



Property News

- Fire

Little Hinton
1881

On Thursday evening, about six o'clock, a fire broke out in this village in some cottages near the blacksmith's shop, resulting in the complete destruction of two houses and a narrow escape of others. One of the cottages was occupied by **John Johnson**, blacksmith, and the other by **Alfred Thorne**, a labourer.

A spark blew from the smithy and alighted on the thatch. When first seen the fire did not appear larger than the palm of a man's hand, but, there being a strong gale of wind blowing at the time, the flames quickly spread. The Bishopstone fire engine was sent for and was quickly on spot, rendering good service in saving the adjoining property.

Four houses on one side belonging to Mr. Kempster, of Purton, and two on the other, with sheds &c. belonging to Mr. J. Ford. The fire burnt so rapidly that it was found impossible to save the furniture, and the poor people will in consequence be put to much in convenience, their loss not being covered by insurance. The cottages, were the property of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

Swindon Advertiser and North Wilts Chronicle, 5 March 1881