

# \$100,000 DAMAGE.

Big Fire on St. Catherine Street  
Yesterday.

O. VINETTE & CO. BURNED OUT

New York Steam Laundry Company  
Suffers Badly—Other Firms Dam-  
aged—Minor Conflagrations.

Yesterday morning, about 8 o'clock, fire broke out in the large stone building at the corner of St. Catherine and St. Urbain streets, formerly known as the Hospice St. Francois Xavier, which, four or five years ago was used as an orphan asylum, but since then occupied by a dozen or more manufacturing concerns.

Smoke was first noticed issuing from the upper stories of the left wing, where the fire may have originated, or perhaps it was in the adjoining premises of Berard and Major, carriage dealers. However, this may be, the flames soon got a firm start in that part of the wing used as a shoe factory by the firm of O. Vinette & Co. They use the third and fourth flats, the ground flat being occupied by Kieffer & Co., machinists. The last named have suffered principally from water, but Messrs. Vinette & Co.'s premises are gutted; the roof has fallen in, and their damage will be heavy. The top flats of the three sides are used by the New York Steam Laundry Company, and in amount of damage they come next. In the left wing, as already stated, nothing was saved, but at the back end of the right wing the loss, though severe enough, has been caused principally by smoke and water. The week's washing having practically been delivered on Saturday night, the loss in linen will amount to only a few hundred dollars. Had the fire occurred in the middle of the week, it would have amounted to thousands.

Despite the efforts of the brigade, the fire ate its way steadily around the building, the divisions from one place to another offering but slight obstruction; and so it was nearly upon be-

fore it was under control, and it was necessary for water to be poured upon the ruins through the day. Among those who occupy the back of the building are the firms of Lyburner & Mathew, machinists; the Canada Bolt and Lathe Works, and the Victoria Manufacturing Company, all of which have sustained loss by either fire or water. On this part of the building there stood a bellry, some fifteen or twenty feet in height, which was soon undermined, and toppled over with a crash, but fortunately no one was injured, though some narrow escapes are mentioned, especially in the case of some of the employees who had to do some slight work on Sunday, while the engines were stopped, and, who, finding themselves on the top hat, had only time to reach the laundry mentioned, in the right wing was the firm of Clement & Lathen, shoe manufacturers, and successors to Fellerin & Ellis. The damage here is principally by water. There is also a St. Catherine street front, occupied by several shopkeepers, but this part of the building escaped from loss. Some 300 people will be affected by the fire, which was a nasty one to handle, considering the multitude of apartments, and the easy access from one to the other. The total loss is placed at \$100,000. The insurance upon the building is as follows: The London, \$20,000; the Royal, \$20,000; the Commercial Union, \$19,000; the Western, \$9,000; while the Liverpool and London and Globe, on the stock, has \$2,800; the St. Lawrence Fire Insurance Company, \$4,500; the Quebec Fire Insurance Company, \$1,500; the Western, \$2,000; the Atlas, \$1,000. The individual firm of O. Vinette & Co. has \$10,000 insurance, and the New York Steam Laundry Company has also about \$10,000. A. C. Lartiviere's carriage factory, St. Antoine street, was the scene of a sharp outbreak of fire on Saturday afternoon, which, had it not been for the prompt arrival of the firemen, might have resolved itself into a serious and costly conflagration. The flames broke out in the roof and owing to the dryness of the material, of which it was constructed, it threatened to spread rapidly. For a little while the buildings in the immediate vicinity of the fire were in imminent danger; the firemen, however, succeeded in subduing the flames effectively ere anything serious occurred. The damage to the machinery, however, was very considerable; the loss, in consequence, will probably amount to several thousand dollars. Later in the afternoon fire broke out in a bedroom in the residence of Mr. H. Jones, 207 Aqueduct street. Before it was checked, it spread throughout the house, doing much damage. The loss will be about \$2,000.



Montreal

Friday June 7<sup>th</sup>  
1902

Dearest Mother,

I am afraid I have written to you very irregularly but I was so busy with designing socks & I tried to buy passes for a poster competition. Alfred Barnes got the prize. He was the one who was at the art gallery here last winter. Our posters were certainly not the worst which is surprising I suppose. We sent the faculty off on Wednesday & are expecting to hear from them tomorrow. The weather up here is beautiful fair & not too hot. But I suppose it will change soon & be hot. We had some tickets for the Natural History excursion and as we were



not going to use them we  
thought the Chinaman Thompson  
people might like them as they  
were so grateful for them last  
year. We took them down after  
dinner tonight & Mrs Thompson  
opened the door. She asked me  
to give you her love when I  
write. I don't know what  
is happening to the old people  
in Montreal. Mrs Mulholland  
is to be married to that  
wicked old sinner Canon (?)  
Norton. She is evidently going  
to be married soon as her  
R.P.C. cards were left here  
today. Old Mrs MacIntosh  
had a stroke of paralysis  
last week, but we have not  
heard if it was bad or  
anything about it. The Petersons  
are sailing by the Parisian  
tomorrow morning. Father &  
I are going down to say



find my to them. Last night  
Father was at the Stirling's  
dinner (the Posters were there  
too) & I was at Aunt Jim's.  
Dr. Saffner was there to  
dinner but had to leave shortly  
after on account of some medical  
meeting. On Wednesday Mrs.  
Louis Sutherland gave a tea  
for Alice at the Hunt Club. It  
was not a large affair. About  
eighteen of us met at Alice's  
& walked out to the Hunt  
Club where Mrs. Sutherland  
awaited us & we had tea.  
We went out there the next  
week way so thick of all  
the weeks about that  
we know nothing about! If it  
is not too warm on Sunday  
Father & I may walk out there  
in the afternoon. Lois & I  
did quite well in their  
examinations they only had



four & six was read in  
History & Geography & Eva  
read in Scripture. Erica  
was only first in one exam.  
So of course Mrs. Rogers is  
very indignant. She has asked  
Miss Howard for all the  
children's papers & says she  
wants to look over them.  
I think it is a perfect  
outrage! Such a slight  
on Miss Howard, as though  
she had not correctly marked  
them impartially. Father thinks  
it is a perfect shame. If  
I was in Miss Howard's  
place I would refuse the  
papers. Kate's brother is dead  
& she has come back to town.  
I have written to her &  
asked her to come but  
have not heard from her  
yet. Father & I are to go  
to the Cox's to dinner on

Signed Ruth -