

## DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

### MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED BUILDINGS DESTROYED.

Since the publication of our yesterday's paper there have occurred the most disastrous fires which have happened since the great conflagration of December, 1835. By other fires a greater amount of pecuniary loss has doubtless been sustained, but by none since that period have so many families been turned homeless into the streets—by none has so much individual misery been caused.

The first fire was in Washington street, No. 151, owned by Mr. Donohue, and occupied by Mr. Flacke and Mr. Mulligan. It was extinguished with but a small amount of damage to the building. This was about two o'clock.

At half past two the second fire broke out in the rear of the grocery store, corner of Delancey and Chrystie streets, occupied by Mr. Schienberger. It originated, so far as we can understand, from throwing a glass of liquor into the stove, by means of which the chimney took fire, and communicated the flames to an adjoining wood house, and from thence to several other frame tenements in the immediate vicinity. Nearly all the buildings in the immediate neighborhood were of the most combustible description—old frame houses, huddled closely together. The wind was blowing a gale from the northwest and so great was the headway under which the fire had got before any means could be taken to arrest its progress, that at one time it appeared as if that whole section of the city must be destroyed. Large masses of cinders and flaming brands were carried to an almost incredible distance by the force of the wind, setting fire to the roofs of houses in all directions, and it was only by the most unwearied exertions of the fire department and the citizens generally that a stop was at last put to the spread of the conflagration.

From the number and nature of the buildings destroyed it is impossible to give a complete list of their occupants, or to make an estimate of the loss, which would even approximate to correctness. Such particulars as we have been able to collect will be found below.

#### ON CHRYSIE STREET.

No. 128, owned and occupied by John Bronberger, a frame building. It was slightly injured in the rear, but the principal loss was by removal of furniture.

No. 130. A stable occupied by Mr. H. Underhill, considerably damaged.

Nos. 132, 134, 136 and 138. The front buildings were but little if any injured.

No. 140. Frame building, owned by S. Clarke, and occupied as shops by Henry Hathaway, cooper, and H. Ferguson, carpenter—destroyed. No insurance.

No. 142. Two story brick, owned by Mrs. Eliza Sigison, and occupied by her and Joshua Hart—destroyed. Insured \$1200.

No. 144. Two story brick, owned by Jas. G. Reynolds, and occupied by him and Mrs. Abler—destroyed.

No. 146. Two story brick, owned by Jas. G. Reynolds, and occupied by Wm. B. Davidson, the glass blower and spinner at the American Museum—destroyed. He is a considerable loser in furniture & glass.

No. 148. Two story frame, occupied by M. Schienberger, as a grocery. Owned by J. G. Reynolds—destroyed. This building was on the corner of Delancey street.

Mr. Reynolds, we understood, is nominally insured for an amount nearly sufficient to cover his loss, but there is some question relative to an informality by his not paying the full amount of the premium due by him.

In the rear of these buildings on Chrystie street were a cow stable and a number of tenements occupied by families, principally colored people. These tenements were all burned to the ground.

#### ON DELANCEY STREET.

The second Congregational Church, formerly known as Chase's, on the upper side of the street, is considerably damaged, and was only saved from entire destruction by great exertion.

A three story brick building, a German public house, kept by Thomas Bicklin, was considerably damaged, and much injury done to the furniture by removal.

Several fine brick buildings on the same side were more or less damaged, and the occupants losers by removal of furniture.

On the lower side of the street the following buildings were destroyed:

No. 21, owned by J. G. Reynolds, occupied by Wm. Davison as a blacksmith and wheelwright's shop. Loss—\$500—no insurance.

Nos. 23 and 25. A large brick building owned and occupied by Matthew Sayre as a marble factory. On the premises was a valuable steam engine, which appears to be pretty much destroyed. No insurance.

No. 27. Two story brick, occupied as a German porter house by Jacob Rappool, and by several German families. Also, a building in the rear, tenanted by the same class.

No. 29. A small frame building, occupied as a soap store.

No. 31. Two story frame, occupied by P. Eddy, barber. On the rear of the lot is the slaughter-house of Mr. Charles L. Carpenter, the owner of the premises.

No. 33. Two story brick, owned by Mr. Wyckoff, and occupied by Mr. Cooper and Mr. Amerman.

No. 35. Two story brick, divided into stores, which we believe were unoccupied. This building is on the corner of Forsyth street.

No. 37. (The opposite corner,) occupied as a grocery store by John Hucker. He is insured, but not to an amount to cover his loss.

No. 39. Two story brick front. Belongs to the Ridabock estate. Occupied by Job Haskell (insured for \$300) Messrs. Moran and John H. Brown.

No. 41. Two story brick front, belonging to the same estate. Occupied by Davies Farrington, and I. U. Hawxhurst. Inmates not insured.

No. 43. Two story brick front, owned by Miss Burbidge, occupied by Mrs. Baker. Partially damaged. Insured.

No. 45. Two story brick, occupied by several German families. Slightly damaged.

In the rear of the houses from No. 37, was a row of rear buildings, extending nearly through to Eldridge street. These were entirely destroyed. They were numerously inhabited.

#### ON FORSYTH STREET.

The following buildings were entirely destroyed.

No. 118. Two story brick owned by Jacob Apple, sen. and occupied by Jacob Apple, jr.

No. 120. Two story brick, occupied by John H. Hurtin.

No. 122. Two story brick, occupied by Mr. Cobank as a dwelling. Owned by Mr. King.

No. 124. Two story brick owned by Mr. Ray, occupied by Mr. Johnson.

No. 126. Two story brick occupied by John C. Cobank, Mr. Coleman and Mr. Gibson.

No. 128. A rear building destroyed. No house on the front of the lot.

No. 130. Two story brick house, owned by Mr. Matthews, occupied by James M. Tyler and Curtis Betts.

No. 132. A small brick building, owned by M. Hucker, and occupied by Mrs. Lawrence, pie baker.

No. 124. A stable belonging to Mr. Hucker.

No. 115. Two story frame, owned by Jacob Apple, occupied by John P. Cobank as a grocery.

No. 117. Two story frame, owned by Mr. Kissam, occupied by Mr. Underhill.

No. 119. Two story brick owned and occupied by Mrs. Hetherington. Insured for \$1,000.

No. 121. Two story frame occupied by Morris Hicks, (colored.)

No. 123. Two story frame, occupied by P. Davis, (colored.)

No. 125. Two story frame, occupied by Mr. King, (colored.)

No. 127. Two story frame owned and occupied by Mr. Scott. Loss \$1200. No insurance.

No. 129. Two story frame, occupied as a porter house by Mr. Hyme.

No. 131. Two story brick, occupied by Mr. Schayer, tinsmith. No insurance.

No. 133, corner of Delancey, two story brick, occupied by Francis Domingue.

#### ON BROOME STREET.

No. 296, two story brick, owned and occupied by John W. Hardenbrook, considerably damaged.

The following are all destroyed:

No. 298. Owned and occupied by Dr. Alfred S. Purdy.

No. 300. Owned and occupied by Dr. A. L. White.

No. 302. Owned and occupied by L. S. Burling.—There was an insurance of \$2,500 on this house—much of Mr. Burling's furniture was destroyed.

No. 304. Owned and occupied by Jacob Apple, Sen.

These houses were all handsome two story dwellings.

No. 306. Two story frame, occupied by H. Behrman, as a grocery, owned by Jacob Apple, destroyed, together with a stable in the rear.

#### ON ELDRIDGE STREET.

No. 101. A two story brick stable, belonging to Mr. McKie, slightly damaged.

No. 103. Two story brick dwelling, owned by Henry Dowie, and occupied by Alexander Dowie. Interior much burned. Insured.

On the rear was a brick building belonging to Mr. Niven—destroyed. No insurance.

No. 105. No house in the front. On the rear was a large double four story building, owned by Rev. Mr. Stilwell, and occupied by a number of colored families. Walls standing.

No. 107. A frame building, owned and occupied by Jane Plato, a colored woman. No insurance—destroyed.

No. 109. Two story brick, owned by W. Kellogg. Destroyed.

No. 111. Two story brick, owned by Neil Gray, and occupied by Mr. Decamp. Destroyed. Insured.

No. 113. Two story frame slightly damaged; owned and occupied by Peter Yerick. On the rear a frame building occupied by Messrs. Sweazy, Taylor, Donaldson and Scott, was entirely destroyed. Insured.

No. 115. Two story brick front, slightly damaged. Occupied by Mr. James W. Barker. Insured.

Two buildings on the other side of Eldridge street, on the block below, were set on fire by the falling cinders and much damaged. They were as follows.

No. 92. Owned and occupied by Capt. Dickinson. Fully insured.

No. 94, owned and occupied by Mrs. Harris, insured for \$1600.

The roofs of Nos. 148 and 150 Broome street, near Ridge street, were injured by fire communicated by the cinders; also the roof of a house corner of Grand and Clinton streets.

The roofs of several houses in Orchard and Essex streets were several times on fire from the burning cinders carried by the violence of the wind. Crowds of people could be seen on the house tops throwing water, and it was with difficulty many of them were saved from destruction.

We visited the ruins about nine o'clock last evening, and the scene presented to our eyes was truly deplorable; some fifty or sixty families were then in the streets, and what little furniture they saved from the fire was piled and strewed along the side walks.

The loss has fallen principally upon a portion of our poor but respectable working class. The flames spread with such rapidity that they had but little time to save what they did.

While the above fire was still burning, another broke out in the centre of the block bounded by Pearl Elm, Anthony, and Centre streets, by which about twenty more buildings were destroyed.

They were generally of but little value, but thickly populated. The following are the particulars, so far as we could obtain them:

#### ON ANTHONY STREET.

No. 120. Two story frame, occupied by a number of families, owned by the Lorillard estate. Destroyed.

No. 122. Three story brick, owned by Mrs. Costello, occupied by Anthony Blake and others. Destroyed.

No. 124. Two story frame destroyed, owned by Mrs. Costello.

No. 126. Two story frame, owned by Mr. McGloin, and occupied by Mr. Naylor and others. Destroyed.

No. 128. Two story wooden tenement, owned by Mr. Gloin and occupied by several families, destroyed. Insured.

Four wooden tenements, in the rear of Nos. 126, 124, 122 and 120, were destroyed.

#### ON ELM STREET.

No. 35. Slightly damaged; occupied by Dennis Higgins. Lost most of his furniture.

No. 37. Two story brick, occupied by Messrs. Mullen, McDermott, Hogan and Martin. Partially destroyed, and inmates lost most of their furniture.

No. 39. A two story brick house, known as the Brown Jug tavern, badly damaged.

No. 41. Two story frame occupied by John Cassidy and others. Destroyed.

No. 43, two story frame, owned by John Bolen, occupied by Thomas Bolen, destroyed.

Four of these buildings were owned by Alderman Robert Jones, of the 5th ward, and were not insured.

#### ON PEARL STREET.

The rear of Nos. 526 to 534 were all more or less injured, and in the centre of the block were buildings about as thick as the ground could hold them, and inhabited by families of the very poorest description.

The insurance upon the property destroyed, so far as we have been able to ascertain, amounts to the sum of \$250,000. The loss may be set down in round numbers at \$250,000.

A cartman, whose name we could not ascertain, was severely injured by being knocked down by his horse while removing some furniture.

A fireman named Smith, attached to No. 40, was also severely hurt.

There were rumors afloat last night that a woman and three children were burned to death, but we could trace them to no definite source.

STILL ANOTHER.—A fire broke out in the two story building corner of Maiden Lane and Nassau street, last night, at half past 12, but was got under without much trouble.

One part, No. 25, was occupied by Messrs. Gay & Johnson, as a dry goods store, and No. 25½ by F. Fraser, as a comb store. The dry goods were but little injured. The stock in the comb store was injured by water to a considerable degree.

AND YET ANOTHER SERIOUS FIRE.—A large barn, owned by Mr. Stephen Garrison, of Harsimus, near Jersey City, together with a considerable quantity of hay, was entirely consumed yesterday afternoon.

Thirty cows, which were in the barn, were burnt to cinders. The men being employed at some distance from the barn, the fire is thought to have been the work of an incendiary.