn or Case.

RETAIL DRY GOODS. 110 CHESTNUT STREET. E. M. NEEDLES & CO., Eleventh and Chestnut Streets, GIRDERS ROW. Offer extra inducements in price and splendid assortment of CHEMISTRIES, in this material.

PAINTINGS, &c.

HORTICULTURAL HALL. FINE ARTS. 1868. At the solicitation of many of our patrons, we have decided to make a GRAND PUBLIC SALE of our Magnificent Collection of OIL PAINTINGS, which has been and still is on exhibition at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts.

The sale will be conducted by Messrs. THOMAS & SONS, at Horticultural Hall, Broad Street, on the Evenings of 3d and 4th of February. Catalogues can be had at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Messrs. Thomas & Sons, and 819 Chestnut St.

BAILEY & CO. LOOKING GLASSES. At Low Prices. Novelties in Chromo Lithographs, Fine Engravings, New Galleries of Paintings, NOW OPEN.

With late arrivals of CHOICE PICTURES. JAMES S. EARLE & SONS, 816 Chestnut Street. CARPETINGS, &c. 1868. 1868. REMOVAL.

McCALLUM, CREASE & SLOAN, FROM Their Late Retail Warehouses, 519 Chestnut Street, 70 NO. 509 CHESTNUT STREET, where, with increased facilities, they will in future conduct their

Wholesale and Retail CARPET BUSINESS. NEW CARPET STORE. E. H. GODSHALK & CO. Have opened with a NEW Stock of FINE CARPETINGS, Oil Cloths, Matting, &c. 723 Chestnut Street. PRINTING. PLAIN AND FANCY JOB BOOK BINDING.

JOB BINDING, in all the latest styles, neatly executed. I have just received the following: THE TRUTH AND CONSIDERABLE HOPE'S MALT EXTRACT BEVERAGE OF HEALTHY AND NUTRITIOUS CHARACTER. We are also prepared to do all kinds of work requiring the most delicate finish.

It is remarkable that all physicians agree for once in opinion that the most valuable and most nutritious beverage of health is highly extractive, not only in its nutritive value, but in its medicinal properties. It is the only beverage that is both palatable and nutritious. It is the only beverage that is both palatable and nutritious.

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