

# MAY BE \$200,000.

## Heavy Damage by Fire in Portland St Block.

Occupied by Heywood Bros and  
 Wakefield Co Chiefly.

## Firemen Contended With Great Obstacles.

## Five Alarms Were Sounded in Early Morning.

## Several Firms Suffer Largely From Torrents of Water.

A fire that caused a loss that may amount to \$200,000 when all is counted up broke out yesterday morning at 5 o'clock in the building 174-188 Portland st and 81-89 Causeway st, occupied principally by the Heywood Bros & Wakefield company, dealers in rattan furniture.

The fire was discovered by Sergt Swan, who turned in an alarm from box 412. The contents of the building made food for a fire of the worst kind for the firemen to handle. The burning material gave out a dense smoke that choked and blinded the firemen from the moment they appeared in the building. Beside this the storm was raging and the sleet was driven by a fierce gale that at the same time swept the smoke to the ground and spread the fire inside the building.

Altogether the conditions of the fire made it one of the worst that the Boston fire department has had to contend with for a long time. Notwithstanding the difficulties the firemen worked hard, and finally fought the fire out.

It took several hours of hard work to do this and every piece of apparatus that answers to the five alarms that were sent out had work for each minute it was on the ground. The smoke drove the firemen out of the building, and made it impossible to use the ladders. They took positions on the roofs of the buildings around the burning structure and in the windows of the buildings on the opposite side of the streets. The tenants of these buildings suffered loss from the water from the hose.

The building where the fire started is a six-story brick, and besides the Heywood Bros and Wakefield company that occupied five floors of the greater part as warerooms, the tenants were C. W. Earnshaw & Co, furniture, mattresses, etc; A. B. & E. L. Shaw, church and lodge room furniture; W. D. Badger, desks, tables, chairs, etc; Cobb, Bates & Yerxa, groceries; Wyman's restaurant; A. J. Tuttle & Co, hardware and cutlery.

The tenants of the buildings which the firemen used for fighting the flames, and who suffered seriously from water, were G. W. Bent & Co, steel bedsteads and springs; C. A. Hoimes & Co, wholesale groceries, and the Lowell house.

Assistant Chief Engineer Cheswell took charge of the firemen until the arrival of Chief Webber, both of whom showed excellent judgment in handling their men to the best advantage in fighting the fire in the face of the enormous difficulties they had to overcome.

The flood of water that was thrown into the building caused much more damage than the actual fire, and those whose property was saved from the flames suffered almost as much as if the fire had consumed it. All the concerns in the building carried large stocks, which were all well insured. The cause of the fire has not yet been determined.

The building is owned by the P. B. Brigham estate, and was damaged about \$25,000. The insurance on the building and contents was as follows:

BUILDINGS OF P B BRIGHAM ESTATE	
Nos. 166-172 Portland st—	
Liverpool, London & Globe Insurance Co	\$40,000
Commercial Union	10,000
Niagara Insurance Co	10,000
Phila Underwriters	10,000
Merchants' Insurance Co, N J	10,000
Nos. 176-184 Portland st—	
Liverpool, London & Globe Insurance Co	\$10,000
Home Insurance Co, N Y	10,000
Royal Insurance Co, Eng	10,000
Firemen's Fund	5,000
Liverpool, London & Globe Insurance Co	5,000
Home Insurance Co	5,000
Commercial Union	5,000
Phenix Insurance Co, Hartford	5,000
Hanover Fire Insurance Co, N Y	5,000
Queen Insurance Co, N Y	5,000
Liverpool, London & Globe Insurance Co	5,000
Phenix Insurance Co, Hartford	5,000
Liverpool, London & Globe Insurance Co	5,000
Nos. 194-210 Portland st—	
Liverpool, London & Globe Ins Co	\$20,000
Ins Co of North America	7,500
Royal Insurance Co	7,500
Phenix Insurance Co, N Y	5,000
American Insurance Co, N Y	5,000
Girard Insurance Co, Penn	3,000
Phenix Insurance Co, Hartford, Conn	2,000
Liverpool, London & Globe Ins Co	5,000
Pennsylvania Insurance Co	5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$220,000</b>
HEYWOOD BROS & WAKEFIELD CO	
Stock—	
Imperial Insurance Co, Eng	\$2,500
Palatine Fire Insurance Co, Eng	2,500
Fire Association, Phila	3,500
New Hampshire Fire Insurance Co	2,500
North American Fire Insurance Co	2,500
Royal Fire Insurance Co	2,000
Hartford Fire Insurance Co	2,000
National Fire Insurance Co, Conn	2,500
Niagara Fire Insurance Co	3,000
Spring Garden Fire Insurance Co	2,500
Orient Fire Insurance Co	2,500
Furniture fixtures—	
Rochester German Insurance Co	1,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,500</b>
A J TUTTLE & CO	
Scottish Union & National Insurance Co	\$5,500
Lion Insurance Co	2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>
C W EARNSHAW & CO	
Northern Assurance Co, Eng	\$8,000
W B BADGER & CO	
National Insurance Co, Hartford	\$2,500
New Hampshire Fire Insurance Co	1,500
Springfield Fire & Marine Insurance Co	1,000
American Insurance Co, Boston	1,000
Girard Fire Insurance Co	1,000
Phenix Fire Insurance Co, New York	1,000
Svea Fire Insurance Co, Switzerland	1,000
Etna Fire Insurance Co, Hartford	1,000
Hamburg-Bremen Fire Insurance Co	1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,000</b>
COBB, BATES & YERXA CO	
On stock—	
Phenix Insurance Co	\$2,500
Greenwich Insurance Co, N Y	2,500
National Insurance Co, Conn	2,500
Norwich Union, England	2,500
North British and Mercantile Insurance Co	2,500
Scottish Union and National Insurance Co	2,500
German-American Insurance Co	2,500
German-American Insurance Co	2,500
Continental Insurance Co	2,500
Traders' Insurance Co, Chicago	2,500
On furniture and fixtures—	
Royal Fire Insurance Co	5,000
Insurance Co of North America	2,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$32,500</b>
A B & E L SHAW	
Baldise Fire Insurance Co	\$2,500
Netherlands Fire Insurance Co	1,500
Albany Fire Insurance Co	1,500
Granite State Fire Insurance Co	1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,500</b>