

"FIRE! FIRE!"

THE OLD AND FAMILIAR CRY IS AGAIN HEARD.

THIS TIME IT IS THE PATRONS OF INDUSTRY FLOUR MILL THAT DISAPPEARS INTO SMOKE AND ASHES—THE WORKS ARE A TOTAL WRECK—INSURED.

Ever since Jan. 2nd, the occasion of the burning of the Queen's Hotel stable, the Bradford Fire Brigade have been fortunate enough to say that their services have not been required at a fire, but at 1.15 a. m. Tuesday morning the old and familiar cry of "Fire! Fire!" was again heard on the street—the Patron's Flour Mill was ablaze.

Nightwatchman Baker was in the neighborhood of Lukes' mill and observed the fire in its incipiency and immediately ran for the fire hall and gave the alarm. Within an incredibly short space of time the firemen and citizens had turned out of their cosy beds, and with the "steamer" and the balance of the apparatus were soon on the way to the fire. By the time 1,000 feet of hose had been laid from the corner at Lukes, mill, the "steamer" was in running order and a good strong stream was thrown. At first it seemed that the fire was almost under control, but in less than five minutes thereafter the blaze was through the roof. At this juncture the water in the public tank was exhausted and the steamer was taken to Davey's mill, where a good supply of water was to be had. However it was seen that the mill could not be saved and the firemen directed their attention to saving the adjoining warehouses, the old hand engine showing itself to advantage in this particular. The mill itself was a total loss, nothing being saved.

The mill was the property of the Patrons of Industry Warehouse and Shipping Co., a joint stock company with a capital stock of \$18,000, and had only been in operation for about three years.

The total loss on building, machinery and contents will foot up to \$15,000, while the insurance amounts to \$10,000, divided as follows: Aetna, \$4,000; Royal, 4,000; Commercial Union, \$2,000. The stock lost consisted of 1100 bush. of red and white wheat, 300 bush. of goose wheat, 667 bush. of Manitoba No. 1 wheat, and 150 bbls. of flour.

NOTES OF THE BLAZE.

The origin of the fire is a mystery.

As usual, the firemen worked hard.

The fire started in the north-west corner of the main building.

What was lacking at "this" fire was hose and a tank near the depot.

Ward, the photographer, was on hand and took a couple of views while the fire was in progress.

It was conceded by a large number present at the fire that the mill would be running as usual had there been a waterworks system in town.

THE WITNESS-News joins with the entire community in extending sympathy to Mr. Wm. Wright in his severe loss, and we would indulge the hope that he may soon see his way clear to re-build.

On the arrival of the firemen it was discovered that one of the front doors was open to the extent of about four inches, and this fact would make it appear as if the mill had been entered and set afire.

Mr. Wm. Wright, the energetic manager of the mill, viewed the ruins early Tuesday morning. Inasmuch as he had not learned of the disaster until arriving in town and after all was over, it can be taken for granted that he was greatly surprised.