

TERRIBLE CONFLAGRATION IN PORTLAND.

TWO BLOCKS OF BUILDINGS SWEEP AWAY.—
THE METHODIST CHURCH AMONG
THE DESTROYED.

The *Daily News* of Saturday says:—About a quarter to three o'clock this morning or a little later a fire broke out off Maine Street, Portland, which at 4 o'clock had done a great deal of damage.

At present it is impossible to give any positive information regarding the origin of the fire. The fire is supposed to have broken out in McPherson's woodshed, off Acadia street, and it is hinted that it was of incendiary origin.

At three o'clock the entire block, Main street on the North, Chapel street on the South, Acadia street on the East and Portland street on the West, was in flames, destroying a large number of buildings, turning out many business men, and rendering homeless dozens of families.

At four o'clock, the fire fiend took possession of the Portland Methodist Church, Rev. Mr. Ford, pastor. It was situated at the corner of Portland and Chapel streets. Every effort was made to save it, but without avail. First the tower began to smoke, and in about ten minutes after the first flame was seen to issue from it, the place of worship was almost entirely destroyed.

At fifteen minutes past four o'clock the scene was one not soon to be forgotten. Thousands of people were gathered upon Port Howe, looking down upon an immense mass of flame. People who were more interested in the work of the fire king rushed through the streets, almost frantic, sick women were carried from burning buildings and the cries of some of them were indeed pitiful. Mothers were slow to believe that their children were all right and the efforts of many of them to get into dangerous places where they believed their little ones were kept a great many persons were busy in preventing them from losing their lives. Shortly after four o'clock the wind grew stronger. It blew from the North, and sometimes one would almost think that it blew from the N. W. & N. E. at once. The shower of sparks was very great, and these and big pieces of shingles, some not burnt, were carried through the air in a manner calculated to strike terror into the hearts of all.

At ten minutes past four o'clock many persons had a narrow escape with their lives. A large crowd was at the corner of Main and Acadia streets, when the front and side of Mrs. Wood's house fell. The excitement was intense; but it soon subsided, the announcement being speedily made that no one had been dangerously hurt. One man had been struck on the head with a piece of the falling timber, but escaped without serious injury.

At 5:45 o'clock the Temperance Hall Simonds street, was on fire.

The following extracts are taken from Monday's edition of the *News*—

The Temperance Hall, corner of Simonds and High streets, was the only danger that was feared by the dwellers on the western side of Simonds and the northern side of High, but two streams of water kept the fire down so that the opposite buildings were not ignited, and the fire had to content itself with sweeping down Simonds street to the head of the slip. As the buildings were low, and a considerable space intervened between the lumber piles on the wharves and the last house, the wharves and the vessels in the slip were saved, the pumps of two or three tug-boats aided the engines. Rankine's warehouse caught from sparks, and much of its contents was thrown into the slip before the danger was seen to be over.

Then the engines came around to the edge of Fisher's pond, where woodpiles and board fences were burning, and wharves, lumber and rafts of standard ship timber were endangered, and prevented any further mischief being done.

This was at nine o'clock, the fire having lasted six hours and consumed everything of an inflammable nature on a large portion of the most densely inhabited section of the town.

There were 97 dwellings, the Methodist Church and Temperance Hall consumed, by which about 3000 people were turned into the street. Fifty families are sheltered by the Town and a like number fed by Charity. The St. John Relief Committee are generously extending aid to the Portland sufferers.

A sad feature connected with the fire is that one man named Baxter was burned to death in his house on High Street, and several others are reported to be severely but not fatally burned and injured by falling chimneys.

BUILDINGS BURNED.
On the South side of Main Street from Acadia to Portland streets 8 houses destroyed.

Portland street East side from Chapel to Main one house.

Chapel Street, North side, East from Pond to Portland street, 7 buildings.

Chapel Street, South side, from Portland east to Water, 12 buildings.

Acadia street, East side, from High to Main streets, 5 houses.

Acadia street, West side, from High to Main streets 2 dwellings.

Portland Street east side, from High to Main streets, 2 dwellings.

High street, North side, from Portland east to Water, 13.

Portland street from Rankine's wharf to Camden street, 6 houses.

Camden street, South side from Portland to Acadia streets 3 buildings.

Acadia street from Camden to Water, 4 buildings.

Portland street west side, from Camden to High street, 5 buildings.

Portland street east side, from Camden to High street, 7 buildings.

Camden street north side, from Simonds to Water, 8 buildings.

Acadia street west side, from Camden to High street, 9 buildings.

Acadia street east side, from Camden to High street, 2 houses.

High street south side, westward from Water, 10 buildings.

Simonds street east side, from High to Water street, 6 dwellings, by which 295 families are rendered homeless.

The loss is estimated at upwards of \$200,000. Insurance \$70,000.

The St. Andrews Standard.

Saint Andrews, October 24, 1877.

FIRE IN FREDERICTON.—A fire broke out in Westmorland street, Fredericton, on Monday night last, which destroyed a dozen buildings, and it was by hard work and an abundant supply of water that the city was saved, as a strong wind was blowing at the time. The loss is estimated at \$15,000. A suspicion exists that the fire was the work of an incendiary—one of the fire engines had been plugged, and it was some time before the engine was ready for work. Eleven families were burned out, but saved their furniture, &c.

The County Court was opened yesterday, by His Honor Judge Stevens.

The following cases are on the docket:

The Queen vs. L. Homes, assump.

The Queen vs. W. Foley, assump.

W. A. Barnes vs. Hallet & Cliff, assump.

McMonagle Atty. Gregory, Counsel. Stevens and Mitchell for Deft.

Dugan vs. O'Donnell, assump.

For Plff. L. A. Mills for Deft.

Knight vs. McAdam, assump.

McSorley, Atty. Gregory, Counsel. G. S. Grimmauer, for Deft.

rs. Thickins, Griener for Plff. McSorley for Deft.

There are a number of persons attending the Court.

PORTLAND FIRE.—In another column we have given a condensed account of the fire in Portland on Saturday morning last, copied from the *Daily News*. It appears that St. John, (for Portland is part and parcel of the City) is doomed to destruction—the loss and suffering is almost unparalleled—upwards of one hundred houses were burned, leaving nearly 3,000 people without houses.

WAR HAS BROKEN OUT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA between the Gallikas and British. Eight thousand Gallikas attacked the British but were repulsed, and 200 killed, only 1 of the British.

The war news from the East is meagre. The Russians have not yet taken Plevna, and the Turks are constructing new interior works.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT ST. JOHN.

A portion of the wall of the Wiggins Building, Princess street, collapsed this forenoon, 20th inst., resulting in the death of one man at least, and the causing of serious injury to others. A wooden building had been erected on Princess street, with its rear resting on the old wall. Shortly before noon, while a number of men and boys were working in the rear of the Walker and McMillan lots, the Wiggins' building wall gave way and brought down the vault with it. The mass of iron and brick came crushing on the unsuspecting workmen. Two boys—Dalton and Sullivan—both, belonging to Portland, were easily extracted, and were found to be only slightly bruised. A lad named Day was horribly mangled, his legs and arms being broken, and his other injuries such that he cannot possibly live. He was removed to the Hospital. It was declared that the other persons were in the ruins, and digging was soon commenced with vigor under the direction of Ald. Wilson and Mr. Willis. In half an hour the body of a man was recovered, and it was taken to the Dead House. Nobody knew his name, even his employer being too excited to remember. Search was now made for a lad named Alex. Gillis, of Indian town, who was missing, and was believed to be covered up with the debris. The digging for these bodies was a very sorrowful sight, especially when the tears and moans of afflicted relatives reached the ears of the spectators.

Between 2 and 3 o'clock this afternoon a second body was recovered from the ruins. It proved to be that of Alexander Gillis, about 14 years of age. The body was taken to the Dead House.

The man taken out this morning has been identified as James Spinlaw, of Indian town.

The lad Day, who was taken to the Hospital, has died, making the third death resulting from the accident. The boy is a son of Geo. Day, of Indian town.

LOCAL MATTER.

LARGE TURNIPS.—Mr. Edward DeWolfe, among other crops, raised some monstrous turnips of various kinds; the Aberdeen are the largest—one left at this office turned the scale at twenty pounds.

We were favored with the visit of two young ladies in our office the other day, and only hope that such charming girls and excellent customers, may visit the STANDARD office as often as they think fit.

Mrs. Magee will have her Fall and Winter Millinery ready for inspection this week. Annual Fall opening Tuesday next, when she will display a choice assortment of Millinery and Fancy Dry Goods on the counters of her ware-room, for year inspection.

St. Andrews, N. B., Oct. 24th, 1877.

The work of Grading in the Schools was commenced on Monday last, and will continue through this week. The attendance as usual at this time of year is large, and it is probable that all the Schools will be full during the winter term.

The Lieutenant Governor and Mrs. Tilley, are at Toronto, visiting his son, Rev. W. Tilley, who was dangerously ill of brain fever. We are happy to learn that the esteemed young clergyman is improving, and that hopes are entertained of his early recovery.

One of the *Gleaner* staff while shooting on the Miramichi, shot a wild goose, which measured five and half feet from tip to tip of the wings, and three feet five inches from snout to bill to tip of tail.

The music of the "turnip waggons" may be heard daily in the streets; the work of "pulling and snugging" commenced last week, and the crop is an excellent one in quantity and quality. Vessels are being loaded for domestic and foreign markets.

In our last edition we mentioned the arrival of Thomas R. Wheelock, Esq., Mrs. Wheelock, child and servant. They are on a visit to his sister, Mrs. Gove, wife of the Collector of this Port. Mr. Wheelock has resided in Shanghai, China, where he is engaged in a large mercantile business, and it is reported has been very successful. His stay in this country will probably be extended for several months after which he and his family will return to their home in the far East.

A fire took place yesterday morning at 11 o'clock on the premises of George Jackson at the Western end of Water Street. The alarm was given and the populace and Engine Company No 2 with their machine and hose reel were early on the spot. The barn in rear and attached to the house was in flames, caught it is reported from some careless children playing with matches. The firemen worked with a will, and after a short time succeeded in putting the fire out; the roof and side of the barn were partially destroyed. Had the house caught fire there would have been great danger of burning chambers being carried to adjoining buildings, as a strong Westerly gale was blowing at the time; happily however, the flames were extinguished, and the damage done is but small.

A terrible Goliery Disaster occurred at High Blantyre, near Glasgow. An explosion in the mine where 400 men were at work, and it is feared they were all suffocated.

Fredericton Brevities.

—The first snow of the season came on Monday and fell quite thickly for a few minutes.

—The "City of Fredericton" has discontinued her trips to Woodstock, the river being too low at present.

—The Steamer "Soulanges" has been repaired and is again on the route between St. John and here.

—The Metropolitan Theatre closed on Friday night last after a very successful season, and have gone to Bangor. Owing to their lease of the City Hall, the Granger Dow Opera Troops were prevented coming here, and the capital thereby missed a rare musical treat.

—The first competition for the ownership of the York County Monthly Challenge Cup came off last week. The competition was confined to the winners in the previous monthly matches. Mr. Master Lipsett was the successful one on this occasion with the handsome score of 87 points—the largest that has been made at the Queen's ranges in the Province this season.

She WANTED WORK.—The Bangor Commercial tells the story of a young woman, name not given, who disguised herself as a man and worked for a Brewer farmer during haying, and since then has worked in Orrington. When her disguise was detected, she gave as her reason that her father being dead, she was obliged to labor for the support of the family, and could get better pay while disguised.

A disastrous fire occurred at Princeton, Me. on the morning of the 18th inst. The alarm was given between one and two o'clock, and to those who first arrived at the scene it was apparent that all the mills on the dam, six in all, were doomed to destruction. The fire originated from an unknown cause in the outer mill, owned by B. Young, Esq., of Calais, and as a north wind prevailed at the time, the flames soon communicated to the other mills on the dam, and all were swept away. The Woolen Factory and the Tannery escaped, and their business will not be interrupted. In addition to the five Lumber Mills and the Grist Mill destroyed, the bridge and a considerable amount of lumber were also burned.

AFTER SITTING BULL.—The *Herald's* Montana special reports that a courier from the commandant of the Canadian garrison at Fort Walsh reached Gen. Terry on Oct. 1st with information that Sitting Bull and 30 warriors had been induced to go inside the Fort grounds, where it was hoped to detain them until the U. S. Commission arrive. Terry immediately decided to make forced marches, expecting to reach Fort Walsh October 16th; the courier also reports he encountered on route White Bird with twenty-four Nez Percés bucks and three squaws and children who escaped from Joseph's camp during the recent battle. White Bird says during the late battle Sitting Bull declined to assist Joseph. The courier further states that Sitting Bull expresses undying hatred of all Americans. He has, besides his thousands and lodges, about fifty Nez Percés refugees.

LUMBER.—Dealers, mostly, reported a very fair trade transacting in the New York wholesale lumber and timber market last week. A fair number of fresh orders were floating, and sales were readily made of the limited supplies coming in. The building interest continues to steadily improve, and lumber dealers are filling up reduced and broken assortments in anticipation of a good trade during the fall and winter both in the city and from adjacent points. The usual export activity to Europe, South America, West Indies etc., was noted.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Mr. Thomas Coram, a much respected resident of Carleton, died suddenly at Digby the other day, while on business for Messrs. Thorne & Co., of this city. Some years ago Mr. Coram was a prominent business man in this community and occupied the position of Alderman for Gay's Ward. Latterly he had been in the employ of Hon. T. R. Jones. He was over seventy-five years of age, and his death, caused by heart disease, will be lamented by a large number of friends.

News.

In refitting the old post office buildings in New York the carpenters discovered that the upper floors were double and were arranged so that detectives could watch the operations of those in the different rooms, who supposed themselves to be alone. The apartments through which the detectives looked were in most cases so small as hardly to be visible from the apartment below.

John Adams, of Boston, has just celebrated his golden wedding at the age of 81. He was captured at sea by the Guerriere in 1812, retaken by the Constitution; then was with letter of marque vessel that took an English schooner, but was captured by an English privateer in her turn and spent some time in several English hulks and prison ships, witnessing the massacre of American prisoners at Dartmoor.

Congress received Tuesday the first message of President Hayes. It is a brief document, devoted wholly to the business to come before the extra session, and making no reference to the state of the country.

The United States, with a population less than that of Germany, has more miles of railroad than Russia, Turkey, Germany, Austria, Great Britain, France and Italy combined—their total mileage being 76,620, while the United States is nearly 80,000.

The Quebec *Official Gazette* contains an advertisement announcing that the Montreal, Ottawa and Western railway is to be sold by public auction to pay the award and costs of the celebrated expropriation of the stone quarry at the Mile End belonging to Bourgeois and Lamontagne. The award was for \$35,000 and the interest and costs amount to about \$10,000.

It is not a strange and disquieting thought that thousands of people are at this moment hungry or in dread of hunger in a country which has stored in its granaries 325,000,000 bushels of corn—the yield of a single year?—*Sun*.

Seizure of Arms in Ireland.

On Tuesday last the police of Cork made a seizure of arms at the house of one Herlihy, a schoolmaster in that city. Some of the weapons bore the name of "Allport" and are supposed to have been carried away when Mr. Allport's shop was entered at the time of the Fenian disturbance; others were Towse-marked, and are alleged to have been stolen during the same movement from the Mallon Militia Barracks, but a few of the pistols found are said to be quite new, one of them having the stamp of a Bath maker. It is this which alone gives any significance to the seizure. If the arms had all been collected ten or twelve years ago, the affair would only excite surprise on the ground that they had so long escaped detection, and are now discovered when the country is so quiet. But the presence of new pistols would seem to indicate that a veritable insurrectionary army may have been brought to light.

The return of so many Irish-Americans during the past two years has possibly been attended by an attempt to revive Fenianism. The police at any rate, are confident that it has. But the Irish peasantry are too well off at present to engage in treasonable designs. —*London Spectator*, Sept. 20.

Resumption of Specie Payments.

The *Tribune* says the Committee on Bankers to which the matter of asking the Government to effect an early resumption of specie payments was referred in September, has substantially approved of the Coe plan, by which the banks unite and pledge themselves to furnish the Treasury with all the gold required by Government in redeeming maturing bonds and retiring legal tenders, the conditions being that the Government shall issue to the banks new United States bonds, to be held by the Treasury Department until redeemed either by gold or substitution of United States bonds of any issue or legal tenders. In the meantime national banks will credit the United States Treasury for the whole amount of the bonds purchased, as a gold deposit subject to order. A copy of the plan has been forwarded to Secretary Sherman, and it is proposed to have the banks make a formal offer to the government at once to subscribe fifty millions in gold to new bonds, and have a contract entered into, dated January 1st, 1878, and thus forestall the anticipated legislation opposed to resumption by Congress.

Thursday was a red-letter day in the annals of the Episcopal church of the Diocese of Maine, for that day witnessed the consecration of their cathedral. The eighteenth of October is the festival of the patron saint of the society, after whom the cathedral is named, and it seemed eminently proper that this date should be selected for the occasion. The services were attended by a large number of people, both of the clergy and laity. —*Portland Advertiser*.

A writ of *habeas corpus* has been applied for in the case of Ellis, the New York abolitioner, now in prison in St. John and against whom a judgement of \$30,000 has been obtained on civil process. No crime, however, within the scope of the Extradition Treaty has been proved against him, and the question of setting him at liberty will be argued the 23d inst.

MARRIED.

On the 23d inst. at the residence of the bride father, by the Rev. Wm. Richardson, Mr. John E. Cough of St. John to Mrs. Annie McGill, daughter of Mr. John Wade of St. Andrews.

DIED.

On the 19th inst. after a long illness, Patrick O'Shaughnessy aged 72.

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Executor's Notice

ALL persons having any legal claims against the estate of the late William Dougherty of St. Andrews, deceased, are requested to present the same daily attested within three months from the date hereof, and all persons indebted to the said estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

PATRICK BRITT, Executor.

St. Andrews, Oct. 24, 1877.

County Court.

The County Court of the County of Charlotte, will sit at St. Andrews, on Tuesday, the 23d October, instant, at twelve o'clock, noon.

At which time and place all officers of the law, and other persons required to be at this Court, are publicly notified to give their attendance.

ALEX. T. PAUL, Sheriff of Charlotte.

St. Andrews, October 18.