

LIST OF ELECTORS, for Parish of Chatham, as revised Oct. 20th, '87.

- Anderson, Jas. R. Archibald, Wm.
Anderson, Jas. R. Abbott, Lancel
Anderson, Jas. Alcorn, Archie
Anderson, James, Alex. R. B.

Miramichi Advance, CHATHAM, N. B., OCTOBER 27, 1887.

Our System of Education.

The mistake of aiming to do more in some respects than to do less in others of the people generally demand in the way of state education is, we are glad to observe, receiving attention in Great Britain and it would be well if some of our public men in New Brunswick would turn their attention to this subject in order that practical results might be reached—our educational system simplified, so far as the state has to do with it, and the public expenditure demanded for it brought within the means of our limited revenue.

land the "conscience clause" makes religious training optional and within the parents' choice, which is a safeguard of religious freedom. No child can be taught one word of a creed, or of a religious system in opposition to its parents' wish. In those schools where no special denominational teaching is allowed the choice lies between giving such instruction as all denominations would approve, and omitting religion altogether from the school course. These features of the English system seem to be much better than the meagre provisions for religious instruction permitted by our law. That we are wrong in this respect is evident in the evasions of the latter of the law and in the practical failure, especially in the cities, to carry out the intentions of its framers. Public opinion here, as everywhere, favors the instruction of children in the doctrine of and reverence for the Christian religion, and it recognizes the fact that the interests of the state are best served and its safety best guaranteed by such instruction. The omission of religion from a child's school life vitiates the training that is fit to fit for the responsibilities and obligations that state discharge to society and the state afterwards. The moral safeguards that are most trustworthy disappear, and one of the dangers of the times is a too prevalent laxity in this respect—a departure from old time discipline at school which, unfortunately, has not been compensated for in home training. It is illogical, and absurdly, to expect that to be propagated either at home or elsewhere, which is practically discouraged by the prevailing educational system, especially when that system has the sanction of the State. Water does not rise above its own level.

There seems to be a mistaken impression on the public mind that our School System is a very perfect one, and that anything prescribed by the Board of Education comes to with a sanctity peculiar to itself, and that it is to be received with a respect and unquestioned welcome not accorded to any other act of government administration. It is time that a more sane and practical branch of the public service should be subjected to the same tests, conditions and criticism as others, and be made more conformable to the people's requirements in more than one respect.

The New route the Best. A prominent article in the London Times of 7th inst deals with the Canada Pacific Railway as Great Britain's "New Route to the East." The article is stated to be "from a correspondent," and is singularly free from the inaccuracies, in matters of fact, which frequently mar the Times' editorials on subjects affecting Canada. It is, no doubt, from the pen of one who has given the subject intelligent and thorough study, and we regret that the space at our disposal does not admit of our reproducing it. The facts that the Government of Hong Kong lately dispatched a large expedition to England for his far eastern colony, and that boxes of tax had recently reached London within a month after leaving China, are emphasized as a practical announcement to the people of Great Britain that the position of the east was being opened for mail, for men and for merchandise, having many advantages over all other routes. The superlatives are pointed out at some length. One is that the Canada Pacific, as a part of the new route, is the shortest route to the north of the great railway lines across the American Continent, connecting Halifax, the deep-water port of the Atlantic seaboard nearest to Europe with the port on the Pacific coast nearest to Japan and China. This route is also "the Empire route" to the East for Great Britain, because it opens a way to all of her eastern possessions entirely through British territory, save where it crosses the high seas, an advantage to British commerce not to be reckoned at. The advantages of Halifax as a port of its course, excellent steam coal is found in great abundance, viz, close to Halifax, the Atlantic terminal port, and close to both Vancouver and Sydney, two of the Pacific terminal ports, while, along the rival routes coal has to be carried at a great expense, 3000 miles to Port Said, 4,500 to Aden, 6,500 to Colombo or the Cape of Good Hope. The winter of the Canada Pacific cars, even in the high seas, an advantage to British commerce not to be reckoned at. The advantages of Halifax as a port of its course, excellent steam coal is found in great abundance, viz, close to Halifax, the Atlantic terminal port, and close to both Vancouver and Sydney, two of the Pacific terminal ports, while, along the rival routes coal has to be carried at a great expense, 3000 miles to Port Said, 4,500 to Aden, 6,500 to Colombo or the Cape of Good Hope. The winter of the Canada Pacific cars, even in the high seas, an advantage to British commerce not to be reckoned at.

Three Persons Burned to Death. FREDERICTON, Oct. 25.—The widow Greer, aged 50 years of age, her son, William, aged 24 years, and her adopted daughter, aged nine years, were burned to death yesterday morning at their home, a mile from Clearwater station on the Fredericton and Miramichi Railway. Such was the horrible story brought here last night by James Cook, who, for 24 years, drove the mail stage between Fredericton and Miramichi and now in the employ of Mr. John Greer of the House of Representatives. Cook gave the following particulars: He was in charge during Mr. Robert Greer's absence of mail morning, and was in the employ of Mr. Greer at the time the house was so entirely destroyed. The other persons present were John Anderson, James Duncan and John Cook, formerly living in the vicinity. With a shovel and hoe all that remained of William Greer and the adopted girl, a mass of burning bones, was pulled from the debris. Part of the body of Mrs. Greer was seen, but the rest of the fire was too intense to permit of any part of the remains then being saved. The night was a terrible one, and Cook left as quickly as possible. From James Duncan he learned that shortly before 5 o'clock John Greer had gone to his (Duncan's) house, half a mile away, and had only his drawers and shirt on. John was greatly excited and told him that a fire had broken out in his house and that he had escaped through the window. He was 30 inches, and that he feared his brother William and his mother and the girl would lose their lives. He had come for help, hoping yet to save them. Duncan rushed to the scene but had scarcely gone when the roof of the house, a one-story log building, fell in. John Greer is about 18 years of age. He was so excited over the sad occurrence that he was difficult to verify his version of the affair could be understood. According to his brother's account, the fire broke out on the right side of the road going from Fredericton, with the end facing the road. An outer door led to the kitchen in which a fire was burning in the stove when the family went to bed. There were two rooms on the kitchen side of the house, the outer door of the mother and girl slept; John and William occupied the other side. When John awoke his bedroom was full of smoke. He and he called to William. Both were up in an instant, and tried to get through the kitchen to call their mother and the girl. The fire drove them back and John's only escape was through the bedroom window. He supposed William was just behind him and would save his life too, but when he got out and looked back the latter was not to be found. He supposed William was overtaken by the smoke and lost his way, or that he went back to make another effort to save his mother and adopted daughter, and in this way was taken perished. Judging from what William's burning remains were found, the latter theory seems correct. There was a heavy gale Friday night, and it was supposed that the wind scattered fire from the stove. The Greers were most respectable people. William was a fine specimen of a man and weighed 180 pounds. He was well known to Fredericton and across the river. The girl was a daughter of Colin Campbell, who formerly lived near Clearwater, but who is now in the States. She had lived in this way for five or six years. It is thought that she and Mrs. Greer perished before BEING ABLE TO GET FROM THEIR BED. The news of the shocking affair is not yet generally known, and it is as dreadful as it is surprising. The latter being a trustworthy man, and so well acquainted with the road and people that it would be impossible for him to have mis- understood the facts. FREDERICTON, Oct. 21.—The Clearwater horror is almost the sole topic of conversation. Later particulars show the case to be even more horrible than we went to the window of his mother's bedroom but was too weak to pull down the frame on the outside of the window. The frame prevented the mother from getting through the window, and though he could see her struggling in the midst of the smoke and flame he could render no assistance. Coroner Moore was notified and started Saturday to hold an inquest. There is no telegraph office at Clearwater, and as there are but three mails a week from there it is difficult to get late news. Train hands on the Northern and Western railway told The Telegraph representative that a man named Frankly, who came from the scene of the fire, informed them that the bones of Wm. Greer and the adopted girl were buried together by order of the coroner, and that the remains of Mrs. Greer have not yet been found. The latest report to-night is that the coroner's jury returned a verdict of "accidental death."

General Business. CAPITAL PRIZE \$160,000. We herewith certify that we have the arrangements for all the Miramichi and Semi-Annual Drawings of the Louisiana State Lottery Company, and in every annual drawing prizes and in every annual drawing prizes and in every annual drawing prizes...