BOILER EXPLOSION.

BAD RESULT PROM A DEPRCTIVE GAUGE OR CARE-LESSNESS OF STRAM.

BELLEVILLE, Sept. 24 .- A shocking thrashing machine accident occurred in Thurlow yesterday afternoon. A local paper publishes the follow ing particulars :-

One of the most terrible and fatal accidents that ever occurred in this vicinity took place yesterday afternoon between 6 and 7 o'clock, at the farm of Mr. George Caldwell, eighth con. of Thurlow, and about one and a half miles east of Zirous Hills. Mr. Owen Reeds steam thresher had been engaged during the day by Mr. Caldwell, and through some defect of the gauge or carelessness on the part of the engineer the head of steam carried was not fully known. The consequence was that the boller of the thresher exploded with terrific force, tearing overything into pieces and scattering death and destruction on all sides. Insonthresher, who was engaged near the cylinder at the time the explosion occurred, was struck by pieces of the shattered engine, and his skull was hadly crushed. He died almost instantly. Andrew Lloyd, who was also near by, was blown fully twenty-five yards from the engine. and his abdomen was torn open so that his bowels protruded. Death was almost instantaneous in his case. Also Wm. Malcolm, son of Mr. Wm. Malcolm of this city, and who was formerly foreman of the gas house here, was instantly killed. He was employed on the machine and was a promising young man of about twenty years. Miss Viola Caldwell, daughter of Geo. Caldwell, aged eleven, who was near the machine watching the operations, was struck by a piece of the engine and her neck broken. She, too, died in a few momente, But these casualities, horrible as they are, did not complete the injuries inflicted upon life and limb. Mr. Caldwell was seriously, but not fatally wounded. Henry Garvin was dangerously injured, and may die. C. Gerkin was also painfully injured. The engine was shattered into a hundred pieces, and part of it was driven into the barn, setting fire to the straw. By great efforts the flames were extinguished before it had done much damage. The scene at the harn after the accident baffics description. The writer got his information from an eyewitness who describes the anguish of the bereaved friends as heartrending in the extreme. While some cared for the wounded, others gathered about the mutilated forms of the killed and rent the air with their cries. Strong, active men, who, a few moments ago were exchanging greetings and anticipated nothing but happiness, lay upon the ground bleeding and dead. The little girl Viola was not mutilated, and her death was so sudden that her countenance retained a natural expression in death. All around were broken and splintered parts of the engine. The shades of night closed over one of the saddest and crushing scenes ever witnessed in this part of Canada. Mr. Geo. Caldwell, who suffers such a terrible loss by this accident, is a brother of Dr. Caldwell dentist, of this city, and is a widower of about 48 years. He owns a farm of 200 acres, and is a prosperous farmer. His mother resides with him.

LATER. - Further particulars of the threshing machine disaster show that Mr Caldwell was not injured, and that it was not his daughter, but her cousin Viela er " Lotis," who was killed. The two children were sitting with arms intertwined when the explosion took place. A portion of the boiler struck Lotie, killing her instantly, and Helen was severely scalded. The little one who was killed was a daughter of David Caldwell, a brother of George. The body of Andrew Lloyd was thrown 192 paces, and that of Malcolm nearly as for. Gavan, who was injured, is already able to be about, but it is feared that Helen Caldwell will die, as she inhaled a quanity of steam. Inson, the thresher, was thirty-two years of age and had three children. He lived in Thurlow. Lloyd was about twenty-five years of age, unmarried, and lived in the village of Plainfield. Malcolm was about twenty y are old, and lived in Belleville. Large peices of the boiler were blown into fields adjoining, and were picked up at distances from 200 to 300 yards from the scene of the accident.

BUSH FIRES.

The following extract from an essay on Forestry by Bucke Withan, of Ottawa, is of interest and value at the present time: "The en. ormous wasto from bush fires is quite incredible to those who have not witnessed their devastation. These originate through carcless settlers and hunters, who camp in the woods, and sometimes, though rarely, by the lumbermen themscives, or by surveyors who make smudges to ward off the attacks of flies and mosquitoes. These fires started during a dry season are stopped only by large streams, lakes, swamps, or by heavy continuous rains. The fires leave a barren waste, and are only replaced by a scrub growth of birch or popular. Stringent laws have been passed by the Ontario Government against orginators of fires, but unfortunately no sufficient machinery has been created to put these laws in force, though petitions have from tim to time been forwarded to the Government by the millowners and the lumbermen. It is estimated that more timber has been destroyed by bush fires than has been exported althogether from the country. It is evident that if these fires could be suppressed and the young trees which are left on the pino lands after the large timber has been cut out could be protected and allowed to grow up, a valuable forest would be formed for a continuous supply if to this were added some systematic scheme by the Government for planting on its waste lands, it is not yet too late to recuperate the pine timber forests of this country. To further the proposed undertaking it would be well to import a few practical foresters, in order that their wisdom. acquired by the old, might be utilized in the now world. The increase in the revenue derived from the Crown lands dues by the Government could be profitably expended in protecting and fostering the timber interests on the public domain. The staff of twenty or thirty rangers at present employed by the Government have dono inestimable service, but it is obviously impossible for such a small staff of but partly employed men to ascertain the origin of destructive conflagrations. The writer would therefore suggest that the Government appoint permanently the required number of wood rangers or inspectors, that one or more constables be employed for every limit of 100 miles square." Whose duty should it be to apprehend and report to the ranger or other officer any case of violation of Crown timber regulations, especially with regard to fires. At present the 1 gulations are very good, but there is no one si-cially to enforce them, saving the few rangers referred to. Mr. Hotchkiss, who compiled the timber article for the United States census, states that at the present rate of cutting the Canadian supply of timber will give out about the same time as that of the United States, that is, in about thirty or forty years. Hence the timber trade of the continent will thence be transferred to the Pacific slope. One of the largest millowners on the Ottawa informed the speaker that he thinks there will not be any pine for exportation from Canada twenty years hence. Should this Province, therefore, wish to retain her timber interests there must be no delay in dealing with the question.

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