



SOLDIERS GUARD CITY. THE BURNED AREA A FORGOTTEN LAND.

THE TOWN IN COMPLETE DARKNESS—CROWDS FLOCK TO THE STRICKEN TOWN FROM NEARBY PLACES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Paterson, N. J., Feb. 9.—Paterson is in darkness to-night on account of the fire. The town is policed by the militia of the Third Battalion of the 1st Regiment, the regular police and constables. About 8 o'clock this evening Company O, from Passaic, arrived for detail duty. In spite of the fact that the Mayor had issued a proclamation setting forth that no one would be allowed within the lines of the detail, thousands of persons tried to break through so as to get at the centre of the burned district. The throngs on the street were somewhat noisy, but in no way unruly, and the soldiers had little trouble in preserving order.

Up to 10 o'clock no arrests had been made for creating a disturbance at the lines. Some of the soldiers were frequently jeered by street urchins, but none of them lost their temper. It seemed as if most of the residents living in nearby towns are in the city to-night. Afternoon trains from New-York and stations along the Erie Railroad were crowded to the platform rails. A number of women were seen standing in the baggage car of the 3 o'clock train from New-York, while others, more fortunate, were seated upon trunks. When Paterson was reached about ten men who had ridden several miles on the top of the coal box of the tender were the first to rush to the scene of the fire.

The district in which no one without a permit was allowed to enter after 7 o'clock this evening was bounded by Paterson Market, Prospect-st. and Broadway, comprising about twenty blocks.

Company K was the first to go on duty, at 6 o'clock. At 8 o'clock Company C relieved Company K, and at 10 o'clock Company M went on duty. Each company had four hours on duty at the armory and two hours in the burned district. The strength of the companies is 225. They are under command of Acting Brigadier General Edward C. Campbell, N. G. N. J.

The armory was thrown open to the homeless at 11 o'clock this morning by Captain A. Van Wagoner of Company M. Later the messroom was got in ship shape and meals were served to all the sufferers who applied for aid. This room was in charge of Sergeant Blauvelt. Thirty persons, old and young, were fed at the armory this evening. While they were eating a number of persons called and offered to find comfortable quarters for some of the more unfortunate ones. One of the offers came from a Baptist society. Many of the sufferers were privates of the regiment.

Improved beds were laid on the floor of some of the armory rooms, and these were used by many of those who were homeless and who called at the place for shelter. So quickly did the fire spread that none of the afflicted people were able to save more than their wearing clothes and a few household effects. Among those who ate in the messroom this evening were Sergeant William McCue, his wife and their little girl, who were among the first to be made homeless by the conflagration. Sergeant McCue lived at No. 28 Park-ave. He and his family had a narrow escape from being hemmed in by flames and smoke. Mrs. McCue's father also suffered the loss of his home by the fire. Other members of the regiment who were among the fire sufferers were Charles Pandolf, of Company M; Dickran Desgetoor, a salesman, and Hermann Stratton.

One of the heroes of the calamity is Andrew Elvin, Sergeant of Company M. He lives at No. 263 State-st. When he was routed out of his home by flames he saw that the adjoining houses were in danger of being quickly reduced to ashes, so high was the velocity of the wind and so great the swiftness of the blaze. He ran into Park-st. and aroused people living in many houses in the line of the fire. He had some hairbreadth escapes, but luckily he was neither burned nor overcome by the smoke. About a year ago the house in which he lived was burned to the ground, and he saved nothing but a few clothes.

Herman Stratton, also a member of the battalion, was awakened by the glare of the flames reflected on the window panes of his house at 12:30 o'clock. When he reached the street the Baptist Church steeple was about to fall, and a few minutes later the steeple of the building toppled into the rear wall of the Lucky Flats, at Nos. 55 and 58 Broadway, in which flats he lived. He saw the flames and he was to tell the flats were burned to the ground.

Dr. John S. Yates, coroner of the county of Passaic, has his office on the first floor of the building. The second floor of No. 85 Broadway was occupied by Mrs. H. B. Lupton. She rented a number of her rooms to several persons, among her tenants being Mrs. Margaret McCoy, Camelia Vozenta and William Brown. The second floor of No. 86 was occupied by Mrs. Kale. Under her was an automobile store. It is alleged that there was some combustible oil stored in the building in an iron tank and that the tank exploded and blew up the buildings. The explosion, it is said, aided the fire and opened a path for the flames to spread quickly. A peculiar coincidence is that on March 28, 1891, the Lucky flats were burned to the ground, together with the adjoining building which is known as "The Guardian." Some of the people who were made homeless by the burning of the flats today suffered similar losses in the previous fire. The Lucky flats were considered to be one of the best fire-proof buildings in the city.

Soon after Company A of Passaic reached the armory an old man hobbled into the place and asked if he could get something to eat there. One of his hands was wrapped in a handkerchief and his eyes were bloodshot. He said he lived in Market-st. and this morning food was carried to his door until the fire broke out. He stayed there until the fire broke out, and he was unable to get out. He said he later learned that his benefactor was one of the persons who had lost all he owned by the fire.

There was a rumor that another battalion of the State Militia might be ordered to report for duty here to-morrow, as the police force is somewhat crippled by the loss of its headquarters and being on duty the greater part of to-day. It was almost impossible to-night to get a drink in the city, the majority of saloons being closed. Only one car line was in operation in the afternoon. That was the Broadway line.

BLIZZARD BLOCKS TRAFFIC.

FOOD CARRIED TO IMPRISONED PASSENGERS IN A STALLED TRAIN.

Corry, Penn., Feb. 9.—All travel was abandoned between Oil City and Brocton, on the Chautauque division of the Pennsylvania to-day. The blizzard is the worst in this section's history. Train No. 3 lay all night in a huge drift at Summit, and this morning food was carried to the imprisoned passengers. The officials abandoned hope of moving trains, and have decided to run through trains from Brocton to Ashtabula, via the Lake Shore.

The Dunkirk division of the Erie, also the Dunkirk, Allegheny Valley and Pittsburg divisions of the Lake Shore, are blocked and no trains are moving. On the main line of the Erie travel is delayed.

CALIFORNIA IN FOUR DAYS From New York. Best of everything on route. The Overland Limited, via Chicago & North-Western, Pacific and Southern Pacific Railways. Offices, 40, 57 and 59 Broadway.—Adv.

THE PATERSON FIRE—GENERAL VIEW OF THE RUINS LOOKING SOUTH FROM TOP OF BUILDING ON BROADWAY NEAR MAIN STREET



PATERSON FIRE LAYS ACRES IN RUINS

Blaze Starts in a Car Barn and Destroys Practically the Whole Business Section of the City.—Loss Placed at Ten Millions.

A great conflagration destroyed the chief business section of Paterson, N. J., yesterday, laying in ruins nearly 700 buildings included in twenty city blocks. Many of the finest structures in the city were burned, including the new City Hall, the Public Library, and large and costly buildings devoted to civic, educational, religious and commercial uses. A portion of the best residence locality of the city was devastated by the flames.

No loss of life accompanied the disaster, and only a few persons were injured. The damage to property was estimated at \$10,000,000. The extent of the insurance could not be ascertained last night. Thousands of people were thrown out of employment, although the great manufacturing plants of Paterson escaped destruction. Most of the people who were made homeless by the fire were persons of means, who could provide other homes for themselves, and there was an official announcement that Paterson would not require charitable aid.

The fire started soon after midnight, and was spread rapidly in the early morning hours by the high wind. Every city and town within reach of Paterson sent firemen and apparatus, but it was not until late in the afternoon that the conflagration was under control.

To prevent plundering and check disorder, the Mayor of Paterson and the Sheriff of Passaic county issued a joint proclamation, excluding all unauthorized persons from the burned district at night. A force of militia aided the police and the Sheriff's deputies in establishing fire lines and protecting property. Governor Murphy went to Paterson to aid in restoring order and directing relief work.

RAGING FLAMES, DRIVEN BY THE WIND, NOW A PATH OF DEVASTATION FROM BLOCK TO BLOCK.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Paterson, Feb. 9.—The business portion of this city is in ruins. A fire, the like of which has never been seen in this State, broke out in the car sheds of the trolley company, in lower Broadway, at 12:05 this morning. The high wind fanned the flames into a fierce blaze in a few seconds, and before the firemen reached the scene the fire was beyond their control. In twelve hours it traversed a mile, cutting a wide swath through the business section of the city. All kinds of estimates of the damage done by the flames have been made. Many of these calculate the loss at \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000.

The flames swept through the old car sheds to Van Houten-st., taking Continental Hall and bursting out in Main-st., the business street of the city. Quackenbush's big drygoods store was the first important structure to go. At the same time the flames leaped to the other side of the street and took the Boston Store, the largest department store in the city. In these two nearly \$1,000,000 was lost. In its course with the wind the fire swept down the First Baptist Church, the High School, the old City Hall, the First National Bank, the Young Men's Christian Association Building, "The News" Building, the fine new City Hall, which cost over \$500,000; the Romaine Building, an office building; the Paterson National Bank and on through Market and Ellison sts., taking hundreds of the finest structures in the city.

TWENTY BLOCKS RAZED. Twenty blocks of business buildings are practically level with the ground. A thousand families have been driven from their homes, many of them losing all they had. The whole city is in confusion and panic.

The firemen were powerless to cope with such a conflagration. They did their best to prevent the spread of the fire to individual buildings. Mayor Hinchliffe took charge of the work, and every effort was made to meet the awful destruction. Calls for aid were sent out to the fire departments in Jersey City, Newark, Passaic, Rutherford, Ridgewood, Hoboken, Montclair and surroundings small places. These responded promptly, but their efforts seemed to be lost in the holocaust.

At first the flames went in leaps, starting fires in many separate places. The high wind carried great volumes of sparks for blocks and caused fires to start in the roofs. Fires were raging in so many places at once that the firemen could not distribute themselves, and these places were simply allowed to burn down. Soon the spaces between these fires closed up, in the heart of the city, and the great mass of seething flames swept on in an awful march of devastation.

FOLLOWED THE COURSE OF THE WIND. The wind was from the northwest, and the direction of the fire followed the course of the wind. It cut a swath over two blocks wide and travelled for fully a mile, jumping at intervals in a strange manner before it burned itself out. From the car shed, in Broadway, it travelled east across Main-st., taking the blocks bounded by Broadway and Market-st. It crossed in its path Washington, Church and Paterson sts., the Erie track, Straight, Madison, Beech, Vine and

Carroll sts., almost reaching to the armory, in Graham-ave.

It took the following important buildings in its path:

- |                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>BANKS.</b>                | <b>TELEGRAPH COMPANIES.</b> |
| First National.              | Western Union.              |
| Second National (partially). | Postal Telegraph.           |
| Paterson National.           | District Messenger.         |
| Silk City Trust.             | <b>THEATRES.</b>            |
| Hamilton Trust.              | The Garden.                 |
| Paterson Trust.              | <b>BIG STORES.</b>          |
| <b>CHURCHES.</b>             | Quackenbush & Co.           |
| First Baptist.               | Boston Store.               |
| Second Presbyterian.         | Globe Store.                |
| Park Avenue Baptist.         | National Clothing Co.       |
| St. Mark's Episcopal.        | Keat's.                     |
| St. Joseph's R. C.           | Rinslin's.                  |
| <b>PUBLIC BUILDINGS.</b>     | Marshall & Ball.            |
| City Hall.                   | John Norwood's.             |
| Public Library.              | Oberg's.                    |
| Old City Hall.               | Wortendyke's.               |
| No. 1 Engine House.          | P. H. & W. G. Shields.      |
| Patrol stables.              | "The Paterson."             |
| High School.                 | Jordan's.                   |
| School No. 15.               | Leiter Co.                  |
| <b>CLUBHOUSES.</b>           | Feder & McNair.             |
| Y. M. C. A.                  | Zender's.                   |
| Knight's of Columbus.        | Laplin's.                   |
| Progress Club.               | Rozowski's.                 |
| St. Joseph's Hall.           | Bischoff & Mueller.         |
| Hamilton Club.               | C. E. Beach.                |
| <b>OFFICE BUILDINGS.</b>     | Morchend & Son.             |
| Romaine Building.            | Skyes's.                    |
| Katz Building.               | Bishop & Irwin.             |
| Marshall & Ball's.           | Maskintosh.                 |
| Old Building.                | <b>DWELLINGS.</b>           |
| Old Town Clock.              | 500 homes estimated.        |
| Old Kinne Building.          | 1,000 families homeless.    |
| Stevenson Building.          |                             |

The car sheds in which the fire started are a group of old wooden barns. Part of them formed

wind. One of these lodged in the belfry of the First Baptist Church. The open lattice work allowed the wind to fan the spark into a blaze, and soon the tall spire was a shaft of flame. This was a new centre for the distribution of sparks, two blocks away from the car sheds.

The old City Hall, in Washington-st., was the next building to catch fire. It burned slowly, and probably the blaze would have died out but for the great fire that swept up to it two hours later from the car sheds.

A great crowd gathered around the First Baptist Church to see the wonderful pillar of fire. Within half an hour after it took fire—at 10 o'clock—the steeple fell. Bending like a bow, with its centre toward the west, the steeple tottered for a second, and then, with a terrible crash, it fell across the street, carrying a tree with it. Part of it struck the High School as it fell and set that building on fire. When the steeple fell it was thought that the church would be saved, but the fire spread downward, and soon the whole length of the building was in flames.

Strange to say, the bell in the steeple did not fall at first. It was held firmly by the metal

be abaze. Unfortunately there was a fire at Passaic, which started at 12:15 o'clock, and several engines were needed there. Chief Baker, of Passaic, when he learned that more apparatuses were needed in this city immediately dispatched McLean Engine No. 3, which arrived after a hard run at about 2:30 o'clock, and was posted in Washington-st., so as to throw a stream at the blaze in the building occupied by A. J. Rogers, the plumber, next to "The Guardian" office, which was gaining great headway, having crossed over from the First Baptist Church.

A FIREMAN BADLY HURT.

George Pfitzmeyer, driver for Fire Chief Stagg, took charge of McLean engine in upper Main-st., where they made a change of horses and drove them at the best gait of the animals down Main-st. As he was passing Quackenbush's store a trace broke and he was thrown from his seat to the ground, breaking his nose and badly bruising his legs. It was also believed that he was injured internally, and he was removed to St. Joseph's Hospital. Some of Engine No. 1's men took charge of the Passaic engine, and soon had her in active use.

It did not take long for the flames to force their way through the rear wall of Continental Hall, in Van Houten-st., in the rear of the car sheds, and soon that old building was a mass of flames from street to roof. The hall has for several years been used as a 10 cent lodging house, and last night was crowded with lodgers. They had, however, long ago made their escape, carrying out their few belongings. The flames seemed to get a new impetus in this building, and it became a roaring furnace. The fire had taken hold in the upper part of the building and soon worked its way down to the stores underneath. While the firemen were still working hard in an effort to confine it to the top of the building the floor of the hall suddenly gave way and precipitated a mass of brick and blazing timber into the fancy goods store of Bishop & Irwin and the tailor store of I. Horwitz next door. Here was new food for the flames, and in a short time there was nothing left of these two stores and their contents. The walls soon tumbled about the ruins, fortunately injuring no one, as the firemen had long ago abandoned the building, as the heat from the flames which were being blown right across the street permitted no one to approach within one hundred feet.

While the flames were playing havoc with Main-st., north side of Van Houten-st., the other side had been approached from the rear, all of Van Houten-st. on that side being a roaring furnace, and the Ten Cent Store was the first to show the effect. It was not long alone, however, for a few minutes later Norwood's paint store, Hendrickson's millinery store and Rhodes's crockery store were a mass of flames, and burned with amazing rapidity. The firemen were forced to abandon them entirely, for they could get nowhere near them, the flames leaping clear across the street and lapping the fronts of the buildings on the other side.

SOON A MASS OF RUINS.

In less than half an hour after the first flames

Continued on second page.

Cure the CHILDREN'S COLDS with JAYNE'S EXPECTORANT.—Adv.



RUINS OF THE PARK AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH.

the old wigwam, a place for the great political gatherings of many years ago. There were eleven trolley cars in the sheds, and they filled up the space so that they impeded the work of the firemen.

HAD TO FLEE FOR THEIR LIVES.

The families living in the adjoining houses had to flee for their lives. They appeared on the streets in their night clothes. They were taken out of the bitter night by neighbors who were out of the range of the fire.

The sky was filled with large sparks which were carried for half a dozen blocks by the high

supports that reached far into the framework of the lower building. It swung to and fro in the wind as the building below it burned, and it gave out a quavering note occasionally, like the last sob of a dying person.

The school next door was soon enveloped in flames, and some of the fire apparatus was drawn from the fire further down the street to try to save the church and the school.

A call was sent to Newark and Passaic for aid as soon as it was realized that with the gale that was then prevailing it would not be long before the entire centre section of the city would

STORIES OF WATCHERS.

THEY SAW BLOCK AFTER BLOCK BURN UP.

STREETS FILLED WITH HOUSEHOLDERS AND BUSINESS MEN REMOVING THEIR FURNITURE AND GOODS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Paterson, N. J., Feb. 9.—Frederick Wynnd, of No. 1338 Broadway, manager of the Svengali company, was staying at the Franklin House. His description of the fire is interesting. He said:

"I was sitting in the hotel when, at 11:45 o'clock, the fire broke out. I went to the corner of Main and Van Houten sts., and saw the car barn burning. The fire worked one block west to Main-st., taking in its path a dozen other buildings. Then I knew that a big conflagration was on foot. The fire crossed the street, consumed the splendid Boston Store, and then jumped to the steeple of the First Baptist Church. The firemen were powerless to put out the fire on the steeple. The blaze then crossed to the police station, and by 2 o'clock it had crossed to the old City Hall. Then it flew down Main-st. in the direction of Passaic. The new City Hall took fire about 7 o'clock in the morning. At 1:30 o'clock the fire was burning in five different parts of the city. I saw five separate fires at one time distant six blocks from each other. The wind was blowing from forty to fifty miles an hour. It was very cold, and we frequently had to go inside the Franklin House to warm ourselves. The streets were filled with people moving away their property. Shopkeepers were removing their effects, while the fire was still five blocks away from their property. Every one seemed to be quite cool in spite of the fact that he knew that his property was doomed. I saw a jeweller hustling his watches and jewels into a wagon at 1:30 a. m. We laughed at him for his fear, because at that time the fire was many blocks away. Several hours later the walls of his store fell.

FIREMEN LIKE SANTA CLAUSES.

"I pitied the firemen from the bottom of my heart. They were working as hard as they could, but they could do little against the gale that was blowing. They were covered with ice, and looked like so many Santa Clauses. It was so bright about where we were that one could have picked up a penny four blocks away. Opposite where we stood a large drug store took fire. Then the United States Hotel went down. We hardly knew these places were in the track of the flame until they fell in heaps. Buildings seemed to go down while one's back was turned. The engines from Passaic came about 2:30 o'clock. Nine out of ten people in the streets were carrying valuables, furniture, books and money until 5 o'clock in the morning.

"As far as one could see they were stacking goods in the street. The people seemed to be moving toward Passaic. I saw no one injured. There was not a single ambulance in sight. No fire lines were established. Had there been the two hundred transportation wagons would not have been able to save so much property. The Second National Bank stood the fire test wonderfully. It stopped the fire on that side of the street. The silk works, as far as I could learn, suffered nothing from the fire. The burned district included the most handsome business blocks in the city. The dwelling houses which went down were owned by people in moderate means. These owners were mostly Irish, Jews, Italians and Slavs.

PROBABLY MANY ROBBERIES.

"There must have been a lot of robberies during the night, but it was impossible to tell who was carrying his own or another man's property. About 3 o'clock in the morning I stood upon the roof of the Franklin House. The wind was blowing such a gale that I had to hold on to a chimney to keep from being blown away. I was near Waterbury when the recent disastrous fire broke out there. The wind was much less violent then than last night. It was much colder here.

"Max Herzog, a friend of mine, was one of the sufferers. He left his entire property to the mercy of the flames, saving only his Skye terriers and a pair of canary birds. I asked him why he did not take his new piano. He said that he would leave that for the musically inclined firemen.

"I heard three distinct explosions in the paint store owned by the John Norwood Co. When the store collapsed it made a wonderful picture. Mr. Fuld, who had a fine shoe store next the Boston Store, was sitting with me in the Franklin House, when his place of business took fire. He said simply, 'It's going with the rest. Aren't those firemen doing well?' As for me, I wouldn't have been a fireman last night for \$1,000. I was glad to see that good hearted citizens gave them hot coffee. They could have done no better with fifty engines. At Waterbury the buildings destroyed were more valuable than those which went down here.

"I saw hundreds of people hurrying to the armory and to the Erie station for shelter. The way people helped each other was truly refreshing. I understand that the Paterson Traction Company, whose barn started the blaze, lost by fire several weeks ago another building of a similar character.

ESTIMATES LOSS AT \$7,000,000.

J. F. Boise, fire insurance and real estate broker, whose office is in the Second National Bank building, whose upper stories were badly burned, said that in his opinion Paterson would lose fully \$7,000,000, over twice the loss at Waterbury, Conn. Sitting in his office, which had suffered no injury, he said:

"You see, the firemen are still pouring water on the City Hall at 5:30 p. m. I am afraid the building is a total wreck. It cost \$400,000. All city property was well insured. E. T. Bell, who was an intimate friend of ex-Vice-President Hart, is president of the First National Bank. James Jackson, president of the Second National Bank, practically owned the building. The Paterson Savings Institution was fireproof, and was only partly consumed. The Paterson National Bank is in ruins. Ex-Attorney General John W. Griggs is president of this bank, and had an office there.

THE GRIGGS HOME SAFE.

His house in Twelfth-ave. and Twenty-fourth-st. was some two miles from the conflagration, and so escaped injury. The First National Bank will be opened for business to-morrow at No. 100 Broadway. The Savings Institution, I understand, will be ready for business in their own building to-morrow morning. The old Rogers Locomotive Company, at Market and Spruce sts., was in no way injured. The Romaine Building, at Ellison and Washington sts., a handsome five story structure, is a complete wreck. Quackenbush & Co. and the Boston Store, the latter owned by Meyer Brothers, are gone. They were opposite each other in Main-st. The former was worth fully \$250,000, and had an office there.

TO THE SOUTHWEST VIA ATLANTA AND MONTGOMERY.

One day in Atlanta, using Seaboard Air Line Ry's train 7, known as "Seaboard Fast Mail," leaving W. 23d Street Ferry, P. R. R., 12:30 A. M. Sleeper open 10 P. M. Office, 1133 Broadway.—Adv.