

News of the Week.

A fire occurred on Monday morning in the premises owned by Mr. Falconer, and occupied by Messrs. Brown and Smith, near the Jerusalem Warehouse. The firemen were promptly on hand, and having a plentiful supply of water the flames were speedily extinguished.

A building at the west end of Sackville Street, owned by Mr. Stevens and occupied by Mr. Hutchinson, as a paint shop, was destroyed by fire about 6 o'clock yesterday morning.

Fraser's Rake Factory, at Green Hill, Pictou, was destroyed by fire last Saturday. The loss to the proprietor is said to be serious.

The Parliament of Canada will meet on the 4th February, and the New Brunswick Parliament on the 16th.

Mr. Coombes, Alderman Spens's solicitor, has commenced proceedings against the City Council, laying the damages at \$4000, for refusing to admit the Alderman to his seat at the Council Board at the proper time.

THE COTTAGE OF CONTENTMENT.—The gathering at Temperance Hall—to witness the entertainment of the Band of Hope—on Thursday evening last was unusually large; every seat being occupied long before the performance commenced, and nearly as many persons outside who were unable to gain admittance. The delighted audience (says the Reporter) comprised parties of all ages and both sexes of citizens. The Gentlemen's Amateur Brass Band occupied the front centre of the gallery, and, under the able leadership of their talented preceptor, Mr. James, of the Naval Yard, at intervals won repeated plaudits from the vast assemblage. The cottage and grounds were tastefully decorated with our own native evergreen, which verily set off the old homestead to a very great advantage, and when graced by the grouping in the foreground of the juvenile performers the whole scene was singularly attractive.—Where all were equally well up in their parts, and with artless simplicity played to please their patrons, the name of the latter being legion, it would be invidious to particularise. It is sufficient to state that the rendering of the dialogues, recitations, singing, &c., reflected the highest credit not only upon the young masters and misses themselves, but also on those who had evidently been at so much pains to impart the requisite amount of instruction to the youthful actors. Nothing can be more satisfactory than in being enabled to state, that notwithstanding the vast assemblage in the Hall consisted of a very large proportion of youngsters, to whom rudeness is pretty generally accorded as their main characteristic, the utmost order and decorum was observed, and seldom indeed has a more

quiet and attentive audience been brought together than on the evening in question. The entertainment was repeated on Monday evening with similar success; and we are glad to learn that the Cottage of Contentment will also be presented before the inmates of the Provincial Hospital for the Insane, at Dartmouth, on some future evening.

THE POWDER EXPLOSION.—The rumored explosion of powder at Rocky Lake Mill, on Saturday last, was not so serious as at first stated. The explosion occurred early in the morning at a time when none of the employes were on the premises. It would appear that one hundred and twenty pounds of the material had been placed to dry in a temporary shed used as a drying room, and the explosion was probably occasioned by the fire being too strong. Be this as it may the shanty was blown to atoms, and it was indeed most fortunate that the people were away at the time, as otherwise much injury to life and limb might have resulted.—Reporter.

MORTALITY AMONG CHILDREN.—It is with sincere sorrow that we have to report frequent deaths among the children of this city. Full many a home in Halifax has within the past few weeks been called to mourn the untimely departure of one or more of the prattling loved little ones, whose innocent ways had entwined them around the hearts of parents and relatives, and excited more than ordinary interest on the part of friends outside the household. Scarlet fever, of unusual virulence and fatal description, has proved, and is proving, a fell destroyer of young life in our midst. In some instances several youthful members of the same family have been summoned home, and one household at least has come to our knowledge in which the whole of the children comprising it have been swept away by this disease.—Id.

A number of journeymen carpenters have formed an Association, entitled "The House Joiners' Union Society of Halifax." The rules and regulations of this society, as we learn from the Reporter, have been framed in the most liberal spirit, and its funds are intended to be dispensed upon the broad principles of benevolence.

The inmates of the Poor's Asylum are so numerous this season, that the Commissioners have applied to the City Council for additional accommodation for houseless paupers. The Council in reply requested the Commissioners to procure additional room for those applying for relief, on the understanding that the city would bear a fair proportion of the expense.

The Secretary of the Deaf and Dumb Institute acknowledges the receipt of various donations from charitable persons in aid of the establishment.

arriving, however, at the spot, it became clear that the vessel was a wreck, embedded in the ice, and could only be approached by a boat. This having been lowered, the captain and several of the seamen landed on the ice, and proceeded to the vessel, which proved to be a brig. The sails were furled, very little appeared on deck, and all the arrangements were those of a vessel laid up for a long period of time. Descending to the cabin, the first object that was seen was a large Newfoundland dog, rolled upon a mat, and apparently asleep. Upon touching the animal it was found to be dead, and the body frozen to the hardness of stone. Entering the cabin, was next seen a young lady seated at a table; her eyes were open, and gazing with a mild and steadfast expression upon the new comers to that solitary spot. She was a corpse, and in that apparently resigned and religious attitude had been frozen to death. Beside her was a young man, who, it appeared, was the brother of the lady, and commander of the brig. He, too, was dead, but sitting at the table, and before him lay a sheet of paper, upon which was written the following words—"Our cook has endeavored since yesterday morning to strike a light, but in vain; all is now over." At the other side of the cabin stood the cook, with a flint and a steel in his hand, frozen to a statue, in the vain endeavor to procure that fire which alone could save him and his companions from the cold arms of death. The superstitious terrors of the seamen now hurried the captain away from the wreck, the log-book alone being brought away, and from this it appeared that the ill-fated vessel was a brig which had belonged to the port of London, and had sailed for the Arctic regions more than fourteen years before.

Lloyd's Register of British and Foreign Shipping.

THE undersigned have been appointed by the Committee of Lloyd's Register, London, their resident Surveyor for the Province of Nova Scotia. Shipbuilders and Ship Owners in Nova Scotia requiring to have their vessels surveyed for classification in the Register Book of this Society, will please make application for the present at the Office, Windsor, N. S., where copies of the Society's Rules and any necessary information can be obtained.

JOSEPH I. TUCKER,

Dea. 17. Lloyd's Surveyor.