

THE DAILY EXAMINER. FEBRUARY 28, 1884.

Fires and Water.

A COUPLE of days after the recent fires, we asked the energetic Chief Engineer of the Charlottetown fire department, A. N. Large, Esq., to give us his candid opinion as to what was immediately necessary to place the fire department in a position to successfully combat fires. So far as we are able to place his ideas or suggestions on paper, they are these:—He proposes that the city erect on the corner of the square, on or near the site of the old Post Office, a brick building in which accommodation might be had for the Police, Police Court, and other city offices, and the weigh scales office, with, perhaps, a hall overhead for the use of the firemen. The cellar should be an enormous water tank, capable of holding enough water to stand a day's pumping with a couple of engines. Directly over this tank, on the first floor, Engineer Large would place both steam engines. The four men in charge of the place, upon the first alarm of fire could run the engines outside the door, put on the suction hose, and attach and lay the other hose in the needed direction, and while doing so help would soon reach the men, and in a very short period of time water could be thrown on a fire in almost any part of the town. The Chief says that from that corner of the Square by reason of the elevation, he could throw a heavy and efficient stream of water, with the hose on hand, a very long distance. There is one thing, however, that the Chief insists on. He says that steam heaters are needed for the engines, and by having them that streams of water could be thrown on fires much quicker than at present. With these attachments a head of steam from ten to twenty-five pounds might be kept up night and day, and as soon as or before the hose could be laid, the engines would be ready to throw water. The cost of the heaters is insignificant. Messrs. McKinnon & McLean say the cost will be about \$130. The expense of firing these heaters will be comparatively nothing, as the consumption of coal is about that of an ordinary stove suited to heat the engine rooms, and for a large portion of the year fires must be kept up. The same fire would answer a twofold purpose—keep up a continual heat of steam in the engines, and heat the premises. Engineer Large also says that the saving in rents, etc., for police office, and engine houses, etc., would be sufficient to pay a great share at least of the interest on all outlay in the direction he advocates. Of course he would abandon the present engine houses, by putting the Silby and the Rollo in the proposed edifice. The building need not be an expensive one, but it might be made attractive architecturally. These suggestions of Chief Engineer Large deserve attention. He has had practical experience in the matter, and is, therefore, qualified to give advice. He knows too well the difficulties he and the men labor under for want of water and the necessary apparatus. To carry out the idea of the Chief Engineer would involve no heavy expenditure for water-works or machinery. The suggestion seems practical, and might be expeditiously executed, as the tank could be built as soon as the frost would permit, be filled and ready for use, and the building could after wards be constructed.

The Percheron Breed of Horses.

A SHORT time ago Mr. M. W. Denham read an interesting paper on the Percheron breed, before a meeting of importers, held at Chicago. In it he showed that the active commencement of the importation of horses from France to the United States commenced in the year 1851. Since that time the remarkable number of 2,862 stallions and 1,014 mares were imported and bred in the United States and Canada. The fact that nearly four thousand horses have been imported from France to the United States, and only about two hundred and thirty-seven of them have died from the effects of transportation, acclimation, disease and old age is a most satisfactory commentary on the hardness of the Percheron race. Of the importation one hundred and thirty-six found their way into Canada, and three of these were brought to Prince Edward Island by Messrs. Heartz and McKie—being purchased in New York from Mr. Denham.

—We doubt if our citizens will ever be offered a better opportunity for displaying laudable energy and reaping a certain reward of safe speculation, than is now within their grasp. A Public Hall, suitable for concerts, lectures, public meetings, etc., is an acknowledged want, and what better site could possibly be procured for such a building than that of the old "North American?" We trust the proper men will not allow this rare opportunity to slip through their hands, but will take timely advantage of it, and, while looking to their own interests, will secure the credit they will thereby deserve, for adding one more to the already existing beauties and conveniences of Charlottetown.

A COMMISSION of the general staff of the Russian army is elaborating a vast scheme of reform in the administration of the Merv district. The Turcomans are urging the retention of native institutions.

How Baker was Defeated.

ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE NEAR TOKAR—COWARDICE AND CONFUSION.

Full details are given of the disastrous defeat of Baker Pacha, briefly reported by cable. It appears that on Sunday evening, February 3, Baker's force, 3,600 strong, encamped two miles from Trinkital. The night passed off quietly, and before daybreak on Monday morning, at half-past seven, 300 baggage camels were laden and ready to move forward. The guns moved in advance of the column, the infantry following them, and the greater part of the cavalry were scattered round in a circle of skirmishers, a half mile or so from the column, thus effectively protecting it from any sudden attack. The Turkish cavalry were in reserve. "Shortly after eight o'clock," says the special correspondent of the London Standard, "parties of the enemy were sighted. These retired slowly upon the approach of cavalry skirmishers, but showed more and more thickly as we advanced. At half-past eight the column halted. A Krupp gun was brought forward and unlimbered, and a few rounds of shell was fired. It was hardly to be expected that any execution would be done upon the scattered parties of the enemy, but the effect was to cause them again to fall back.

A STRATEGY.

"About nine o'clock the enemy again approached, this time in considerable numbers. The guns of the attacking party opened fire. When the cavalry skirmishers came up with the enemy they were soon hotly engaged. Presently about a dozen Arabs, riding bare-backed on wiry little horses, appeared from behind a hillock and coolly galloped round our right flank within 300 yards of our cavalry on that side, running the gauntlet of the latter's fire. They passed scatheless, and as they still kept along parallel to our column, with the evident intention of gauging its strength and disposition, the General ordered the Turkish cavalry to charge them and cut them off. After a hot chase the enemy escaped, but as the Turks rode back again toward the column they again appeared, and this time galloped across our front and round to the left.

A SURPRISE.

"While our attention was distracted from the front by this incident a sudden commotion arose in the midst of our cavalry skirmishers on our left flank. The enemy must for some time have been lying concealed close to them, and they now sprang to their feet, and with cries charged the Egyptian horsemen. These at once turned rein and came galloping in a wild and very disorderly fashion. The order was then given for the infantry to form square—a manoeuvre in which they had been daily drilled for weeks. At this crisis, however, the but half-disciplined mass failed to accomplish it. Three sides were formed after a fashion, but on the fourth side two companies of the Alexandria regiment, seeing the enemy coming on leaping and brandishing their spears, stood like a panic-stricken flock of sheep, and nothing could get them to move into their place.

THE SQUARE BROKEN.

"Into the gap thus left in the square the enemy hotly poured, and at once all became panic and confusion. The troops fired, indeed, but for the most part straight into the air. The miserable Egyptian soldiers refused even to defend themselves, but, throwing away their rifles, flung themselves on the ground and grovelled there, screaming for mercy. No mercy was given, the Arab spearmen pouncing upon them and driving their spears through their necks or bodies. Nothing could well surpass the wild confusion which the mass presented—camels and guns mixed up together, soldiers firing in the air, with wild Arabs, their long hair streaming behind them, darting among them hacking and thrusting with their spears. The right side of the square was not at first assailed, but kept up a continuous fire toward their front, which killed many of our cavalry.

BAKER'S ESCAPE.

"When the charge had been made by the enemy on the left flank, General Baker, with his staff, were out with the cavalry in front. Upon riding back they found that the enemy had already got between them and the column. They at once charged them and cut their way through, but not without several being killed, among them Abdul Ruscac, the chief Egyptian staff officer. His horse was hamstringed, and as it fell he was instantly speared by the Arabs. On nearing the square the General had to run the gauntlet of the fire of the Egyptians in front, who, regardless of what was going on around them, were blazing away in their front. When the General reached the square the enemy had already broken it up, and it was clear that all was lost. Gen. Sartorius, with his staff, had been in the inside of the square when the enemy burst into it. They in vain tried to rally the panic-stricken Egyptians, and were so closely cooped in by the huddled mass of soldiers that, for a time, they were unable to extricate themselves. When, at last, the Arab spearmen had thinned the throng of Egyptians, they succeeded in breaking out and in cutting their way through the enemy.

A CHAOTIC RETREAT.

"It now became a total rout, the shattered column streaming across the plain towards Trinkital, preceded by the flying cavalry, the enemy pressing

hotly on the rear and slaughtering at will. All mounted men unable to ride well were dismounted by the rush of the flying horsemen and killed. When last seen Dr. Leslie, Morice Bey and Capt. Walker, with drawn swords and pistols, were standing in a group surrounded by the enemy, close to the guns in the front face of the square. There also the Turkish battalion and thirty-six Italian policemen were annihilated, scarcely one escaping. So for five miles the flight and pursuit were kept up. The Massowah black battalion behaved well, and for a portion of the distance retired steadily, firing volleys into the enemy. Zobeir's blacks were undrilled, and hardly able to fire their rifles, not having arrived long enough before the advance to enable the officers to get them into any shape. They therefore bolted as promptly as did the Egyptians.

A FEEBLE STAND.

"When the earthwork was reached, where we had encamped the night before, the General made great efforts to protect the rear of the flying fugitives by a charge of the Turkish cavalry with a few Egyptian horsemen, whose flight had been stopped by the officers, but nothing would induce them to charge. Half a regiment of Indian cavalry would have swept the plain of the scattered enemy with the greatest ease. However, although the General could not induce the Turks to charge, he got them to form in line at the earthwork and to halt facing the enemy. The pursuit then ceased, the enemy, doubtless, being afraid of the fire of the ships; but, in fact, no gunboat was in the harbor, the Admiral having ordered away the Decoy on the previous day. When the pursuit ceased, the weary fugitives, horse and foot, with many riderless horses here and there among them, made their way across the two intervening miles of deep mud to Trinkital. On reaching the shore they would have crowded into the few boats there and swamped them had not the English officers, revolver in hand, kept them back. Then they stood huddled together on the beach like a flock of sheep, and had the enemy come on the whole would have been butchered as easily and with as little resistance as so many sheep might have been. Gradually, as it was found that the enemy had really ceased in their pursuit, the panic subsided.

Materialism Denounced.

ARCHBISHOP O'BRIEN, IN A PASTORAL, EXPLAINS "WHY THE LAND IS DESOLATE."

(From the Halifax Herald.)

A pastoral from Archbishop O'Brien was read in the churches of the diocese yesterday. Addressing the Jewish people through the prophet Jeremias, God said: "With desolation is all the land made desolate, because there is none that considereth in his heart." A Jeremias would be justified in using similar language to-day. Because men do not consider in their heart, a vast amount of desolation exists. Some, forgetting the injunction of the apostle, "not to be more wise than it behoveth to be wise; but to be wise unto sobriety," arrogate to themselves all wisdom, and presume to sit in judgment on the works of God Himself. They laugh at revelation; they mock the divinity of Christ; they call Christianity a superstition, and sneer at devout believers as weak imbeciles. Others, not so openly impious, but in whom christian sentiments are

HALF CHOKED BY EVIL PASSIONS,

lose no opportunity of having a covert thrust at the teachings of strict morality, and of throwing a doubt on some fundamental truth. They have enough of evil in them to make them wish that Christianity were false; and enough of Christianity to make their conduct inexcusable. Truly, 'with desolation is all the land made desolate.' Now, the cause of this desolation is a want of reflection, 'there is none that considereth in heart.' Perhaps at no time in the history of the human race did men boast so much of using their reason as in the present; and, perhaps, at no time was reason used to such little purpose in spiritual matters. In physical science and in mechanical devices our age towers above all others. Our comforts and our conveniences are carefully studied, and skilfully catered to. Hence men who think only of the world, and live only for it, are lost in admiration, and call upon all to

BOW DOWN AND ADORE THE GOLDEN CALF CALLED MODERN PROGRESS.

Whilst human ingenuity is actively at work in these two departments, the blight of materialism is destroying all other arts and sciences. Painters and sculptors, devoid of the religious sentiment, no longer create; they simply imitate, and imitate on the grossest moral range. A dreary superficiality has invaded the schools; the humane mind is treated as a piece of mechanism. Unfortunate babes, who ought to be romping in the nursery, are doomed to torture in Kindergarten classes, in which the mind gets its first materialistic set. The school boy, instead of being made to understand thoroughly the first elements of grammar and arithmetic, is, machine-like, passed through a fearful array of high sounding classes, and emerges with a profound dislike to serious study. If he should be sent to a college he is wound up, or "crammed," with answers and formulas of which he understands next to nothing, and goes forth TO BEGIN LIFE WITH SUPERFICIAL IDEAS of everything. What wonder that so many wrecks strew the wayside of life?

What wonder that so many are led astray by the sophisms of unbelief? Reason cannot be used aright, because it has not been developed aright. A more simple, but at the same time a more solid form of training, and a constant inculcation of the supernatural, can alone save us from the dead level of barren superficiality. Did men use aright their reason they would never deny an all-creating God.

Imperial Insurance Company.

A good showing for 1883.—It is with much pleasure we give the result of the Canadian business of the Imperial Fire Insurance Company for the year ending December 31st, 1883:

The net premiums received in Canada were \$199,062.45 The net amount of losses incurred, including those paid and outstanding, was \$125,594.23 The commissions and other expenses were 43,078.82 \$168,673.10

Net profits for 1883 \$30,389.35

The ratio of losses to premium income was 63 per cent., and of expenses to premium income 21.63 per cent.; which leaves a profit of say, 15.69 per cent. on the year's transactions. Messrs. Rintoul Bros., the popular general agents of the Imperial, are to be congratulated on this favorable result in one of the most disastrous years for fire underwriting on record.—Insurance Society.

Fenton T. Newbery is the general agent of the Imperial for P. E. I.

That Halifax Marriage Case.

Immediately after disposal of regular business in the police court yesterday, the case of Staff-Sergeant Harfield, of the 19th Regiment, charged with deserting his wife, was proceeded with. Mr. J. N. Lyons appeared with Mr. Bligh for the defence, and argued for the discharge of the accused under the Army Act of 1881, from which he quoted to show that the arrest was illegal, and the regiment being under orders to sail, he could not be held. The case of Bandmaster Dunkerton of the 101st, was instanced in support of his argument, and after a lengthy speech and various laws cited, his discharge was moved for. Mr. Longley, for the prosecution replied that the charge was not one in common law, but an indictable offence, and as a soldier could be arrested for such a crime as theft, even when on the point of sailing, so the accused could be held on such a charge as the present. He instanced the case of the preliminary investigation of the dynamiters to show the ruling that such contentions as those of counsel for the defence should not be entertained till after the evidence was taken, and wished that the examination be proceeded with as rapidly as possible and arguments be then heard. The court reserved the points in consideration and adjourned the further hearing of the case till 11.30 a. m. to-day, the accused being remanded on his own recognizance. The court-room was very much crowded and great interest was manifested.—Chronicle.

25 TONS LEHIGH ANTHRACITE COAL, CHESTNUT SIZE. FOR SALE LOW. ROBERT T. HOLMAN. Summerside, Feb. 28, 1884.—3i

ST. JAMES' KIRK Tea and Fancy Table, MARKET HALL, Wednesday, the 12th March.

PRESIDENT: Mrs. M. McLeod. COMMITTEE: Mrs. Watts, Mrs. A. Lord, Mrs. A. Kennedy, Mrs. Hyndman, Mrs. McPherson, Mrs. Rankin, Mrs. Wm. McLean, Mrs. Donald McNeill, Mrs. Murray, Miss McGill, Mrs. Small, Miss McLean, Mrs. Robertson, Miss Murray, Mrs. C. McGregor, Miss Mason.

Doors open at three o'clock p. m. Tea on the table at six o'clock p. m. Tickets—Tea and admission, 35 cents; admission, 10 cents only. Any donations will be thankfully received by members of Committee.

KATIE McLEAN, Secretary. Ch'town, Feb. 28, 1884.

WANTED, A BLACKSMITH to do Carriage and Sleigh Work. Liberal wages will be given. Apply to CHARLES WAYE, Carriage Builder, Head St. Peter's Bay, Feb. 28, 1884. 3i wklly 2i

The Liquor License Act, 1883.

NOTICE is hereby given that a meeting of the Board of License Commissioners for the License District of Queen's County, will be held in the Court Room, in the Law Courts Building, in Charlottetown,

Saturday, the Twenty-ninth Day of March Next,

at the hour of eleven o'clock, forenoon, for the purpose of taking into consideration all applications for certificates for such Licenses as are provided for by the Liquor License Act, 1883, are authorized to be granted in this License District.

By Order of the Board, ROBERT H. CRAWFORD, Chief Inspector for Licenses for Queen's County. Feb. 28, 1884.—3i law wklly her pres 3i.

NEW SPRING GOODS. J. B. MACDONALD

IS now showing an extensive range of NEW PRINTS, bought before the advance in duty, consisting of,—

- 650 pieces, in all the Newest Designs, 20 bales (800 pieces) Grey Cottons, White Cottons, in the Different Makes, Sheetings and Pillow Cottons, Towellings and Stair Linens.

—ALSO— A Large Variety of Carpets, in Brussels, Tapes ry, Scotch and Dutch Carpets, Stair Carpets, Hearth Rugs, and Door Mats.

SOLD AT THE LOWEST CASH PRICES.

J. B. MACDONALD. Ch'town, Feb. 28, 1884.—2aw wklly.

ROYAL CANADIAN INSURANCE CO. FIRE.

CAPITAL, \$2,000,000. HEAD OFFICE—Montreal. HALIFAX BRANCH—J. Scott Mitchell, Agent.

Risks Taken on Most Favorable Terms.

AGENT FOR PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND: F. H. ARNAUD, Merchants Bank of Halifax. Ch'town, Feb. 27, 1884.

"GUARDIAN" FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,

11 Lombard Street, London, E. C. ESTABLISHED 1821.

Subscribed Capital, \$10,000,000. Capital Paid Up, 5,000,000. Total Funds, upwards of 18,000,000. Total Amount Income, nearly 3,000,000.

Risks at Lowest Current Rates. CARVELL BROS., Agents. Ch'town, Feb. 26, 1884.—1m 2aw

DESBRISAY & ANGUS, AGENTS OF THE

QUEEN AND AGRICULTURAL INSURANCE COMPANIES,

While thanking the Citizens of Charlottetown for their past patronage, and assistance during the late fire, have to announce that they have taken the office in

Stevenson's Building, CORNER QUEEN AND SYDNEY STREETS,

Where they are prepared to do business. Ch'town, Feb. 22, 1884.

EXTENSIVE TRADE SALE Lobster Canning Factory FOR SALE.

Campbell & Bayden, Auctioneers. WE will sell by AUCTION, at OUR SALE-ROOM, on

Wednesday, 12th March next, Commencing at eleven o'clock, a. m., Flour, Cornmeal, Choice Bright Molasses, Sugar, Raisins, Soap, Tea, Tobacco, Sale Leather, Matches, Apples, Best American Kerosene Oil, Pickles, Jams and Sauces, Nutmegs, Cloves, Paper Bags, and an assortment of General Groceries and Spices.

—ALSO— Dry Good, Ready-made Clothing, Boots and Shoes, etc., etc. Terms at sale. CAMPBELL & BAYDEN, Auctioneers. Ch'town, Feb. 23, 1884.

SALT! SALT! FOR SALE ex WAREHOUSE, 5,000 bags Liverpool Salt, 1,200 bags Coarse Fishery Salt. PFAKE BROS. & CO. Ch'town Feb. 14, 1884.—4i

FOR SALE OR TO LET, THE office occupied by Mr. William Ketchen as the 'cramer's Shipping Office, Head of Queen's Wharf. Apply to A. KENNEDY & CO. Ch'town, Feb. 25, 1884.

FOR SALE OR TO LET, THE Subscriber hereby offers for sale or to let his Residence and Model Livery Stables, together with all Furniture and Outfits. P. C. CONLEY. Ch'town, Feb. 23, 1884.—4i

FOR SALE, A MILCH COW, in fair condition for the Butcher. Apply at this office. Feb. 23, 1884.