

night, when its inmates are locked in sleep, all unconscious of danger, is a greater villain, and more of a murderer in his heart, than the man who sends a bullet or a dagger into the heart of his victim in an open brawl. Such men are nothing less than fiends; they deserve the severest punishments, and should be hanged as high as Haman.

These fires have developed one serious defect in the organization of the fire department in St. John. We allude to the lack of system in removing and preserving household and other effects from burning buildings. Furniture might as well be devoured by the fire as be smashed to pieces by an excited crowd of men on such occasions. The desirability of organizing a force of men in connection with every fire department, whose especial duty it shall be to prevent the wanton or negligent destruction of property at fires, must, we think, be apparent to every one of our readers. We hope soon to see the scheme perfected and put in force.

A GREAT stringency at present exists in the money market in these Provinces. People should not, however, draw wrong conclusions from this state of affairs. We have had a long period of unexampled prosperity. Our staples have found ready sales in the markets of the world, and our ships have obtained high freights. The tide of commercial prosperity does not flow continually in the same direction. We should be prepared occasionally for its ebb. At present, unfortunately for us, the lumber market of Europe is overstocked. Prices are ruinously low, and it is far better for those who can afford it to hold over present stocks until the glut is abated. We believe this stringency is only temporary. Our people in the meantime must economize, live less expensively, and patiently wait for a change for the better. It is notorious that our people are living too extravagantly, and in many cases far beyond their means. This is to be deplored. The question how this is to be remedied, naturally suggests itself to the reader. We think the very best means of inducing people to return to graceful simplicity, would be for persons of acknowledged affluence to set the example. Once get the idea abroad that it is evidence of uncultured vulgarity to bedeck the person in extravagant dress, and the desired end is reached. Who will begin by setting the example?

There is another feature of this present monetary stringency