

The fire in Portland proper to have been fully as severe as the one which destroyed the telegraph...

Estimated, some placing it at ten millions and others at eight or nine millions of dollars.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, July 16, 1866.

VISIT TO THE SECOND DISTRICT OF KING'S COUNTY.

During the week before last, Mr. Whelan visited his constituents in the second Electoral District of King's County.

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rigidly examined by several of the Clergymen present, and the prompt and correct answers given by the young ladies elicited the warmest applause of the very large and respectable audience present.

After the Examination His Worship the Mayor distributed the prizes to the most deserving of the young ladies, a large number of books, cordons d'honneur, and Crowns of Excellence, complimenting each on her success.

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2nd prize of Catechism, Reading, Geography, Good Conduct, awarded to Miss Eliza McDonald.

2nd prize of Arithmetic (Grammar), awarded to Miss Teresa McDonald.

2nd prize of Reading, Writing, Grammar, awarded to Miss Mary Ann Steele.

2nd prize of Spelling, Arithmetic, awarded to Miss Alice Morrissey.

2nd prize of Grammar, Writing, awarded to Miss Ellen Simons.

2nd prize of Writing, Miss Lizzy Clarke.

2nd prize of Reading, Miss Annie Whelan.

2nd prize of Reading, Writing, Miss Ellen Lantry.

2nd prize of Writing, Miss Jane O'Halloran.

2nd prize of Reading, 2nd of Spelling, Miss Rachel London.

2nd prize of Spelling and Arithmetic, Miss Mary Essery.

2nd prize of Catechism, Miss Virginia Newbery.

2nd prize of Writing, Miss Annie Dean.

2nd prize of Reading, 2nd of Catechism, Miss Ellen McDonald.

2nd prize of Regular Attendance and Application, Miss Ella Lee.

2nd prize of Fancy Work, Miss Appoline Gaudet.

2nd prize of Plain Sewing, Miss Lillias Watson.

2nd prize of Instrumental Music, Miss Mary Clarke.

2nd prize of Religious Instruction, 1st div., Miss Mary Ann Blake.

ing all facilities. That a great measure of property was not calculated upon, is proved by the fact, that the actual exceeds the estimated revenue by \$1,300,000.

Such a fact may surely be taken as a fair proof that the resources of the country are only beginning to be developed, and that within a dozen years a state of things will be presented, of which few, if any, can have much conception.

It is calculated that the Fenian business will cost \$1,000,000, but even this sum, large as it is, will not trench beyond the public revenue.

The Commerce of Canada in the aggregate, has risen in a single year, from \$87,000,000 to \$105,000,000, giving us some idea of the amount of wealth that is being added to the Country.

All this, as a matter of course, will require more money, and in the ordinary course of things more taxation.

Mr. Galt, however, propounds a new and a bold financial policy, which will dis appoint, we daro say, the Anti-Confederate party here, considerably, by robbing them of their most popular cry.

He proposes to assimilate to a great extent, the Canadian to the Lower Provincial tariffs, and adopt a fiscal policy, rather English than American.

These articles which he proposes to reduce to 20 to 20 to 15 per cent, and that those paying 10 per cent, be admitted free, with the exception of Jewellery, Copper, and one or two other articles.

This is a great stride towards free trade, and especially towards British trade, as opposed to the United States system.

It cuts also from under the feet of the Anti-Confederates their last prop. by the assurance that instead of raising our tariff to the Canadian one, the latter will be assimilated to our.

By this change, of course there will be a considerable diminution of revenue, but probably an increase in trade.

And this decrease it is proposed to make good by imposing an additional duty on spirits, raising it from 20 to 60 cents a gallon; by putting a duty of 10 cents a bushel on rye, barley and coarse grain from the States; a duty of 50 cents a barrel on American flour; and also to protect native manufactures, a duty on sawn timber exported to the States.

The duty on tea, it is proposed to raise from 4 to 7 cents a pound.

Such is an outline of the new Canadian tariff which is expected to be equal to all demands that are likely to be made upon it, and which will enable the ministry at once to meet the requirements of the country, encourage British trade, protect home industry, and expand Inter-colonial commerce.

Mr. Galt has evidently taken a leaf out of Mr. Gladstone's book, by endeavouring to equalize taxation and apportion it according to the necessities of the country.

Whenever, in a disposition manifested to reciprocate, the principle of reciprocity is to be acted upon. If the United States will retreat from its restrictive policy, then the old system will be gladly resumed.

It is to be noted as not unimportant that France has, in a most liberal spirit, reduced the duty upon Canadian spirits from 20 to 2 francs per ton, and in return for this valuable concession, large encouragement is to be given to the importation of various articles of French growth and manufacture.

encouraging the importation and use of wines, by imposing a duty only of 10 cents a gallon on wine in wood, and of \$3 per dozen on sparkling wines, when accompanied with a certificate. It is shown that the Lower Provinces import 870,000 barrels of flour annually, a large proportion of which might be taken from Canada by reciprocity.

The exports of the United States, chiefly cereals, to the West Indies, are equal to \$60,000,000, of which Canada, by a system of free trade with these Colonies, might enjoy a large share by underselling her neighbours.

The steamer Scotia with 3000 tons of the 25th ult., arrived... The laying of the Atlantic Cable would cost \$10,000,000.

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The most terrible calamity that ever overwhelmed Charlottetown since the date of its settlement occurred yesterday morning.

Instead of the early dawn bringing a Sabbath of rest and contentment, it unhappily ushered in a scene of devastation the magnitude of which we can at present scarcely realize.

The alarm was given about four o'clock in the morning, and the fire was found to have commenced in an old building at the corner of Pownall and King Streets, part of the old Baginall estate.

It had been recently purchased by Mr. Eckstadt, the hair dresser, and was in part occupied; the vacant part, it is said, is that in which the fire commenced.

Although there was not much wind, the flames spread with incredible rapidity—the wooden buildings being all extremely dry—and it was for some time feared that the Catholic Cathedral, which had been involved in the common ruin, which, if attacked by the fire, would, on account of its commanding position, have sent destruction to the remotest parts of the city.

The large building immediately opposite, formerly the old home of the Biddin family, and lately sold by His Lordship the Bishop to the Hon. J. C. Pope, was wholly destroyed. It was Mr. Pope's intention to remove it from the Palace grounds, and convert it into an hotel.

The brick buildings within the range of the devouring element withstood the shock, and helped to stem the tide of destruction. The buildings referred to are Peake's Stores on Water St., the Bonded Warehouse on the same street, Mr. Owen Connolly's Store and Dwelling on Dorchester St., and Mr. Trezza's Store, in the course of erection at the corner, and Mr. Duncan's building corner of Queen and Dorchester Sts. These were all surrounded by the flames, but all happily escaped, and saved many others by their escape.

We give below a list of the houses destroyed, with the names of the owners and occupants. It will be seen that the list includes the names of our most enterprising fellow citizens, such as Messrs. W. R. Watson and Neil Rankin, Mr. Bernard Reddin, Messrs. L. C. Owen and Wm. Webb, Archibald McNeill, Ross's Weekly Office, the Reading Room, A. H. Yates, Commission Rooms, Wm. Murray, Bakery Establishment, H. P. Terlizzi, Store and Dwelling House, the Tavern of Mr. Martin Hogan, Eckstadt's Saloon, Patrick Blake, &c. &c.

It is unnecessary to say how heartily we sympathize with each and all of the sufferers. Some of them ranked high among our business men for their probity, energy, enterprise and industry; while, we deeply lament to add, there are about thirty families left wholly destitute, some of them having spent nearly a lifetime to acquire by hard labour the little property that suddenly snatched from them in an hour.

The total number of houses destroyed is said to be from one hundred to one hundred and eight, including stores, warehouses, and other important out-buildings—the probable value of which is Fifty Thousand Pounds. About one third of the loss is covered by insurance, the Charlottetown Mutual Insurance Company having risks to about \$5,000.

There were only two casualties, but so far they do not appear very serious. Mr. W. B. Allan was knocked on the side of the head by a falling barrel of flour, one of his arms fractured, and his head somewhat injured. We are glad to hear that he is in a fair way of recovery.

A young man named Rogers, in the employ of Mr. Wm. Heard, was also injured by a fall from the top of the Franklin House; but he is also said to be in a fair way of recovery.

The troops in Garrison were early on the ground and worked splendidly; indeed, all ranks and conditions did the same, not omitting His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, who put himself to any work, from forwarding water along the lines to the removing of property from the perishing houses. Even delicate ladies did not shrink from the calls of duty on this lamentable occasion, but in considerable numbers formed themselves in line, and passed along the buckets, and yet there was the usual cry about an insufficient supply of water, and the bad hose and the misdirection of the engines. Our fellow citizens who understand these things better than we do, were painfully impressed with the inefficiency of the Fire Department. We hope that the lesson, which has been instilled at a fearful cost into the minds of some, will be taken to heart by the whole community.

Yesterday, at three o'clock, a public meeting was held at the City Hall to raise subscriptions in aid of the sufferers, and to provide lodgings, or shelter of some kind, for the more destitute. A subscription list was well commenced, and will be circulated throughout the whole Island; and we feel assured that the appeal which it suggests will not be made in vain. We think that an appeal which, with great propriety, he made to our fellow Colonists across the Straits. They are generously contributing towards the relief of the sufferers by the Portland fire, and we are confident they would be more prompt in responding to a sympathetic call on behalf of their own fellow citizens in this stricken City. We write under the depressing feelings occasioned by this great disaster to our small and comparatively poor city, and it is likely that we have omitted many details that might have a painful interest for our readers. These we will supply, if possible, in a future No.

LOSSES BY THE FIRE. POWNALL STREET. The Baginall property—the fatal house where the fire commenced. Mansion House—E. Mawley. Michael Kelly, Shoemaker—dwelling house. John McDonald—dwelling house. Lockhart, Barber—dwelling house, barber's shop and out-buildings. P. Lacey—dwelling house. William Murray—dwelling house and the Silas Barnard—dwelling house and Express Office.

WATER STREET. McLean, Kellie—dwelling house.

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