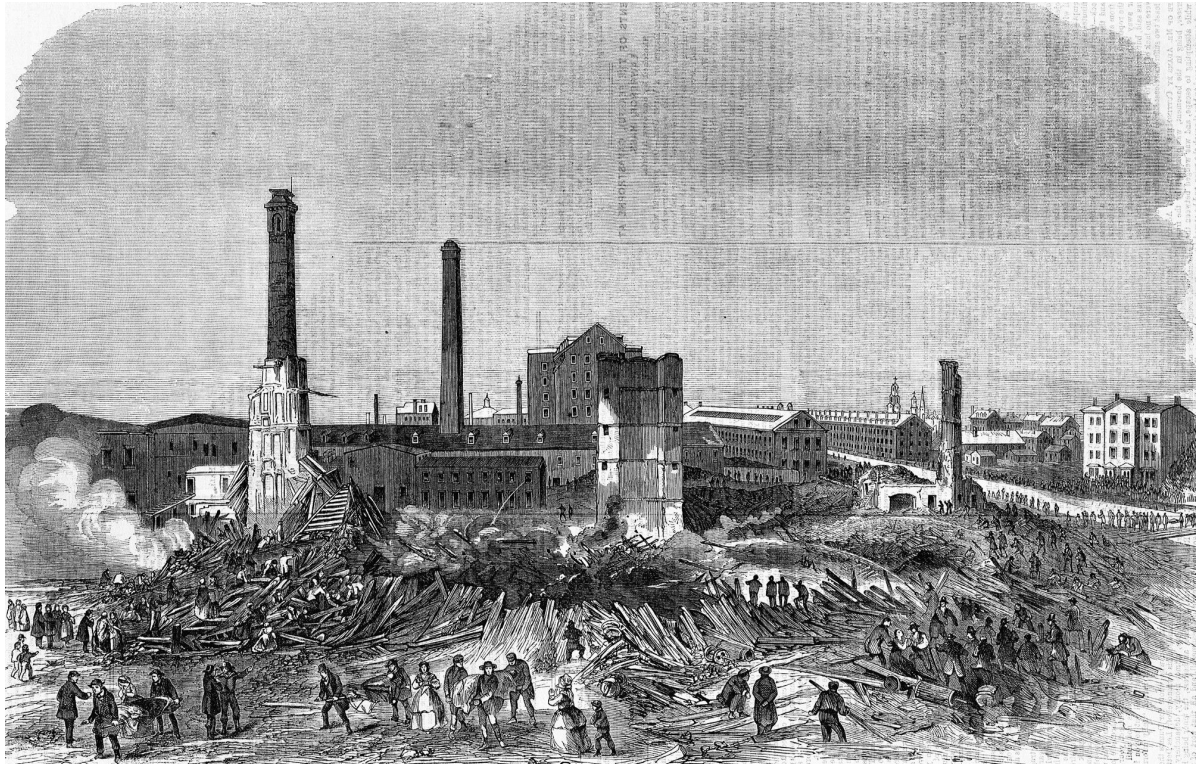


Primary Source # 1

Description- The ruins of Pemberton Mill in Lawrence, Massachusetts. On January 10, 1860, the mill collapsed, killing some and trapping many. Four hours later the ruins caught fire.

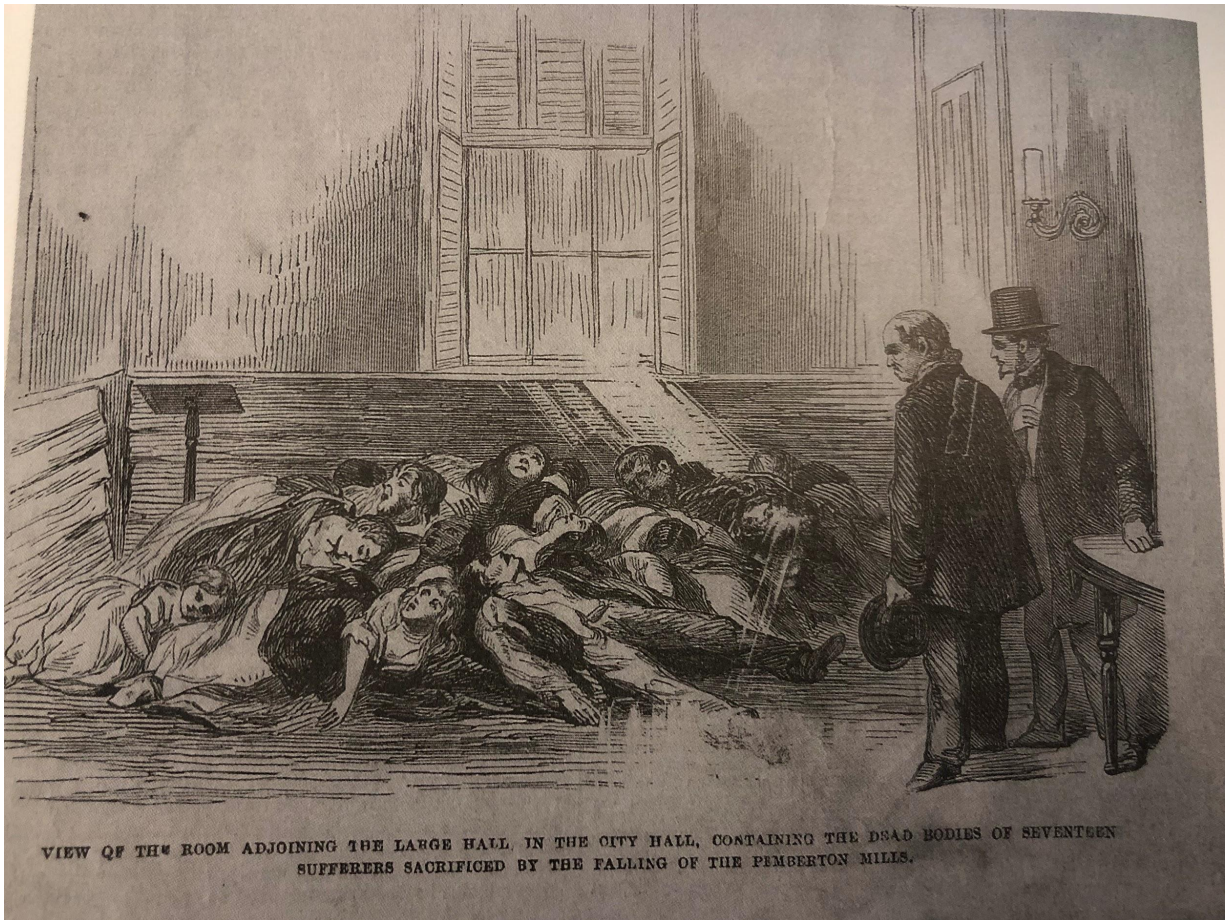
(Corbis via Getty Images)



Primary Source # 2

Description - Mound of corpses at City Hall in a Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper drawing on January 28, 1860, belies other periodical description of neat rows.

(Courtesy Boston Public Library & Disaster in Lawrence: The Fall of the Pemberton Mill)

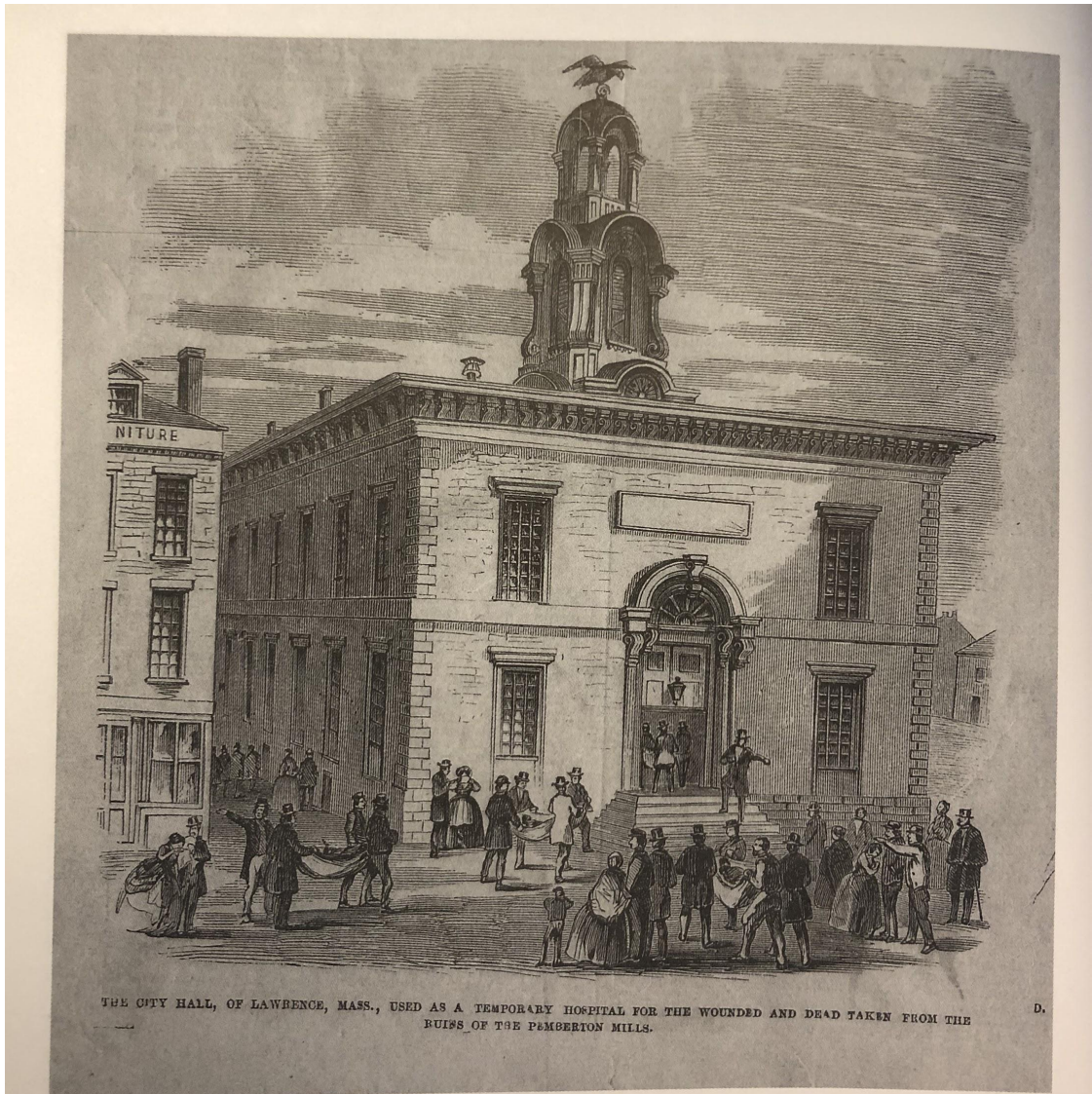


VIEW OF THE ROOM ADJOINING THE LARGE HALL, IN THE CITY HALL, CONTAINING THE DEAD BODIES OF SEVENTEEN SUFFERERS SACRIFICED BY THE FALLING OF THE PEMBERTON MILLS.

Primary Source # 3

Description- Victims are carried to City Hall morgue and temporary hospital. Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, January 28, 1860.

(Courtesy Boston Public Library & Disaster in Lawrence: The Fall of the Pemberton Mill)

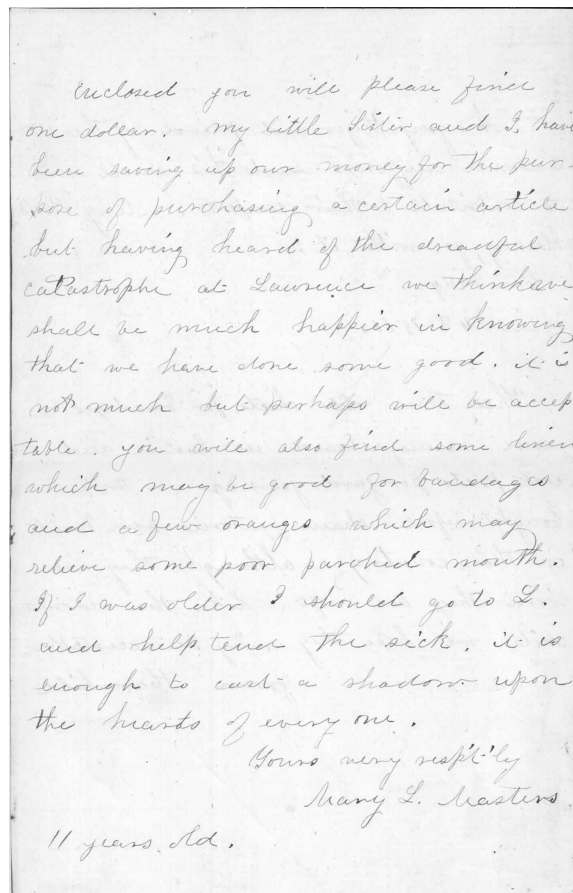


Victims are carried to City Hall morgue and temporary hospital. Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, *January 28, 1860*. Courtesy of the Lawrence Public Library.

Primary Source # 4

Description- Picture of a letter from Mary Masters, an eleven-year-old from Boston. It is an example of perhaps several hundred letters. As far as I know there are no original copies of these letters that would have contained bits of cash from as little as 10c to hundreds of dollars.

(Image Courtesy of Lawrence Public Library)



Enclosed you will please find
one dollar. my little sister and I, have
been saving up our money for the pur-
pose of purchasing a certain article
but having heard of the dreadful
catastrophe at Lawrence we think we
shall be much happier in knowing
that we have done some good. it is
not much but perhaps will be accep-
table. you will also find some linen
which may be good for bandages
and a few oranges which may
relieve some poor parched mouth.
If I was older I should go to L.
and help tend the sick, it is
enough to cast a shadow upon
the hearts of every one.
Yours very respectfully
Mary L. Masters
11 years old.

Historical Context: The Committee of Relief for the Sufferers by the Fall of the Pemberton Mill (Lawrence, MA) Following the fall of the Pemberton Mill on January 10, 1860, The Committee of Relief for the Sufferers by the Fall of the Pemberton Mill formed to collect and disperse the monies coming in from all over the country. Mayor Daniel Saunders, Jr. was the chairman and he was joined by Charles S. Storrow, Henry K. Oliver, William C. Chapin, John C. Hoadley, John R. Rollins, and the Rev. George P. Wilson (City Missionary and pastor of the Garden Street Methodist Episcopal Church). The money poured in.

Primary Source # 5

Description -*Relief Poem, Written by Anonymous*
(Courtesy Lawrence History Center)

... 'Tis five o'clock, that fatal hour,
'Twill long remembered be.
Who could foretell the sad event
That I'll relate to thee?
How was it at the Pemberton?
When near a thousand lives
were peacefully engaged in toil,
Those daughters, sons and wives.
A little while before the sounds
Began to stir the air:
All lighted up so cheerfully,
So happy, blithe and fair.
Those innocent and happy souls
Were busy in their rooms,
Warping, spinning, carding,
And some were tending looms.
Anon, the crash! the building falls,
Bricks and mortar fly,
Crushed in horrid agony,
A swarm of beings lie.
Mangled and bruised are manly forms
Struggling in vain,
Innocence and beauty too
Will ne'er see light again...
...But you buy my poem, the profit shall go
To aid the poor people – the victims of woe.

By an unknown author
(poems were sold to raise relief funds)