

## DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

A LARGE FURNITURE MANUFACTORY AND OTHER BUILDINGS IN BOSTON BURNED—LOSS \$365,000 — A WHOLE STORE IN PHILADELPHIA DESTROYED—LOSS \$400,000.

*Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.*

BOSTON, Jan. 31.—In the midst of a fierce north-east gale, accompanied by a blinding snow-storm, at shortly after 7 P. M. to-day, the fire bells called the department to the Bunker Hill District, where the immense furniture establishment of F. M. Holmes & Co. was on fire. Second and third alarms were almost immediately turned in, and at 7:55 a general alarm, calling the entire fire apparatus of the city to the scene. The factory situated on Medford-street was of brick, seven stories high, and 320 by 60 feet, and was filled with furniture in various stages of completion, together with the inflammable materials employed in the manufacture. The origin of the fire was a watchman's upsetting a lantern in the fourth story. The manufactory being surrounded by stables, tenement blocks, coal and lumber wharves, and the gale blowing directly in their direction, the second, third, and general alarms were deemed necessary, and undoubtedly prevented the most devastating conflagration since the great fire of 1872. The firemen had hard work in getting to the scene, several pieces of apparatus having to travel between three and four miles, and several hose-carriages and engines were broken down. Once on the scene, however, the men set bravely at work, and although the heat was intense and the smoke blinding, succeeded in keeping the flames from the densely-populated dwelling-house section on the slope of Bunker Hill. The building in which the fire started was quickly consumed, with all its contents; also some 15,000 feet of black walnut and mahogany lumber which was piled outside. The south wall fell, crushing the coal wharf and dwelling house of Keyes, on the Mystic River side of Medford-street. Four firemen were caught under the falling mass and crushed, one named Furling, probably fatally, the others, Phelps, Collinan, and another, whose name could be not learned, not seriously. Nearly opposite the furniture factory was Nason & Richardson's stables, and alongside were a block of tenement-houses and a stone-yard, all of which were destroyed. The Messrs. Holmes estimate their loss at \$350,000. Keyes' loss is about \$4,000. The tenement-houses were valued at \$6,000, and the stables and the other buildings destroyed at about \$5,000 more, making the total loss by the fire \$365,000. It is impossible to-night to obtain the insurances on any property,