

proved ineffectual. The gallant tars of H.M. Ship *Aurora*, with long coils of strong rope, came through the upper town ; they were under the command of Lieut. Douglas. By this time the fire had made rapid headway, having communicated to the adjoining house on the western side, and was burning with great fury, helped on by the northeasterly gale blowing at the time, and the total absence of water. For fully an hour it did not come, and by that time the fire, driven before a heavy wind, spread to the wooden out-houses and buildings in the rear of Trudel's house ; when the water did arrive, the flames had obtained too strong a headway in every quarter to save any of the buildings already attacked, and the attention of the fire brigade, and their assistants the "Sapeurs" and other fire companies, was turned to the prevention of the further spread, if possible, of the devouring element, by pulling down some of the houses in the district ahead of the fire, in the rear of Jacques Cartier hall. Their praiseworthy efforts in this way were effectually frustrated for a time by the acts of some unknown ruffians, who diabolically cut the hose with axes, their intention being doubtless to prevent as far as possible, any attempt to check the progress of the flames, in order to give themselves ample opportunity to rob and plunder. It is a pity that they were not caught, the Penitentiary for life would be scarcely an adequate punishment. The wind increasing at 11 o'clock and blowing in gusts from every direction, three separate conflagrations