

ST. JOHN'S WEEKLY SUN

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1901.

NO.

SWEPT BY FIRE.

The Business Centre of Sydney a Mass of Smouldering Ruins.

Property to the Value of Half a Million Destroyed, Families Homeless and a Number of Business Men Ruined.

SYDNEY, Oct. 20. The business centre of Sydney was swept by fire on Saturday afternoon and of two whole blocks only one building is left standing. It is estimated that property to the value of half a million dollars was destroyed, while several families are homeless and a number of business men ruined. Yesterday morning Sydney was a happy town, with business bustling along Charlotte street. There was the roar and rush of traffic on the street. Today nothing remains but charred brick walls, tangled wires and smoking ruins. Streets filled with debris mark what is left of what once was the busiest centre of the town.

The conflagration was the worst in the history of Sydney. For nearly six hours it burned fiercely and without ceasing, being checked only by a down pour of rain and the concentrated water of the brave firemen. It was just half past one when the alarm was sounded for a fire in Gordon & Keith's furniture store, on Charlotte street. The fire had been discovered a few minutes previously and would have been easily put out had the proper caution been exercised. It started in a room back of their store, and was caused by the overturning of an oil lamp used for melting glue. The flames ran to some combustible matter lying about, and when the workmen endeavored to put them out they found no water in the faucet, and none within reach. In a few moments the fire was eating its way through the room and all efforts to put it out afterwards were vain, for with the rapidity of lightning it was soon devouring the contents of the building and pouring volumes of smoke and flying tinders all over the town. A gale of wind was blowing from the westward and this fanned the flames, turning the fire into a furious fire. From Gordon & Keith's the fire ran on either side and leaped across the street to the McLellan house. It was in a few minutes that it was in three directions. It was late in the afternoon before any water was brought, most of the damage had been done and the fire was beyond control. When the flames attacked the Provost building, a three story structure of brick, there was not a drop of water to be had. It would have been saved, it is thought, if there had been any water. For a long time only the Sydney steam engine was working. The fire was raging down north of Prince street before the full force of the water service could be played on it, but then it was burning furiously in five different directions, and the wind blowing almost a hurricane. The flames were fanned and driven at a rapid pace along Charlotte street until it reached Pitt. There, as already stated, it was checked successfully. It was long after dark and the firemen could be seen fighting the flames, while thousands of people were lined along the ropes. The volume of smoke was tremendous and the flames were towering above the burning buildings for several hundred feet. Cinders were falling everywhere for miles before the wind. Smoke was thick in the mining districts, and vessels arriving in port yesterday report smoke miles distant off the land.

All along George street the effects were taken out of the houses, these presenting a bare and deserted appearance. It was the same all around. Everybody was moving anything and everything that could be moved. It is estimated that there are now about 300 out of employment, including clerks, expressmen, tradesmen and so on. This is exclusive of business owners.

The town that last night was wrapt

ped in profound darkness, is tonight lit up as usual with the exception of the burned district, and through that hundreds of lanterns are put up as to light the place.

Large portions of the sidewalk put down this summer at a great cost are practically ruined. There were 36 people arrested last night for looting. Some cases of looting were exceedingly bold faced. One woman went into McDonald Harrisons while the roof of the building was burning, filled a large satchel with whatever she could get and was making her way out when caught. This is only one instance of the many that came under the Sun's observation as he followed the course of the fire. Stacks of groceries, clothing, boots and shoes were deliberately stolen.

Another hard struggle was put up by the firemen on Prince street, where the fire crossed over to the north side. It was burning in Estano's plumbing store, in the roof of Oddfellows' hall and the kitchen of Travis' house all at the same time.

Should it gain headway, two blocks were doomed, including the town hall, Baptist church and Thompson and Peterson's large block of buildings, with St. Andrew's manse, Methodist parsonage and the academy. For an hour and a half a dozen men worked at that point like trojans, and they finally succeeded with the loss of Estano's store and McKinnon's forge. The Oddfellows' hall and Travis' house are badly gutted. While the flames were angrily eating the buildings on the south side of Pitt street, the bell of the St. Andrew's church on the opposite side was tolled. The roof had caught and the building was threatened, but quickly the spark was put out by firemen, who were climbing along the roof of the Bellevue hotel adjoining. To hear the bell toll amid the dense volume of smoke makes the roar of the fire, was a thing that cannot be soon forgotten. One immediate priority of the fire was an advance in the prices of groceries and such necessities as were needed by the people. Bread went up one cent a loaf, canned goods, meat and vegetables took a big jump. There was nothing, however, compared with the extortionate prices charged by truckmen in hauling away goods and furniture. They got their price. There were two or three truckmen that gave their horses and services gratis, but when the fire got to their own homes, had to pay dearly for removing their own furniture.

The Esplanade was not touched, the fire keeping wholly along Charlotte street, where it was impeded by the width of the street, and it went along the east side of Charlotte. The arm that went across the block to Bentinck burned along that street, taking it down to Prince from Burns' corner. It swept back to Bentinck, then along to Pitt parallel with that arm of the fire, going along Charlotte.

As near as can be estimated now, seventy-eight buildings and fifty-four business places were destroyed yesterday's fire in Sydney. The total loss is now estimated at over half a million, covered to the extent of about two hundred and forty thousand dollars. The principal losses are as follows:

McDonald, Harrisons & Co., \$15,000; no insurance.
M. Bates, painter, \$3,500; insurance, \$400.
McLeod & Stanfield, stationers, stock, \$9,500; insurance, \$5,000.
Kelly & Dodge, photographers, \$2,500; insurance, \$1,000.
J. Young & Sons, loss \$1,500 on stock and building.
McLellan House, \$2,500; no insurance.

William Daly, building, \$3,000; no insurance.
Mills, McKenzie & Ross, stock, \$15,000; insurance \$8,000.
S. Burns & Son, drugs, stock \$6,000; insurance \$1,000.
Neil Ferguson, merchant tailor, stock, \$3,000; Little insurance.
Estate George L. Burchill, building, \$2,000; Little insurance.
P. Falcke insurance.
John McKinnon, two dwellings, \$10,000; insurance, \$2,200.
Stock and shop, \$100; insurance, \$2,200.
A. B. Gillis, store and stock, \$15,000; insurance, \$3,000.
C. S. Jost, building, occupied by Blanchard, Bently & Co., \$3,000; one occupied by Shaw, \$2,000. Total insurance, \$4,000.
A. D. Ingraham (Acadia House), store and stock, \$27,000; insurance \$14,000.

Chappel & Warren's stock and fixtures, \$3,000; insurance, \$1,500.
F. A. Crowell, personal loss on house \$2,000; insurance, \$400.
Isaac Greenway, building and stock, \$10,000; insurance, \$4,000.
Charles W. Hill, twelve buildings, \$10,000; insurance, \$2,200.
C. E. Travis, pianos, buildings and stock, \$7,000; insurance, \$3,000.
Mary McVivir, \$3,500; insurance, \$2,000.
Mills, McKenzie & Ross, store and stock, \$2,100; insured.
Dillon, building and effects, \$6,400; insurance, \$4,000.
A. P. Bell, furniture and stock, \$1,500; insurance, \$300.
C. P. Moore, store and stock, \$25,500; insurance, \$8,000.
John Menzie, jeweler, stock, \$4,000; no insurance; saved about \$3,000.
Captain Carlin's two buildings, including Gordon & Keith's, \$10,500; insurance, \$7,000.
Forbes' building, insurance \$2,000.
Harrison's drugs, insurance \$4,000.
C. J. D. Preston, stationery, stock, \$7,000; insurance, \$2,500.
R. Curry jeweler, stock, \$7,000; no insurance, \$1,000.
Blanchard, Bently & Co., stock, \$20,000; insurance, \$10,000.
Gordon & Keith's stock, \$25,000; insurance, \$12,000.
Charles Sullivan, stock, \$1,000; no insurance.
Captain Brien Electric Co., \$4,000.
Eastern Telephone Co., \$5,000.

The risks held by insurance companies are as follows: Queen, \$13,000; Phoenix of London, \$25,000; British American, \$12,000; Guaranty, \$11,000; Imperial, \$17,000; Western and Manchester, \$17,000; Liverpool, London and Globe, \$9,000; Union, \$5,000; National, \$2,000; Western, \$3,000; Manchester, \$5,000; Royal, \$18,000; Law, \$10,000; Crown, \$3,000; Phoenix of Hartford, \$8,000; Hartford, \$4,000; California, \$5,000; Aetna, \$5,000; Scottish Union, \$11,500; American, \$3,300; Canadian, \$9,500; Phoenix of Brooklyn, \$1,000; Commercial Union, \$1,000; Quebec, \$1,000; Anglo, \$5,000; Ottawa, \$3,000; Halifax, \$5,000.

The work of rebuilding will be begun by many of the business men immediately. Among these are A. D. Ingraham, Provost Bros. and Crowell, C. P. Moore, P. Falcke, S. Jost, Captain Carlin and Mr. Greenway. The other do not know yet what to do. Some of the business men will start business as soon as possible. The people of Sydney are keeping watch for the return of this district there will arise a new Sydney of stone and brick that will be a credit to the town and province. It may be added that General Manager Moshin has ordered down all the wagons with the exception of the blast furnaces and sent his men to assist in all possible ways at the fire.

Following are the intentions, so far as could be ascertained of Sydney's business men who were burnt out Saturday:

S. Burns & Son, corner drug store, will resume business at once.
C. P. Moore will be found today carrying on his business in the store lately occupied by the Sydney hardware store, hotel block.
Mr. Cochran, manager of the Maritime Express Co. store, is awaiting instructions from his firm at St. John. They will probably continue their business.
F. H. Harrison, druggist, has taken the store lately occupied by Vidal & Co., Charlotte street.
A very amusing incident happened to Judge Graham of Halifax, during the fire. He was coming to the Patten's bookstore, the judge went inside, and he being a friend of the proprietor, was given some books as a present. On coming out, one of the special officers approached him and threatened to put the judge under arrest for stealing. It took his honor some time to explain the situation, an appeal to Mr. Patten's necessity.

ST. JOHN'S, N. B., Oct. 20.—The Newfoundland cabinet will tomorrow meet to take action with regard to receiving Newfoundland people who suffered loss in the great fire at Sydney, C. B., yesterday.

THIEF ON OPHIR.

Valuable Watch, Property of Duke of Teck, Stolen.

Time Piece was an heirloom, and has been handed Down Through Four Generations.

HALIFAX, Oct. 21.—The Ophir and the accompanying fleet moved out of the harbor in grand style this morning without a single mishap. Things did not go quite so well on the Ophir yesterday, however, if current reports are correct. Strongly guarded and carefully watched as the royal yacht has been, thieves seem to have been able to get in their work, but whether these were society people, who were on board the Ophir, or were some of the ship's company, does not yet appear. The quarters of Prince Alexander of Teck, brother of the Duchess of Cornwall, were entered while the royal party were at dinner Sunday and a gold watch and a purse containing five sovereigns were stolen. The watch was valuable. It has been handed down through four generations and was a heirloom in the Teck family. On going to his room after dinner, Prince Alexander is reported to have discovered his loss. The theft was made known to the commissioner of dominion police and the detectives on board, and every effort was made to trace the stolen articles, but without success. The fact of the ship leaving this morning, and the care taken to allow nobody on board, those having a right to be there, made it impossible to search the ship for the watch and money. It was thought that the watch and money might have been mislaid and would turn up, but this cannot be learned until the ship's arrival at Newfoundland. They should reach there Tuesday night to enter the harbor Wednesday morning.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Botha's Force Broken up — A Boer Commando Reaches the Sea.

CAPE TOWN, Oct. 17.—The invaders have reached the sea, a commando of 600 men having penetrated the rich Cape Bearing river valley to Hopefield and Selousbary, northwest of Cape town. The republicans have secured a number of recruits and considerable quantities of supplies. General Buller is directing the operations against them.

NEW YORK, Oct. 18.—From New Castle, N. J., a correspondent of the Times sends a dispatch which says that a large number of Boers are near Pongoloso and Clangapies, while a commando of 500 holds a position south east of Pretoria. Commandant General Buller has dissolved his force, which numbered 2,000, and has left his men to escape as best they can. He, himself, with a few followers, has gone north through a small unguarded space near Pretoria. The interest of the movement, says the dispatch center, lies in the operations around Pongoloso, where the British are gradually including the Boers.

HALIFAX, Oct. 18.—Col. Jas. O'Beirne of New York, special representative of the Boer government in this country, was one of the president's callers today, but did not speak of the Boer situation. He did speak, however, to go over the situation informally with the secretary of state, in the hope that some steps may be taken on the part of the United States, either by a tender of good offices or by an expression of a desire that hostilities cease, to bring about a settlement of the war in South Africa. Col. O'Beirne says his latest advice indicates that the Boers may be able to secure Delagoa Bay and make it a base of operations.

LONDON, Oct. 16.—The correspondent of the Times at Dundee, N. B., says that the British operations to intercept the retreat of Commandant General Botha's force.

Probably a large amount of the Boers' stock, with men, families and wagons, is sheltered in the Shanganie hills.

British troops entered Piet Retief on Oct. 11. They found the town empty. Prisoners say that the Boers' losses in the encounter between Gen. Botha and Gen. Kitchener on Oct. 6 were heavy.

JEALOUS WOMAN'S ACT.

SYDNEY, Oct. 21.—In a fit of jealousy, Mrs. J. E. Maxwell threw the contents of a vial of a strong solution of carbolic acid into the face of Mrs. Beale Watkins on the Esplanade this afternoon. Mrs. Maxwell was jealous because she suspected her husband of paying attention to Mrs. Watkins. The women met on the street and without warning, Mrs. Maxwell threw the contents of the vial into Mrs. Watkins' face. Mrs. Watkins was seriously burned about the face and neck, and large portions of the skin have peeled off. Her face is badly disfigured. Mrs. Maxwell has been arrested.

A ROYAL WELCOME

Is extended to all who visit Harvey's New Clothing and the visit is always profitable to those in need of Cloth. Received 100 Prs. Men's Pants to-day. Will sell for 75cts. Better Pants from \$1.25 to \$3.75.

MEN'S OVERCOATS, \$4.00, 4.75 and 6.00 to 15.00.
MEN'S SUITS, \$3.00, 4.75 to 10.00 and 14.00
Everything in Clothing for Men and Boys at low prices. Remember the address

J. N. HARVEY, 199 UNION STREET, Opera House Block, St. John.

SECURITIES RETURNED.

Lowell Bank Received \$800,000 of Its Missing Money.

LOWELL, Mass., Oct. 21.—Through Hon. John C. Burke, counsel for Louis H. Swift, the absconding bookkeeper, the Merchants' National Bank has had returned to it securities and money believed to have a total value of \$800,000, the loot of Swift and the absconding teller, A. G. Smith.

The money and papers were returned early this morning. Mr. Burke arrived on a late train from Boston carrying two grips containing the securities. The bank is the loser by \$115,000, but this is considered a mere bagatelle compared with the original loss. Smith and Swift are said to have got away with over \$900,000, and the negotiations which brought back the greater part of the sum are said to have saved the Merchants' National Bank from a possible financial crisis, the extent of which it is hard to predict.

Swift is being held to have been in the office of Charles W. Bartlett on Washington street, Boston, on Sunday forenoon and for two hours had a conference with Messrs. Burke and Bartlett. It was at the office of Bartlett and Anderson that Swift discussed the purchase of his liberty and the liberty of his brother in crime. Swift was not at first disposed to turn over the securities unless a written statement guaranteeing non-prosecution and signed by the bank officers was presented.

While Mr. Burke talked and reasoned with Swift, he was called to the telephone. The bank authorities know that Mr. Burke was in Boston, but they did not know just where to look for him. Mr. Burke's telephone number several times by telephone during the day, and when Mr. Burke answered the telephone call in Boston, he talked with one of the bank's directors in Lowell. The director pledged for an early settlement, and received an encouraging word from Mr. Burke. The bank told him that he would not leave Boston until morning, and he touched on what he hoped to take with him. The director pleaded to hasten the time of his coming, and Mr. Burke decided to leave on a late train. Mr. Bartlett came with him and at the St. Charles hotel the bank's directors were in an hour later they were locked up in the bank and the directors were in an earlier frame of mind than for three days.

Regarding any possible agreement to shield Swift and Smith from further legal proceedings, Mr. Burke said: "The course of the bank officials has been that of high minded gentlemen from beginning to end."

A bank officer, in reply to a similar question, said: "Promise not to prosecute, we couldn't do that. It would be illegal."

Tonight it was reported that U. S. officers were on the trail of Smith and Swift and that they had found the hiding place of both. There is no reference to this, said the statement, not within an hour's ride of Boston and that search for them would be useless.

Tonight the bank examiner was at work on the books. It has been pointed out that a probability of federal prosecution of Swift and Smith is remote for the reason that the bank's losses will undoubtedly be charged off the profit account and theoretically the bank has not suffered at the hands of the dishonest employees. The bank examiner accordingly might not be able to find any ground for recommending criminal prosecution.

The developments early this afternoon are not to the credit of the absconding bank men. Both have speculated in stocks heavily. There is proof that several months ago Smith received a letter from a Boston broker to this effect:

"The margin on your 500 shares of Butte is short from \$3,000 to \$10,000. Please give the matter your attention at once."

Smith has mixed up his accounts of the Lowell Boys' Club, and there is a small shortage there.

RUSSIA AND BRITAIN AGREE.

ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 18.—The British and Russian governments have come to a complete agreement regarding the Afghan situation. It is asserted in high diplomatic circles here that even should complications arise in Afghanistan in consequence of the death of Abdur Rahman and the accession of Habibullah, these would not lead to consequent intervention.

LONDON, Oct. 22.—The Daily Express learns that Lord Kitchener has wired to the war office for more trained mounted men.

PATRICK A. McHUGH N.

Lionized on His Released from Kilmarnock Jail—Published a Libel.

DUBLIN, Oct. 21.—Patrick A. Hugh, member of parliament for north division of Leitrim, who was sentenced on April 23rd to six months imprisonment as a first class misdemeanant for publishing in his paper the "Leitrim Standard" a libel on the Sligo Chamber of Commerce, calculated to interfere with the administration of justice, was released from Kilmarnock jail today. Mr. McHugh was accorded an enthusiastic reception by a large crowd of people. The Mayor of Dublin, Sir Thomas D. A. Guinness, deputation from Sligo, John O'Dowd, member for South Sligo, and John O'Donnell, member for Mayo, were among those who accompanied him to Liberty. Mr. McHugh drove in the lord mayor's carriage, loved by a long procession of citizens, to a hotel where a luncheon was given in his honor.

Mr. McHugh will sail for New York with John Redmond and John O'Neill on the steamer Majestic, which leaves Queenstown Thursday. A numerous deputation from Sligo, John O'Dowd, member for South Sligo, and John O'Donnell, member for Mayo, were among those who accompanied him to Liberty. Mr. McHugh drove in the lord mayor's carriage, loved by a long procession of citizens, to a hotel where a luncheon was given in his honor.

DR. LANGTRY'S CHARGES.

St. Luke's Rector Again Impeaches An Saxon woman.

TORONTO, Oct. 21.—In a sermon last evening in St. Luke's church, Dr. Langtry said: "I am thinking the wholesale murders being perpetrated by wives who ought to be mothers, moving many of them in the highest ranks of society. Vital statistics leave no doubt that this crime is being committed in an enormous scale, and it is not amended until the destruction of the Anglo-Saxon race and the substitution of the Roman Catholic population for that which we are proud. You may deplore it that in families where there are no children, or where there are only one or two children, in nine out of ten there has been murder. The mothers that ought to have been strangled on the judgment of a jury are murdering and basing the mothers as accomplices. Something must be done to stop this enormous iniquity which is the outgrowth of what is called the educated age."

LUNCHEON WITH THE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—The Japanese statesman, Marquis Ito, who was guest of President Roosevelt at the White House earlier in the day to pay his respects to the president. He was escorted by the Japanese Minister, Y. Takahira, and by Mr. Tsubokawa, formerly vice-minister of foreign affairs of Japan, but at present acting as one of the secretaries to the Marquis. The president gave his visitors a cordial welcome.

With the president and Marquis Ito at luncheon, were Secretary of State Hay and Mr. Tsubokawa.

SIR WILFRID IMPOSED.

HALIFAX, N. S., Oct. 21.—The ship "Windsor" has been imposed during his stay in Halifax and they are probably true, but the premier was at a reception given by Governor and Mrs. Jones tonight, and yesterday he called on the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire. Tomorrow he will leave for the west.

STILL IN THE DARK.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Oct. 21.—The officials of the U. S. legation, without news from the mission, who are seeking to make an arrangement with the abductors of Miss Ellis M. Stone, and her companion, Miss M. Talbot. It is regarded as probable that the missionaries will not be released until the terms of the ransom are settled, direct where and how the case shall be settled.

TORONTO, Oct. 21.—Doctor's attendance on Walter E. H. Masse, president of the Massey-Harris Corporation, announce tonight that cerebral complications have set in and he is very little hope of his recovery.

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DIGBY.

14.—This morning by Cove, on the Bay of the Digby fishermen boats, Capt. John Sims, stow, Capt. Arthur Long. The Quickest was the Bay for Digby with the Cousins was down to the grounds. The nearly amiships and the plank, whilst the her bowprit and headstave have reached Digby to their wharves. It stek had no starboard

Holdsworth, grocers, have closed up owing to Merritt Bros. & Co. of

orn, sexton of Holy died last night.

with laths from Nova York, went ashore near the 14th. She was transported to Provincetown un-

BIRTHS.

At 31 Peters street, on Oct. Mrs. A. V. Brannascoe, a

MARRIAGES.

UN—At Royal Hotel, St. Stober 15th, by the Rev. L. B. Bognart, of Saranah, a Calicut, niece of Captain of Albert Mines, N. B.

At the residence of David father of the bride, 140 on, Wednesday, Oct. 16th, M. Campbell, Arthur D. ley, York Co., N. B., to of St. John.

On Oct. 16, by the Rev. Henry P. Harvey, to Mrs.

ARD—At the residence of erkeley Place, Brooklyn, N. George Hallett of Sussex, a Fannie Keynard, by Rev.

P—On the 15th inst, at syrian church, of the strisham, J. Howard J. by M. Dunlap, both of this

AN—On Tuesday, 15th use of the bride's parents, late Maria Conley, aged

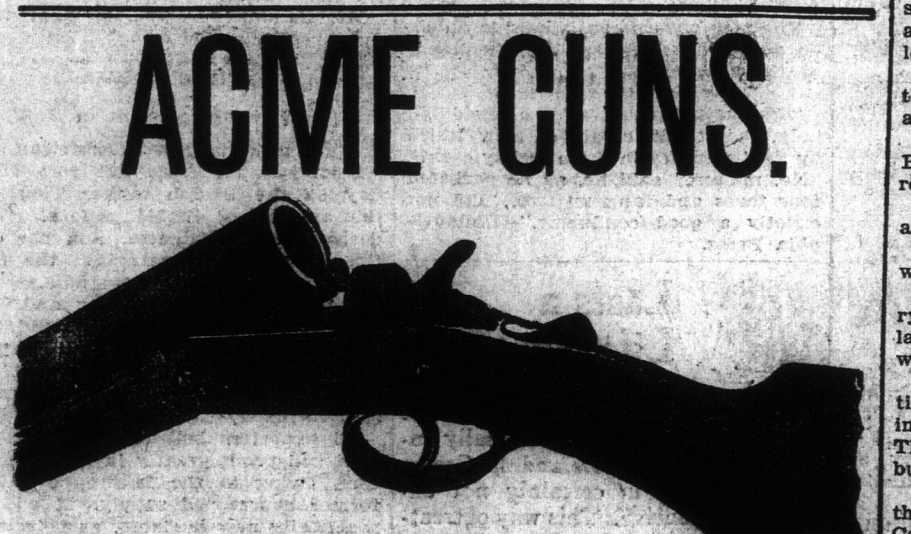
forgetown Royal, P.E.I., 604th year of her age, Mrs. De Loris, nee Miss Goudswink, leaving a husband

15th at 5.30 p. m., Mrs. 75 years, widow of the

At Hardington, on Oct. illness, John S. Kirpatrick, year of his age, leaving a daughters to mourn their

12th, at her residence, 5 riet Winslow Lee, widow of P. Lee, in the 75th year

John, Oct. 3rd, 1891, George ristol, Charlton Co., in the age, leaving a wife and mourn the loss of a kind affectionate husband.



12 Bore, 30 in. Rolled Steel Barrel, Full Choke, Pistol Grip, Rubber Butt Plate. The best cheap Gun made. Write for our price. Every kind of Shooting Supplies.

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Apply daily and externally. It will soothe the skin, and prevent the formation of a scab. It is the best remedy for all skin affections.