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IN the general history of Montreal, from about the period of the conquest of Canada, with which we concluded our last chapter, to the commencement of the American Revolutionary War, there are few events of importance to interest us. Before, however, commencing the history of this momentous period, in so far as it regards the subject of our present enquiries, we think it proper cursorily to relate one or two accidents of a domestic nature, which had nearly the melancholy effect of consigning Montreal to ashes. On Sunday, the 25th of May, 1765, a dreadful and most alarming fire broke out in the City, but the manner, or by whom it was occasioned has never yet been clearly ascertained. There being no fire-engines in order at the time, nor a sufficient number of buckets to be had; and the wind being besides very high, the conflagration consumed one hundred and eighty houses before its ravages could be arrested. The actual loss thus occasioned was estimated at one hundred and eighty thousand pounds sterling; but fortunately no lives were lost. On the 11th of April, 1768, another calamity of a similar nature, was also experienced. A fire broke out in the stable of one of the sufferers in the late conflagration, in the upper town, and its being pretty cold at the time, and the wind blowing rather freshly from North-West, the flames soon reached

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