



The wreckers at work clearing away the mass of fallen brick and stone on Bay Street, two days after the fire.

about \$600,000 worth of general dry goods destroyed. The Gutta Percha & Rubber Mfg. Co's warehouse opposite, on the south of Front Street, was the next victim and while it lasted provided the fiercest conflagration of the night. The fire working its way up Bay Street, destroyed rows of offices and warehouse buildings, leaving nothing but blackened and twisted walls, and smoking piles of debris of what had been in the morning imposing buildings filled with valuable stocks.

It was here that one of the peculiar vagaries of the great destroyer was exhibited when sheets of flames burst from the W. R. Brock Co's warehouse on the corner of Bay and Wellington Streets. This building was at first thought to have escaped, but it was soon manifest that the interior had been on fire for some time.

here were the Copp Clarke Co., \$175,000; Warwick Bros. & Rutter, \$200,000; W. J. Gage & Co., \$250,000; Brereton & Manning, \$125,000; Chas. Cockshutt & Co., Wm. Croft & Sons; Ames Holden & Co.; \$35,000, and the Gutta Percha and Rubber Mfg. Co., \$500,000. These figures can necessarily only be approximate but they serve to show the tremendous loss of stock in this section. Fortunately most of the losers were well covered with insurance. A small park separating the Queen's Hotel from the Warwick building proved the salvation of this hostelry, although the western wall of the hotel was subjected to the heat and flames for over an hour. This building on the north side of Front Street, and the A. R. Williams Co's warehouse on the south side marked the western boundary of the fire.

The flames now commenced their work of destruction on Bay Street north from Front, first attacking the large warehouse of the Gordon Mackay & Co. This building, one of the most substantial in the business district, was soon a mass of flames, and