

regain our sleeping rooms, that she might obtain some clothing, but the fire and the smoke was then too great. The Captain cried out to her to leave the steamer immediately. They were then taking the women and children out of windows. My mother let herself down by a rope and got safe to the wharf. We were both barefooted and in our night shirts, and it was raining. It was about one o'clock, a mass of flames which rose up very rapidly like fiery serpents all the while, and could to be seen through the country for a great many miles in the darkness. A kind watchman took off his coat and put it on me; he then opened a store, lighted fire and gave us shelter for the night. The rest of the passengers got into a hotel. As the last was snatched off board, the steamer's fastening gave way, and it bounded back into the water. At daylight, I went alone, barefooted, not far below the store, and saw the fireman who threw the water on a fire which was nearly extinguished, about four o'clock. The cracking of the timbers in the steamer was dreadful. I met the passenger who, accompanied with the steward and passengers, and brought them to the store. They thought we had perished in the flames—and also gave me some clothes. Also my mother had saved my trowsers and one stocking in her carpet bag. We then proceeded to the hotel where I met the passengers. They were all delighted to see us, and we all rejoiced and were thankful that God had spared our lives, though we had lost all our worldly property, except a little money that my mother saved, and bought us clothes on Monday.

On Tuesday, at nine p. m., we started for Toronto, 333 miles by the railcars, and arrived at a quarter past two o'clock, afternoon, on Wednesday. Many friends in Toronto were glad to see us, but sorry to hear of our misfortunes. We stopped a few days here. Then visited Acton, Guelph and Norval. We returned to Toronto. We found it had been notified in the newspaper that my cork leg was found, it had not been badly burnt, but had been stolen from the boat during the fire. We left Toronto and returned to live with my uncle John in Tecumseth for some weeks. We are now residing on Church street in Bradford, and then to a house on a hill, right above the village of Bradford. I must not tell you any more at present.