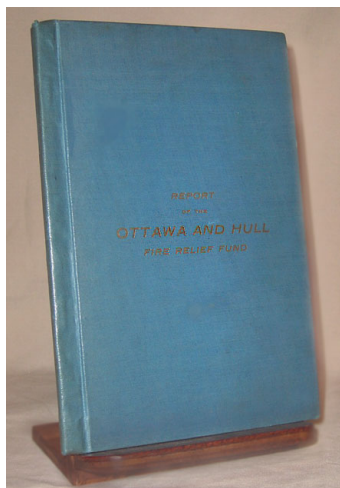


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Report of the Ottawa and Hull Fire Relief Fund - 1900

CA0188



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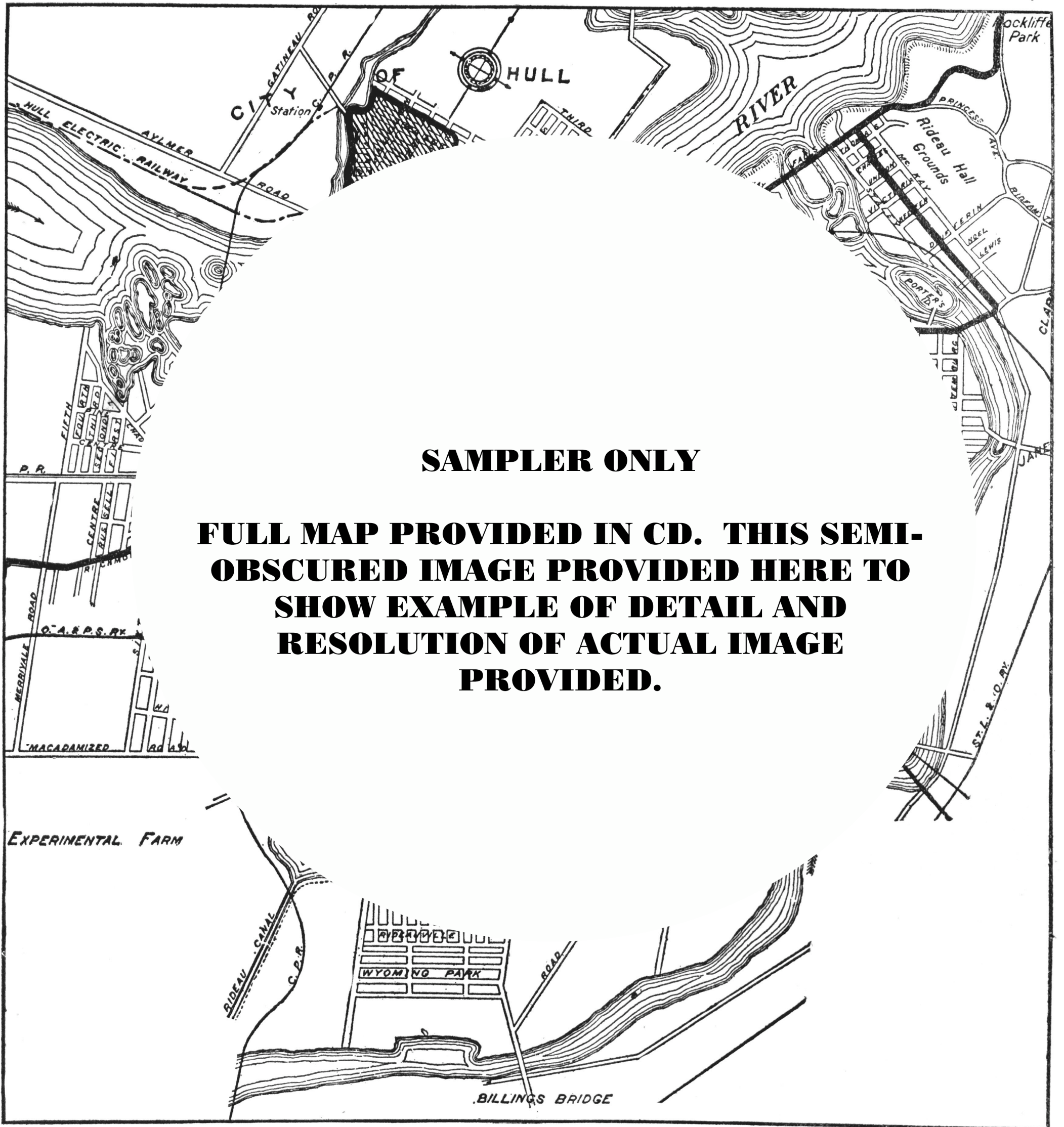
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CITIES OF OTTAWA AND HULL—BURNT AREA SHADED DARK.

REPORT

OF THE

OTTAWA AND HULL

FIRE RELIEF FUND

1900

OTTAWA:

THE ROLLA L. CRAIN CO., LIMITED, PRINTERS

1900

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF OTTAWA

MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION

—OF—

The Ottawa and Hull Fire Relief Fund

1900

CHAIRMAN

George H. Perley

VICE CHAIRMAN

Sheriff Sweetland

ADMINISTRATOR AND TREASURER

J. C. Browne

H. K. Egan
D. Murphy
Fred. Cook
T. Payment, Mayor of Ottawa
F. Barrette, ex-Mayor of Hull
R. A. Helmer, Mayor of Hull
Alderman James Davidson
Alderman J. C. Enright
Alderman N. Champagne
Alderman J. Foster
N. A. Belcourt, M. P.
W. Hutchison, M. P.
L. N. Champagne, M. P.
A. Lumsden, M. P. P.
C. B. Powell, M. P. P.
C. B. Major, M. P. P.

BANKERS :

The Bank of Ottawa.

REPORT

OF THE

Ottawa and Hull Fire Relief Fund.

The closing year of the nineteenth century will ever be remembered in Ottawa and Hull as the year in which these cities were visited by the greatest calamity in their history, if indeed not the greatest in the history of the broad domain of which Ottawa is the proud capital.

On April 26th shortly after ten o'clock in the morning a fire broke out in the city of Hull, and before the devouring element had finished its work of ruin and desolation, two-thirds of that city was wiped out, and a large and populous section of Ottawa made a desert waste.

Seven lives were destroyed, fifteen thousand people rendered homeless, and millions of dollars' worth of property scattered in ashes.

Such in brief is the story of the dreadful calamity which awakened the sympathy of the civilized world, and evoked a spirit of generosity that completely obliterated national barriers, and gave a most gratifying demonstration of the common ties which bind mankind in one great brotherhood.

On the morning of the disastrous day, the family of the working man, in whose house the fire broke out, was preparing for the mid-day meal, when the roof was noticed to be on fire, having caught from a defective chimney. The alarm was sounded immediately, but by the time the Hull Brigade arrived, the house, a small wooden shanty, was in flames, and fanned by a gale which



THE WEST END OF OTTAWA AFTER THE FIRE.

CANADIAN SUBSCRIPTIONS

Almonte	Almonte, Town Council of	\$200 00
	Bank of Montreal, subs. through	
	Anderson, W. F.	2 00
	Bolton, B.	2 00
	Burnett, J. F.	2 00
	Carry, W.	2 00
	Chambers, Thomas	2 00
	Cole, J. K.	2 00
	Coulter, James	1 00
	Curry, M.	2 00
	Davis, D. H.	2 00
	Darling, Miss E.	1 00
	Dickson, M.	1 00
	Foley, P. (Brooklyn, N. Y.)	5 00
	Gemmill, C.	1 00
	Haydon, J. R.	1 00
	Henderson, O. E.	1 00
	Jamieson, Rev. W. S.	2 00
	Lowry, Thomas	5 00
	Lunney, B.	2 00
	Muir, Wm.	2 00
	McDonald, John	2 00
	McDowall, W. J.	3 00
	McEwan, H.	1 00
	McKnight, Mrs. Marie	1 00
	McLeod and McEwan	5 00
	McPhail, A. C.	1 00
	O'Reilly, John	2 00
	Carried Forward	<hr/> 253 00

	Brought Forward	....	\$111 00	\$494,741 08
Victoria, B. C.	Chinese Consolidated Benev. Association	....	500 00	
	Chinese Empire Reform Association	....	310 50	
	Chinese Merchants, subs. by Concert, proceeds of	....	10 00	
	Helmcken, Dr. J.D.	....	351 10	
	McTavish, Mrs. M. E.	....	5 00	
	Victoria, Mayor of	....	5 00	
			<hr/>	1,593 10
Walkerton, Ont.	Amount collected by two children, per Mrs. D. McKay,	....	2 25	
	Sacred Heart Church, congregation of	....	22 00	
	Walkerton, Town of	....	50 00	
			<hr/>	74 25
Walkerville, Ont.	Lady of Walkerville	....	1 00	
	Page Wire Fence Co.	....	15 00	
	Walkerville Methodist Church	....	16 41	
	Walkerville, Town of	....	200 00	
			<hr/>	232 41
Wallaceburg, Ont.	Congregation of St. James' Church	....		10 00
Waterford, Ont.	Village of	....		50 00
Waterloo, Ont.	Town of	....	100 00	
	Rev. David Henessy, C. R., German Mission	....	150 00	
			<hr/>	250 00
Waterloo, Que.	Town of	....		100 00
Webbwood, Ont.	I. O. F.	....	16 00	
	Ladies' Aid, Presby. church	....	5 00	
	Webbwood, Citizens of	....	26 10	
			<hr/>	47 10
	Carried Forward	....		497,097 94

BRITISH SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Allan Line, Glasgow	2,433	33
Alliance Ins. Co., London	1,250	00
Anonymous, London	11	44
Asquith, J., Halifax, Eng.	5	22
Bank of British North America	2,500	00
Bamford Bros., Liverpool	500	00
Beauchamp, R. H., London	243	33
Bennett, J. Wheeler, London	512	75
Berkin, J. T., Nottingham, Eng.	510	37
Berry, Jas., London	24	33
Bevan, Mrs. R. H., London	5	10
Biggar, N. P., Liverpool	24	33
Black Moore & Co., London	51	09
Blake, Hon. Edward, London	200	00
Board School pupils, Blacko, Eng.	3	65
Bradford, Citizens of	1,625	46
Bristol, per Lord Mayor	7,308	33
Bath, Eng., per Lord Strathcona	180	06
Cameron, Evan, London	102	20
Canada Company, The, London	500	00
Cardiff, Wales, Citizens of	725	41
Carter, J. J., London	48	66
Ceylon Tea Association, London	973	33
Chaplin, Milne, Grenfell & Co. London	511	00
Church of the Orphans' Home of Scotland, Bridge of Weir	110	36
Clayton Aniline Co., Manchester	48	66
C. M.	24	
Cox, F. A., Liverpool	1,000	00
Crossley & Son, J., Halifax, Eng.	639	47
Debenham & Freebody, London	1,216	67
Delta, Arbroath, Scotland, per Geo. Burn, Gen. Mgr. Bank of Ottawa	2	44
Carried Forward	23,267	23

LIST OF DONATIONS OF CLOTHING, PROVISIONS, ETC.

(AS FAR AS IT WAS POSSIBLE TO IDENTIFY THE DONORS.)

Almonte, Ont.

Citizens of Almonte, per W. Thoburn. 6 cases and 30 packages of clothing; 1 bedstead and 3 bags of flour; 34 cases and packages clothing, bedding, provisions, furniture, etc., and 10 sacks of flour.

Ancaster, Ont.

The members of St. John's Church, per Marie Mussen. 4 barrels of clothing and quilts (two of the quilts from the junior members.)

Athens, Ont.

The ladies of the village, per G. E. Judson. 4 boxes of clothing.

Auburn, Ont.

Rev. John Kennedy. A small package of clothing.

Aylmer, Ont.

Citizens of Aylmer, per Jas. Bradley, Municipal clerk. A number of cases of clothing, also a barrel of flour and potatoes.

Ayr, Ont.

Ladies of Knox Church. 9 barrels of clothing, etc.
Stanley St. Church. Several barrels of supplies.

Barrie, Ont.

Citizens of Barrie, per John Regerson. A case of clothing, etc.
Rev. E. M. Botterell. 3 boxes bed-clothing, etc.

Ottawa, Ont.

- Ed. and Laura. Clothing.
Egan, Mrs. (Cartier Street). Pail of milk, bread, etc.
Elgin Street 114, Miss ———. Tea, sugar, milk, etc.
Ellis Bros. 40 lbs. rolled oats, 6 bars of soap, 12 lbs. biscuits, 8 lbs.
bacon, 1 bag potatoes.
Erskine Church. Clothing.
Esmonde, Mrs. Clothing.
Falls, Mrs. (New Edinburgh). Clothing.
Faulkner, Miss. Clothing.
Featherston, Mrs. J. P. Clothing.
Ferriss, Mrs. J. Clothing.
Fennings-Taylor, Mrs. Clothing.
Findland, Mrs. Clothing.
Finnie, Mrs. Clothing.
Foster, Miss. Clothing.
Frazer, Mrs. W. H. Clothing.
Frazer, Mrs. H. J. Clothing.
Frazer, Miss. Clothing.
Friends. Clothing.
Geddes, Mrs. A. Clothing.
Gemmil, Mrs. Clothing.
Genslinger, Mrs. Clothing.
Gibson, Mrs. Dr. Clothing.
Gilmour, Mrs. (Wilbrod St.) Clothing.
Gloucester St., 158. Clothing.
Gordon, Mrs. Clothing.
Government House. Clothing and 5 gals. milk.
Graham, Mrs. C. D. Clothing.
Graham, Mrs. Clothing.
Graham, Mrs. (Somerset St.) Clothing and 2 rocking chairs.
Graham, Mrs. 2 chairs, books, clothing.
Graves, Mrs. F. Clothing.
Greenfield, Mrs. Clothing.
Griffin, Mrs. M. Clothing.
Griffith, Mrs. Clothing.
Grimes, Mrs. Bread.
Gullouch, Mrs. Clothing.
Hagan, Mrs. Clothing.
Hague, Mrs. Clothing.
Hannington, Mrs. C. F. Clothing.
Harris, Mrs. C. A. E. Clothing.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

During the afternoon and evening of April 26th, 1900, even before the fire was under control, steps were taken by prominent citizens (both ladies and gentlemen) to provide food and shelter for those sufferers by the fire who had no friends in a position to help them. In Ottawa, the Drill Shed and the Exhibition Grounds were used for that purpose, and were found admirably adapted for housing large numbers of people. The Amateur Athletic Club threw open its doors to as many as it could accommodate and others found refuge in the Salvation Army barracks. In Hull no public buildings were left standing, suitable for taking care of the homeless, but large numbers were provided for in the Presbytery of the Roman Catholic Church, and many were sheltered in Ottawa. This accommodation, when supplemented by the kindness of many private families, was sufficient to take care of the fire sufferers and although many were unable to get shelter the first two nights on account of the general excitement, the weather was fortunately very mild so that there was no serious suffering, and within forty-eight hours every one was provided for.

Such was the condition of affairs when the Committee was appointed on the evening of April 27th. On the following day a clerical staff was engaged and an office opened in the Union Bank building on Wellington Street.

The first thing to be done was to provide for immediate necessities. This was comparatively simple in Ottawa, but, as the bridges at the Chaudiere slides had been destroyed, food for the Hull sufferers had to be sent across the river. The Ottawa Transportation Company kindly furnished a steamer and barge for that purpose whenever required. The Clergymen of Hull undertook the distribution of the food and gave the Committee much assistance. In this way between five and six thousand people were fed in Hull for three weeks and a half.

In Ottawa the work at the Drill Shed, the Exhibition Grounds, and the Athletic building was fortunately under the charge of an excellent committee of ladies with the following officers :

LIST OF BUILDINGS ERECTED
IN THE BURNT AREA SINCE THE FIRE.

December 31st, 1900.

OTTAWA.

445 houses completed.
29 houses in course of construction.
8 shops completed.
59 shops with dwellings overhead completed.
Canadian Pacific Railway Station.
Canadian Pacific Railway Freight Sheds.
Canadian Pacific Railway Coal Sheds.
Four hotels.
One Planing Mill.
One Grist Mill.
Three Foundries and Machine Shops.
J. R. Booth's Machine Shop and Stables.
One Carriage Factory.
One Graphite Factory.
Large Stables for Dominion Transport Company.
Two Separate Schools.
Two Offices.

HULL.

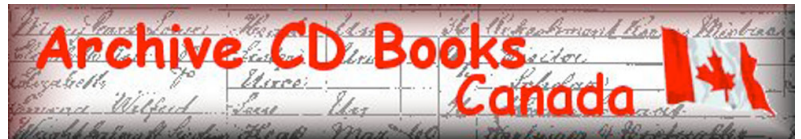
298 houses completed.
19 houses in course of construction.
59 shops completed.
35 shops with dwellings overhead completed.
6 shops in course of construction.
The E. B. Eddy Co's., Paper Mills, Machine Shop, Match
Factory, Pail Factory and Saw Mill.
One Woollen Mill.
Two Planing Mills.
One Church of England.
Post Office.
Court House.
Bank of Ottawa Building.
One Public School.
Two Convents.
One Fire Station.
Five Hotels.

VICINITY OF THE FIRE.

As the contributors to the Fire Relief Fund are scattered all over the civilized world, Ottawa and Hull can be but names to many of them ; and doubtless they would like to be more fully informed as to these cities, their situation, population and environment.

Hull, where the fire originated, lies in the Province of Quebec and is separated from Ottawa, in the Province of Ontario, by the Ottawa River, a mighty stream which stretches 450 miles to the west and north and which after passing the Capital flows eastward 100 miles and joins the St. Lawrence near the Island of Montreal. At Ottawa the river tumbles over a ledge of rock forming the Chaudiere Falls which not only furnish a picturesque feature to the landscape but provide water power of immense extent which has already been utilized for manufacturing purposes but is capable of still further development. At this point a bridge crosses the Ottawa River and unites the two cities which form practically one community, having a population of about eighty thousand, including the suburbs.

The surrounding country offers many attractions to the sportsman and the miner, the tourist and the agriculturist. It is a land of fertile plains, forests and mountains, with many rivers and lakes. Running south from the Capital over a hundred miles to Kingston on Lake Ontario is the Rideau Canal, a waterway expanding at places into little lakes, which the late Dr. Holland, a noted American writer, has declared to afford the canoeist or the yachtsman a trip not easily excelled in picturesque beauty. To the north is the country of the Gatineau and the Lievre, a famous hunting and fishing region, with reference to which one of Her Majesty's physicians, who was accustomed annually to get as far from the "madding crowd" as possible, and who had travelled on every continent, said that, of the three spots upon the world's surface having the most beautiful scenery, one was the territory lying northerly from the city of Ottawa.



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