

M. Hubby and the servants were in the rear of the house and escaped without injury, though the former had her hands somewhat burned in her efforts to extinguish the burning clothes of her daughter.

In explanation of the explosion it is supposed that the supply pipe leaked, and the gas being heavier than the atmosphere, as this gas is, had formed a dense stratum, extending perhaps a few inches above the surface of the basement floor. Mr. Hubby, probably, in searching about the pipe for the supposed flaw, brought the flame of his candle in contact with this stratum, and quick as thought the explosion followed. The catastrophe has caused a feeling of deepest sorrow throughout the community, and everything that medical skill can do in aid of the sufferers is being done.

## **TERRIBLE CALAMITY AT CLEVELAND.**

### **Dwelling House Blown up by Gas.**

### **Serious Injury of the Inmates**

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 8.

One of the most distressing casualties that ever visited this community occurred last evening, putting in jeopardy the life of a prominent citizen, L. M. Hubby, Esq., President of the Cleveland, Columbus & Cincinnati Railroad, with several members of his family, and involving a loss of property amounting to fully fifty thousand dollars. The facts are briefly as follows:

The residence of Mr. Hubby, in East Cleveland, was lighted by gas generated by one of Bierce's patent gas generators, the gas being the product of gasoline. The instrument was situated outside of the house, at a distance of a few feet from it, and the supply pipe was placed in the basement. Last evening the gas burned poorly, and Mr. Hubby, accompanied by his son, F. W. Hubby, went into the basement, carrying a candle, to ascertain the difficulty, but returned without success. The trouble becoming more serious, Mr. L. M. Hubby, a little later, again went down with a candle to investigate the matter. He had been in the basement only a moment, when a terrific explosion took place, startling the neighboring community, and carrying dismay to the occupants of the house, and complete ruin to the premises. So terrific was the explosion, that a large portion of the outer walls was thrown down, several rooms were upheaved, and the timbers being displaced, crashed through to the basement, carrying everything with them, leaving a mass of ruins. Several windows and doors were thrown a distance of fifty feet, and bricks were hurled in every direction for many rods. The most disastrous work of the explosion was in the front part of the building, but it was immediately followed by a conflagration which rendered the destruction of the building and its contents, valued at \$50,000, complete; the whole being the work of less than an hour's time.

Shortly after the explosion Mr. L. M. Hubby was found lying on the ground at a distance of thirty feet from the ruins, where it is supposed he had crept, he was unable to speak and apparently unconscious, and was found to be very severely burned about the head, face and hands, though it is hoped not dangerously. It is feared however, he may have suffered internal injuries from the shock. Mr. F. W. Hubby and wife narrowly escaped with their lives. The former was thrown violently against the ceiling of the room in which they were sitting, and fell through the floor to the basement, sustaining severe bruises and some burns, but nothing dangerous. He was rendered unconscious by his fall, and is unable to state how he escaped from his perilous position. Mrs. F. W. Hubby was rescued after suffering slight burns about the hands.

Miss Ella Hubby, aged 20, who was in the room with her brother and sister-in-law, suffered most seriously. Her clothes caught fire, and before the flames could be extinguished, her head, face, breast and shoulders were terribly burned. Her sufferings were undecipherable, and it is not believed she can recover. Mrs. L.