



## TORONTO SAFE WORKS.

**J. & J. TAYLOR,**  
**MANUFACTURER OF FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFES,**  
 SECURED WITH PATENT POWDER-PROOF LOCKS.

THE ONLY SAFES FOR SALE IN CANADA THAT NEVER FAIL TO PRESERVE THEIR CONTENTS, EVEN IN THE HOTTEST FIRES.

The following is one of the many testimonials in their favour:

MESSRS. J. & J. TAYLOR,  
*Safe Manufacturers, Toronto,*

GODERICH, December 15th, 1864.

GENTLEMEN,—The Safe I purchased from you some ten months ago was most severely tested in the late fire here, which destroyed my stock and store, together with the Bank of Montreal and other buildings, on the night of the 12th instant. The Safe stood near the centre of the building, and was exposed to a most intense heat for at least ten hours, and, from its external appearance, must have been red hot for a considerable time; yet I am pleased to state, that when it was recovered from the ruins and opened, its contents, consisting of a large number of account books and valuable paper; also, bank bills, notes, &c., amounting to eight thousand dollars (\$8,000), were all found in a good state of preservation.

You will please send me another Safe of the same size, and in the meantime, the old one having done its duty faithfully, I will ship it to you in a few days as a trophy.

Yours, &c.,

WM. E. GRACE.

The undersigned were present and saw the Safe opened, and have much pleasure in testifying to the above.

R. K. MASTERTON, *Hamilton.*  
 JOHN HALDAN, *Goderich.*

Intending purchasers who wish a reliable article will find it to their advantage to give us a call before purchasing elsewhere. A complete assortment always on hand. All Safes warranted to give perfect satisfaction or no sale. Price list furnished on application.

MANUFACTORY, 103 PALACE STREET, TORONTO.



Though vaults – also known as “strongrooms” – are often associated with banks, many office buildings, and even some residential buildings, were historically constructed with vaults. Access to a vault allowed the building’s tenants to securely store records, money, and valuable stock such as furs or jewelry.

Preferable to safes, which were more easily breached and could be physically removed from their location, vaults had become a standard form of physical asset security in commercial buildings by the 1920s. Integrated into the very fabric of the building and typically located at its center, vaults were constructed

of thick concrete reinforced by steel rods, making them virtually impenetrable. They could only be entered through a heavy steel door, often up to a meter thick, containing an intricate system of mechanisms and heavy bolts resistant to lock picking.

In addition to safeguarding against robbery, vaults provided protection from disasters such as fires, floods, tornadoes, and riots. In Regina’s early years, fire and firefighting was foremost in citizens’ minds, and the earliest public meetings were held for the purpose of organizing a fire brigade and arranging for the purchase of firefighting equipment.