

FIRE

The inhabitants of Boston, who seem destined to be continual spectators of the ruin of the property of their fellow-citizens by fire, were on Saturday evening summoned to witness two successive conflagrations, in different parts of the town, of a very alarming aspect. About 7 o'clock a fire was discovered in the Museum of Mr. Bowen, near the Common, which, notwithstanding the most vigorous exertions, entirely consumed that, and all the adjacent wooden buildings, the property of Mr. Thomas Bumstead; among which were the Boarding-House of Mrs. Pollard, the Museum and Ware house occupied by Mr. Bowen, and Mr. Doyle, the dwelling-house of Mr. Bumstead, and the shop of Othello Pollard. The losses of Mr. Bumstead are very great; in addition to the buildings, most of his furniture fell a sacrifice; as also, in a manner, that of all the other occupants. Scarcely a single article of Mr. Bowen's valuable and interesting collection, were rescued. In five minutes after the fire was discovered, the flames had a complete ascendancy, and defied every opposition of the extinguishing element — The brick building formerly occupied by the Massachusetts Bank, on the south, and a new brick stable on the east, seemed the only effectual barriers to the progress of desolation. The cause of this calamity is said to have arisen from the carelessness of some countrymen who were admitted into the Museum, with lights in their hands.

At 11 o'clock the alarm was again rung, and four small wooden buildings on Burdit's wharf, in the northerly part of the town, consisting of a carpenter's shop, lime house, and barn, were entirely consumed. These were new wooden buildings, erected on the place where the fire was last year, and occupied by Mr. Elijah Loring, and the heirs of the estate of Mr. Burdit. Why should we not, from a repetition of the same calamity, regard the designation of Providence; and where the fire has once passed, deposit our property, and secure our domestic tranquility in dwellings of less combustible materials.

Much praise is due to the Fire-Wards and Engine Men, for their spirited and judicious exertions at these fires. We noticed, at an early hour, the Charlestown, Cambridge, Roxbury, Dorchester, and Brooklyn Engines