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AND INSURANCE CHRONICLE.

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Mines.

THE MADOC GOLD REGION.—The *Madoc Mercury*, a newspaper published at the gold region, writes of the situation as follows:—"Except for the occasional report of a blast, and the more frequent arrival and departure of the stages to and from Belleville and Eldorado, and the presence of some once strange but now familiar faces, the village of Madoc is as quiet as it was a year ago, when the Gold discovery had only just begun to be talked about, and before it began to attract attention abroad. We have nothing new or interesting, or specially encouraging to report for the past week, there being a pause of expectation as to what the crushing machinery now being erected at Eldorado will reveal concerning the real value of the gold and silver-bearing rock of this vicinity. Everybody feels that the whole affair is about to be put to the test that will probably make or mar the fortune of this part of Canada for many a long year to come, and therefore nobody cares particularly about a speck of gold having been found here or there—or about a reported rich discovery of silver at Eldorado,—or about this or that assay, though for that matter both Dr. Otway and Mr. Wyckoff happen to be away at present. But notwithstanding that Madoc, except for a few additional buildings, presents much of the ordinary business aspect it formerly used to do, a great crisis in its history—the question whether it is to remain a mere inconsiderable country village, or to become the business centre of a populous mining region, bids fair to be reached in less than a twelve-month from the time the latter contingency first appeared to be among the things possible. On the 8th of September, 1866, it was first of all announced in the *Mercury* that Gold had actually been discovered in small quantity in this township. That announcement attracted no attention at the time. Six weeks afterwards, we mentioned in a brief paragraph that "More Gold" had been exhibited to us by Mr. Lyman Moon, and that it was decidedly rich. We took care, that time, to call the attention of the press of Toronto and Montreal to the fact, which was then made known at once from one end of Canada to the other. The result was soon visible in the sudden outbreak of the gold fever. The 'Richardson Mine' became a household word, and speculators tried to secure it, and there was a general rush to buy up mining rights and obtain mineral territory in all directions. In less than a year's time, Madoc has witnessed most of the various phases of a gold excitement—fever heat at one period, then complaints that it was all 'humbug and a swindle.' We have had M. Michael's Report, the erection of the Quinte Gold Mining Division, and the appointment of a Gold Inspector, with a Mounted Police to enforce the Mining Law. We have had a raid on the Richardson Mine, and burglaries in the village. We have seen new buildings erected, and the arrival of new lawyers, land agents and speculators, and the establishment of assay offices, and the formation of numerous mining companies. We have had 'great expectations'—unfulfilled—of a large permanent addition to the population; of lands fetching high prices, which except in a few isolated cases have not been realized. Some of the speculators are already departing, and doubts and fears alternate with hopes for the future. We are only just reaching the point in which enough capital is being invested, to settle beyond dispute whether there is gold enough in the rock to pay for crushing it, and that is more than was looked for a year ago."

MINING IN NOVA SCOTIA.—We have received from the Nova Scotian Department of Mines an elaborate statistical chart of the gold mines of that Province, published under the patronage of the department. The period covered is five years, extending from 1862 to 1866, inclusive. The total yield of gold is placed at 91,953 oz. 10 dwt. 16 gr., the amount from quartz

being 91,370 oz. 19 dwt. 16 gr., and from native sources 587 oz. 11 dwt. 0. The miners' daily average was 710, and the average per mine 8'6. The total quantity of quartz raised was 2,038,947 lbs., or 184'2 per man daily. The amount crushed, 2,035,202 lbs. There were 60 mines in operation in 1866. Parties interested in the subject may procure copies of the chart, *gratis*, at the office of this journal

Insurance.

POLICIES OF INSURANCE.—Some persons are not aware of the changes in the law effected by our statute 29 Vic., cap. 28, copied from the Imperial Act 22 and 23 Vic., cap. 35. The sections affecting policies of insurance are as follows:

The Court of Chancery shall have power to relieve against a forfeiture for breach of a covenant or condition to insure against loss or damage by fire, where no loss or damage by fire has happened, and the breach has, in the opinion of the Court, been committed through accident or mistake, or otherwise without fraud or gross negligence, and there is an insurance on foot at the time of the application to the Court, in conformity with the covenant to insure, upon such terms as to the Court may seem fit.

The Court, where relief shall be granted, shall direct a record of such relief having been granted to be made by endorsement on the lease or otherwise.

The person entitled to the benefit of a covenant on the part of a lessee or mortgagor to insure against loss or damage by fire, shall, on loss or damage by fire happening, have the same advantage from any then-existing insurance relative to the building or other property covenanted to be insured, effected by the lessee or mortgagor in respect of his interest under the lease or in the property, or by any person claiming under him, but not effected in conformity with the covenant, as he would have from an insurance effected in conformity with the covenant.

Where on the *bona fide* purchase, after the passing of this Act, of a leasehold interest under a lease containing a covenant on the part of the lessee to insure against loss or damage by fire, the purchaser is furnished with the written receipt of the person entitled to receive the rent, or his agent, for the last payment of the rent accrued due before the completion of the purchase, and there is subsisting at the time of the completion of the purchase, an insurance in conformity with the covenant, the purchaser or any person claiming under him, shall not be subject to any liability by way of forfeiture or damage or otherwise, in respect of any breach of the covenant committed at any time before the completion of the purchase, of which the purchaser had not notice before the completion of the purchase; but this provision is not to take away any remedy which the lessor or his legal representatives may have against the lessee or his legal representatives for breach of covenant.

The preceding provisions shall be applicable to leases for a term of years absolute, or determinable on a life or lives, or otherwise, and also to a lease for the life of the lessee or the life or lives of any other person or persons.

ETNA INSURANCE COMPANY OF DUBLIN.—The *Post Magazine* remarks:—"It is with pleasure we have to announce the appointment of Mr. T. S. Fisher to the London Secretaryship of the Etna Insurance Company. From his well known ability and long experience the Directors could not have made a more judicious selection. We wish him every prosperity in his new office." Mr. T. W. Griffith of Montreal, a gentleman of great energy, has been appointed general manager for the Dominion. Mr. Alex. Dixon is the Company's Agent in Toronto.

FIRE AT QUEBEC.—Between 11 and 12 o'clock on Saturday night, the 28th ult., a fire was discovered to have broken out in the wooden stables owned and

occupied by W. Kirwin, corner of Julie and Cross-streets, St. Lewis' suburbs. The whole range of stables, which was a large wooden structure, became enveloped in one mass of flame, spreading across Julie-street to Mr. Kirwin's fire-brick dwellings; and to the two fire-brick houses owned by Mrs. Morgan, the latter of which is thoroughly gutted, and the former considerably injured. On Cross street the flames communicated to the premises owned and occupied by Mr. Ahearn, of the Custom House, which were totally consumed, Mr. Ahearn being unable to save a single article of his furniture. Mr. J. Flanagan's store adjoining was completely gutted. Mr. John McKenzie's dwelling, on the south-west corner, had a very narrow escape. On the westerly side stables belonging to Mr. Flanagan, carter, were half burnt, and wholly demolished. He had some difficulty in saving his horses. Mr. Henry Martin's grocery store adjoining Mr. Kirwin's, escaped uninjured. The origin of the fire is a mystery; but it is supposed to be the work of an incendiary. Mr. Wm. Kirwin, who is by far the heaviest loser by the conflagration, was insured in the "London Corporation" as follows:—Stables (totally destroyed) \$2,800; harness (all destroyed) \$600; hay and oats (all burnt) \$600; houses (only slightly damaged) \$2,000; furniture (not much damaged) \$1,000; piano (saved) \$250. Total, \$7,250. The following is a list of the other sufferers and their insurances, as far as could be learned:—Fire-brick house owned by Mrs. Morgan, insured for \$2,000. Occupied by several families. Mr. McCollock's wooden house in Cross street, occupied by himself. Insured for \$200 in the British America. Mr. M. Ahearn's two-story wooden house in Cross street. Insured in the Western for £200 on the building, and £50 on his effects. John Gair, tenant. Insured for \$200 on his effects. Mr. John McCormick's wooden house in Cross street. Insured in British American for \$575. Mr. John Flanagan's grocery and residence, gutted. Covered by insurance. Mr. Flanagan, carter, stables in Julie street. No insurance. Out-houses, owned by Alex. Fraser and Mrs. Fitzgerald. Losses covered by insurance. John Hogan, of the Custom House, and John Sinjohn, carter, occupied separate flats in one of Mr. Kirwin's houses, and both were insured on their effects. John Kirwin, brother of Wm. Kirwin, was in charge of the stables and business, and was insured in the London on his furniture for only \$300. He saved all his effects. Mr. Kirwin is expected to offer a reward for such information as will lead to the arrest of the party or parties guilty of the scoundrelly act of setting fire to the stables.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT GALT.—At about 1.15 a.m., Oct. 1st, the town of Galt was aroused by an alarm of fire, which was first noticed in a building owned by Mr. McTague on Main street, a portion of which was occupied as stores and a barber shop. From the want of a proper supply of water, the flames spread with great rapidity, and resulted in a very serious loss of property, but happily no lives were lost. Five or six families, however, lost nearly all their effects. The following is an approximation of the loss obtained to day:—Mr. Murdoch, confectioner and baker, \$1,500, insured for \$1,200 in the Western Mutual; Mr. Trotter, jeweller, amount not known, insured for \$500 in the Gore Mutual; Miss Grahame, milliner, loss not ascertained; Mr. Geddes about \$400; Mr. Heinholt, amount, \$5,500, insured for \$1,000; Mr. Craig, grocer, amount \$3,500, insured for \$2,300 in the Waterloo Mutual; Mr. Thos. McMillan, seedsman, loss \$1,500, insured for \$500 in the Queen and Provincial; Mr. Riley, barber, amount of loss not ascertained; Mr. McTague, loss \$4,000, insured for \$2,000 on property in the Gore Mutual and Liverpool and London; Mr. McDougall, boot and shoe maker, amount \$1,500, insured for \$1,000; Peter Thompson, loss on household furniture, &c., \$300; Mr. John Scott, loss on the buildings, insurance \$400; Mr. Curless, \$100; N. & E. J.