

# ANOTHER DISASTROUS FIRE

## GOLDBERG'S BIG DOUBLE STORE COMPLETELY GUTTED.

CAUSED BY AN OIL STOVE EXPLOSION.

Occurred About 10:30 Christmas Night—  
The Family, Which Occupied Apart-  
ments on the Second Floor, Es-  
cape in their Night Clothes  
Loss is Heavy, but is  
Partially Insured.

Thursday night, about 10:30 o'clock, after nearly all of the family of Isaac Goldberg had retired, a kerosene oil stove near the front of the dry goods store exploded with a loud report so that it was heard by the neighbors in that block and by those across the street. The explosion was severe enough to break out the plate-glass window, and immediately the whole interior of both the dry goods and grocery stores was ablaze. John Nelson was near the NEWS-LETTER office when the explosion occurred, and before he could reach the Goldberg corner, just one short block, the flames and smoke were pouring out of both store front windows. Mr. Stupey, who lives across the street, was just retiring and he hurriedly redressed and ran to help save the families on the second floors. Chief Fire Marshal Bock and many others who had heard the explosion hastened to the scene. The alarm was immediately turned in and the firemen responded quickly, some without their regulation apparel, and fought the flames like heroes. Mayor Evans found a half dozen men working without mittens, and he immediately went to Moses' store and secured the necessary hand coverings. Chief Bock and all say that the firemen never did more valiant service. They soon had the fire under sufficient control to confine it to the two stores and the basements, but the stores are literally burned out, nearly everything being ruined. The household furniture of the Goldbergs, on the second floors, was badly wrecked in moving and by the water. Mrs. Theriot's and

Mr. Small's families, in the rear flats over the dry goods store, escaped with slight damage by water. The third floor and roof escaped with little damage except from smoke and a little water. The walls of the building, of heavy brick and very deep, are practically uninjured, and so are the floor timbers. The damage to the building is fully covered by insurance. Mr. Goldberg estimates his stock in both stores and basements at between \$6,000 and \$8,000, on which he had an insurance of \$4,500.

The family had a very narrow escape from suffocation. As soon as Officer Nelson reached the scene of the fire, taking in the situation at a glance, he rushed up the stairway and yelled in his stentorian voice to the family to escape for their lives, and they barely had time to do so, one 7-year-old youngster jumping out of bed and leaping from a window. The family took refuge in Wolf's poolroom across the street. Some of the furniture, carpets, clothing, etc., were saved, though badly water-soaked and unfit for immediate use. They are for the time being housed in the poolroom in the opera house block.

Many articles of silver and jewelry were stolen by vandals during the fire. A more detestable crime than stealing at such a time can hardly be imagined. While the firemen and neighbors were trying to check the flames and save the clothing, household goods, keepsakes, silver and jewelry, for local thieves to pretend to help only to steal—they ought to be shot on the spot.

He criticized her pudding and he criticized her cake; he wished she'd make the biscuits his mother used to make; she didn't wash the dishes and she didn't make the stew, and she didn't mend the stockings as his mother used to do. Oh, well, she wasn't perfect, but she tried to do her best; until at length she thought it time for her to have a rest. So when this man had growled and whined the whole day through, she turned him up and fanned his pants—as his mother used to do.

Pay your subscription in advance before January 1, if you want the benefit of the 50 per cent discount.

Guests of Mrs. A. A. Moses over Sunday.

Professor J. W. Thiel, of Ashton, Ill., is spending the holidays with Rev. and Mrs. J. G. Finkeiner.

Colonel Davidson, with his wife and daughter, left for Avon Park, Fla., last Wednesday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Vivian and daughter, June, are spending the holidays with friends in Milwaukee.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Kuist and family were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. William Tillman for Christmas dinner.

We can save you about 60 cents on most of the \$4 magazines, and other publications, with few exceptions.

Mr. R. G. Chandler, of Highland Park, was nominated for president of the Board of Trade, in Chicago, this week.

John Dings left the Park last Saturday, presumably for a visit with Mrs. Dings in Sioux Falls, S. D., for the holidays.

Mrs. Bannister has recently come into our midst. Highland Park is fortunate in gaining so accomplished an acquisition to society.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred P. Luther are spending Christmas with his mother in St. Paul. They wisely left their summer clothes at Ravinook.

School closed for the holidays at the Northwestern Military Academy last Wednesday. The teachers will spend their vacations at their homes.

There will be several less shade trees, dead ones, next spring than there are now, and old plank sidewalks are growing beautifully less every day.

Alex. Robertson seems to have the only hard coal in town, and that won't be for long, as he is dealing it out in market basket lots until more comes.

The Christmas tree entertainment given at the Ebenezer church on Christmas eve was a most enjoyable affair. A splendid program was presented by the scholars.

Brand, the city collector, thinks most of the questions and answers in the special assessments for 1902. He is looking for checks now, as most warrants mature January 2.

Captain King, of the postoffice, dispatched fifteen sacks of mail each

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