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LATEST NEWS FROM WINNIPEG.

THE AFTER EVENTS OF THE BIG FIRE IN M'INTYRE'S BLOCK.

NEW GOODS IN THE MARKET—CHANGES IN FIRMS—THE TRAVELERS' HALL—OTHER ITEMS OF TRADE INTEREST.

From THE DRY GOODS REVIEW'S Special Correspondent

WINNIPEG, February 25, 1898.

THE dry goods world of Winnipeg has not lacked for happenings during the past month. Perhaps first among these ranks the big fire at the McIntyre block. I notice in looking over last month's notes that the McIntyre block was mentioned as the home of the representatives of eastern factories and wholesale houses, and now the fraternity of agents are homeless, or nearly so. It is difficult for many of them to get anything like suitable sample rooms. As to the fire, it is ancient history to most of your readers by this time. Suffice it to say that it cleaned out nine retail stores, fifty law offices, the Manitoba University rooms, several halls for fraternal societies, and a whole colony of the manufacturers' agents aforesaid.

The cause of the fire is as much a mystery to-day as it was the morning of the 2nd inst., when the people were roused from their beds and had to get out of the block in their night clothes. There is a good deal of speculation rife as to the rebuilding of the block, as it is known that the will of the late Alexander McIntyre contained a clause forbidding the rebuilding of the block by his estate if totally destroyed. The site is such an important one, standing as it does on the west side of Main street, between the post office and Portage avenue, that it will be eagerly coveted for buildings. In fact, it is rumored that already a bank has bought fifty feet of the site, but this cannot be definitely verified. The whole frontage of the burned block was about 225 feet. Among the fire sufferers were Mackay Bros. & Norris, carrying a very handsome stock of general dry goods, to which they had added the day before some \$1,500 worth of spring goods, and on this stock there was no insurance. Their loss was absolute; in fact, the whole of their store was consumed, and the ceilings had fallen in before one of the partners knew it was on fire. Up to the present they have not found a suitable location for reopening business.

The Arcade, Furner & Co., one of the largest retail millinery establishments, was also situated in this block, and their stock was a total loss. Fortunately, their spring goods had not arrived, so that they will have their new stock to open with. They have secured premises in the Fould's block, a few doors north of the Market square, and will commence business again to-day. Of course, this location is a very poor one compared with the place they had to leave, but it was Hobson's choice. Miss Maycock, fancy goods and toys, another fire sufferer, has moved into the same block.

On the morning of the fire Craig & Co., Golden Lion departmental store, assigned to the official assignee. The meeting of creditors has been held. The failure is looked upon as rather a bad one, as the liabilities are over \$80,000 and the assets are about \$54,000. It is currently reported that Craig & Co. will not resume business, and that Mackay Bros. & Norris are negotiating for the stock and stand. The building is on the corner of Main and James streets, and was erected specially for Craig & Co.

Another change is the announcement of dissolution of partnership of Dunwoody & Steen. This firm occupy a good stand directly opposite the post office. The Imperial Dry Goods Co. is seeking incorporation with a view of conducting this business for the future. Some of the members are from the east, but the personnel of the company is not yet public.

Mr. Whinnery, chief buyer for Stobart, Sons & Co. is at present in Europe on a purchasing trip and when your correspondent