

the Mechanics' Liens Act, to amend the Municipal Act, to amend the Act respecting under-drainage, to amend the Act respecting the expenditure of public funds in certain cases, to amend the Consolidated Municipal Institutions Act, to amend the Act respecting ditches and watercourses, to enable widows and unmarried women to vote at municipal elections.

The Bogart Town Mills, Newmarket, owned by John Stokes, were totally consumed on Saturday morning about 5 o'clock. Insured for \$2,500 in the British America.

A thirteen-year-old boy named Cote, whose parents live at Petite Cote, was drowned on Monday while skating on the Canard River. He was with several other boys playing around the bridge near the mouth of the river, and slipped into an air-hole. He disappeared instantly under the ice, and his body was not recovered.

Thomas Gill, contractor for carrying mails between Streetsville and the C.V.R. station, was instantly killed at the latter place on Wednesday. No one seems to have witnessed the accident, but the prevailing opinion is that he slipped off the platform and under the engine, which passed over him. Death was instantaneous.

The three-year-old son of Mr. Hugh McCallum, blacksmith, of Derwent village, between Dorchester and Westminster, a few days ago fell into a vessel full of hot water, and was so badly scalded that he died twenty-four hours afterward.

A railroad accident occurred at Port Hope, last Sunday. Two trains were badly injured, but no lives were lost.

On Wednesday at Wyoming a fire was discovered in the extensive general store of Messrs. J. & J. Thompson. The two stores fronting on Broadway, the warehouse, stables and sheds were speedily consumed. The loss will be between \$15,000 and \$22,000, but will be pretty well covered by insurance, it is said, but no list of the companies interested can be obtained at present.

The elections for Montreal East and Sherbrooke, the representatives of which have accepted office in the new the Quebec Ministry, have been appointed for February 16.

The infant child of Mr. I. Dickey, of Tower Hill, Charlotte, Que., was accidentally smothered a few days ago. Mrs. Dickey wrapped the child up warmly and carried it in her arms while driving with her husband. On arrival at her destination it was found that the little one had been smothered while clasped in her mother's arms.

A serious fire occurred at Napanee last Sunday, destroying the stores occupied by Messrs. Bloom, McLaughlin and Strong, and owned by Mrs. Dr. Leonard. About 3:30 o'clock this morning the frame store on the south side of Dundas street, occupied by Samuel Bloom as a dry goods store, was discovered on fire. The fire company turned out promptly, but the fire had gained such headway that nothing whatever of Bloom's store could be saved. The contents are understood to be insured for \$3,000. The corner frame store, occupied by Samuel McLaughlin as a grocery and provision store, and K. J. Strong as a harness shop, was also destroyed. McLaughlin succeeded in saving about half of his stock. The buildings were owned by Mrs. Dr. Leonard, and it is understood were insured. Loss to Mrs. Leonard, after deducting insurance, probably \$1,000. McLaughlin carried \$1,300 insurance, which will about cover his loss. K. J. Strong saved very nearly everything. No insurance. Bloom is reported insured for \$3,000. Three plate glass windows in the Grange estate across the street were cracked by the heat.

At St. Johns, Que., a fire broke out in Messrs. Brosseau & Morin's sash, door, and blind factory, which resulted in the total destruction of the buildings and the greater part of their large stock of sawn and dressed lumber. The loss is about \$20,000; insurance only \$2,000.

UNITED STATES.

The United States House of Representatives has passed the Fitzjohn Porter Relief Bill.

A bridge on the Indianapolis & Chicago Air Line Railway gave way beneath a passenger train recently, and many of the passengers were killed and injured.

The strike of cotton operatives at Fall River will throw 30,000 persons out of employment.

At St. Louis a large four-storey iron front building, occupied by Nelson & Co., manufacturers of plumbers' goods, and by Philip Grant & Co., boots and shoes, was burned on Sunday. Loss \$100,000.

Wendell Phillips died last Saturday. He had been ill just one week. Not until Thursday was his condition considered dangerous, but on Thursday night he failed considerably. On Friday he rallied and passed a fairly comfortable night, but to-day at 4:30 there were signs of the end, and he died little over an hour later. He was a few weeks over 72 years of age.

A frightful gasoline explosion took place in a store at Alliance, Ohio, last Friday, demolishing the building and burying in its ruins an unknown number of persons. Four have been extracted, and four more are positively

known to have been inside. The store is a large new brick block in the centre of the town. It is rumored that a child turned the spigot of the gasoline tank, the gas escaping and igniting by fire from the stove. Several persons were in the store, and two families lived on second and third floors. Orr's block is levelled to the ground, and two brick blocks, one on each side, succumbed to the shock, while others further away were shattered and riddled.

At Readville, Ohio, Peter Clifford, a brakeman, who recently married, was awakened Saturday by two men who asked him to come to the door. When the door was opened one of the men put a pistol to his breast and fired. Clifford fell into the arms of his wife saying, "The Hickeys have killed me," and died. The Hickeys bear a bad name. Three of them were arrested with Joseph Reddy, their brother-in-law. On Sunday night a mob surrounded the jail and took Richard Hickey and Reddy to the grave where Hickey was hanged. Reddy was strung up, but the rope broke, and he protested his innocence and begged so piteously that the crowd spared him for trial.

At Mount Auburn, Ohio, Patrick Hamlet, laborer, brutally killed his wife. He had been addicted to drink. He was arrested after a desperate struggle, in which he was seriously hurt.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

The British Parliament opened on Tuesday. The Queen's speech announces the continuance of friendly relations with all foreign powers. The correspondence with France relative to Madagascar has terminated so as to confirm the cordial understanding between the two countries. In conjunction with the President of the United States, a commission has been appointed, and is now sitting in Paris, to discuss the regulation of the Newfoundland fisheries. An agreement with Portugal respecting the Congo and the adjacent territory has been formed.

The aim of the occupation of Egypt remains the same as heretofore. Such councils have been offered to the Egyptian Government as a prudent regard for its resources and conditions seemed to require. General Gordon has been sent to assist in carrying out the resolution of the Khedive to withdraw from the interior of the Sudan. The condition of affairs in Ireland continues to show improvement. The passage of measures soon to be presented to the Parliament is urged. These will provide for a further extension of the franchise throughout the United Kingdom and for a form of local government. The aim will be to secure greater efficiency of administration and an enlargement of the powers of the ratepayers, including the regulation of the traffic in intoxicating liquors. A plan will be proposed for the extension of municipal government to the whole metropolis, and bills relating to the security of life and property at sea, to the repression of corruption at elections, and to the promotion of education and morality will be introduced.

A new colliery company, which recently commenced business under the name of the North Staffordshire Coal and Iron Company, (Limited), has suspended payment with liabilities of over £1,000,000. Their suspension throws 1,000 men out of employment. The daily output of the Company's collieries has averaged 1,000 tons.

The ship Theodore H. Rand, Capt. Morris, from New York for London, was in collision off Beachy Head with a brigantine, which sank. All on board except one person was drowned. The Theodore H. Rand was slightly injured.

A Spanish vessel capsized in a gale last week, and the crew of nineteen persons were drowned.

Members of Stanley's expedition who have arrived at Paris, believe De Brazza, the French explorer is dead. At last accounts he was surrounded by hostile natives.

There were thirty-three thousand deaths from diphtheria in the province of Kharkof, in the southern part of European Russia, between the years 1878 and 1882.

The Indians at Omitlan, Mexico, have risen against the whites. Seven of the principal merchants were killed and their bodies kicked about the streets by the mob. Many buildings were burned.

Baker Pasha began an advance from the entrenchment at Trinkitat on Sunday. His force consisted of 3,000 troops, badly armed and short of ammunition, many of whom showed an unwillingness to proceed. Baker Pasha had sent from Trinkitat to Cairo an urgent appeal for rifles to replace the old muskets with which numbers of his troops were armed. In reply, he received orders to force his way to Tokar without delay, and, with the English officers connected with the expedition, he began the march expecting defeat. Spies had falsely reported the roads clear, with the exception of small bands of rebels. On Monday forenoon a portion of the advance encountered the body of Osman Digna's troops. A fight ensued, which was more of rout than a battle. Baker was advancing when attacked. His losses in killed and wounded number 2,000 men. He, with the remnant of his force succeeded in reaching Trinkitat, where the gunboat *Ranggr* is lying. Baker intends to proceed immediately to Suakim in the *Ranggr*.