

prevent their spreading, there being no hope of saving the building. As the morning advanced crowds of citizens flocked to the scene of the conflagration. About six o'clock the whole roof had become one mass of flame, the stained windows were melted, and the falling of the spire was momentarily looked for. The *Evening Telegraph*, in its report, says:—"The chief point of attraction now was the burning spire of St. Andrew's church. It was evident that it would not stand long. It was enveloped in flames, which shot fiercely up to the sky, as if eager for more to destroy. The sight was indescribably grand. The saddest feeling came over

the spectator as he saw one of the finest spires in the city now a tall column of flame. It was two hundred feet high; one hundred feet of stone, and the upper hundred feet of wood and galvanized iron. The wind soon began to shake the spire, and the indications were that it would fall across Lagachetière street. The spectators were pressed back. Fears were entertained for the safety of the houses on the south side of Lagachetière street. The residents made every preparation for the expected calamity. After swaying and tottering some minutes the burning spire came down with a tremendous crash, and the frightened spectators rushed wildly from the

danger, but only to come back again. It turned a complete somersault. As it fell, it broke near the middle, and the upper part came straight down, the point striking on the sidewalk about a foot outside the stone wall surrounding the church. It fell across the street, the base striking and sweeping away the porticos of the houses opposite, occupied by Dr. Wanless and Mrs. Inglis. The lower part of the wooden spire fell at the base of the tower within the railing around the church. It was fortunate that it broke and fell as it did; for if it had fallen on the houses opposite on Lagachetière street it would have swept them down and added fresh fuel to the fire."



THE BURNING OF THE CHURCHES, MONTREAL, 21ST OCTOBER.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

The firemen continued to play upon the burning mass; and the roof fell in, after showering an immense quantity of burning cinders on some of the neighbouring buildings, one of which—THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH—caught fire in the roof; but the flames were extinguished before any serious damage had been done.

THE CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH.—When the fire in the ruins of St. Andrew's Church was nearly extinguished, smoke was observed issuing from the roof of the Church of the Messiah (Unitarian), situated opposite to St. Andrew's. The cinders

and burning chips carried from St. Andrew's Church had so heated the slate that the woodwork of the roof had been set on fire, and had been burning for some time before the fire was discovered, for when, about eight o'clock in the morning, this new alarm was given, the firemen found the fire very far advanced. They succeeded in partially extinguishing the flames, but the roof soon fell in, nevertheless, doing considerable damage to the interior of the Church. After the falling in of the roof, the fire was immediately extinguished.

St. Andrew's church was opened for public worship on January 12, 1861. It was one of the finest ecclesiastical

structures in the city; built after the model of Salisbury Cathedral. It cost \$64,000 and was insured for \$37,000. The organ, built by Mr. Warren, cost \$5,000 and was insured for \$3,000. The Rev. Dr. Mathieson has been pastor of the Congregation since 1826. For the present the congregation meet for public worship in the lecture room of McGill College, every Sunday at the usual hours; but steps will be immediately taken to rebuild the church.

The Unitarian church was insured for \$18,000, and it is estimated that it will cost some \$9,000 or \$10,000 to replace the roof and otherwise repair the damage done by the fire.