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UESDAY, DEC. 18, 1900

## re Company.

tires from Captaincy after ten Election of Officers-Hot contewardship-Presentation to Mrs. Henry Addresses.

Department, was ral Engine House last er routine business, the ficers were elected for the

ingus McDonald. -Frank Magee. -Arthur Christie. is.-T. W. Blenkinsop.

A. M. Rennie. 1 Reel-Jas. Nichols. 2 Reel-Frank Magee. 3 Reel-Arthur Christie. Re-elected.

Spencer.

pany was present in all strength, and it was one

called upon, and gave an 13 years; P. McG. Arch ghead, 1 year, and then g Captain, who has held holes that were made in removing for 10 years. Capt. Mcny. Hereafter he will the men of the Truro

h Mr. and Mrs.

upon for short addresses. Captain McDonald thanked the members for the honor conferred upon him. knew he had the support of all firemen, and felt that with their cooperation the Truro Fire Department would retain its usual good standard as one of the best, if not the best, volunteer Fire Department in the Dominion.

All the other officers thanked 'the Company for the honors conferred, and at a late hour this most pleasant annual meeting broke up.

INTERESTING LETTER FROM THE "E ERNAL CITY."

t-reeing in Europe by a Truro Lady-A Graphic Description Ancient and Modern Rome-Saw the Pope-Worshipped in St. Peters, etc., etc.

The following most interesting letter, written to Miss Lizzie Cummings, daughter of Mr. Ross Cummings, I.C.R. Arthur St, from her brother-in-law, Mr George Hinkle who with his wife (former y Miss Annie Cummings) is now travelling in Europe we have been fortunate enough to secure for publication in our columns:

Rome, Nov. 21st, 1990. Dear Lizzie:-We arrived in Rome about a week ago after spending a week in Venice, "The Queen of the Adriatic sea" and a week in Florence. We enjoyed Venice very much, it is so different from any other city in the world, It is built Peter and St. Paul were bound toon 117 Islands, divided by 150 canals some of which are very narrow so that you can almost reach to the houses across the canal; they are alice spanned by a great many bridges, so a person can with a little trouble get to any part of the city by walking, but the Gondolas are cheap and you can get a many to proced with the fields they of en have a little shrine with religious images thereon, and where they go to pray. We visited St. Peter's church which is the largest in the world. It cost \$60,000,000 and took 176 years and you can get a many to proced with the reigns of the process. and you can get a man to propel you around with one passenger for twenty cents per hour.

On one of the largest Islands is the laza of St. Marco, in which a band plays every night, and near by are he principal hotels, and this is the principal place of attraction in the evenings, which were moonlight and warm while we were there. The buildings are built on spiles, the tops of which are under water and they seem to petrify with age. The idea of building the city out on the water was for protection as in those days many districts throughout Italy had separate governments and were fighting a good deal with each other and they could better protect themselves; of cour e it was built there

big guns.
Rome, "Eternal City," is considered the most interesting city in all Europe We visited the Coliseum all Europe buit A. D. 79 by the which was built A. D. 79 by the Roman Emperor Vespasian. This Colliseum is considered the most historical ruin in Rome. It is an immense amphitheater and was capable of holding 87,000 speciators; parts of the outer walls are knocked down and considerable of the interior, but nough still remains so you can see what it was originally. It took 30,000 men five years to build it, about half of these were Jewish prisoners of war, captured by the Romans in Jerusalem. After the building was finished the prisoners l strength, and it was one trepresentative meetings ars.
ion of Steward was hotly Among those nominated Deacon," "Pa," "Harry, Joseph," "Keeper of the oarding House," "Dago," he son of Alexander," "Bultet William" and others.
Ioting. "The Deacon" was and murdered. It was also the scene bet William" and others. loting, "The Deacon" was ed elected. On being callied graciously, and in his y vein, regretting his infind words adequate to exhanks for the great honor upon him, he hoped that hing on account of the blose competition, would be and abandoned in the ettory. the audience though the wounded ckay, the retiring Cap man made a good fight the Emperor would announce the decision by history of the Company. placing his thumbs up or if not by

Fire Company was organst. 24th, 1868. All the embers are now dead examely, C. B. Archibald and familton. The first Cape Company was Mr. Barnwas followed by Edward from 1868 to 1871. Next T. Laurence, who held the Laurence, who held the were removed in the middle ages for the iron out of which to make war ar; I. G. Miller, 3 years; implements; so the sides of this structure are now dotted with many

the clamps. ded the new officers suctated that in retiring from incy, he was not leaving live. We also visited the Catacombs of St. Ca. 1xtus; they are outside the old koman wall which surrounds the city. They were discovered in 1854 With the assistance of a guide and a lighted candle we descend a long artment, as before, and lighted candle we descend a long flight of stairs to some underground passages, or tunnels, the sides of good record of the past aintained. He said: "Rean alarm as quickly as take orders from your not no one else. Stick to the past alarm as quickly as take orders from your not use witter unnecessar when water is required, do it, for when a fire gets water is of little good."

The past is to some underground passages, or tunnels, the sides of which were used by the Christians to bury their dead. They were buried mostly our tiers in height in places dug out of the sides. In many were placed a small urn in which some of the blood of the martyr was placed, also the instrument of torture. In the front of the sides of which were used by the Christians to bury their dead. They were buried mostly our tiers in height in places dug out of the sides. In many were placed a small urn in which some of the blood of the martyr was placed, also the instrutage of the meeting, an these places, dug out of the sides, presentation was made. Were placed a slab and then sea.ed rs. Henry, caretakers of up. In many of these passages are were called into the receps, and presented by the apt. McKay, on behalf of ers of the Department, with ne chair and rocker, in on of the many kindnesses the members of the Companie in rising, felt he could hard to find the Christians and partly as a place of refuge in time of persecution. It would be hard to find the Christians down in these Catacon, has at the mount who hard to find the Christians down in hese Catacos bs as the monk who has charge of them said it would take two days to go through all these underground passages and that 170 000 Christians were buried there. There are other Catacombs here, but these are the largest.

We then visited the ruins of the old Roman Forum, once the seats of

it was demolished and the stone used for building churches, and then used as a dumping ground, but since the sixteenth century they have been clearing the rubbish away at different times. There is a large force of men digging there now; they pile up every little piece of a arbie or bone and keep a record of it; the designs and workmanship of the pieces they dig up a e about as good as if done by a mechanic of to-day, though all were done before the time of Christ, In some of the diggings they are down about forty fe t, and it shows by the cld mosaic floors and bases of columns that at different periods in his ory, or when different Emperors came into power, they demolishe the old structures and filled in and

built the others on top.
We also visited the Mamertine Prison, the buildings consists of two structures, one built over the other. There is a staircase leading to the lower one which is underground and without windows, but this staircase is of recent construction. In ancient ones down through a man hole with B. C. 640. In the side of the lower pison is an iron door leading to the sewer and thence to the Tiber river through which the dead bodies of prisoners would be carried. It is said that under Emperor Nero, St. eter and St. Paul were confined here before execution, and that St. Peter having converted his cus-todians caused the water to spring up from the b ttom of the cell so as to baptize them; there is now a spring there, circled around with an iron casing. In a chu ch near by are the chains in which they say St gether. There seems to be no end to the Catholic churches in Italy; even in the fields they of en have a little

to build, and covered the reigns of twenty eight popes. This being Holy Year Rome is full of Pilgrims. I was taking to one who said he belonged to a party of 1100 that came from England; and from France and Australia there are a good many thousands

Last Thursday being a special day at St. Peter's we thought it a good chance to see the Pope, so we procured tickets and got there early. I think there must have been 40,000 pilgrims there, as they say the church will hold 80,000 people and i: was more than half filled. The Pope was carried down the long centre isle; then some began to cry, others to sing out aloud and others waved hats. We had a good view of the before the days of gun-powder and Pope; he is very old and pale big guns. be long before they will have to

select another one.

We saw St. Peter's tomb in the basement of the church, which is close to the spot on which he was crucified head down. They also have pieces of the cross on which Christ was nailed, but they are only exbibited on special occasions. have a bronze statue of St. Peter which is 1,500 years old cast from bronze taken from some Pagan Temple It rests on a base about five feet high and one foot projects over, and I would not believe it if I did not see it, but this is kissed many thousand times a day, not only by pilgrims, but by priest's and smartlooking men.

Rome is a very interesting city, it once had a population of 1,500,000 people then it fell to 20,000 and now it is up to 400,000. A large part of it is modern. This is the best season to visit Rome; the climate is not cold. In summer it is hot and malarial.

We are well and enjoying ourselves and are with a party of five Americans and take in the signts together. We go sight-seeing most every day.
There are other things to see here
which I will describe later on. We
will be here for about ten days yet, and then we will go to Naples and also to Mt. Vesuvius.

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