

Destructive Fire at Smith's Falls

The main part of the Frost & Wood Company's agricultural implement plant was destroyed by fire on Feb. 8th. The big machine shop, with its very costly machinery, the carpenter shop with its entire contents, the paint shop and the plow shop are a mass of ruins. Their large blacksmith shop was badly damaged but not ruined. In a short time it can be repaired and in working order again.

The fire is supposed to have started in the vicinity of the dry kilns, and notwithstanding the fact that two night watchmen were on duty it got considerable headway before it was discovered. The fire was a hard one to fight on account of the size and arrangement of the buildings, and burned fiercely from 3 a.m. till 7 a.m. when it was gotten under control. The loss, while extremely heavy, was well covered by insurance. The large moulding shop, together with a pattern building which adjoined it, was unharmed and this leaves the company in an excellent position to go right on and supply the demand for their machinery. Their big warehouse containing their entire season's output was untouched by the flames, and while the company is hampered for the time being they are very far from being "out of business" or incapable of supplying machines to fill their orders. The work of clearing away the debris is well under way, and as soon as possible the company will begin to erect new buildings, bigger and better equipped than ever. They are going at it in the right way and are certainly bound to succeed.

In the meantime they intend to put up some temporary quarters, and in that way look after the large business they handle throughout the entire Dominion. This company was established as a private business in the year 1839, and is, therefore, one of the oldest manufacturing concerns in the Dominion.

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