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secretary, E. A. Brooks,

F. Loveland; I. G. Harold Felch; O. G. Hobart Sanborn; past noble grand, John Bragg.

## GILMANTON IRON WORKS

Our village was visited by fire again last Friday night, when the buildings owned by Dr. Ballard of Penacook were totally destroyed. The house was two story, with ell and stable, connected and garage near. The location was a very desirable one, being near the square. The buildings were erected by Dr. Jeremiah Blake about 50 years ago and were on the same lot, where his home was burned. The house was occupied by Horace Gilman, Forrest Gummy and Mr. Emery at the time of the fire. Mr. Gilman lost everything in his part of the house with the exception of the bed that he was sleeping in, also two wagons, top buggy, several harnesses, mowing machine, rake and other farming tools.

Mr. Canney saved practically everything in his part of the house, and Mr. Emery, who rents saddle horses lost all of the equipment for 8 horses, saddles and bridles, but was fortunate to be able to save all of his horses and two of Mr. Gilman's that were in the stable. Mr. Emery also lost four hundred and fifty dollars that was under his pillow which was forgotten in the excitement.

There is no doubt the fire was incendiary as there had been no smoking lights, or anything that could start fire there that evening. Daniel Wells had a narrow escape as he was sleeping in the stable and was awakened by the fire in the hay and managed to get to the stairs and out of doors, with just breath enough to alarm Mr. Emery, who rushed to the stable with no clothing but his night-shirt and unhitched all the horses; then gave the alarm. Fire companies from Alton and Pittsfield were called and made record time. The Laconia company got stuck in the mud and did not arrive until the fire was about out. If the buildings had not been thoroughly soaked with the rain, probably there would have been a repetition of the fire of 1915.