

FIRE AT SUNSHINE.

The Metropolitan Fire Brigade had another busy time to-day, rubbish and grass fires breaking out in all parts of the metropolis. Except for an outbreak at Sunshine, no great damage was done. At Sunshine a fire occurred in a paddock, which ended in three houses being totally destroyed. There was a very poor water supply, and this, coupled with the fact that the buildings were of weather-board, rendered the efforts of the firemen comparatively useless so far as saving these premises were concerned. However, they cleverly saved a stock of timber, which had it taken fire, would inevitably have caused the destruction of two or three other houses in the vicinity. The houses were insured. A large number of men from the Sunshine Harvester works assisted in removing furniture from the houses affected. An instance of the ineffective arrangements made for fire-fighting in some parts of Melbourne is given by the fact that 200 feet of hose had to be taken out to reach the nearest main. Consequently the friction created in such long carriage rendered the stream at the nozzle almost useless. The scene after the fire was one of desolation, nothing but the chimneys remaining. Several exciting scenes occurred during the outbreak, not the least of which was the act of a foolish lad who placed himself almost underneath a tottering chimney, which crashed to the ground a few seconds later.

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