

1881 BOOTS AND SHOES. 1881

DOWNING

I Have Great Pleasure in Announcing to my Customers and the Public at Large that my Stock of Boots and Shoes for the Fall Trade Is now Complete, and I would Invite Inspection of the same. I have been especially careful to purchase Goods which I believe will give the Customers Satisfaction, And do Credit to myself.

YOU WILL FIND MY PRICES LOWER THAN THE LOWEST, AS I BUY IN LARGE QUANTITIES, AND FOR CASH.

Doing the Largest Shoe Trade in the Town, I Can Sell at Closer Prices Than Those who do a Smaller Business.

I Would Especially Call the Attention of Farmers to my Stock of Long Boots, which is One of the Largest

To be found in any Retail Store in the Province. I have on hand several cases of the celebrated K. & B. Long Boots which Have Given Such Immense Satisfaction

In the past. On Ordered Work we are still abreast of the times, and having A LARGE STAFF OF FIRST CLASS MECHANICS!

I am prepared to manufacture anything in my line to order, at the shortest notice, in first-class style, and of the very best material. In conclusion, I beg to return my sincere thanks to my customers for their liberal patronage in the past, and rest assured I shall do my utmost to deserve a continuance of the same. Yours Respectfully,

Cor. East street and the Square, Goderich.

E. DOWNING.

MEN AND BRETHREN.

Helping the Michigan Sufferers.

A Generous Response from Goderich - \$200 and Valuable Clothing, Bedding, etc. Donated.

When the full extent of the direful calamity which has overtaken the neighboring State of Michigan became known, a feeling of deep sympathy ran through this community. Touched with the tale of suffering and woe, Hon. John Hibbard, who represents the United States Government at this port, immediately proceeded to endeavor to get aid from this quarter for the unfortunate, and we are glad to be able to state that his efforts have been crowned with success. An appeal for aid was read in every church in town on Sunday, and a hearty response has been the result. In the language of Hon. Mr. Hibbard "Goderich has done nobly." The hon. gentleman has been receiving subscriptions for the sufferers almost every hour since. Bank bills from some, cheques from others, pieces of silver from children, and blankets, quilts, clothing etc., have been steadily pouring in, and still more is expected. If the farming community will but respond and send in some seed grain, there will be left nothing to make the donation from this quarter of Canada a full and complete one. Mr. Hibbard has had his driving-seat fitted up for the reception of any gifts of a bulky nature for the sufferers.

On Tuesday evening a public meeting was held in the Council Chamber to consider the best mode of getting assistance.

Mayor Horton presided. Mr. Samuel Pollock described the destruction of Bad Axe, of which he was an eye-witness, and gave a harrowing account of the wretchedness and sufferings of the survivors in the burnt district. One of the saddest things he related was a conversation with a small boy near Sand Beach. The dead were being buried, and the lad said, "Oh, sir, I buried three myself. I put them in a box." Hon. John Hibbard addressed the meeting, and in the course of his remarks thanked the citizens for the help they had already given. He stated that the Montreal telegraph company would send over all messages free, and the G. T. R. will despatch all goods free. No duties will be charged on articles for the relief of the sufferers. Mr. Hibbard, who in his time has been over all the burnt region, utterly broke down as he made the appeal for help for his fellow citizens.

A resolution of condolence with the people of Michigan in their great bereavement was unanimously carried.

A committee consisting of the following gentlemen was then appointed to further solicit subscriptions: Hon. J. Hibbard, Chairman. St. Patrick's Ward - S. Pollock, S. Platt, St. David's - C. A. Humber, J. Russell, St. Andrew's - J. Sheppard, G. Sheppard, St. George's - D. Doty, Jos. Williams.

A further reference to the good work inaugurated by Hon. Mr. Hibbard will be made next week. Meanwhile we hope none will turn a deaf ear or an empty hand to the appeal for aid.

DETROIT, Sept. 11.—As reports come in from the burnt district the extent of the disaster appears greater than any one had imagined, and has no parallel in the history of the United States. The district in which the fires of the past week have wrought such appalling destruction of life and property is known as the Huron Peninsula, and consists of the counties of Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola, with a total population of 72,168, and property worth over \$25,000,000. The fires have raged more or less from Saginaw Bay to Lake St. Clair and inland over a distance of from ten to twenty miles. The district is

SETTLED PRINCIPALLY BY CANADIANS, Poles, Scandinavians, and Yankees. The fires originated in and around the north-western township of Sanilac and over the boundary in Huron county, and the careless clearing of summer fallows is said to have been the cause of the destruction. The flames had been burning gradually around clearings and through dried woods, now and then licking up farm buildings and crops, but on Monday last its fury increased, and the flames roared east and north toward the lake shore, sweeping away farm houses, and live stock in the townships of Sheridan, Colfax, Verona, Siegel, Paris, Sand Beach, Sherman, Huron, Dwight, and Meads, and west through Grant in Huron county; south and south-west through Greenleaf, Custer, Austin, Minden, Sanilac, Delaware, Marion, Argyle, Moore, Bridgchampton, Forester, Marlette, Flynn, Elk, Waterloo, Elmer, Buel, Maple Valley, Speaker, Fremont, Washington, and Worth in Panlic county; west and south into Tuscola county, destroying the greater part of the townships of Elmwood, Elkland, and Novesta, and Case City village, then backing east across the Case river into Sanilac, where it united with another branch of the fire, and formed a vast tornado of flame, which the most unimaginative people say was the most awful sight ever beheld. This

HURRICANE OF FIRE AND SMOKE surged forward and backward for twelve hours, and when its utmost fury had ceased about 2,500 families were homeless, and between 400 and 1,000 PEOPLE LAY DEAD, burned or suffocated, along the roadways, in the open fields, or hidden in wells, cellars, or whatever places seemed likely to afford a temporary refuge from the fiery storm. Austin, Argyle, and Moore are burned black; the devastation in Elk, Marion, and Minden is appalling; Cuto in Delaware township is utterly destroyed; Deckerville, Richmondville, Anderson, Elmer, Tyre, Crosswell, Forest City, Huron City, Bad Axe, Verona, and other places are burned wholly, or almost so, to the ground. The region swept wholly or in part embraces

THIRTY-ONE TOWNSHIPS and a population of about 51,000, of which some estimates say as many as 1,000 have perished. Twenty villages have been destroyed. The rapidity of the flames was astonishing. In Paris township the advance was at the rate of fifteen miles an hour. Places at which on the forenoon of Monday there were no fires within eight

miles, were at noon engulfed in the waves of flame. The story told of the advance of the broad torrent of fire is, with small variations, the same everywhere. A suspicious and portentous lull in the atmosphere, then dense and smoky, then sudden and

TERRIBLE DARKNESS in broad daylight, then a roar through woodland and clearing, a shower of cinders, followed by the terrible line of fire creeping along the ground and rearing a wall of flames shooting up fiery tongues high through the foliage of the forest, and darting forward in streams of flames to seize whatever could come within its grasp.

The saving of property was not to be thought of, the struggle was for life. Even open fields of twenty-five acres afforded no shelter, and in some of these dozens were burned to death. In the cellars they were burned, in the ditches, and even in the wells. Cattle and live stock perished by thousands, and the wild beasts of the forests mingle their howls of death with the hissing and roaring of the flames.

THE BIRDS PERISHED, and on Lake Huron their corpses floated in hundreds of thousands far out towards the Canadian shores. Everywhere across the whole lake, from 80 to 100 miles, the smoke was so dense that an eighth of a mile was the farthest reach of the vision, and the vessels, as they passed up and down, kept their fog whistle constantly blowing to prevent collision. The destruction is almost beyond belief. Some townships are

SWEET AS CLEAN AS A FLOOR, and it is impossible to distinguish between fields previously cleared and areas covered with forest. The loss of life is appalling. Whole families, one a Canadian family of fortune, have perished. At Cato, a widow and five children were found dead in a well. West of Tyre, in an open field, seventeen dead bodies were found lying. One hundred and fifty perished within ten miles of Windsor, and reports come from all parts of dozens and scores of lives lost. Till several days have past the full loss of life cannot be ascertained.

Destruction of Bad Axe. From the Bad Axe Tribune.

On Sunday afternoon, a report reached the village that a fire in the woods threatened the property of a farmer a few miles west, and a number of men went out and got the fire under control and so subdued that no further trouble was apprehended. Monday all was quiet until about noon, when the wind began to freshen up, and it was reported that a fire had broken out in the vicinity of the poor farm, and assistance was sent to protect that property. The wind increased until about 2 o'clock it was blowing a gale, and some smoke was seen west. We, in company with several gentlemen, viewed the situation from the court house, but concluded there was no occasion for alarm. We returned to our office, which in a few minutes was in darkness as if the curtains had fallen. A cloud of smoke and flame was rolling over the country. The heat was so intense that it was almost impossible to breathe; the smoke so dense that it was

as if night had overtaken us. The wind blew a hurricane. We made an effort to save some things, and had removed a few articles when the flames shut off all communication with our building. We then started for our house in the east of the village, and found that the fire had driven every family from their homes and that nearly every house was on fire from the court house east. By this time the fire had travelled the whole length of the village, through the black ash swamp, and licked up the dense forest of green shrubbery and cat-tail as if it was a dry stubble.

The scene was wholly indescribable. The fire burst upon us as if the atmosphere had been turned into flame. It seemed but a few minutes from the time everybody was busy in their shops and offices until almost the whole village was in flames. It certainly could not exceed half an hour. No one had time to remove anything, and the inhabitants of poor fifty dwellings barely escaped—some to the court house, and others who could not reach that building out of the village to the east. Those who took refuge in the court house, by a heroic effort, saved that by all-night's fight with the fire fiend. Those who went east passed through a cloud of fire until they came to the first considerable opening, where they dug a large trench, into which they put the women and children, covered it nearly over with boards and sheets with wet blankets, the men by turns keeping watch until the fire in its march went by. For a little time it seemed impossible that any should survive, the heat became so intense.

The court house and a few buildings in the west and north portion of the village, protected by the green woods, escaped the general ruin.

Guiteau Shot at. It is stated that Sergeant Mason, who tried to shoot Guiteau, has been nineteen years in the service, and has an enviable reputation as a good soldier. His Captain says he was sick for some days past with chills, and took a large quantity of strong medicine. His opinion is that it affected his mind. It is learned that the first notice of the shot was the cries of Guiteau, who was found crunched in a corner of his cell uttering loud prayers for protection and literally writhing about the floor in agony of fear. All efforts to calm the wretch were fruitless. He refused to stand erect or even lie on the cot, and remained huddled up in the corner furthest removed from range of the window. Mason's shot would doubtless have been fatal, but for the fact that to reach the window of Guiteau's cell he was obliged to aim so high that the shot passed through the outer window, the sashes of which were closed and the surface of the glass covered with moisture from the rain. It was learned at the jail last night that Guiteau is still frightfully exercised, and it was feared that unless something could be done to allay his terror, the probabilities were his reason would give way. All along Guiteau feared he would be shot through the cell window. There is a report that there was a talk among the guards recently, in regard to which one should be chosen to shoot at him whenever he should present his head at the

indow. It was decided that Mason should do it, and he made preparations. Last evening three wagon loads of soldiers left the arsenal for the jail to relieve the day guards. Mason was in the last wagon, and his companions noticed he was fumbling with the lock of his gun and acting strangely. Nothing was said to him, however. When the wagon reached the jail Mason was the first to get out. He pushed forward till he reached the hillock, three feet from where the soldiers stood, took steady aim at Guiteau's window and shouted, "There he is!" and fired. Before the smoke cleared away, the soldiers gathered around him. When asked why he shot, Mason replied, "I wanted to kill that wretch in there, and I have been at it for ten days. I hope I have done the work in good style." Mason then walked toward the commanding officer, saying, "Captain, I have tried to kill that dirty loafer in there. I did not enlist to guard an assassin. Take me in charge."

Dungannon. Mr. Wm. McArthur, postmaster, is authorized to receive subscriptions for THE HURON SIGNAL, and give receipts therefor. County Judge Squier has appointed to hold Court at Dungannon on Tuesday evening next, 20th inst., on the appeal of Charles Wilson against the decision of the Court of Revision, in the matter of assessment for deepening a water course in West Wawanosh.

The Dungannon volunteers under the command of Captain Mallough left here Tuesday morning for a twelve days drill at Goderich. Mr. Brown Mallough accepted the contract to supply the boys with their groceries from his new store. Mr. Brunswick Pointer, late proprietor of the Kintail carriage works, is at present visiting friends in the village, prior to going West. Mr. Wm. McKay left here on Saturday for Lochalsh, to act for a short time as substitute in the public school for Mr. Alton, who is attending the Normal.

OFF FOR THE SHOW.—Quite a number of our citizens left on Monday to attend the Exhibition at Toronto. We trust they may all have "a jolly good time." "GANG TO SEE THE GAMES."—A large number of our villagers had the pleasure of attending the Caledonian games at Lucknow on Wednesday. And all came home well satisfied with the days entertainment, which they affirm was a perfect success in its every detail.

WHO COULD THEY BE?—One evening last week Mr. Edward Pacey killed a fine pig, and as he left it hanging out doors, he was a little uneasy for its safety, which caused him to rise several times during the night. Once when he went out he perceived three suspicious looking characters somewhere in the pig's vicinity and thinking they had designs upon the pork he gave chase, but whoever the nocturnal wanderers were, Mr. Pacey had no chance to determine as they showed him three of the fleetest pairs of heels he ever saw.

RETURNED.—One of our citizens a couple of weeks ago started in high spirits for the North-West, with the determination to spend the winter, but when he reached the boat-landing at Duluth, the sweet recollections of the dear ones he left behind loomed up in his memory, causing an intense longing for home; so back he came looking much better for the trip, but fully convinced that there is no place in the world like Dungannon.

SOME MORE BASK BALL.—Is there such a disease as "bask ball on the brain?" The other-elves of those who sometimes indulge in the sport say, that the boys here are afflicted with it in its most aggravating or chronic form. Some have entered their protest against the charge, backed with a fearful array of medical testimony, still the ladies persist in their opinion. Mr. Martin, on the contrary, notwithstanding. Yet the boys play ball all the same, and a very lively and well-contested one they played last Friday, between ones chosen by fair and worthy landlords—Messrs. Martin and Simple respectively, who were elected as Captains. At the start both sides appeared to be pretty evenly matched, but after a few innings had been played, the Simple boys took the lead and won an easy victory over their opponents. Later—Mr. Martin is desirous of satisfaction, and insists on having the game over again.

SHOWER BATH.—One night last week the jolly lads referred to in my last, were suddenly aroused from their peaceful slumbers by having a painful of cold water dashed over them. As the window was out, and the night being excessively warm, we have every reason to believe that the bath was given in good faith by some charitable party, whose intentions were sincerely to "cool the boys off." But the application was so sudden and unexpected, that the victims of this so-called outrage immediately waxed angry and vowed vengeance on the perpetrator of such a dastardly deed. One of the drenched was heard to mutter through his clinched teeth—"I wouldn't care a cuss only this affair will sure to be in next week's SIGNAL," but nothing short of blood would satisfy the others, accordingly they dressed in all haste, and having armed themselves with a shot gun (breach loader) and a base ball club started up town in pursuit of him, or her, or it, or whatever the creature is called who threw the water. Their search however was in vain for after a long and tedious hunt they returned home concluding each other with the hope that such wickedness may not go unpunished, and the Solomon of the crew sadly remarked that "Satan still finds work for idle hands to do."

GOOD FOR SEAFORTH.—Our readers will be pleased to learn that Mr. A. G. VanEgmond, woollen manufacturer of this town, has been very successful with his goods at the Industrial Exhibition now being held in Toronto. He has been awarded three medals. Two for two kinds of checked flannels and one for tweeds. Considering the keen competition that now exists in the manufacture of these goods Mr. VanEgmond may very justly feel proud of his success, and we have little doubt but he will be equally successful at the other

WANTED.—If a suitable paid. Mrs. D. C. U.

FOR SALE.—A half frame besides pantry, on the bank opp ground. A splen habour. A young or will exchange for E. R. WATSON, p.

FOR SALE.—House on Cale eight rooms and w cular. The situat about a half acre c ticulars apply to I erish.

CARD OF TH er my most s ford Insurance Co their efficient age for the prompt in ance of \$3000.00 in place on the 15th me on the 15th serves recognition Sept. 15.

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THIRTY-FOURTH WHOLE NUM

New A

For Sale—E. R. W. Liver Pad—Holma Nurse Wanted—M

D

M. NICHOLS TIST, Office three doors below

The Pec

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HURON LI ATION. The annual sal Huron Live Sto in the Town of OCTOBER 15 1881 stock for this sal of the sale; but c with the Secret September, can t All entries must be made on or before the 15th of September, 1881. JAS. BIGGINS.

FARM FOR Lot No. 5, Le Colborne, four ing 100 acres, 20 1/2 miles from Goderich, and underd houses, a barn, driving shed, particulars app ACE HORTON.

FOR SAL Lake Huron balance standir frame house, stable, two v CHAS. McLEAN

FOR SAL A good clay on the Point Far 1/2 mile from Goderich, March 1st 18

HOUSE of 4 rooms, consisting of a frame house, on the Point Far 1/2 mile from Goderich, March 1st 18

HOUSE, 76, corn the town of G exchanged for apply to Jas. Block, or J. C

SHEPP/ sale 80 a fenced. Eric size of house the lot, no w fine orchard and other bu to R. T. HAY borne Towns foot.

FARM F con. 13, Goderich, ce frame house a stable an premises. / on the farm side of the Distant only particulars son P. O.

SHEPP/ Post O and Stock asy terms. / For fu HAYBIDS, / Lot 5, on th "hard, Pra cleared an & PROUDP

W. K. B1 thanks to solicits a always be he Post O