

Terrible Calamity by Fire.

LONDON, June 16.

A fire broke out to day in the extensive carpet manufacturing and woolen works at Ayer, belonging to James Templeton. The fire was caused by the friction of machinery, and spread to all parts of the building. The operatives were at work at the time. It is believed all the men except one escaped. A number of women rushed out saying there were others inside unable to escape. Soon afterwards there were twenty four women buried in the ruins and perished. One woman who leaped from an upper window, was so badly injured that she died soon after being taken to the hospital. It is reported that an overseer named Barr, locked the door of the room in which the female operatives were working. But himself perished in the flames, and it is impossible to ascertain the truth of the report; but as the women had ample time to escape the catastrophe, it is otherwise inexplicable. The works were entirely destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$200,000.

Saunders's paper warehouses caught fire to-day and was destroyed with all its contents. The warehouse was situated next the burned building on Brooks' wharf, and ignited from the smouldering remains of Thursday's. Loss, \$150,000.

In the fire at Brooks' wharf last evening 40,000 chests of tea were burned.

Another great Fire.

St. Jovse, Que., June 18—11 a.m.

About eight this morning fire was discovered in the lumber piles in rear of Bouquet's saw mill. It soon grew till the large piles of lumber and saw mills were in flames. A heavy south wind was blowing at the time and the fire spread with great rapidity. About 8:45 a.m. it had extended to the corner of Partition street, having destroyed the Custom House, the Post Office, Telegraph and Express Offices. The fire continued to spread till at 10:45. The whole of Richelieu street from South to North was in flames; but a building was saved on this, the principal business street. It is reported that eighty thousand dollars worth of flannel was burned with the woolen mill. The east side of Champlain street is also in flames. It may safely be stated that in value, half, or two thirds of the town is destroyed. Assistance is expected from Montreal.

LATER.—The fire is spreading and the people were fleeing for their lives, being stifled with the smoke. The scene was really heartrending to see mothers grouping in dense smoke calling their children and bewailing their loss.

The Post Office, Custom House, both hotels, several splendid stores with their contents, and the Telegraph office on Richelieu street were burned down; in fact the whole place is in ruins, and the loss is estimated at about one million dollars.

LATER.—11:45 p. m.—The fire is completely extinguished with exception of smouldering ruins, and the danger may be considered over.



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REFERENCES.—By kind permission we refer to the following: Franklin S. Lane, Louisville, drew \$1,000. Miss Hattie Barker, Charleston, \$2,000. Mrs. Louis F. Blake, Saint Paul, Piano, \$7,000. Samuel V. Raymond, Boston, \$5,000. Eugene P. Brackett, Pittsburg, Watch, \$200. Miss Annie Uggood, New Orleans, \$3,000. Emory L. Pratt, Columbus, Ohio, \$7,000.

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