

York will be disturbed. The losses most severely to be felt and deplored, will be those of widows and orphans, whose property has been invested in stocks.

We had written thus far, when a well informed gentleman called with the following calculations and estimates. It corresponds very nearly with our own.

The estimation of the buildings burned is 570. If we estimate these at \$6000 each, it will give in round numbers three millions and a half of dollars. And if we estimate the value of merchandize in each building at twenty thousand dollars destroyed, it will give about eleven millions; making in all about fourteen millions and a half. And though it may appear that the estimate of the value of the merchandize of each store is low, yet it is believed that the property saved will reduce the amount to this average. Two thirds of this property it is believed was insured—say ten millions. And if the insurance companies each had an average share, their capital, which amounts to \$11,750,000, would pay the whole loss. But we apprehend that it will be found that many of our offices have but small amounts covered by them, while other of our offices have taken an amount far exceeding their capitals. It is also probable that the insurance offices of Boston and Philadelphia will come in to bear a small portion of the loss. The above, although mere matter of opinion, will help our citizens from the data given to correct this estimate, or form opinions for themselves. In one respect the disaster has befallen us at a most fortunate period. It is the season of the year when the stocks of goods are reduced to the minimum quantity; and the autumnal sales have this year been so great, that as a general rule, very diminished stocks were on hand.

This is not a time to suggest modes of assistance or relief to the hundreds who are ruined by this terrible calamity, but something must be done. The government will no doubt see the propriety and necessity of taking instant measures to relieve the merchants who have custom house bonds arriving at maturity; but what can be done for the fire insurance companies, all of which have doubtless lost all their capital, is more than we can conjecture. The consequences must be dreadful. The prosperity of the city has never been subjected to a shock so terrible. During the night all descriptions of carriages were in the immediate vicinity of the fire, either waiting to remove books, driving away with merchandize, or in attendance upon those who were watching the progress of the flames.

Pearl street, from Hanover square to Broad street, was made a depository for piece goods; and piles valued at perhaps half a million, were burnt.

Old slip was also filled with every species of valuable property, which was destroyed.

In the course of twenty minutes from the commencement of the fire, not only the building in which it originated, but the whole on both sides of the street to Pearl street were in a blaze. Never was a more rapid extension of the flames.

The Post Office, in which everything was saved, has been removed to the Custom house.

The Gazette, Daily Advertiser, and the American, newspaper offices, are destroyed, together with all the machine presses of the establishments.

POSTSCRIPT.—*One o'clock, P. M.*—The fire has been mastered, and, we rejoice to learn, did not cross Coentie's slip, nor advance any farther south upon Paul street.

We are gratified that we are enabled to state that the banks, with one accord, are acting in this emergency upon a scale of the most extended liberality. To day, the officers have "taken the responsibility," in all neces-

sary cases, of "doing as they would be done by." A meeting of bank directors is to be held to-morrow for farther consultation.

From the New York Courier.

The following will be found a tolerable accurate statement of the number of Houses and Stores now levelled with the ground.

26 on Wall-street, 79 on Pearl-street, 37 on South-street; 76 on Water-street, 80 on Front-street, 16 on Hanover-street, 62 on Exchange place, 31 on Exchange-street, 44 on William-street, 33 on Old slip, 16 on Counties slip, 60 on Stone-street, 3 on Hanover square, 23 on Beaver street, 20 on Gouverneur's Lane, 10 on Jones' Lane, 20 on Cuyler's Alley, 33 on Mill-street. Total 674.

From the Boston Centinel, December 21.

The New-York Mercantile Advertiser says, "A mistaken impression exists with some that the Marine Insurance Companies of this city are seriously affected by the late Fires. We are requested to state that the Marine Companies of this city do not unite the Fire and Marine business, as is usually done in other cities—consequently the Marine Companies here do not lose a dollar on their policies by the late calamity."

There are twenty-five Fire Insurance Companies in New York, with a total capital of \$8,950,000.—Eleven of them will be able to pay all their losses by the fire.

The Secretary of the Treasury has assumed the responsibility of directing the United States Attorney to suspend proceedings on such Custom House Bonds as may be reported to him unpaid, in consequence of the derangement of mercantile business by the late disastrous conflagration.

The United States Bank is to loan the Insurance Companies \$2,600,000,—receiving a transfer of mortgages to the same amount.

It is estimated that the catastrophe has thrown out of present employment nearly 3000 clerks, porters, cartmen, &c. &c.—many of them with families to support, and no dependence but their daily earnings.

\$10,000 worth of goods stolen during the fire were discovered on Saturday night by one of the New York Aldermen, concealed in two houses.

A committee of investigation, appointed to inquire into the origin of the fire, have reported, after diligent enquiry, that it was accidental and probably occasioned by the bursting of a gas pipe, and the distribution of the gas until it came in contact with the coals in a stove or grate of the store in which it originated.

In the wide spread devastation at New York, the mercantile community of this city and vicinity have come in for a considerable share. Several of our Insurance Companies have suffered considerably.

The whole cargo of the ship Paris, of Salem, from Canton, just landed, including about 7000 chests of tea, valued at about \$200,000, and owned in Salem, is said to be destroyed—*Boston paper.*

MORE FIRES IN NEW YORK.—Between 10, and 11 o'clock on Tuesday night the 15th inst, a fire broke out in a four story brick store, No 173, Water street, between Baring slip and Fletcher street, occupied by Messrs. Fullerton & Pickering, hollow and hardware store—this store, with all its contents, was destroyed.

The New York Commercial Advertiser of Wednesday, states further that before the fire in water street was got under, another broke out in Christie street, between Rivington and Delancy streets, where several buildings were burnt. Between 12 and 1 o'clock, while the fire was raging in Christie street, one of the high walls of the store in Water street, fell

upon a brick three story building and set it on fire, which communicated to several adjoining buildings. West, and also to Fletcher street. —*Id.*

GREAT FIRE AT CHERAW, S. C.—Extract from a letter dated Cheraw, Dec. 9.—"A large portion of the business part of this town, was destroyed by fire to day, which broke out in the drug store of Mr J. Westervelt, on Front street, about 12 o'clock and a brisk westerly wind soon communicated the flames to the adjoining buildings, and in about three hours a large number of stores on front street, with most of their contents, together with several hundred bales of cotton in the yards and sheds, were destroyed. The loss will be heavy, but most of the sufferers were insured either wholly or in part.

The Cheraw Gazette estimates the loss at 2 to 300,000 dollars; less than half of which is insured.

FROM TEXAS.—The troops from New Orleans, amounting to 500 men, had arrived at head quarters. A skirmish had taken place near Bexar, in which the Mexicans were repulsed with some loss, and compelled to retire into the town. A gentleman who arrived at New Orleans on the 25th ultimo from Nacogdoches, brought information that Gen. Cos and all his forces had capitulated and surrendered themselves prisoners of war—being forced thereto by want of provisions in Bexar. This however is only rumour. In consequence of this the delegates to the general council, who had deferred assembling in order to attend to the more urgent business of fighting, were repairing to the appointed place of meeting.

The Texans appear to be confident and full of spirit and animation.

THE BEE.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JAN'Y 6, 1836.

WEST RIVER, 30th December, 1835.

THE District Convention of Delegates from Temperance Societies was this day held in the Meeting House, the Rev. James Ross in the Chair. The following is a list of the Delegates who were present, and the Societies they represented:

	No. of Members
Rev. J. Ross, A. Smith, W. Clark, D. McLeod, E. McLeod, J. S. Clark, Isaac Matheson,	362
A. D. Gordon, J. Fogo, jr. J. Dawson, F. Beattie,	84
John Campbell, East River, L. S.	160
R. Grant, W. Robieson, do. U. S.	169
Wm. McLeod, Mount Thom,	30
Merigomish, River John, Middle River, and Upper Settlement West River, not represented	

A very appropriate Address was delivered before the Meeting by Mr J. Fogo, jr., when it was moved by Mr. D. McLeod, seconded by Mr. George McDonald, and Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention be given to Mr. Fogo, for his Address.

Mr. Gordon then submitted a statement of the quantity of spirituous liquors imported into Pictou, in 1835, showing an increase over the imports of the preceding year, of more than 5000 gallons,—that for 1835 amounting to 35,239 gallons; he then contrasted the value of this (£8809 15,) at 5s per gallon, with the exports of Agricultural produce for the same period, from the port of Pictou, showing, that the chief part, if not the whole, of this valuable class of our exports, are consumed in this pernicious article.

The following Resolutions were then unanimously passed, after being introduced by appropriate speeches from the several movers.

1st—Resolved, That it be strongly recommended to the Delegates assembled at this convention, to urge upon the several Societies with which they are con-