WASHINGTON FIRE.

One of the capital's biggest stores caught fire at the he of the end-of-year business rush --- a general alarm brought or every fire brigade in the city. Street decorations and stock in nearby stores added to the danger, and scores of firemen had narrow escapes. After many hours the fire was got under contribut not before the total damage had reached a figure of half a million dollars.

Heavy rains round Rome have caused a flooding of the River

Tiber --- not for forty years have the waters reached such a high

level. Suburbs of Rome were inundated and in many places first

floor levels have been reached. In the days of ancient Rome

they used to say -- Oh Tiber, Father Tiber. Now they say -- no

farther. In spite of the widespread there have luckily been no

casualties. And of course, if a lady wants to cross a flooded

street she can always find a gallent gentleman to carry her over

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