## PETERBOROUGH : HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE.

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he market square outhern portion of wide walk elevatthe old town hall, e of the block, on d to Water street, the sites by lease are situated at the es of white brick, ults, etc., mayor's ire steamer, and in the Council cham. f of police; and in the parlours of the d hook and ladder y, and the practice

e country—the fire-Perhaps this town, a their construction, ellent system of fire mmunity from fires the town buildings, extending through to the market square. The fire station is handsomely fitted up, with walls wainscotted in ash and handsomely papered ceilings. The equipment consists : first, as far as extinguishing power goes, of sixty-seven hydrants, placed at 500 feet intervals, supplied from the water works mains, each hydrant, capable of doing effective fire service, with two streams. The water works have shown themselves capable of supplying effective streams for seven lengths of hose at one time. The inside equipment consists of a No. 3 Silsby steamer in excellent repair, a two-horse hose wagon, capable of carrying 1500 feet of hose; a two-wheel hose reel, with a capacity of 800 feet of hose, a hook and ladder truck, two Babcock chemical extinguishers, with full equipment of extension ladders, pike poles, hooks, axes, buckets etc.; two sets of swinging harness, one double and one single, for hose wagon and hook and ladder truck.

There are six horses connected with the brigade. Three of these are kept constantly in the stables, adjoining the fire hall, while the other three are on corporate work, available at a moment's notice, for fire service. The fire brigade consists of twenty paid men, three of whom are on duty at the station constantly, and at nights nine firemen sleep at the station, always ready for immediate action. The fire alarm system is telephonic. Of the eleven outside firemen, each has an electric alarm in his sleeping room, and the moment an alarm is sounded from the central station or, from any of the fire alarm boxes placed in different parts of the town, he is aroused, and the alarm, indicating the locality of the fire, he makes straight for it. In the meantime, the firemen, at the station have the hose reels and trucks out to the fire and everything is ready for work at the shortest notice. In case of emergency the steamer is available, the engineer being on duty all day and sleeping at the station at night. The system has worked exceedingly well so far, and has given the best of satisfaction both to the citizens and the Board of Insurance Underwriters, who give the town the excellent insurance rating, implied in her being placed in Class " B."

## MISCELLANEOUS SEMI-CIVIC INSTITUTIONS.

PETERBOROUGH WATER WORKS.—Peterborough possesses one of the best systems of waterworks in Canada, that is the merely material and mechanical portions of it, and, as to quality of water supply and water furnished to consumers, there is probably no town or city in Canada in a better position. The works are owned and operated by a joint stock company with a capital of \$200,000. Though meeting, in the beginning of the undertaking, with many discouragements, the company persevered, and their exertions were crowned with success. The construction of the works of the system was begun—and carried on to completion on November 9th, 1882.

The Pump House is situated at Hilliard's Dam, in the northern part of the town, which furnishes water power for pumping and also a head for the supply pipe. The Pump House is thirty-three feet square, with foundations resting on the solid rock. This building which is situated about one hundred feet south of the dam, is constructed in the most solid and substantial manner. A water power flume,  $8 \times 12$  feet, supplies water to two 33-inch "Little Giant Turbine" wheels, each of a capacity of sixty-four horse-power. The machinery, to connect the water wheels with the pumps, is of the best that modern mechanical skill can produce. The two pumps were made by the Knowles Manufacturing Company, Boston. Each pump is double acting, one chamber filling while the other is discharging ; each stroke draws the water from the supply pipe and passes it through the pump and, then, with the back stroke, it