

GLOBE THEATER BURNED.

General Alarm Rung in This Morning.

Loss Near as Can be Estimated is \$500,000.

Neighboring Buildings Damaged and at One Time the Whole Block Threatened--Explosions Fright- ened Hotel Guests.

Fire destroyed the Globe theater and seriously damaged the surrounding buildings at an early hour this morning.

Only a rough estimate as to the loss can be made, but it will be in the neighborhood of \$500,000.

The flames were first seen soon after 1 o'clock, and within 30 minutes, so quickly did they spread, that the handsome theater became a ruin.

Many of the buildings surrounding the theater on Washington st, Hayward pl, Harrison av and Essex st are burned badly, and nearly every occupant has sustained loss.

The fire, as near as can be ascertained, broke out in the coat room, under the main entrance to the parquet. This was near pipes which may have been overheated. The fire spread in all directions with incredible speed.

It burned up through the stairway and then shot around the sides of the balcony, and with the space and draft afforded by the auditorium it soon defied entrance to the firemen.

The interior was one seething mass of flames when the firemen raised the ladders.

It showed itself on the inside first by breaking through the front entrance, and tongues of flame shot across Washington st.

The fire apparatus was placed at advantageous points, the location of the building making this possible.

A second alarm was sounded within five minutes after the first, and two others followed in rapid succession.

The firemen were enabled to reach the heart of the fire on all sides, and it soon was settled that it could not spread beyond the square.

Not a vantage point was left uncovered, but it was so hot that inch by inch it drove the firemen back, and in some cases they were obliged to seek safety on the ground.

On the Hayward pl side the flames reached an outlet to the street through the building numbered 21, and the front of the structure falling in exposed the roaring furnace inside. This building was directly opposite the stage, and at this time the flames were just beginning to

Consume the Scenery

and other paraphernalia.

A moment later the flames, receiving increased impetus by the inflammable character of the scenery, shot heavenward and reached an outlet on Harrison av.

It was met at this point by the firemen, who held it in check and prevented it spreading across the street to the building of Springer Bros, which at one time was threatened.

Although partially held at bay the fire still burned fiercely. The flames lit up the sky, and the blinding smoke and the noise of the exploding gas frightened occupants of the adjoining hotels.

The explosions appeared to come from the center of the fire, and would be followed by volumes of sparks and burning pieces of wood sent skyward, and then falling to the ground like a display of fireworks.

The streets were crowded with people.

The Globe has three entrances, one on Hayward pl, one on Essex st and the main one.

The only building in which the flames gained a footing was the four-story brick structure adjoining the scenery room of the theater, formerly occupied as a residence by manager John Stetson, and which is now occupied by the Globe theater cafe, Ham Brock proprietor, and the club rooms of the Massachusetts yacht club. Into this building the flames gained an entrance by way of one of the theater exits, and the building was badly damaged.

At 2.15 o'clock the fire was beaten back from the Washington and Essex sts sides and the force of the blaze was in the extension of Harrison av.

The work of the water tower on Washington st was at first greatly impeded

By the Trolley Wires

of the West End road, but after they were removed and the tower was placed in position it did good work, and by 2.30 very little fire could be seen from the Washington st side.

At that time it was safe to say that the fire would be confined to the theater proper, and, barring unforeseen accidents, the surrounding buildings were out of danger.

The entrance to the theater looked as natural as ever, even when the whole interior was ablaze.

Then the magnificent entrance melted almost in an instant. The flames ran like lightning along the outstretched strings of overgreens. Then they seemed to spread to the right towards Essex st.

It must be taken into consideration that the fire had reached its fury and done its worst damage within an hour to have an idea of its magnitude.

The people in the Essex st houses made a

hasty exit to the street, with their effects quickly gathered and clumsily bundled.

On Hayward pl a similar scene was being enacted. At this place there was more actual danger than at the other.

From No. 11 Hayward pl a number of people were seen to rush down the stairs. It was stated by one of them that it was a private club room.

The servants did not stay long enough to carry their trunks down, but they were

Thrown Down the Stairs

on the heels of the fleeing men.

The fire seemed to subside almost as quickly as it spread. It was gradually forced to the rear and toward Essex st, and Washington st was in gloom again. At the former point it was easily held.

For rapidity and loss in a small space of time the fire has never been equalled in this city.

It seemed almost incredible, after the flames were subdued, that such a large area could have been burned.

Soon after 3 o'clock the flames in the rear building on Harrison av blazed up with renewed fury, and for a time it looked as if the corner building on Harrison av and Hayward pl would suffer the same fate as the rest. Two extra streams were soon in operation, and the mass of water poured into the building did not seem to have much effect.

The fire was eating its way downward to the bottom of the building.

For nearly half an hour the firemen had a hard fight, but by 3.30 it looked as if they would succeed in their efforts to confine it to the theater building.

The water tower, which was stationed on Washington st, toppled over a few minutes before 3 o'clock from the force of the water which was being pumped through it. Had this happened earlier it would have placed the firemen at a serious disadvantage. The left forward wheel was three feet clear of the ground and the right forward wheel was at an angle of 45 degrees. The top part of it was resting against the building opposite, and the water which continued to go through the hose was flying away over the roof of the theater, too high to be effective.

The firemen attached a rope to it and after more than an hour's work succeeded in righting it.

Steward Willis of the Massachusetts yacht club was asleep in the club rooms at the time the fire broke out, and was awakened by the club caterer, Roach. Together the two men made an effort to save some of the club property, but the rapid encroachment of the flames soon drove them out of the building and the club will lose

All Its Fixtures.

What is not burned up will be destroyed by water and the necessary cutting down of walls and partitions by the firemen.

The hotels, notably the Reynolds and Clark's, as soon as the situation was appreciated threw open their doors for the reception of such furniture as could be rescued and for the accommodation of persons who might be burned out.

Soon the offices of these two houses were crowded with excited guests and others, and very shortly theater properties, bits of wardrobe, and hampers of dishes and cutlery from the cafe on Hayward pl were being brought in.

At first great fear was entertained that the fire might jump across the street and communicate with the hotels, and hundreds of guests prepared to leave their rooms at a moment's notice. One woman at the Reynolds became hysterical and her mingled laughter and weeping served to enhance the chaos of the scene.

FIGHTING THE FLAMES.

From All Sides Streams of Water Poured on to the Buildings.

From the way the fire spread it seemed certain that it started under the stage.

After the firemen had broken the windows in the front part of the building they ran in lines of hose from Washington st, and for the first 10 minutes it looked as though the flames would not get through the roof.

Just about 1.45 the flames did burst through. The firemen concentrated their efforts there, and engines were sent to Essex st and Harrison av extension where streams could be thrown to advantage.

Just over the stage entrance in the alley that runs in from the Harrison av extension the fire was fiercest, and as the flames shot up they lighted up the entire vicinity.

For a while it looked as if the flames would be confined to the theater building, but the four streams that were being trained on the building did not appear to check it in the least.

The alley that separates the Globe theater building from the adjoining block that takes up the rest of the square to Essex st, was about 20 feet wide and the flames soon bridged it and the adjoining building caught fire at 1.45.

Five minutes later an explosion occurred that sounded like the discharge of a piece of heavy ordnance, and an instant later a

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