

goods onto the boat, boots and shoes in particular, when the son of the owner of the boat came along and would not submit to any further delay, not knowing the understanding between his father and myself, about the boat remaining. He took an axe and cut the ropes that held her to the dock and in spite of his efforts, she was carried into the blazing oil, and goods and boat were burned.

Thirty-two buildings were devoured by the flames in two hours and twenty minutes, amongst the rest my store. My goods were carried out of the store to a certain extent, but a large portion were lost, and I sustained at least three thousand dollars loss by fire that day. As Reeve, I appointed eight or nine constables to look after the goods that were scattered around. I then retired, but not for long. The call came that the constables had put a man in the lock-up and it was necessary that he be taken out or there would be trouble; the jail would be torn down. He came with a fire brigade which had been asked to help, and they felt very much insulted because he had been put in the lock-up. Arriving at the jail with difficulty, I got in and let him out, because the offence was not sufficient to cause his arrest. The town afterwards had to pay for his arrest.

For a little time it was a question of what would be wisest and best to do under the circumstances. My building was burned, but during the fire I had secured a store to put in what had been saved of my stock, while the fire was burning. I arranged with a fellow sufferer to put up a fire wall between us. He went on to build and I had the work of calling on the government, who responded to the gratification of the sufferers, and granted them the sum of fifteen hundred dollars to tide them over in their most distressing cases. This gave us as a council, considerable work to adjust, for there were many claimants and the sum when divided was not very large. But we succeeded with all, except in the case of one man.

After the lapse of a few days, I had determined to rebuild upon the old site, and after gathering dry lumber, going to the woods and getting sufficient