

ADDERBURY.

FIRE AT LORD HALDON'S RESIDENCE.

On Saturday, about six o'clock, a fire, which might have resulted very disastrously, broke out at the residence of Lord Haldon, in this village, near the church. Some of the domestics observed a smell of smoke, and on enquiring the cause, the under-butler, Mr Cotgrove, proceeded upstairs, where he was met by a dense volume of smoke. Not knowing the cause, he ran back, and procured a bucket of water, but by this time it was apparent that the fire was too powerful for such a mild remedy as that. An alarm was at once given all over the establishment, the local fire-engine was sent for, and the Fire Brigades from Banbury and Deddington telegraphed for. The Adderbury fire-engine, under the command of Mr H. Bennett, was soon on the spot, and the firemen set to work in a very resolute manner, in which they were assisted by plenty of willing workers from the village. The fire being at the top of the house, some difficulty was experienced in combatting it, and at length the Adderbury fire-men got on to the roof, stripped off a number of the slates, and in this way poured the water on the burning rooms. Their efforts were rewarded with considerable success, and when the Banbury and Deddington brigades arrived, a little before seven o'clock, a good deal had been done to arrest the progress of the conflagration. The Banbury firemen ran their hose in at the front door, and up the stairs, and by this means were enabled to check the fire's downward tendency, and complete the work which had been commenced by the local brigade. In a short time the fire was subdued, having been kept to the top landing of the house. The fire is supposed to have first broke out in a room at the rear of the building, in which Mrs Toms, the housekeeper, who was slightly indisposed, had been sitting, and to have been caused by a turning coal falling from the stove on to the floor, in which a hole was burnt through, and Lord Haldon's room below. The contents of the

of the building, in which Mrs. Toms, the housekeeper, who was slightly indisposed, had been sitting, and to have been caused by a burning coal falling from the stove on to the floor, in which a hole was burnt through, into Lord Haldon's room, below. The contents of the room in which the fire broke out were destroyed, and the flames had consumed a great part of the ceiling, the doorway, and the landing and the entrance to two or three other rooms. Immediately the fire was discovered, Mr. Cotgrave got possession of the plate and other valuables, and removed them to the saddle-room, for safety, and the stair carpets and the contents of every room that could be approached were brought out and placed on the lawn. In this, the stable men and others rendered good service, and the house was stripped in a remarkably short space of time, although the helpers had stopped, in some cases, to take down the iron bedsteads! Mr. Bull, the Gardner, at considerable risk, entered his lordship's room, and recovered the whole of his clothing, &c. Water was obtained from the river, a distance of nearly a hundred and fifty yards away, and the Banbury Brigade had fortunately taken with them an unusually large quantity of hose. The Banbury Brigade mustered very strong, and was under the command of Lieut. Harding. Captain tiedges was in charge of the Deddington Brigade. Supt. Wyatt, Inspector Leach, P.S. Baker, and one or two constables were on duty on the premises, and, considering the exposed nature of the whole of the household contents, their services were no doubt of great value. The damage by the fire is not as great as might have been expected, but that done by the water will very likely exceed it, as, with the exception of the dining-room and the servant's hall, every room in the house was saturated, the water pouring through the ceilings. When all was safe, the bulk of the furniture was removed into the dining-room.

The house is the property of Majendie Brown, Esq., who resides in the village, and Lord Haldon has got it on a lease for seven years. His lordship was in London at the time of the fire, but a telegraphic message was at once despatched to him. We have been unable to learn where the property is insured. Mr. H. Jarvis, the district agent of the County Fire Office, was present in the interest of his office.