

Fires in Sheffield Big Blaze in Cavendish Street

The fire-brigade have been very busy this afternoon, having had two calls at about the same time - the first to a stack fire and the second to a big blaze at a joiner's shop. Shortly after three o'clock a call was received to Hunter's Bar, and on the brigade arriving there it was found that a stack belonging to Mr. Henry Daniels, butcher, of Ecclesall Road, was ablaze. The brigade took one tender with them, but when Superintendent Frost learned that it was a stack fire he went to the place with another tender. Fortunately there was a good supply of water, and the men were able to subdue the outbreak before much damage had been done. There was another stack close to the one which was on fire, and a strong wind was blowing, so that but for the prompt attendance and hard work of the brigade the outbreak might have been much more disastrous.

While returning from Hunter's Bar, Superintendent Frost noticed a blaze in the direction of Fitzwilliam Street, and he had the tenders driven rapidly from Broomhall to the top of Cavendish Street. There it was seen that a three-story building was in full flame. The call had meanwhile been received at the Fire Station, and a steamer had been despatched, and very soon the appliances were engaged in the work of extinction. The burning building was situated at the back of No. 5, Cavendish Street, and belonged to Mr. James Morrison, of Figtree Lane. The ground floor was occupied as a coach house and stable by Mr. J.W. Wadland, fish dealer, Glossop Road: the first floor was tenanted by Messrs. Leggatt and Portass, joiners, cabinet makers, and undertakers; and the top floor was in the occupation of Mr. John Allinson, cabinet maker, of Fitzwilliam Street, who used the room at the top of the building for storage purposes. The fire started in that portion of the building occupied by Messrs. Leggatt and Portass. The workmen of the firm were busy at the time. Two youths were heating a pitch kettle on a fire and leaving it for a moment the pitch became ignited, and soon there was a big blaze. An attempt was first made by the workmen to put out the flames, but it was altogether unsuccessful, and the Fire Brigade were telephoned for. The fire spread with great rapidity. The woodwork of the building was very dry and the flames were fed by light material in Messrs. Leggatt and Portass' place. There were four horses in the stables on the ground floor, and these were removed to a place of safety. In the upper story some of Mr. Allinson's men were at work, and they received an early intimation of the fire from the clouds of smoke which reached the rooms above. This was fortunate, for had they delayed making their escape, their means of exit would have been cut off, and it might have been somewhat difficult to rescue them. The flames soon reached the roof, which fell in with a great crash, and the blaze, which could be seen all over that part of the city, attracted thousands of people to the scene. Meanwhile the members of the Brigade were working hard, under Superintendent Frost. The steamer, two tenders, and the manual engines were all utilised, and the place was surrounded with hose pipe - lengths of hose being taken through passages from Convent Walk, Fitzwilliam Street, and through the principal entrance to the burning building in Cavendish Street. After an hour's hard work the fire was mastered, but up to time of going to press the firemen are playing on the smouldering ruins. The building has been entirely gutted, and the only surprise is that some of the surrounding property was damaged. The loss Messrs. Leggatt and Portass will be serious. All the tools belonging to the firm and to the workmen, as well as a large quantity of wood and finished goods, have been destroyed. The damage is not the only

serious thing, however, some of this being covered by insurance, but the business of the firm will be greatly interfered with. Mr. Allinson will also be a serious loser, the goods in the upper story being valuable. The building was insured, and nothing now remains but a mere skeleton - dangerous looking walls which will most probably have to be pulled down.

A large force of police was in attendance under the direction of Inspectors Raynor and Chapman.