

## Northern Kentucky Views Presents:

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**A HOT FIRE.**

**Rosin, Turpentine, Gasoline,  
Benzine, Kerosene.**

**Over \$100,000 Worth of Property  
Swept Away at Ludlow, Ky.**

**A Rosin Warehouse Wiped Out, Also the  
Standard Oil Co.'s Plant—Several  
Freight Cars Burned—The Clouds  
of Smoke Caused a Scare.**

CINCINNATI, July 27.—Fire broke out in the Standard Oil Co.'s works, Ludlow, Ky., Tuesday afternoon, and the fire was not extinguished at 6 o'clock Wednesday morning.

According to the most reliable statements, 25,000 barrels of rosin and 10,000 barrels of turpentine, besides about 1,000 barrels of benzine, were destroyed, together with the buildings in which they were stored, and fifteen freight cars standing on a siding near the plant.

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From Maysville's Daily Public Ledger  
July 27, 1892

The fire started about 8 o'clock. A new engine of the Southern road was being broken in. It is No. 517, and was known as the Big Hog. The origin of the fire is best described by Mrs. Detmiller, whose cottage, on the hill to the west of the plant, is the closest habitation to it. She said: "I was sitting on my porch sewing, and an engine had been racing up and down the track all afternoon. Suddenly I looked toward the warehouse and saw a blaze of fire about as big as a tub. It seemed to be on the ground beside the platform, which ran the entire length of the sheds. I think it started from a spark from the engine, which fell among the rosin dust that coated the surroundings of the sheds. While I looked the flame grew larger, crept up to the platform, and from there climbed up the side to the roof. It seemed that the whole place was ablaze in a minute."

Mr. H. B. Dierkes, who lives close by, and was about to start up the railroad tracks, when he discovered the fire, said the flame appeared about two yards wide when he first saw it, but within an instant it had spread along the frame structure toward the river. This is the building that contained most of the rosin. Of course it jumped into the brick building in a trice, and within three minutes the entire plant was a roaring hell of flame, which, added to the intense heat of the surrounding atmosphere, drove every living thing hundreds of yards away, and held undisputed sway. Huge tongues of flame shot hundreds of feet into the air, towering toward the crests of the surrounding hills, their tips capped with masses of black smoke that rolled away to the east in smothering clouds.

The plant was a sort of shipping station for the Standard Oil Co. Stock that was collected all through the south was stored there, and shipped as from a central point, as necessity required. The only men, therefore, employed about the place were a few who inspected, weighed and sorted the stuff, as it was received, and a foreman. At dusk Tuesday evening the last tank, that which contained 5,000 barrels of turpentine was burning, throwing out intense heat and tossing volumes of coal black smoke upward into the air. Here and there a pile of oil-soaked wood was blazing, illuminating the smoke as it rolled away. The fire covered an area almost 1,000 feet long and 50 feet wide. All the telegraph poles on which the wires of the Southern road were strung were burned away and the wires down.

The closest estimate of the loss places the aggregate at not less than \$150,000, and it may run higher when it can be definitely determined just how much stuff was stored in the place.

Three men were injured while endeavoring to save Southern railroad property. The black clouds of smoke that passed over this city caused a cyclone scare for a while, until the real cause was known.