

ed, and found eight gold watches, valued at £80 sterling, on his person. About thirty-six hours after the occurrence, the Local Government fire detectives, Austin and Denoyes, put in their appearance, and began an investigation, succeeding, with their usual success, in making themselves ridiculous, by demanding the surrender of the prisoner into their custody, which the Police Magistrate very properly refused to comply with. There were insurances amounting to \$162,000 on the contents of the warehouse, and \$10,000 on the building. Thanks to the efficiency of the fire brigade, the loss will not exceed \$4,000.

The "Etna" of Dublin is renewing policies of insurance without having made any deposit under the new law. The same company has been in court here in the matter of a suit against it for a loss some time ago in Ottawa, and, extraordinary to relate, a jury was found to do justice to an insurance company, and gave a verdict against the plaintiff for false statements and pleading.

It is not yet known who will get the agency of the "Guardian" for this country. Several names are mentioned, but nothing is yet known.

Mr. H. J. Johnston, secretary of the Canada branch of the "North British and Mercantile," is on the eve of leaving here for a higher position in the head office. The Canadian business of that company has been more successful this year than any previous year it has been doing business here.

You will probably recollect that early last spring one of our firemen lost his life in a burning building in St. Paul Street. He was understood to be insured in the New York Accidental Company, but by some means the company has managed to escape the liability. There is also a claim pending against the same company for \$1,000 on the life of another member of our brigade, William Sharpe, who was killed at the burning of Spelman's rectifying distillery in St. Maurice Street, in 1867. Every document asked for has been, months ago, in possession of that company, but up to this date the claim has not been paid up, though frequently promised. Unless the agents can satisfactorily explain why this claim is not paid, I should strongly advise all parties to avoid doing business with them. If our firemen have paid all premiums, there is no reason why their families should be left destitute in the event of fatal accidents.

The double-headed Fire Marshal has instituted three actions against the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department for refusing to sign certificates required by the law. He has to do this before the Marshals can collect their fees from the insurance offices. Mr. Bertram refuses to sign on the ground that he is not aware that the investigations were held. The Corporation Attorney defends the suits.

One of these investigations, said to have been held, was for a fire said to have occurred at the Seminary, and it appears that a servant in that institution had swept a bedroom during the day and left the dust in a little heap in the room; at night, after lighting the gas, he dropped the match on this dust and it ignited, but the man put his foot on it and extinguished the flame (if there had been any.) By some means our indefatigable Marshals heard of this and summoned the unfortunate domestic before their august presence, heard his story and closed their enquiry. For this they send in their little bill of \$10 to Mr. Chief Bertram to certify, which he refused to do, hence one of these actions.

VALUATION TABLES.—We are indebted to the kindness of C. C. Hine, Esq., for a copy of the agents' monetary, life and valuation tables, with valuable explanations, by Dr. Parks Faekler, consulting actuary and accountant. It is issued from the Insurance Monitor office in New York. Of course this fact alone is a sufficient guaranty of its usefulness.

—The yield of gold from the Nova Scotia mines or the month of December, was 1000 ounces.

FIRE RECORD.—Toronto, Dec. 12.—A row of rough cast houses on the corner of Queen and Portland streets were damaged to the extent of \$1,000; no insurance. Dec. 13.—Store of Mr. Roblin, corner of Yonge and Shuter streets, completely gutted; insured for \$700 in the Provincial; \$300 in the London Corporation on Stock, and \$1,200 on building in the Western; in the latter case the policy was not issued nor a receipt given.

Simcoe, December 14th.—The frame building on Norfolk street, occupied by R. A. Galbraith as a boot and shoe store, was discovered to be on fire. The flames immediately communicated with the adjoining wooden buildings, owned by Thomas Townley, tailor, John E. Martin, grocer, and John Watherly, tailor—all of which were burned to the ground in a few minutes. It is thought that the fire was caused from a quantity of soot having collected in the stove-pipes. Nothing of Galbraith's stock was saved; the stocks of Townley and Watherly were entirely saved; and Martin lost part of his household effects. Galbraith's shop and stock were insured in the Phoenix of London for \$800. No insurance upon any of the other buildings or stock. Total loss about \$2,000.

Aylmer, Dec. 4.—House owned by Henry Symmes and occupied by Rev. John Butler. Butler's furniture was saved with damage to the extent of \$150 to \$200. The house was insured in the Beaver Mutual for \$800, said to be about half its value. The fire originated in some ashes in the rear of the kitchen.

Kenilworth, Dec. 4.—Dwelling house of Geo. Allan, occupied by Mrs. Hill, totally consumed; furniture mostly saved; the building was insured for \$200.

Chatham, Dec. 11.—A fire broke out in the shoe store of Robert Chatter, together with the adjoining building, occupied by Mr. Coutillet, as a saloon, was entirely destroyed. The fire brigade succeeded in preventing the flames from spreading any further. Loss about \$3,000. Chatter's loss is about \$2,000; said to be insured for about \$600. Mrs. Quinn, milliner, and several others lost considerably by the removal of goods.

Paris, Ont., Dec. 6.—Anglo American Hotel, (late the Robinson House) and occupied by Mr. Young. Engine No. 2 was on the ground, and with the aid of the crowd which collected, about one-third of the furniture was got out. There was very little water to be had, and nothing could be done to extinguish the flames, but the night being very calm, and the building plastered outside the fire was prevented from spreading. The inmates of the house had barely time to dress when the bedrooms were enveloped in flames. The house was the property of Norman Hamilton; insured in the Niagara Mutual for \$1,000. Mr. Young, the occupant, was insured in the Provincial for \$800. At the time of the fire he had \$150 in his trowser's pocket, but in the hurry of getting up when the alarm was given, he put on the wrong trowers, and the money was burnt. The fire originated from a defective chimney.

Brantford, Dec. 12.—On the night of Friday, 11th instant, Mr. John Merrill's sawmill at Onondaga, leased by Mr. F. Eyer, was burned down, and with it 10,000 feet of lumber. The origin of the fire is unknown. No insurance. Loss heavy.

Quebec, Dec. 5.—A fire occurred at Etchemin, opposite this place, which but for the timely arrival of the steam fire engine, sent by Benson & Co., of New Liverpool, would have rendered 300 families homeless. The property destroyed was owned by Gabriel Jemioix. Loss about \$4,000.

Mara Township, Simcoe Co., Ont., Dec. 3.—Saw mill of Mr. McFee. Through the united efforts of the people residing in the vicinity, the flames were prevented from spreading to the lumber and other buildings. Loss \$4,500. The property was insured in the Provincial for \$2,000.

MARINE LOSSES.

We are enabled to give a statement of the marine losses to our Canadian shipping on the lakes during the past season.

The steamer New Era, in March last, was burned at Kingston; loss \$10,000.

The schooner John Wesley, sunk in Genessee river; damage \$200.

Steamer Her Majesty struck in Gut of Canso; damage about \$1,000.

Schooner L. Currie; damaged on Lake Erie.

Schooner N. Davis; damaged on Lake Erie to the extent of \$500.

Schooner Resolute, struck pier at Oswego, went to pieces; damage to hull \$2,000; cargo barley \$5,000. Total loss \$7,000.

Schooner Ariadne, stranded off Deer Castle, Lake Ontario; cargo barley damaged say \$4,000.

Schooner Caroline, ashore in Niagara river; damage to cargo \$500.

Schooner Old Fellow, stranded off Stony Point, Lake Ontario; damage \$1,000.

Steamer Ste. Marie, burned at Quebec; loss \$8,500.

Propeller London, grounded in the St. Lawrence, lightered off all right; loss \$100.

Schooner Abeona, sprung a leak on Lake Huron; damage to cargo of wheat \$750.

Schooner Sean, of Port Nelson, collided on Lake Erie; cost of repairs \$600.

Schooner Elk, scuttled at Coburg; loss \$1,000.

Schooner St. Lawrence sprung a leak on Lake Michigan; reached Milwaukee.

Bark J. Drummond, cargo of grain, ashore on Lake Ontario; got off.

Steamer Rethesay Castle, her machinery damaged on Lake Ontario.

Schooner C. G. Breed, bowsprit carried away; propeller Meteor drifted foul of her at Detroit.

Schooner Elk, a man overboard and drowned in Lake Erie.

Schooner O. S. Storrs (C), ashore at Port Ryerse; lightened off; damage \$600.

Steamer Heather Bell, grounded at the Flats and remained there several days.

Schooner Dispatch, ran foul of the dock at Port Dalhousie, damaging her bows.

Schooner Old Fellow, struck the pier at Charlotte, Lake Ontario, and damaged \$300.

Tug Relief capsized near Sorel; captain and fireman drowned.

Schooner Ottava, ashore at Four-Mile-Creek, near Erie; got off; damage \$300.

Schooner Bath, ashore at Pultneyville, Lake Ontario; got off; damage \$400.

Schooner Union Jack (C), cargo lumber; ashore in Georgian Bay; got off; \$2,500.

Schooner Sarah Bond, cargo lumber; waterlogged on Lake Ontario; got in port.

Schooner John Wesley, sunk by collision at Charlotte, Lake Michigan; got up.

Schooner Defiance, met with a similar disaster, same time and place.

Steamer Rethesay Castle, run foul of Charlotte pier, Lake Ontario; damaged hull, \$200.

Schooner Evening Star, capsized on Lake Huron; Captain and one man lost—vessel recovered, \$600.

Tug W. T. Robb, Captain and one man drowned at Long Point, Lake Erie.

Schooner Geo. Suffel, lost her small boat on Lake Erie; damaged \$75.

Steamer Cherub (C), ashore on Herson's Island; got off with slight damages.

Bark E. L. Calvin (C), collided with schooner Home in St. Clair River; damage \$300.

Bark Besse Barwick, lost jibboom and headgear by same collision.

Tug Lina, burned at Trenton; a total loss, \$6,000.

Schooner Jessie (C), cargo coal; ashore near Port Colborne; lightered off.

Propeller Georgian, cargo grain; aground on Peach Island; lightered off.

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