



The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire

By Charles River Editors

 Download

 Read Online

The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire By Charles River Editors

- *Includes pictures
- *Includes accounts of the fires by witnesses and survivors
- *Includes bibliographies for further reading

It had taken about 40 years for Chicago to grow from a small settlement of about 300 people into a thriving metropolis with a population of 300,000, but in just two days in 1871, much of that progress was burned to the ground. In arguably the most famous fire in American history, a blaze in the southwestern section of Chicago began to burn out of control on the night of October 8, 1871. Thanks to The Chicago Tribune, the fire has been apocryphally credited to a cow kicking over a lantern in Mrs. Catherine O'Leary's barn, and though that was not true, the rumor dogged Mrs. O'Leary to the grave.

Of course, the cause of the fire didn't matter terribly much to the people who lost their lives or their property in the blaze. Thanks to dry conditions, wind, and wooden buildings, firefighters were never actually able to stop the fire, which burned itself out only after it spent nearly two whole days incinerating several square miles of Chicago. By the time rain mercifully helped to put the fire out, the Great Chicago Fire had already killed an estimated 300 people, destroyed an estimated 17,500 buildings, and left nearly 100,000 people (1/3 of the population) homeless.

Mrs. O'Leary and her barn remain a part of lore, but it also speaks to Chicago's ability to rebuild that it's almost impossible to envision a farm in downtown Chicago today. Chicago suffered a wide swath of destruction, but it had rebuilt itself within 20 years in order to host the World's Fair, evidence that it was back and bigger and better than ever. Along with that, Chicago has maintained its status as the region's biggest city and one of the most important in America.

Due to the publicity generated by a fire that reduced most of a major American city to ash, the Peshtigo Fire of 1871 might fairly be called America's forgotten disaster. Overshadowed by the much better covered and publicized Great Chicago Fire that occurred on the same evening, the fire that started in the Wisconsin logging town of Peshtigo generated a firestorm unlike anything in American history. In addition to destroying a wide swath of land, it killed at least 1,500 people and possibly as many as 2,500, several times more than the number

of casualties in Chicago. While people marveled at the fact that the Great Chicago Fire managed to jump a river, the Peshtigo fire was so intense that it was able to jump several miles across Green Bay. While wondering aloud about the way in which the Peshtigo fire has been overlooked, Bill Lutz noted, "Fires are normally very fascinating to people, but people seem resistant to Peshtigo. Maybe Peshtigo is on such a large scale that people can't comprehend it."

Ironically, while Peshtigo is widely forgotten, the fire there is often cited as proof that the Great Chicago Fire was caused by natural phenomena, such as a comet or meteor shower. Those advocating such a theory think it's too coincidental that such disastrous fires were sparked in the same region on the same night, and they point to other fires across the Midwest. Of course, as with the Great Chicago Fire, contemporaries of the Peshtigo fire faulted human error and didn't necessarily link the two fires, if only because fires were a common problem in both Peshtigo and Chicago during the 19th century.

The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871 chronicles the story of two of America's deadliest fires. Along with pictures of important people, places, and events, you will learn about the Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo fire like never before, in no time at all.

 [Download The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chi ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great C ...pdf](#)

The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire

By Charles River Editors

The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire By Charles River Editors

*Includes pictures

*Includes accounts of the fires by witnesses and survivors

*Includes bibliographies for further reading

It had taken about 40 years for Chicago to grow from a small settlement of about 300 people into a thriving metropolis with a population of 300,000, but in just two days in 1871, much of that progress was burned to the ground. In arguably the most famous fire in American history, a blaze in the southwestern section of Chicago began to burn out of control on the night of October 8, 1871. Thanks to The Chicago Tribune, the fire has been apocryphally credited to a cow kicking over a lantern in Mrs. Catherine O'Leary's barn, and though that was not true, the rumor dogged Mrs. O'Leary to the grave.

Of course, the cause of the fire didn't matter terribly much to the people who lost their lives or their property in the blaze. Thanks to dry conditions, wind, and wooden buildings, firefighters were never actually able to stop the fire, which burned itself out only after it spent nearly two whole days incinerating several square miles of Chicago. By the time rain mercifully helped to put the fire out, the Great Chicago Fire had already killed an estimated 300 people, destroyed an estimated 17,500 buildings, and left nearly 100,000 people (1/3 of the population) homeless.

Mrs. O'Leary and her barn remain a part of lore, but it also speaks to Chicago's ability to rebuild that it's almost impossible to envision a farm in downtown Chicago today. Chicago suffered a wide swath of destruction, but it had rebuilt itself within 20 years in order to host the World's Fair, evidence that it was back and bigger and better than ever. Along with that, Chicago has maintained its status as the region's biggest city and one of the most important in America.

Due to the publicity generated by a fire that reduced most of a major American city to ash, the Peshtigo Fire of 1871 might fairly be called America's forgotten disaster. Overshadowed by the much better covered and publicized Great Chicago Fire that occurred on the same evening, the fire that started in the Wisconsin logging town of Peshtigo generated a firestorm unlike anything in American history. In addition to destroying a wide swath of land, it killed at least 1,500 people and possibly as many as 2,500, several times more than the number of casualties in Chicago. While people marveled at the fact that the Great Chicago Fire managed to jump a river, the Peshtigo fire was so intense that it was able to jump several miles across Green Bay. While wondering aloud about the way in which the Peshtigo fire has been overlooked, Bill Lutz noted, "Fires are normally very fascinating to people, but people seem resistant to Peshtigo. Maybe Peshtigo is on such a large scale that people can't comprehend it."

Ironically, while Peshtigo is widely forgotten, the fire there is often cited as proof that the Great Chicago Fire was caused by natural phenomena, such as a comet or meteor shower. Those advocating such a theory think it's too coincidental that such disastrous fires were sparked in the same region on the same night, and they point to other fires across the Midwest. Of course, as with the Great Chicago Fire, contemporaries of the Peshtigo fire faulted human error and didn't necessarily link the two fires, if only because fires were a

common problem in both Peshtigo and Chicago during the 19th century.

The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871 chronicles the story of two of America's deadliest fires. Along with pictures of important people, places, and events, you will learn about the Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo fire like never before, in no time at all.

The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire By Charles River Editors Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #824080 in Books
- Published on: 2014-08-20
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .17" w x 6.00" l, .24 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 72 pages

 [Download The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chi ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great C ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire By Charles River Editors

Editorial Review

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Sandra Snyder:

Inside other case, little men and women like to read book The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire. You can choose the best book if you love reading a book. Given that we know about how is important the book The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire. You can add understanding and of course you can around the world by way of a book. Absolutely right, mainly because from book you can realize everything! From your country right up until foreign or abroad you will find yourself known. About simple thing until wonderful thing it is possible to know that. In this era, we can easily open a book as well as searching by internet system. It is called e-book. You need to use it when you feel uninterested to go to the library. Let's learn.

Janice Burgess:

Now a day those who Living in the era just where everything reachable by match the internet and the resources inside can be true or not demand people to be aware of each information they get. How a lot more to be smart in obtaining any information nowadays? Of course the answer is reading a book. Reading a book can help men and women out of this uncertainty Information mainly this The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire book since this book offers you rich data and knowledge. Of course the knowledge in this book hundred % guarantees there is no doubt in it you know.

Valarie Chamberlin:

Reading a e-book can be one of a lot of exercise that everyone in the world really likes. Do you like reading book therefore. There are a lot of reasons why people like it. First reading a guide will give you a lot of new details. When you read a guide you will get new information because book is one of many ways to share the information or even their idea. Second, reading a book will make you more imaginative. When you studying a book especially hype book the author will bring someone to imagine the story how the people do it anything. Third, you are able to share your knowledge to some others. When you read this The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire, you can tells your family, friends and soon about yours e-book. Your knowledge can inspire others, make them reading a publication.

Beverly Woods:

Within this era which is the greater particular person or who has ability to do something more are more important than other. Do you want to become one of it? It is just simple strategy to have that. What you need

to do is just spending your time little but quite enough to enjoy a look at some books. One of several books in the top list in your reading list will be The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire. This book which is qualified as The Hungry Mountains can get you closer in becoming precious person. By looking upwards and review this e-book you can get many advantages.

**Download and Read Online The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871:
The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire By Charles River
Editors #PUKSZRXF31D**

Read The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire By Charles River Editors for online ebook

The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire By Charles River Editors Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire By Charles River Editors books to read online.

Online The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire By Charles River Editors ebook PDF download

The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire By Charles River Editors Doc

The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire By Charles River Editors Mobipocket

The Deadly Night of October 8, 1871: The Great Chicago Fire and the Peshtigo Fire By Charles River Editors EPub