

FIRE RECORD.

ONTARIO.—Formosa, July 18th.—J. H. Brick's grist and saw mills, with a quantity of lumber, completely destroyed by fire. Loss about \$8,000; insured for \$2,000.—Ailsa Craig, 19th.—T. Easton's grist mill and a dwelling owned by R. Scarfe burned. The mill is insured.—Beaverton, 25th.—The Beaverton foundry and contents consumed. Loss about \$2,000; no insurance. The house of J. A. Proctor was also burned. Several private residences are damaged.—London, 22nd.—The old Mechanics' Institute building owned by J. Dunn, burned, with a lot of new machinery. Loss about \$3,000; insured for \$1,000. Hilliard & McRoberts, builders, occupying the first floor, lose about \$4,000; \$1,500 insurance. Watson's stock damaged by water; loss \$500; insured for \$300 in the Gore District Mutual.—Lindsay, 22nd.—The large storehouses of Dundas & Flavelle Bros. and Sadler, Dundas & Co. burned down. One of the buildings was partly occupied by R. Touchburn, grain and produce merchant, who has \$1,000 in City of London. There were 15,000 bushels of wheat, 4,000 lbs. of wool, and a quantity of butter and eggs in the building. Fairly covered by blanket policy in N. B. & M. The other insurances are:—\$5,000 in the Royal Canadian; \$3,000 in L. & L. & G., and \$1,100 in the British America.—Bobcaygeon, 25th.—Lewis & Lancaster's carriage shop burned; loss about \$700; fully insured. The building, owned by J. Moffat, was fully insured.—Mildmay, 26th.—The large roller mill, saw mill, and private residence of Messrs. Eids & Schmidt totally destroyed by fire, with about 2,000 bushels of wheat, a large amount of flour, and a quantity of lumber; loss \$20,000; insurance \$5,000.—Cobourg, 30th.—A frame building owned and occupied by Mrs. Sarah Bolster, destroyed with the contents; loss, \$700; insurance, \$150.—St. Williams, 27th.—Clark's house, near here, burned; loss about \$2,000.—Cobourg, 27th.—Fire broke out in a stable owned by G. J. Stephens, furniture dealer; loss, \$800; insurance, \$125.—Beaverton, 25th.—The Beaverton foundry totally consumed by fire with contents. Loss about \$20,000; no insurance. Several private residences are badly damaged.—Toronto, 30th.—E. F. Crown's grocery store, 1086 Yonge street, and J. Love's fish market, immediately adjoining, burned. Their respective losses are \$2,000 and \$5,000, about half covered by insurance. A cottage in rear of Crown's store, occupied by Bailey, was wiped out with contents.—Palmerston, August 1st.—A fire broke out in the Oddfellows' block, owned by H. McEwing and occupied by Knott & Son, hardware merchants, and the I. O. O. F. and R. T. of T. lodge. Knott & Son, loss on stock by fire and water between \$5,000 and \$6,000, insured in the Royal for \$2,000; loss on building about \$300, covered by insurance.

OTHER PROVINCES.—Oak Point, N. B., July 10th.—G. T. Seely's grist, carding, and saw mills destroyed by fire, loss over \$3,000.—Petitcodiac, N. B., 10th.—The house owned and occupied by G. & R. Magee burned. Insurance \$2,080 on building.—Pokiock, N. B., 9th.—House and barns of S. D. Scott burned to the ground; insurance \$1,100.—Montreal, 23rd.—The hostelry at Outremont, owned by Mr. Wiseman of Mile End, burned to the ground this morning. The building is insured for \$7,000.—Montreal, 26th.—Fire gutted the shop and stables of D. Ouimet, tinsmith and plumber, St. Lawrence street. Two valuable horses were burnt. Loss \$2,000; partly covered by insurance.—Sherbrooke, Que., 30th.—The foundry of the Jenckes Machine Company totally destroyed by fire this evening; loss about \$800.—Montreal, 31st.—The butcher's shop of Mr. Cavalier, the residence and restaurant of L. Mollette, and the blacksmith shop of Mr. Beaudoin, at St. Henri, destroyed by fire. Loss \$15,000.—St. Johns, Que., 31st.—A barn and cow stables belonging to W. H. Vaughan struck by lightning; totally destroyed by fire with contents. Loss partly covered by insurance.—Moncton, N. B., 21st.—Killam's lumber mill and the Buchoche & Monoton railway bridge destroyed by fire with fifty thousand feet of lumber. Loss on mill, \$4,000.—Halifax, N. S., 29th.—Mason's saw mill, at Bedford, and Moir's grist mill and elevator destroyed by fire. The loss to Moir, Son and Company will aggregate \$40,000; insured for \$2,000 in Clarkson's agency.

THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.

The very entertaining column which appears every week in the *Montreal Gazette* under the title "Ephemerides," bearing the signature "Laclede," contained last week a number of memoranda respecting the Eastern Townships of the Province of Quebec, partly in the original text of Townships correspondents, partly in the delightful, gossiping vein of "Laclede" himself, compound as it is of Aytoun, Sala, and the Autocrat of the Breakfast Table:—

"The Townships are like the woods; when once you get into them it is not so easy to get out again. From Montebello, P. Q., 'W.' writes that George Capel, an English gentleman of some means and of good family, owned and carried on the large farm on which the village of Capeltown now stands. This village arose from the copper mines in the hills back of Capel's property, and the building of smelting works on his farm. Having inherited an estate in England, Mr. Capel returned thither, about 1867, and disposed of his Canadian property. A brother, Mr. Edward Capel, was engaged then in the copper mines there; in the gold mining in Nova Scotia afterward; and again in phosphate mining at Buckingham, on the Lievre.

"Are there any in St. Johns, remembering traditions of the 'Royal Edward,' a frigate mounting sixteen guns, that lay there for six years? It was built in England, sailed out to Sorel; there taken to pieces and drawn by teams to where rebuilt. An octogenarian, who died at Dunham six or seven years ago, said his father was one of the crew, and well he remembered it. The men were all Royal navy, and had not much to do but clean and polish brass work. They took 'no words from nobody,' and, as for fighting, that was just their pleasure. This man Ryan and his father afterward took up a farm. Wheat was two and sixpence a bushel for store pay, mostly Jamaica rum, but what paid them best was turnips for the soldiers and their families, for which they got money. When 'E. L. W.' was a lad, he saw at Beaconsfield, England, some letters from the first Judge Gale, who settled in East Farnham. Laborers were scarce and had to be brought at great cost from the States to make his first clearing."

"E. L. W.," of Dunham, P. Q., sends a full screed, for which many a reader will thank him, and which is worth keeping. It was a Mr. Sweet who gave the land for the court house and jail, together with the site of the English church, at Sweetsburg. Abraham Freleigh owned the mills, where the slab huts were built around the mills, whence the name of "Slab City" for Frelighsburg. Peter Cowan, afterward high sheriff, had the first post office in the village that Nelson Ruiter, nephew of Philip, named.

—Bank dividends in Great Britain are this year, according to the *Economist* of July 7th, much as they were last, any changes being, with few exceptions, in the downward direction." The following are those declared during the past week:—

METROPOLITAN BANKS.

BANK.	Rate per Cent. per Annum. 1888.	1887.
City	10	10
Consolidated	10	10
Imperial	7	7
International of London	5	5
London Joint Stock	12½	12½
London and Westminster	14	15
Union of London	12½	12½

COUNTRY BANKS.

BANK.	Rate per Cent. per Annum. 1888.	1887.
Adelphi	6	6
Birmingham and Mid'nd	15	16
Birmingham Banking	15	15
Bristol and West of England	8	8
Halifax and Huddersfield Union	10	10
Halifax Joint-Stock	10	10
Liverpool Commercial	10	10
Liverpool Union	10	10
North and South Wales	15	15
North-Western	7	6
Swansea	6	6
Wilts and Dorset	20	20

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, Aug. 1st, 1888.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Total.	Sellers.	Buyers.	Average. 1887.
Montreal	215½	213	193	215	214½	239½
Ontario	123½	117½	100	123½	122½	128
Peoples'	106	104	94	105½	106	115
Molson's	150	145	40	150	145	142
Toronto	211	209	25	210½	209½	20
Jac. Cartier	86½	80		86½	80	90
Merchants'	138	135	6	138	136½	131½
Commerce	117	115½	535	116½	116	121
Union	94	90		93½		95
Montreal Tel.	99½	89	1455	90	89½	55
Rich. & Ont.	54½	52½	415	54½	53½	55
City Pass.	208	200	230		200	225
Gas	212	210½	255	211½	211	218
C. Pacific R.R.	58½	55½	1245	58½	58	57
N. W. Land... ..	59½	55	225	59½	59½	56

—The Victoria School of Art and Design at Halifax has been a great success, and its operations are already bearing good fruits among the artisan classes as well as among the votaries of the fine arts. No less than 250 pupils have been enrolled the first term, and among them are 40 who take lessons in mechanical drawing, 30 in architectural drawing, 37 in free-hand drawing, and 22 in model drawing. There is also a school teachers' class of 30, and other classes of young ladies fitting themselves for a profession as artists. It is intended to add etching on copper and engraving on wood to the curriculum as soon as arrangements can be made. A great fair is to be held this month in aid of the building fund, to which we wish success.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, Aug. 2nd, 1888.

ASHES.—Values rule about the same level as a week ago; first pots being quoted at \$3.90, seconds are in small supply at \$3.50; pearls nominally \$7.00, but would probably go lower. Sales have been of fair volume, and stocks in store are rather less than noted last week.

CEMENTS, FIREBRICKS, &c.—There is a tendency to growing firmness in cements, but prices still range from \$2.25 to \$2.50 for Portland in lots as to brand, smaller quantities proportionately higher; Roman and Canadian as before; firebricks, \$18.50 to 21 in fair lots; fireclay, \$1.50 per bag.

BOOTS, SHOES, AND LEATHER.—Manufacturers of boots and shoes are still delaying the filling of western fall orders as much as possible, and there is no active demand for leather, or improvement to note in the situation of late. Stocks of both sole and upper continue full, and buyers of any fair lots can still obtain concessions from quotations. Some sales of very cheap buff are reported in Quebec. We quote: Spanish sole, B. A., No. 1, 21 to 23c.; ditto, No. 2, B. A., 18 to 20c.; No. 1 ordinary Spanish, 19 to 21c.; No. 2 do., 17 to 18c.; No. 1 China, 18 to 19c.; No. 2, 17 to 18c.; hemlock slaughter, No. 1, 23 to 26c.; oak sole, 40 to 45c.; waxed upper, light and medium, 30 to 35c.; ditto, heavy, 27 to 31c.; grained, 32 to 36c.; Scotch grained, 33 to 37c.; splits, large, 16 to 23c.; do., small, 12 to 18c.; calf-splits, 32 to 33c.; calfskins (85 to 46 lbs.), 55 to 65c.; imitation French calfskins, 70 to 80c.; russet sheepskin linings, 30 to 40c.; harness, 21 to 30c.; buffed cow, 10 to 14c.; pebbled cow, 10 to 14c.; rough, 22 to 25c.; russet and bridle, 45 to 55c.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—A freer movement of heavy chemicals is to be noted and the usual jobbing distribution of drugs. Bleaching powder still in light supply locally and firm; caustic soda is rather lower; there have been free receipts of Sal soda; alum rather scarce and firm; opium firmer abroad; quinine quiet and no firmer; iodine very firm and may advance; salicine weaker; Canada balsam said to be a small yield and likely to be higher; insect powder firmly held, new supplies expected this month, but cannot say how prices will rule. We quote:—Sal soda, 85 to 95c.; bi-carb soda, \$1.80 to