

SOUTHEND STANDARD

February 21st 1895

March 14th 1895

Southend Fire Brigade's Annual Dinner Mayoral Humour

Toast to the brigade submitted by the chairman:
"To recognise it was a very smart brigade it was only necessary to remember the incidents that had happened within the past few weeks in the destruction by fire of one of their most prominent buildings of the town - the Empire Theatre. He was informed that very day it was intended to have that building re-erected on a very ornate scale, of much extended size and of a character to be an ornament to the town. (Applause.)"

DEMOLITION OF THE EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.

Narrow Escapes.

On Wednesday morning great excitement was caused in Alexandra Street by the falling of the front of the Empire Theatre, recently destroyed by fire, into the road. It appears that Mr Marlow was engaged with Mr Hoffer, his foreman, and about a dozen men, in pushing down the gable end, and for this purpose they utilised the two long beams which had been used to shore up the front since the fire. They succeeded in moving the top half, but as it fell, the lower portion also gave way, and fell with a great crash into the street. The workmen ran for their lives and marvellously escaped. The two struts which they were using fell across the street, one of them injuring Supt Hawtree's house; the other striking the iron rail. Mr Marlow was standing there, and, being unable to get aside, he stooped below the railing, which received the blow. One of the men, David S??? of Prittlewell, was struck, however, by the falling mass, and when found was motionless. He was taken into the police office immediately, and Dr Hake was sent for, who pronounced there were no further injuries than a black eye and a bruise on his shoulder. He was subsequently removed to his home.