

EXCITEMENT CALMED DOWN AT NOBEL POWDER WORKS

EXPLOSION BELIEVED DUE TO
ACCIDENT—MUCH DAMAGE —
ONE MAN STUNNED.

(Special Despatch to The Globe.)

Parry Sound, Nov. 23.—The troops sent to guard Nobel last night returned at an early hour this morning, the impression being that the accident was caused by an overheated oven or drying-house. At first it was thought that two of the magazines had exploded, but after the first excitement and panic it was ascertained that two drying houses went up in the first explosion, and two others went off by the shock, which was terrific, and was heard at least forty or fifty miles distant. Two other drying houses were demolished, and considerable damage was done to many of the buildings in doors and windows being blown out.

The plant is carefully guarded, and there is no necessity for panicky feeling or reports. The fact that not a single person was killed, and only one man temporarily stunned, shows the care taken in constructing the plant to prevent loss of life. At first there was considerable panic both here and at the plant, but at the plant the excitement calmed down in a short time. The Ambulance Corps rushed to the scene, but the only aid needed was to restore the stunned man to consciousness. In town the excitement was not calmed until nearly 10 o'clock, when the news that no fatalities had occurred sent most people home, but the despatch of the troops to some extent stirred the town up again.

Several acts of heroism are recorded, particularly by one or two young men in the nitro-glycerine house.

The plant is so constructed as to minimize the danger and the amount of damage which can be inflicted, either by accident or by design, and guards are kept patrolling the premises. Some two weeks ago a bomb was found and extinguished, but it was probably placed there by someone having a grievance. However, every precaution against spies, **alien enemies** or accidents is being taken.

It is hard to ascertain the damages, which, it is reported, may reach anywhere from fifty to one hundred thousand dollars, but this is only conjecture.