



GONE TO ASHES

The New Canton Cutlery Works
Destroyed by Fire,

With a Loss of \$16,000, Insured for
\$9,500.

An alarm of fire was sounded from box 26, at North Cherry street and Turner Hall, at 7:40 o'clock Wednesday evening, fire having been discovered in the works of the Linton Cutlery Company, situated at Virginia avenue and the Cleveland & Canton Railway. In half an hour the buildings were a total wreck, and the manufactured and raw stock that was in them, destroyed. The total loss is \$16,000, distributed as follows: building, \$3,000; machinery, \$7,000; stock, \$6,000. The insurance is \$9,500, distributed among the following companies: German, of Freeport, Ill, \$750 on machinery, \$500 on stock; Cincinnati Underwriters, \$750 on machinery, \$250 on stock; Cincinnati Amazon, \$1,500 on machinery, \$500 on stock; Detroit, Michigan, F. & M. \$1,250 on building; Boatman's of Pittsburgh, \$1,250 on building; Phoenix, of Hartford, \$3,000 on stock.

The fire department responded quickly to the alarm, and went to the north end of Cherry Street, when the location of the fire was discovered. The buildings

COULD NOT BE REACHED

from there, and it was impossible for the steamer to be run across. It had to be driven back to North street, eastward along North for some distance before there could be a turn made, finally reaching the fire by going across the commons. In one place a ditch was encountered, and the men had to bridge it. They worked hard, but the run was a long one, and the fire spread so rapidly that when the building was reached it seemed to be enveloped in flames. Great clouds of smoke rose in the air, and reflecting the

LIGHT OF THE FLAMES,

made the fire visible for a great distance. Canton parties in Mineral Point at the time saw the light reflected from the clouds, and a telegram was received from Justus, sixteen miles south of Canton asking where the fire was, the light being visible there.

The main building of the works was 30 by 70 feet in size, of frame and two stories high. The engine room was a one-story brick, 16 by 20 feet; and the blacksmith shop 16 by 20 feet. The engine building was an annex at the west side, and the office was in the east end of the main building. When discovered the fire was in the east end of the building. It is said a man who arrived not long after said it started in the office, and if water had been accessible, could easily have been extinguished. Three steamers were soon flowing, the steamer company and No. 8 working.

ANOTHER ALARM

was sounded and Hose Company No. 3 called out. The flames spread so rapidly nothing could be carried out, and all was destroyed. The roof of a house near by on Virginia avenue was ignited, and the household goods carried out in hands, but it was extinguished. The fire was not sounded out until 9 o'clock, and the steamer played on it until 9:30. Firemen watched the smouldering ruins all night.

The charred walls with a part of the roof still stand. The engine building, being brick, was saved.

MR. HARRY LINTON

was interviewed by a REPOSITORY reporter and gave the statement of losses made above. He said that the works had been running about six weeks. Several shipments were about to be made, and the goods were packed. They were lost. The first traveling salesman was to have started out to-day, and his samples were destroyed.

He said they kept a small fire in the office over night to keep goods from getting damp. The bookkeeper, William Krumlauf, was the last person to leave the building, going at 5 o'clock. He does not think the fire originated in the office. He thinks it was a combustion of the dust gathered about the emery wheels in the grinding room. The emery dust, with the grindings from the knives was collected on the floor about the openings where the belts went through to the shafting on the first floor, and if it ignited, as he thinks, would drop down to the first floor, and the oil from the shaftings and machinery would soon start a fire that would rapidly spread.

Thirty men are thrown out of work. Mr. Linton said that he and his brothers had spent their life in the cutlery business, and were not prepared to go into other business. If the adjustment of insurance is satisfactory they will immediately begin to rebuild the works.