

THE LAKE LINDEN FIRE.

DETROIT. May 21.—The fire which destroyed Lake Linden yesterday could have been checked in its incipiency if the village had been properly equipped with fire extinguishing apparatus. But it was not. The buildings, which were mostly of wood, were in a fine state for a conflagration, owing to the drought, and before help from outside could be summoned the fate of the town was virtually sealed. Engines arrived as quickly as locomotives could draw them from Hancock, Calumet, Red Jacket, and Houghton. It was no use. The flames driven by high wind could not be stopped until they had swept their way from the vicinity of the schools and churches to the lake, a distance of half a mile. In fact the fire moved so rapidly that most of the people escaped with difficulty from their places of abode. One meat market, all the churches, the convent, the public school building, and a number of residences are what remain of the town. The stamp mills and smelting works of the Calumet and Hecla and other mines were all untouched, and as these furnished by far the largest source of employment of the people the calamity is not so bad as it otherwise might be. These will continue to furnish steady work and good wages, and the work of rebuilding will doubtless be at once begun. Temporary relief will have to be supplied, and this is already rapidly flowing in from the adjoining towns. The warm season at hand will insure against any serious suffering and give opportunity for recuperation before another Winter shall arrive. The losses as revised figure up about \$1,250,000, with \$500,000 to \$700,000 insurance.

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