Evening Telegraph and Star and Sheffield Daily Times, 7th December, 1893

Serious Fire in Eyre Street £500 Damage

A serious fire occurred this morning on premises in Eyre street used a warehouse by Mr. Douglas C. Marshall, tea dealer, who has sale shops No. 23 Howard street. South street, The Moor and Shalesmoor.

The warehouse is down a court in Eyre street, fronting Truswell's Brewery, on the ground floor a block of property owned by Mr. C. Clarke, cutlery manufacturer. An assistant of Mr. Marshall's went down to the place from the Howard street shop for a sample of tea, and had not left many minutes before an alarm of fire was raised, smoke and flame being seen coming through the roof. The assistant ran back, and with the aid of men from the surrounding shops broke the windows and opened the door, and removed several chests of tea out of reach of the flames. In the meantime a message was despatched to the Fire Station, and in a few minutes the brigade, under Superintendent Pound, were on the scene of the outbreak. A copious supply of water was directed upon the burning contents of the warehouse, and as much of the tea as possible was removed out of harm's way. The flames spread to the roof, but no great damage was done to the building, the real injury being done to the stock. The fire was soon under control, and danger at an end. It is rather unfortunate that the outbreak occurred at such a moment. Mr. Marshall had been preparing for a rush of business at Christmas, and had stocked largely. Only the other day three tons of tea was delivered to him by the Midland Railway Company. A large quantity of this has been spoiled by fire and water together, accomplishing the destruction of many pounds worth of a perishable article. The damage is roughly estimated at a figure of £500 to £600, only half of which is covered by Mr. Marshall's insurance policy.