





Dreadful Conflagration.

About One Hundred Buildings, and a vast amount of other Property in ruins.

It is with feelings of sorrow and consternation that we again sit down to record the visitation of our devoted city, with the most terrible and uncontrollable of elements, FIRE. But but little more than two years have elapsed since the misfortune of St. John was visited on the night of Saturday, January 11, 1857, with a tremendous conflagration, which had in ruins one-third of the most flourishing mercantile part of the city, and consumed the property of the most respectable and wealthy citizens. The destruction of valuable property, and nearly half the community began, took like, to rise in renewed vigour from the ashes of the first night of Saturday, January 11, 1857, with a tremendous conflagration, which had in ruins one-third of the most flourishing mercantile part of the city, and consumed the property of the most respectable and wealthy citizens.

CAUSE OF EXPLOSION AT SOUTH HEADS.

A most dreadful and lamentable explosion, attended with a vast sacrifice of human life, occurred at the S. H. H. Co's property, Messrs. W. and J. Briggs, on the 21st inst. The explosion was caused by the explosion of a quantity of gunpowder, which was being used in the construction of a new pier. The explosion was caused by the explosion of a quantity of gunpowder, which was being used in the construction of a new pier. The explosion was caused by the explosion of a quantity of gunpowder, which was being used in the construction of a new pier.

It would be both impossible and invidious to particularize individual exertions at a scene like this, where so many were indefatigable and untiring; but it is to our Government to be ascribed the services of the military, both Officers and men, were exceedingly valuable, both in guarding property and in assisting the fire engines; and the assistance derived from the copious supply of water from the Water Company's plug at Messrs. Barlow's corner, was invaluable. Had such a beneficial aid been attainable, would have been more extensive, and an immense amount of property might have been saved from destruction.

SOUTH MARKET WHARF.

Wooden Building belonging to Mrs. Hugh Johnston, lower part occupied by John G. G. Grocers, and occupied by Messrs. E. Kelly and J. Floyd, Grocers. Wooden Building owned by Mr. G. T. Ray, occupied by Messrs. W. A. O. Smith, Druggist, Mr. James Johnston as a Clothing Store, and Mr. John Marshall. Wooden Building owned by Mr. Geo. Whitlock, occupied by Messrs. Agnew, Watchmaker, Grocer, and Mr. N. P. Alexander, Grocer.

Extensive range of Wooden Buildings, owned and occupied by Messrs. Ketchford & Brothers, General Commission Merchants.

Wooden Building owned by Mr. J. W. M. Frick, occupied by Messrs. Mackay, Brothers & Co. merchants. Wooden Building owned by Mr. G. Waterbury, occupied by Mr. A. Burgoine. Wooden Building owned by Mr. W. S. Waterbury, occupied by Mr. A. Burgoine. Wooden Building owned by Mr. W. S. Waterbury, occupied by Mr. A. Burgoine.

WOODEN BUILDING OWNED BY MESSRS. CROOKSHANK & WALKER, GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

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On motion of E. D. W. Ketchford, Esq., seconded by James Whitney, Esq.

Resolved, That the Hon. the Lieutenant Governor be respectfully requested to call the Legislature together with as little delay as possible, for the purpose of their taking into consideration the calamitous and appalling ravages from the late awful conflagration in this City, and for adopting such measures for the prevention of the like calamity in future as in their wisdom may be deemed expedient.

On motion of E. D. W. Ketchford, Esq., seconded by James Whitney, Esq.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed for the purpose of taking up Subscriptions and Petitions for the relief of the sufferers from the late awful conflagration in this City, and for adopting such measures for the prevention of the like calamity in future as in their wisdom may be deemed expedient.

Detachment of the Royal Artillery at the late fire, and shall have much pleasure in making the same known to them.

Believe me dear Sir, your obedient Servant. R. F. HAZEL, Esquire, &c. &c. &c. Major Robert Brookes, Commanding the 6th Regiment of Royal Artillery.

On motion of E. D. W. Ketchford, Esq., seconded by James Whitney, Esq.

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LETTERS FROM AUSTRALIA.

I never could recommend thoughtless young men to come out to the colonies (says Mr. Leigh in his new work, of 'Fogies and Follies in South Australia') abandoning the employment of their hands for the sake of a few shillings in Australia, where nothing but the strictest perseverance can make way. The comforts of society must be abandoned for a while; years must elapse before you can think of enjoying the comforts of happy England. The want, not merely of luxuries, but of even the necessities of life, must often be submitted to. Then, after all your toil in preparing your fever-bone, you are secure from disappointment, since the long drought to which these climes are subject may destroy all your labour, and leave the once verdant field, upon which you reposed all your hopes, a brown and withered wilderness. Forget, if it be possible, that you have lived in England; forget all your former enjoyments, and your native with your adopted country, and then, with your wife and domestics, your little home, though rude as the huts which hold our slaves by fetters in Brazil, you may have more comfort; indeed, I have spent six years, and as happy a night in a hut composed of bark and reeds, or under a log hut, as I ever enjoyed in the vicinity of Turkey carpets, portulac and fine wines. There is a peculiar fascination in these scenes—a freedom that exhilarates. There is nothing so full of pleasure among the vandy dunes. The delightful part of the day is spent by the women in the more substantial and beneficial occupation of the kitchen. In using the word 'kitchen,' I should explain that it does not exactly mean a receptacle for hot coals, fat joints, and greasy scullions; but a place where one sees a fire, a pot swung at a peg, a bench, a bundle of wood, perhaps a dog or two lying by the fire—Miss, or Sally, and some occasionally crackling a faggot, which her good little brother had been carrying out down behind the hut—a piece of tallowing over her head, sometimes her hair is right by the fire, and on the left by the back—This is the kind of kitchen most in fashion in those parts, and when a young man, with a countenance of a long-ears, or a young woman, with a magnificent appearance about two or three o'clock in the day, when the cloth is laid upon two benches, on trestles, just in the shade of a fine young gentleman.

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