

WASC 914

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Powder Mills, Waltham Abbey —We record with pain and regret a disastrous and dreadful accident, which took place in the course of Wednesday, at Waltham Abbey.—The powder magazine at that place belonging to Government, together with the corning houses, mills, and several other buildings, blew up with a tremendous explosion. The shock was like the concussion of an earthquake. Several houses in the town of Waltham Abbey were overturned, and scarce a pane of glass was left whole in any part of it. The effect of the explosion was not confined to the immediate vicinity, as many houses in the surrounding country, to a great distance, suffered considerable damage from the violence of the shock. The loss to the public by this calamitous accident is very considerable, as we are given to understand that the whole of the buildings have been destroyed. We are afflicted to add, that a number of lives were lost on the occasion. Some accounts state the number as high as 150, but we have reason to believe that it does not exceed 11. The accident happened about one o'clock.