

Stack Fire at Manor Farm

Yesterday afternoon, at about three o'clock, it was discovered that one of the haystacks on the farm Messrs. Bradley Brothers, at the Manor, was on fire. Information was immediately conveyed to the fire office in Fargate, Sheffield, and one of the Corporation engines and a brigade, under the superintendence of Mr. Pound, were at once despatched to the Manor. They arrived at the scene of the fire shortly after four o'clock, and found that dense quantities of smoke were coming from one of the largest stacks. As it was in close proximity to four or five others, it was apparent that unless immediate steps were taken to prevent the spreading of the fire, a considerable amount of damage would be done, and at first a recurrence of the calamity which took place on the same premises some four or five years ago was expected. Prompt action was however taken. A large number of persons were set to work to unstack the hay, and to remove it as far from the other stacks as possible, and the engine was brought into requisition at intervals, whenever any portion of the stack was seen to blaze. It was impossible to pour a continuous stream of water on to the stack in consequence of its scarcity. It had to be brought from a pond at a distance of about four or five hundred yards; and as it would have been impossible for one engine to have pumped it uphill to the farm yard, water carts were sent to and fro in order to keep up the supply. The chief danger had passed in the course of an hour or two, but it was late in the evening before the fire was completely out. The amount of damage is estimated at £50 or £60; and the hay we understand was not insured. The hay that was destroyed was mostly that in the centre of the stack, and it is therefore supposed that the fire was the result of self-ignition, caused by imperfect stacking.