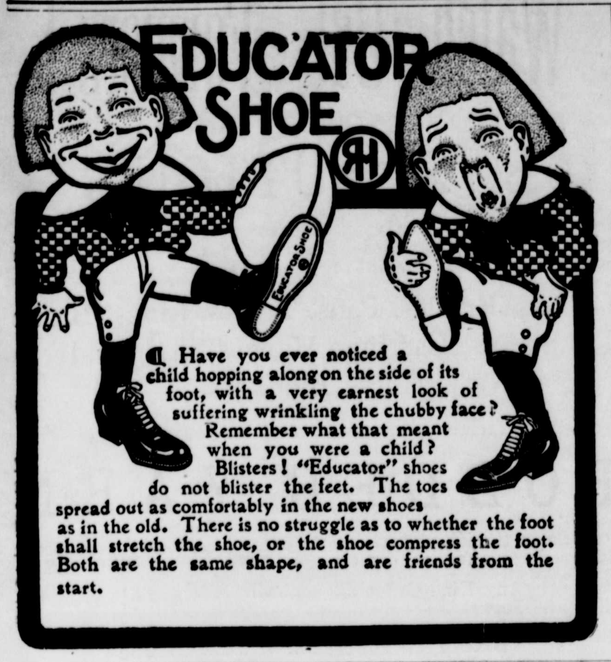

C. C. JONES--The Shoe Man,
Chestertown, Md.

Chestertown Does Not Need Outside Financial Assistance.

Notwithstanding the staggering blow to our community whereby one-tenth of the entire assessable valuation of our town was wiped out by the fire of Monday night last, no call has been made for any outside financial assistance.

There is a good reason for this. THE THIRD NATIONAL BANK is able and ready to help all the sufferers by the terrible visitation and you are cordially invited to use our bank for all purposes in repairing what may not, upon second thought, seem to be an irreparable loss.

Very respectfully,

THE THIRD NATIONAL BANK,
OF CHESTERTOWN, Md.

Grand Tailoring Opening!

HAVE YOUR SUIT OR OVERCOAT MADE TO FIT.
IT WILL FIT YOU AND IS FIT FOR YOU.

A Special Representative
—OF—
Hopkins' Tailoring Company

"Who Tailor Best in Baltimore," will be at the Hotel Imperial **Thursday, Friday and Saturday, September 29th, 30th and October 1st.**

Orders taken for immediate and future deliveries. Every garment **Guaranteed to Fit to Your Satisfaction or no Sale.**

High-Class Tailoring at Low Prices. Over 400 samples to select from.

Their styles are correct for they help to create the fashions. Their models are distinguished by ease and elegance of design, as well as quality of material and craftsmanship.

Suits made to order.....$13.50 and upward
Overcoats made to order..$13.50 and upward
Pants made to order..... $4.00 and upward

Remember the dates, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, September 29th, 30th and October 1st.

We are located for the present in the store room on Court street adjoining the law office of Hope H. Barroll, Esq., where we shall be pleased to see all of our friends.

Our Tailoring Representative
is located at
HOTEL IMPERIAL

where there is a fine line of samples of latest patterns. A fit guaranteed or your money back. Watch this space next week.

VANSANT & NEWSOME,
Tailors, Furnishers and Shoers,
Chestertown, - - - Maryland.

CHESTERTOWN'S GREATEST FIRE!

WHOLE BUSINESS BLOCK IN THE HEART OF THE TOWN DESTROYED.

23 Buildings and Several Stables Destroyed.

LOSS, $97,000; INSURANCE, $48,000. PEOPLE LOSE HOMES, CLOTHING AND STORE GOODS.

Volunteer Fire Company Proved Themselves Heroes.

BURNT DISTRICT WILL BE REBUILT, BUT PROBABLY NOT BY ALL THE PRESENT OWNERS.

Merchants Burned Out in Temporary Quarters.

The most destructive fire in the history of Chestertown occurred on Monday night, September 26th, when 23 buildings and six or seven stables located in the heart of the town's business section were destroyed, causing a loss to our merchants and property owners estimated at $97,000 with an insurance of $48,000. The fire started from some unknown cause in the blacksmith shop of Davis & Satterfield corner of Cannon and Cross streets. The fire alarm was sounded at 7.10 o'clock followed by a general alarm from the town clock and other bells. The Volunteer Fire Company responded promptly, and had there been sufficient pressure on the pump to force an abundant supply of water through the hose, the firemen could easily have confined the fire to the blacksmith shop and the large ware room and office would never have caught. As it was the instant the water was turned on, the stream that came from the nozzles was pitiful to look at, and everybody began immediately to say there was no water. They should have said there was no pressure. As a consequence with scarcely nothing to fight the flames, the fire fanned by a breeze from the southwest, and burning in that section of the town which housed the most inflammable substances leaped with horrible rapidity from one building to another until it was plainly seen that unless help from a distance could arrive the entire town might possibly be destroyed.

As the fire progressed the pump pressure got better and the firemen who worked like trojans fought the flames every inch of the way, and at 11 o'clock they had it under control at the meat market of Mr. Robert Moffett. This building had a tin roof, and this fact, coupled with the good judgment of Chief Cannan and his firemen in flooding the third story of the building prevented the entire destruction of the store property, and Mr. Moffett was able to resume his business in the morning. The fire burned with astonishing rapidity on account of the inflammable condition of the buildings and the dry weather. Several times the wind shifted, and when the flames reached T. S. Bordley's corner they made a desperate effort to leap across Cross street to the candy kitchen. Sparks were carried to all parts of the town, and our liverymen moved horses, harness, carriages and feed to places of safety and turned hose on the roofs of their stables to prevent them catching fire. The situation looked so appalling at 8 o'clock that President France of the Fire Company and members of the Water Board telephoned and telegraphed to Wilmington for help. Owing to difficulty in loading their equipment the companies did not leave Wilminton until 9.23 and it was 11.30 when they reached the station. Our own brave firemen had gotten the fire under control by that time and the Wilmington company simply assisted in putting out the smouldering embers. They remained on duty until 4 A. M. and after reloading left for Wilmington at 7.25 having given Chestertown every assistance in her dire misfortune. When the flames were checked it was found that the following property had been destroyed, in which account we give the estimated loss at $97,000 with an insurance of $48,000.

The buildings and properties destroyed were:

Davis & Satterfield, blacksmith and wheelwright shops, and lumber sheds, carriage repository and store building, also small frame dwelling, together with the entire contents.

Wm. C. Sutton's building occupied by Mr. John E. Matthews, Adams Express agent. Mr. Matthews lost nearly all his household furniture. He succeeded in saving the greater part of the express matter. The stables in the rear of this property were also destroyed.

Wm. L. Fowler's store and dwelling, building and stock of wall paper and paints. Mr. Fowler lost nearly all his household furniture. Also stable in rear.

Mrs. Thomas D. Bowers' store and dwelling building occupied by Mr. Jas. W. Kirby as dwelling and marble works. Mr. Kirby lost all his stock and household furniture.

Wm. A. Burk's dwelling and shoe shop, including nearly all the household furniture, and shoe repairing equipment.

John S. Vandegrift's dwelling and barber shop. Mr. Vandegrift saved considerable of his furniture and equipment.

Small brick building occupied by Mr. Nickerson as shoe repair shop.

Miss Nannie Bordley'y store and dwelling on corner High and Cross Sts., occupied by Mr. Thomas S. Bordley as clothing store, and Mrs. J. C. Loud's dwelling and restaurant.

M. A. Toulson's brick building occupied as gents furnishing store, by Vansant & Newsome.

M. A. Toulson's brick building, occupied by Mr. Toulson as dwelling and drug store.

James S. Bradley's brick building occupied as dwelling by himself and by James H. Shuster as shoe store.

M. A. Toulson's brick and frame building occupied by McIntire & Hodgkin as grocery store.

Jacob F. Thompson's frame building occupied by A. W. Carmine, notions and groceries; and H. Kaplan, tailor; also frame stable in rear.

W. R. Maul and sister's frame building occupied by W. P. Newnam, musicial instruments; and Diamond State Telephone Exchange, also stable in rear.

W. R. Maul and sister; frame building occupied as dwelling and store.

Jame S. Bradley's frame building occupied by Robert Moffett as dwelling and meat stand; also stable in rear.

ESTIMATED LOSS AND AMOUNT OF INSURANCE.

	Loss.	Ins.
Davis & Satterfield, stock	$8,000	$5,190
Mrs. J. C. Davis, buildings	4,000	2,650
Wm C. Sutton, building	2,500	945
J. E. Matthews, furniture	1,000	600
Wm. L. Fowler, building	2,500	1,275
" " stock	4,000	1,000
" " furniture	1,000	400
Mrs. T. D. Bowers, building	1,600	1,200
James W. Kirby, stock	1,000	400
" " furniture	500	200
Wm. A. Burk, building	1,500	800
" " stock	500	
" " furniture	500	500
John S. Vandegrift, building	1,600	
" " furniture	1,000	
" " fixtures	500	
J. E. Nickerson, shoemaker	100	
Miss Nannie Bordley's building	4,000	2,200
T. S. Bordley, stock clothing	5,000	4,000
Mrs. J. C. Loud, furniture	1,500	1,500
M. A. Toulson, building	4,000	2,300
Vansant & Newsome, stock	3,000	2,000
M. A. Toulson, building	4,000	2,500
" " stock drugs	3,000	1,250
" " furniture	1,500	1,000
James S. Bradley, building	4,000	3,000
" " furniture	1,000	500
Jas. H. Shuster, stock shoes	5,000	4,000
M. A. Toulson, building	3,000	1,500
McIntire & Hodgkin, stock	1,000	500
Jacob F. Thompson, building	1,250	1,000
" " stable	200	150
A. W. Carmine, stock	3,800	2,000
H. Kaplan	300	
W. R. Maul & Sister, building	2,500	1,000
W. P. Newnam, stock	2,000	1,000
Diamond State Telephsne Company, equipment	2,000	
W. R. Maul & Sister, building	2,500	1,000
" " stock	300	
" " furniture	500	
" " stable	160	
James S. Bradley, building	2,500	1,600
Robert Moffett, furniture	1,000	600
" " stock	500	
James S. Bradley, damaged stock	500	
L. Deckleman, damaged stock	1,200	1,000
	$96,550	

The insurance covering the burnt property was placed as follows:

Kent Mutual	$ 6,900
L. Bates Russell's Agency	7,100
J. N. Wheatley Agency	10,460
J. G. Beck's Agency	7,425
Satterfield & Durding	5,500
E. P. Beck's Agency	2,000
H. L. Boyd's Agency	3,000
W. Frank Jarrell's Agency	1,500
Dover Mutual	2,000
J. A. Bradley Agency	2,000
Total	$47,885

This estimate does not include the loss of clothing and valuables, to say nothing of broken pieces of furniture, all of which will probably bring the total up close to $100,000. Nor does this estimate include the slight damage to Mr. Walter T. Bramble's harness goods, Mrs. S. F. Smith's dwelling and Mr. Ollie Estes' household goods.

NOTES OF THE CONFLAGRATION.

A number of ladies headed by Misses Nellie Walters and Kate Wheatley, served sandwiches and coffee to the firemen during the big blaze.

Mr. C. Norman Thorington, of Pocomoke City, general agent of the Maryland Mutual Aid Socity, rendered most valuable service during the fire. Mr. Thorington climbed to the top of one of the buildings, and he and Mr. Joseph Peterson Westcott, remained there and fought the flames until they were forced away by the heat. Mr. Thorington received slight injuries about the arms and one of his knees, which were cared for by Dr. H. G. Simpers. Mr. Thorington is a complete stranger here, and his efforts in assisting in saving the people's property deserves the highest praise. He should have no trouble in securing assistance for his society here. No one could have done more than did he and Mr. Westcott.

The Diamond State Telephone Company, though heavy losers by the fire, lost no time in getting a long distance wire working, and through their courtesy special messages were sent to Baltimore, Philadelphia and Wilmington papers of the fire. They had a wire working in five minutes after being forced out of their exchange, and by yesterday their entire local and long distance service was in operation. This was a most commendable spirit, and Mr. Nichols, the local representative of the company, deserves the thanks of the community for his push and great courtesy. A special force of workmen came in on the morning train on Tuesday and repaired the damage to lines and cables.

By miraculous work on the part of the volunteer firemen, who had the flames under control before the Wilmington Fire Company arrived, the fire did not get beyond Mr. Moffett's Meat Market. A tin roof and heroic work by the firemen prevented the destruction of another whole block from Bartley's big furniture store to corner of High and Kent streets.

During the height of fire some one looted Mr. J. S. Bradley's store money drawer, taking $35. Other minor thefts occurred but Sheriff Medders and a special force of policemen did excellent service in protecting goods which filled the public squares and side-walks.

The Wilmington Fire Companies remained at the scene of the fire all night pouring volumes of river water on the embers. They left next morning at 7.25, after having rendered most valuable assistance and not charging a penny. Chestertown will not forget the kindness of Wilmington in a generation.

Everybody in Chestertown and those who came to town from the country worked with commendable energy during the fire in saving and protecting people's property. We could not begin to enumerate and compliment all those who worked so faithfully, and we are sure that every one who lost their property is grateful to the fullest extent for the assistance rendered.

Rev. F. T. Little lost his watch and chain while assisting to remove furniture from Mr. Wm. A. Burk's dwelling. Fortunately it was found by a gentleman who was keeping watch over Mr. Burk's goods and returned to the doctor.

Rev. Dr. L. E. Barrett sustained a slight cut over the left eye and on his forehead while assisting to remove goods from one of the houses. He also strained his back slightly in lifting.

Mr. W. Miller Maslin had his hand badly hurt by a portion of a burning roof falling upon it while he was assisting to put out the flames.

Mr. H. Kaplan was in Baltimore at the time the fire broke out, observing the Jewish Holiday. His tailoring establishment was locked up and when he returned on Tuesday evening it was impossible to find anything. A portion of his goods were later located on the square.

Mr. J. Frank Davis came down from Wilmington on the special train which brought the Wilmington Fire Companies and did valuable service in assisting at the fire. His wife and Mrs. J. W. Flesh came in on the Tuesday train to view the fire ruins.

Dr. Owen Smith, one of Baltimore's prominent druggists and a native of Chestertown, came over from Baltimore on Tuesday evening and remained until Thursday taking some interesting views of the ruins with his camera.

Dr. John M. Toulson, one of Salisbury's prominent druggists, came from his home to assist his father and family in recovering their goods from the fire scene.

The next morning after the fire there were 3½ feet of water in the reservoir and a good supply in both pools at the pump house. Chestertown has all the water it needs. What it sadly needs is PRESSURE at the beginning of a fire.

The Town Commissioners have been busy cleaning the sidewalks along the burnt district and removing the ruined shade trees and burned telephone and electric light poles. The sprinkler began operations on Thursday morning, and the public square has been cleared and cleaned.

It has been erroneously stated that the new artesian well was called into service during the fire for an extra supply of water. This was impossible, as there is no connection by pipe between that well and the pump. Every drop of water used at the fire came from the pool, reservoir and mostly from the artesian well. No one had any idea of the capacity of the artesian well until this big fire, and had the pump had the necessary pressure, there would have been enough water in the artesian well to stop the fire at Davis & Satterfield's warehouse. Next morning at 7 o'clock there was a plenty of water in the pools and THREE FEET in the reservoir, and yet there are some people who everytime a fire occurs here attribute the spread of the fire to a lack of water. This is not true. The trouble is with the pump pressure. If you had a capacity of a million gallons of water a minute and nothing to force it with, what good would it be? Our citizens will stand in their own light if they don't prevent a waste of their money and demand a standpipe or an elevated tank system that will give the necessary pressure at the time a fire breaks out. That is the trouble, and a little common sense will remedy it.

Sparks from the great fire flew as far out as Mr. John Bell's farm, setting fire to a gate post near the farm residence. Mr. Wm. A. Bell returned home about nine o'clock and found the gatepost on fire. Dr. S. E. Ford's residence was also on fire four times.

The Town Commissioners have acted wisely in offering the public square to the merchants who were burned out, on which to erect temporary structures in which to transact their business. This will give the merchants a chance to push their fall and winter trade and will not permanently injure the square.

Many of those who lost their property lost all their clothing as well. Other valuables were also destroyed that can never be replaced.

One lady as far away as Washington avenue packed all of her silverware in a basket preparatory to moving out. Some one said that she sent it to the home of Prof. Jones on College Hill for safekeeping.

The reflection of the fire was seen as far away as Kent Island. James T. Earle, Esq., of the Centreville bar, was on Kent Island at the time the fire broke out, and he and a party of gentlemen came all the way to Chestertown in an automobile, reaching here at 10 o'clock. Mr. Wm. H. Bonwill, who lives near Kennedyville, said the reflection made it bright enough to read a newspaper in his barnyard. His house is six miles from Chestertown, People were here from all parts of Kent and Queen Annes counties.

One of the showmen lost a valuable watch during the fire. It was a present to him from the Knight's Templar and he valued it highly. He would be pleased if the finder would return it.

Too much credit cannot be given the men of Robbins' Shows. When it was seen that there would be no night performance, and this was apparent almost from the start, the managers ran their fine horses into town from the circus grounds, brought their canvasmen and performers, even, and went to work to help. Their horses, used to pulling great wagons, "bucked up" and played at being fire-engine animals. They pulled and hauled the heavy engines that men usually drag slowly, and their drivers stepped in and worked as they do in rush times "on the lot." Altogether, Chestertown is grateful, for when the show pulled out Monday night for Centreville everyone was tired, even those helpful horses, and the management was traveling lighter as far as the treasury was concerned, for there was a big crowd in town for the performance.

One circus man had his arm injured by falling through the roof of one building. He went on with the show after having been treated by Dr. Simpers.

The morning after the fire presented a sad spectacle on the Park Square. Furniture, store goods, shoe boxes, etc., almost every conceivable article were piled all over the square, and while considerable damage was done to all, yet there is enough saved from the wreck with which to begin again. The work of removing store goods and furniture to temporary quarters and the homes of the people who were kind enough to offer their services to the fire sufferers, consumed the entire day, and we are glad to say that nearly all those who were burned out are comfortably fixed in temporary quarters.

McIntire & Hodgkin wish us to thank those who aided in getting their goods out of their store. Everything was handled with the greatest care and not even a show case glass was broken.

The handsome show cases in James H. Shuster's fine shoe store were wrecked, only a few pieces of the fine glass and the frames being saved.

The merchants and those who lost their property in the great fire speak in the highest terms of the assistance rendered by the students of Washington College. The boys did splendid service, and their heroic work will not be forgotten by the fire sufferers.

The colored residents of Cannon street and Cross street worked like beavers in protecting their homes as well as the homes of others, and they did not suffer to any great extent.

The work of rebuilding the burnt district will begin as soon as the insurance is adjusted. It is doubtful if some of the present owners will rebuild, but their ground will be sold and buildings will be erected.

The operators at the telephone exchange stuck to their switch boards until the last minute, and they very bravely and courteously answered all calls until forced out.

Manager Frederick H. Russell, of the electric light plant, very wisely shut off the lights and electric current during the night to prevent any fatalities. The company's loss to wires was about $300 with no insurance, and by perseverance and push they had their system in good working order by Tuesday evening.

In the great excitement occasioned by the fire, not as much care was exercised as should have been by some of those who assisted in removing furniture from the houses. In some instances bedsteads washstands and bureaus as well as other valuable pieces of furniture were thrown to the pavement and broken to pieces. The was particularly true in homes which were in no immediate danger from the fire. If it could be so, more care and less excitement should be indulged in during such times.

Clerk to the Board of Town Commissioners Thos. S. Bordley saved all of the papers and tax books belonging to the town, and everything in that line is safe, as is also the papers and books of the Heptasophs held by the financier, Mr. William Vansant.

Owing to circumstances and the excitement incident to the fire, we are unable to present any views of the scene of the fire this week. We had several views taken but they were spoiled in developing. We hope to show some cuts next week.

Capt. S. T. H. Pfeffer wishes us to say that all debris from the fire ruins may be dumped in his lot on Front street extended free of charge. He will be glad to get it to use in filling in his lot.

We regret sincerely that we are compelled to report the almost wholesale looting of some of the merchants' goods which were placed on the square for protection. We are told that goods and valuables were brought out of the stores, placed in carriages and wagons and taken away and have not been seen since. One merchant reports that he had 35 dozen shirts before the fire and to-day he can find only five shirts. Large quantities of shoes were also taken as well as groceries and provisions. This is a shame, and the man or woman who would take advantage of an occasion like this to steal unfortunate people's property is none too good to do far worse acts if he had the chance.

IN TEMPORARY QUARTERS.

Nearly all those who were burned out in the fire have secured temporary quarters, and those who have not yet been able to secure locations will do so as soon as possible. These are located.

Davis & Satterfield's office is in the Town Commissioners office in Fireman's Hall. They have fixed up temporary working quarters at their big warehouse, near the new depot.

John S. Vandegrift, the barber shop man, has gone in Chapman & Lambert's office building on Cross street, directly across the street from his old stand. Mr. Vandegrift was a heavy loser in the fire, having no insurance. His policy ran out a month ago, and he states the company did not notify him that it was out.

Mr. M. A. Toulson has taken the room under the Voshell House for his drug business until he can rebuild his property. Mr. Warren Hurlock very generously gave up the use of the room to Mr. Toulson, and has placed his pianos and organs in different homes.

McIntire & Hodgkin are in the sample room under the Voshell House, where they have secured temporary quarters.

Mr. Wm. L. Fowler and family have gone to the home of his father on High street, and he has what goods he saved from his paint and wall paper business stored at the home of his brother-in-law, Mr. Frank H. Howard.

Mr. J. W. Kirby's family has found quarters with his sister, Mrs. S. T. H. Pfeffer. Mr. Kirby is making arrangements to resume his tombstone and marble business as soon as possible, especially as to filling pressing orders. Mr. Kirby and family lost nearly all their clothing, saving scarcely little more than what they had at the laundry.

Mr. A. W. Carmine has located in the front room, formerly a store room, of his dwelling, corner High and Mill streets, where he has on hand a fine line of groceries and provisions. Open to-day.

Mr. Robert Moffett began business in his store room on High street the morning after the fire. Strange as it may seem Mr. Moffett's home was destroyed but his meat shop was not burned. Both were in the same building and this is another evidence of the wonderful work of the Volunteer Fire Company.

Mr. Wm. A. Burk has rented one of Mrs. Wm. J. Vannort's dwellings, on High street and has removed his family there. He has secured temporary quarters in Mrs. A. J. Hynson's property on Cross street, opposite Sides' garage.

Mrs. J. Cordray Loud has rented Mr. R. Groome Parks' house formerly occupied by Mr. James Dunbracco on High street and has removed there with his ice cream business.

Mr. Wm. P. Newnam, the music dealer and sewing machine man, has gone back to his old quarters, in the Titter restaurant building. Mr. Newnam saved most of his goods.

Mr. John E. Matthews, the expressman, has located his office in a part of the big warehouse belonging to Davis & Satterfield, near the depot. Mr. Matthews and family have taken quarters with his daughter, Mrs. Maxwell Blakeney.

Beck & Ivens, real estate brokers, have rented Mrs. Mary A. Hynson's property on Cross street to Mr. Wm. A. Burk, whose property was destroyed by the great fire.

Mr. Wm. R. Maul and sister, Miss Phebe, have secured three rooms at the home of Mr. Wm. P. Newnam on Front street, and have removed there. Mr. Maul and sister contemplate rebuilding their burned property, but not before spring.

Mr. J. W. Kirby will likely take a part of the Hynson marble yard property where Mr. Wm. A. Burk has gone with his shoe shop. All of Mr. Kirby's fine stock of marble, tombs, monuments, etc., was destroyed, and he is buying a complete new stock, and will be ready for business shortly. The insurance on his stock and furniture was paid on Thursday.

Mr. M. A. Toulson has rented the house occupied by Mrs. C. R. Atkinson, on Queen street and will remove his family there at once. They have been the guests of relatives and friends since the fire.

Mr. Jas. H. Shuster, the shoe man, is making every effort to get located, and his many friends hope he will succeed.

Mr. and Mrs. James S. Bradley have taken apartments at the Voshell House, and he has goten his goods back in his store and is doing business at the same old stand. Mr. Bradley is very much grieved over the loss of his valuable watch, which, with other valuables, was destroyed in his home.

Henry Maze is the only colored man who was burned out. His house was destroyed and he has secured other quarters.

Insurance adjusters have been here since Wednesday adjusting the claims of property owners, and so far as we have been able to learn, all claims are being adjusted satisfactorily. A number of claims have been paid.

Contractors Duyer Bros. have erected a temporary structure on the square opposite A. L. Sparks' big store, this week. It will be occupied next week by M. A. Toulson and Thos. S. Bordley. Vansant & Newsome will also erect a temporary structure. This will leave vacant the store on Cross street, and two rooms under the Voshell House for some one to occupy. McIntire & Hodgdin, J. Cordray Loud, Wm. L. Fowler and probably H. Kaplan will also have temporary structures.

CLAIMS ADJUSTED.

The following insurance claims have been adjusted, as far as we have learned:

JOSEPH N. WHEATLEY & CO'S. AGENCIES.

Wm. L. Fowler, $400 on furniture.
" " $500 stock.
A. W. Carmine, $2500 on stock.
John E. Matthews, $600 on furniture.
M. A. Toulson, $1500 on building occupied by McIntire & Hodgkin.
Mrs. Thos. D. Bowers, $1200 on dwelling.
Fire Building, $58.

JAMES G. BECK'S AGENCY.

H. Kaplan, $300 on stock.
J. W. Kirby, $200 on furniture.
Wm. R. Maul, $1,000 on building.
Mrs. Indiana C. Davis, $787.50 in each of two companies.
Mrs. J. C. Loud, $628.85 on $1,500.
Wm. R. Maul, $100 on stable.

H. L. BOYD'S AGENCY.

J. W. Kirby, $400 on stock.

KENT MUTUAL.

The Kent Mutual is ready to settle all its claims.

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