BIG FIRE AT M. A. C.

New Administration Building and Several Dormitories Burned.

Special Dispatch to The American.
Hyattsville, Md., November 29 - A disastrous fire broke out in the Maryland Agricultural College shortly before midnight. Before it was finally brought under control the new Administration Building was destroyed, together with the two dormitories.

The adjoining buildings were saved after hard work through the efforts of the firemen from Hyattsville and employees and students.

The fire broke out in the attic while guests attending a dance were at supper.

The cause of the fire is unknown, but is presumed to have happened account crossing of wires. The new building was erected in 1904 at a cost of $93,000. It is said to be insured. The old building cost in the neighborhood of $83,000 and was partly insured, owing to lack of water facilities, the fire spread with great rapidity.

The new administration building housed about 160 students, all of whom got out safely and the old building contained about an equal number of cadets. Possibly all of the records of the college were gotten out of the building. The building contained the president's office, the treasurer's office and the board of trustees' office, besides the assembly hall.

Owing to the fact that it is the holiday season, many of the cadets were away and their property was destroyed. The total loss is estimated by officials of the college at $150,000, covered by insurance. Two fire companies from Washington arrived after midnight, but the buildings were too far gone for them to be of any service. They came out on Baltimore and Ohio trucks. The campus in front of the destroyed building is filled with furniture, etc., removed from the burning building and a large crowd from the surrounding country is watching the flames.

Temporary quarters for the students will be provided in Science Hall and other buildings.