
Destructive Fire in Russell.

**MOST OF THE BUSINESS PLACES
IN RUINS.**

Total Loss \$35,000.

A most destructive fire broke out in the store of J. M. Palmer, in the little village of Russell, about two o'clock Sunday morning, and spread rapidly till most of the business portion of the place was in ashes.

The post office was kept in the store where the fire originated, but so rapid was the progress of the flames that nothing connected with the store or post office was saved.

The following mentioned property was consumed :—

Julius M. Palmer's two stores, with stock of goods, clean sweep; loss \$13,000; no insurance.

Charles Smith's store and goods; loss \$2,000; insured \$2,500.

Aldrich's two stores and goods; loss \$2,500; insured \$2,100.

Benjamin Smith's brick store and goods; loss \$5,000; insured nothing.

S. W. Doolittle's brick hotel; loss \$9,000; insured \$6,000.

A McMillan's store and goods; loss \$1,200; insured \$500.

L. Hosford's store and goods; loss \$1,500; no insurance. Two barns worth \$500, and on which there was no insurance.

When first discovered the fire was seen issuing from the cellar in the rear of Mr. Palmer's store. Ten buildings in all were consumed.

The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. At one time it was feared that every building in the street would go, but fortunately the brick walls of Benjamin Smith's store prevented further spread in that direction. Several times other buildings were on fire, but persistent effort put out the flames again and again.

The telegraph wires were burnt down, making it impossible to send off the news till the departure of the mails.

The flames were so strong that they attracted the attention of the policemen of this city.

Since the above was put in type we have received the following letter from Russell :—

RUSSELL VILLAGE BURNED.

At 2 a. m. on Sunday, July 26th, the alarm of fire was given in the village of Russell. At 4 a. m. at least four-fifths of the business portion of that quiet village was in ashes.

The village is built upon a side hill, and the stores are located upon the four corners made by the intersection of two roads, one running north and south, the other east and west. The fire was first discovered in the wooden building owned by Mr. J. M. Palmer. This building is situated a few feet west of the southwest corner (that is of the four corners). Nothing was saved from this building. From here the fire went east to the corner, and from the corner south to the end of the stores towards the river.— From the southwest corner it crossed to the northwest corner, and “cleaned out that corner.” Upon this corner was the brick block owned by Benjamin Smith. From this corner the fire crossed to the northeast corner, occupied by the brick hotel owned by S. W. Doolittle. From this corner it tacked north and burned two barns, and there by great exertion it was stopped. The southeast corner is the only one saved. This is occupied by the stores of H. Derby and Lewis, by Jennie Bros., and the drug store owned by O. M. Baker. No wind was blowing, or we should have to chronicle a still larger fire. The people of Russell responded quickly to the alarm, but having made no provision for a fire they were obliged to fight “by hand.” The women are deserving of much praise for the courageous manner in which they assisted. The general opinion is that it was the work of an incendiary.

The following is a list of the losers, the loss sustained, and amount of insurance. It is not possible to make it accurate at this time, but this is the opinion of those who are in the best position to estimate :

J. M. Palmer, dry goods, two stores, lost building, stock, books, all. Loss \$13,000; no insurance.

The following losers were in Mr. Palmer's block: Post office, nothing saved. Masonic Lodge. Loss \$500; insured \$300. C. P. Smith. Loss \$500; no insurance. G. W. Barber. Loss \$200; no insurance. Rose Bros. Loss \$150; no insurance.

W. M. Aldrich's block, two stores. Loss \$2,600; insured \$2,100.

A. McMillans' grocery. Loss \$1,000; insured \$500.

Chas. Smith. Loss \$4,500; insured \$2,500.

S. W. Doolittle, hotel. Loss \$9,000; insured \$6,000.

Benjamin Smith, brick block, dry goods.— Loss \$5,000; no insurance.

J. Caldwell's barn. Loss \$400; no insurance.

S. K. Miles, barn. Loss \$100; no insurance.

Dr. Hawley lost everything in his office, library, &c.

John Foster, boots and shoes. Loss \$1,500; insurance unknown.

James Gore, harness shop. Loss \$200; no insurance.

Daniel Colton, gun shop. Loss \$300; no insurance.

The entire loss, roughly estimated, is \$35,000
