

BRITTON - Millinery fire

Source: Crawfordsville Weekly Journal 17 January 1896 p 1

The half block on the south side of Main Street between Elston's bank and the Robbins House seemed peculiarly fatal to millinery stocks. Four have been burned out within the last two years, two of Mrs. Wheeler's and two of Mrs. Doc Britton's.

Doc Britton and wife occupy the rooms just over Mrs. Britton's place, The Columbia. Yesterday morning at 5 o'clock Mr. Britton was awakened by the smell of smoke. He states that he awoke his wife, but seeing nothing out of the way they went to sleep. At 5 (sic) o'clock he again awoke and found that the smoke had filled the room. He hurried down stairs and found the millinery store on fire. He gave the alarm and the department quickly turned out and subdued the blaze. Neither Mr. Britton or his wife could give any solution for the cause of the fire. It was merely one of those peculiar dispensations of Providence not given man to know. The milliners of Crawfordsville have been peculiarly unfortunate and have the sympathy of the entire community in their afflictions by flame. Mrs. Britton had \$1,000 insurance on her stock and \$200 on fixtures. The loss was somewhat less than this. - *kbz*