



Fire at Farm 1842

On Sunday morning during Divine service, a destructive fire broke out at the farm of Mr John Candy at Chicklade. It appears that the kitchen chimney of the dwelling house was within a few feet of the thatched roof of the granary, and some sparks falling on the thatch, the whole building in a few minutes became a blaze; and the wind blowing very fresh, the barns, stables, ricks and everything that would burn were in the course of three hours reduced to ashes. The house, which was exactly to windward of the flames, escaped damage, but the whole of the furniture was removed, as it was feared at one time that the house would also be consumed. About 100 sacks of wheat and 80 sacks of beans were destroyed. Fortunately Mr Candy was insured in the Sun Fire Office.

On the breaking out of the fire, a man on horseback was despatched for an engine to Hindon, about three miles distant, and finding that none was kept there, he proceeded to Warminster, a distant nine miles, from which place one of the town engines was instantly despatched with four post horses, and performed the distance in 45 minutes; but of course it arrived too late, under the circumstances, to prevent the progress of the flames. It was, however, under the direction of Mr Haden, the engineer, very beneficially used in extinguishing the burning ruins, large flakes from which were frequently carried a great distance by the strength of the wind.

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