

Wilkins, Dominion Clothing House, damage to goods and stolen, estimated at \$1,500, no insurance; Thos. Brownlow, loss on goods, \$600, insured in the Liverpool and London, Queen and Provincial; Mr. McBroom, loss on goods \$200; H. H. Date, warehouses, stores, &c., \$1,000.

**ARSON.**—At the Carleton Assizes, Mr. Justice Hagarty presiding, Wm. Matthews, charged with an attempt to set fire to a building belonging to Richard Sims, on the 17th day of August last, was placed on trial.

Richard Sims sworn—Has a blacksmith's shop on Bay-street. On Monday the 21st, found chips, shavings and pieces of board and dry leaves piled against the shop; the chips, leaves and shavings were under the boards, and appeared to have been placed there for a fire.

To his Lordship—Believes that the fire had been set; am not acquainted with the prisoner; have no malice towards him.

Wm. McVeity sworn—Was on Wellington-street, when I saw the prisoner and F. McKnight go behind the blacksmith's shop about half-past one o'clock, in about fifteen minutes they came out, one of them was in an angle formed by a cross wall. When they left they went in the direction of Spark-street, there I lost them in the dark. I went to Pooley's Bridge; had seen the light from the tank-house previously; before I got to Pooley's Bridge, I heard the fire bell. I then came back to the fire, where I saw prisoner and McKnight at the fire; saw prisoner on Sunday night, and asked him which road he went to the fire; he said from home. I asked which street; he pointed out a street; I said he could not come from home that way. I asked him who was with him, and he said McKnight. I next saw him in custody in the jail; next time saw him coming from the police court, after his examination; I conversed with him, when he said McKnight had sworn they did not set fire to Sims' shop, but that McKnight did, he lit a match and set fire to Sims' shop; said nothing more than that they gathered the wood, &c. Told me he went away to Ogdensburgh, and afterwards was arrested in Brockville. I saw boards and shavings piled against the shop; some of the chips were burned on the edges.

E. J. O'Neill sworn—Have been in the habit of investigating cases of fire for eighteen years. My attention was called to the shop by the owner; found the leaves, shavings, &c., above the stone foundation in the angle of the shop, apparently very carefully arranged. Among the shavings there were appearances of fire, one of the leaves was partly consumed, and the edges were scorched.

Counsel on both sides declined to address the jury. The Judge summed up, and the jury retired. Verdict guilty.

Frederick McKnight was then arraigned on the charge of setting fire to the tank-house belonging to T. M. Blasdell, and pleaded not guilty.

E. J. O'Neill, sworn—I know the building known as Blasdell's tank-house, and remember it being burned. The fire took place on a Sunday morning; know the prisoner; I arrested him at Brockville, on the charge of arson, and brought him to Ottawa. I told him on what charge he was arrested. He told me he had never been in such a strait before, and would tell me the whole truth. I did not say anything to induce him to make any statement. He said he knew nothing about any of the fires, except those at Sims' and Blasdell's. He said they had set fire to the tank-house about midnight on Saturday, and left the place, and after some time, they did not see it break out. About 2 a. m. we went to Sims' with Matthews to set fire to it. While we were building the fire at the blacksmith's, we saw the fire break out at the tank-house. I told him what McVeity had seen. He said they were prompted by a desire to have the engine first at the fire. No one had bribed them to commit the crime. He said that Matthews was the party who had set fire to the place.

William McVeity, sworn—Was on duty on the night mentioned in the indictment. The tank-house was burned that night. I was near Bay-street; that night, and heard footsteps coming from the direction of the tank-house; I hid myself and saw the two prisoners pass up the street at a quick pace across Wellington-street, when I heard McKnight say, "Hurry up, Bill." I afterwards saw the fire at Blasdell's, and gave chase to the parties I had seen coming from that direction, but the night was dark and I lost sight of them.

Verdict guilty.

**FIRE IN OTTAWA.**—Last night, about nine o'clock, a fire broke out in the general store of Mr. John

McCarthy, on Wellington street, which destroyed the frame building in which it originated, and the stone building adjoining, occupied as a dwelling and grocery store by Mr. Hugh Ross. The fire originated in the act of drawing some highwines in the cellar where a light was used by the person drawing it. The fire also communicated to the store of Mr. Ross, but most of the furniture and a portion of the stock were got out by friends and neighbors. The loss of Mr. McCarthy, who owned both buildings, will be about £2,000. He was partially insured. Mr. Ross will also lose heavily, but we believe not to the same extent.

**THE FIRE AT THE ST. MAURICE STREET DISTILLERY.**—The inquiry into the cause of the fire at the distillery in St. Maurice street, Montreal, has been concluded with the evidence given last night by Bernard Trainer, the rectifier to the distillery. His evidence, certainly, is decisive as to the fact that the place was fired by his carrying a lighted lamp past a vat containing about a thousand gallons of whiskey, the gas or spirit from which ignited. So much for the origin of the fire. The immediate cause of Sharpe's death seems to have been the unsound state of the rear portion of the building. For this the Inspector of Buildings is responsible, in not becoming aware of it and causing the building to be repaired. We believe that he has not time to attend to all the duties of his situation; but of this he can speak for himself when this part of the business is inquired into. There is another and most important phase of the case—one which it is for the City Council, the Insurance Companies, and the owners of valuable buildings in the vicinity of this distillery to consider. We allude to the question of public and private risk. The other day we pointed out how the presence of such a hazardous business in that crowded neighborhood depreciated the value of surrounding property. The City Council has forbidden the storage of gunpowder and of coal-oil in the city, and the distilling of spirits, which has been found only second in danger to the storing of these, must be forbidden to be carried on within the city limits. If this article must be produced, let it be where no one is endangered by its production except those who immediately profit by it.

**FIRE AT ST. CATHARINES.**—About two o'clock, A. M., on September 29th, a fire broke out in rear of Fitzgerald's livery stable, Ontario street, which, together with several horses, was destroyed; also the adjacent blacksmith shop owned by Mr. McCarthy. Cause of fire unknown. Mr. Fitzgerald's loss is about one thousand dollars; fully insured. Mr. McCarthy's loss is about three hundred dollars.

**FIRE AT WOODSTOCK.**—The Rev. F. D. Fauquier lost his barns, sheds, and a portion of his stock by fire on Saturday last. It appears that the children of his tenant had been playing in the barn and originated the fire, and had it not been for the exertions of Mr. Fauquier, the little ones would have been victims of their own thoughtlessness. The dwelling of Mr. Fauquier was three times on fire, but fortunately was not consumed. The loss is estimated at from \$3,000 to \$4,000.

**FIRE IN BELLEVILLE.**—On the 28th ult., the frame building situate on the west side of Front-street, between the new building now being erected by Mr. E. Harrison and the store occupied by Mr. Nathan Jones as a merchant shop, owned by the Hon. Billa Flint, and occupied by Mr. G. S. Tickell as a furniture shop and warehouse, was burned down. The stock was valued at about \$4,000. Mr. Tickell was insured in the Western for \$1,000, and in the British America for \$300. It is supposed that the loss will be covered by the insurance. The building was not insured. Some damage was done to the dry goods in the store of Mr. Nathan Jones from water, and a partial removal, which is covered by insurance. It is not known how the fire originated, but it is supposed to have caught from some one smoking or boys playing with fire in the back yard, where there was some shavings and other rubbish.

**CHARGE OF ARSON AT BRADFORD.**—A young man named McCann was brought before a bench of justices on Tuesday, the 24th ult., on a charge of arson, preferred by Henry Manning. The building partially burned, is on lot 13, in the 11th concession West Gwillimbury. The prisoner was sent for trial.

**MIDDLETON FIRE.**—Our Montreal correspondent informs us that the insurance offices interested in that fire held a meeting in Montreal, when it was resolved that efforts should be made to have the parties implicated in the attempted fraud brought to justice. Middleton's books of account showed that although only

2,527 barrels of oil were in stock, yet there were sales to the extent of 2,740 barrels. There is also an alleged sale of 1,000 barrels which does not appear in the books. It is admitted by the bookkeeper that the stock in hand in April, 1867, of 398 barrels, valued at \$4,931 15; has been altered to 1,398 barrels, value 14,931 15. The meeting, it is said, resolved that \$7 per barrel would be the maximum amount paid on bona fide claims, or 18c per gal. where the gauge, taken within two months of the fire, is produced.

### Official Notices.

—Application will be made by petition to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of Quebec, for a charter of incorporation for "The Dominion Bark Extract Company." The names in full and the places of residence of the applicants to the number of five are William Gunn, James Ferrier, junior, merchants, George Leonard Marler, Esquire, Robert Mead Broker and William Smith, manufacturer, all of the city of Montreal. The object and purpose for which the incorporation is sought, is the purchasing and acquiring procuring and erecting the necessary lands, machinery, appliances, ingredients, and materials for and the extracting, preparing and manufacturing of extracts from all kinds of barks and other vegetable substances and disposing of the same, and the acquisition, employment and disposal of all lands immoveables, manufactures, materials, ingredients, leases, rights, powers, privileges, Royalties, buildings, machinery, tools, implements, constructions, works and things that they may find advantageous for the furtherance of such manufacture, and the making available of the produce thereof, or necessary or advantageous for the furtherance of the legitimate objects and interests of the company. The places where the operations of the said company are to be carried on, are at Drummondville and at the township of Blanford, in the county of Drummond and Arthabaska; at Danville and at Windsor, in the county of Richmond; at Somerset, in the county of Megantic, and at Waterloo, in the county of Shefford, and elsewhere in the Eastern Townships with the head office of the company in the city of Montreal. The nominal capital of the company is to be twenty-five thousand dollars. The number of shares is to be two hundred and fifty, and the amount of each share of the par value of one hundred dollars. The amount of stock subscribed is twenty thousand dollars. The amount to be paid in before the charter is granted, is four thousand dollars, being twenty per cent. on the amount of the capital subscribed.

—Application will be made at the next session of the Legislature of Ontario, for an Act to separate the townships of Harcourt and Bruton, in the county of Peterboro, from the municipality of the United Townships of Barleigh, Anstruther, Chandos, Cardiff, Monmouth, Harcourt and Bruton, and to unite the townships of Harcourt and Bruton with the Municipality of the United townships of Dyssart, Guilford, Dudley and Harburn, and further that said Act may contain such provisions that the townships of Havelock, Eyre and Clyde, may also become united with and form part of said last mentioned Township Municipality.

—Application will be made at the ensuing session of the Parliament of Ontario, or other Parliament having jurisdiction, for an Act to amend the Act consolidating the debt of the town of Peterborough, and to enable the said town to raise, by way of debentures or otherwise, the sum of £10,000, for the purpose of aiding in the establishment of railway communication between the towns of Cobourg and Peterborough, and Peterborough and Chemong Lake, or other waters north of Peterborough, and for other purposes relating thereto.

—The Municipal Council of the Corporation of Belleville intend to apply, at the next sittings of the Provincial Legislature of Ontario for an Act to remedy certain defects in the Collector's Rolls of said town, and to legalize the same, and to enable the said Corporation to collect and enforce payment of arrears of taxes due thereon.

—Notice is given that warrants for the dividend payable on the Stock of the Montreal and Champlain Railway, for the half-year ending 30th September, 1867, may be obtained on application at the Molson Bank in Montreal, on and after Tuesday, 1st October.

—Application will be made to the Legislature of Ontario for an Act to amend the Consolidation Act of the town of Cobourg, and to empower the Council of said town to issue debentures for school purposes.