

Fire at Messrs. Hovey's Sheffield Progress of the Work

The work of clearing away the debris from the scene of the fire at Messrs. Hovey's premises in Angel street, and Castle street, is being carried out today with as much despatch as possible. The barriers preventing the public poising up and down Angel street were removed this morning, but locomotion in Castle street is still prohibited. Hoardings have been, erected around the site of the destroyed building, and the firemen are still playing on the debris which continues to smoulder. Early this morning, while the work was going on the men came across a tin box to one of the assistants, which contained remains of clothing and other articles. No traces of the missing assistant, Victor Parsons, have yet been discovered, and it is now universally believed that no further light will be thrown upon his fate. The relief fund inaugurated for assisting Messrs. Hovey's employees has received substantial support, and to-day each assistant has received the sum of £1 10s. out of the £56 odd in the hands of the treasurer and it is intended to make further distributions as the subscription list increases. The dangerous position of the gable wall between Messrs. Hovey's premises and the adjoining property still causes some anxiety, but its height is gradually being diminished by several steeplejacks in the employ of Mr. W. E. Harrison, who are busily engaged in knocking it down brick by brick, and although this piecemeal work is slow it is considered more safe than attempting to pull down the large pile as a whole. The crowds of spectators passing along Angel street are greatly interested in this work, and it is a difficult matter to walk along the thoroughfares.