

Fires in Various Parts of the Province.

The Prevailing Drought the Main Cause.

Conflagration in Toronto. LOSS ABOUT \$250,000.

A most disastrous fire occurred in Toronto about midnight on Saturday. The scene of the conflagration was that portion of the city occupied by the wholesale warehouses, between Front and Esplanade streets on the west side of Jarvis street, and to the south of the city hall and market.

The fire originated in the blacksmith shop of John Taylor & Co's safe manufactory, and in the absence of the engines the flames spread with fearful activity to the surrounding buildings which had been rendered very inflammable by the intense heat of the fire and the unusually dry weather of the past weeks. Every effort by the crowd, with the aid of pails of water, was useless, and after a few vain endeavours, those who were working in this way were forced to relinquish the task. An engine arrived and began to play on the shops of Neil Currie, boiler maker, adjoining the burning building on the west. The contents of the shops were all destroyed, but a portion of the building was saved. Some cars standing on the railway track in front of the burning buildings soon became ignited, and when an engine arrived to take them higher up the track, some difficulty was experienced in coupling them. One of the telegraph poles also became ignited and soon afterwards the wires fell. The flames, which had almost consumed the sugar refinery of Messrs. Smith & Keighley, now communicated with the acid sheds of Lyman Bros. & Co., chemical manufacturers, which was soon a mass of smoking ruins, beneath which, at short intervals, carbonyls of chemicals would explode, sending up volumes of flame and sparks. In about half an hour after the first alarm was heard, a second was sounded, and in a very few minutes flames were seen shooting through the roof of Mr. Samuel Hill's ice-house on George street, which was in a very short time one mass of fire. Here were several dwellings, including two large boarding-houses, the inmates of which, were bringing out their household goods, which were piled on the opposite side of the street. In a few minutes an engine arrived on the spot, but too late to save much of the property. The entire shell of the ice-house soon afterwards fell, exposing a scene which for gorgeous beauty could not be surpassed in the imagined regions of fairyland, blocks of ice being piled to what appeared to be a great height, each of which sparkled in the lurid light from the other fire, looking like a pile of rubies. The coal, belonging to the Toronto Fuel Association, which was stored in large quantities in the rear of the ice-house, as well as a number of wooden buildings adjoining the premises, were totally destroyed.

The entire row of buildings from the corner of West Market street to Mr. Currie's were destroyed, nothing being left standing but the upright pillars.

The fire had communicated to the rear part of the large store of Smith & Keighley, wholesale grocers, on Front street, which was in a very few minutes one mass of fire. The plates in the walls on which the joints rested were heated through, causing the whole mass of heavy brickwork to sink and fall in with a terrible crash. Large numbers of men were in the meantime busily engaged in bringing out and carting away all the goods that could be hastily moved from the adjoining stores, while all the books were taken from the safes and deposited in places of security, many of them in the vaults of the Bank of Toronto. The roof of the next building, occupied by Thorne, Parsons & Co., leather merchants, became ignited, but was extinguished before the fire had taken very strong hold upon it.

The following are the principal losses as far as can be ascertained: Lyman Bros. & Co., \$3,000, believed to be uninsured. John Taylor & Co., \$20,000, insured. Mr. L. it's frame cottage and pattern shops, \$500. N. Currie, boiler works, \$10,000, insured for \$1,500. Smith & Keighley, loss on stock estimated at \$100,000, fully insured. Thorne, Parsons & Co., loss on stock damaged by water, \$20,000. The buildings on Front street, and most of those on Esplanade street of the probable value of \$80,000, were owned by Mr. Smith and were also fully insured. Mr. Hill's ice house, loss on building and deterioration of stock, \$5,000, believed to be fully insured. Rough-ast houses, owned by Mr. Taylor, \$2,000, insured. Rough-ast house and grocery owned and tenanted by Mr. W. Campbell, grocer, loss \$1,500, no insurance. Mr. Franks, grocer, loss by hasty removal and damage by water \$500, insured.

Large losses will be found to have been sustained by others, so that the entire loss may be estimated at \$250,000.

No serious accidents occurred, P. M. McNabb sustaining a slight wound, and a fireman named Carruthers being injured in the spine.

At a quarter past one o'clock telegrams were sent to Hamilton and Whitby for assistance, and were promptly responded to. The Brigade at Whitby were at the station within about fifty minutes after receiving the message, the engine house being two miles from the railroad, but the call was countermanded at a quarter past two. At the fire on George street the crowd plundered the sufferers in a most unscrupulous manner, the bulk of the stock from the groceries and many articles of furniture having been stolen. In the cellars of Thorne, Parsons & Co., three hundred barrels of oil, and other combustibles, were stored, so that if they had been ignited, the warehouses of Lyman Bros. & Co. must have gone, and the explosion of their chemicals would have inevitably resulted in the most disastrous consequences.

About half-past on Sunday night a fire broke out among the debris in rear of the burned premises of Smith & Keighley, but no great quantity of combustible material being left, it was extinguished without difficulty.

OWEN SOUND.—Three fires occurred at Owen Sound on Saturday. The first was Dr. Moffat's dwelling, with stable; the second Mr. Vanwyke's house; and the third the house occupied by Mr. C. Wilkes. All the dwellings were consumed, though in each case the household effects were saved. On the same day a number of bush fires were burning around the town, which at times threatened destruction of a large amount of property.

(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

Grand Display of Millinery

GEORGE JEFFREY'S.

GEORGE JEFFREY has much pleasure in informing his numerous friends and the public generally that his Show Room is now open, and is prepared to show

One of the Best Assortments of Millinery and Mantles EVER EXHIBITED IN GUELPH.

As the stock is all new, Ladies will have no trouble in selecting the newest goods at reasonable prices.

GEORGE JEFFREY, GUELPH Direct Importer, Guelph.

Another large arrival of New Goods direct from France & Britain

At THE LION GUELPH



At THE LION GUELPH

Our Weekly Arrivals of Goods make things Lively at THE LION! Trade better than Ever!

Over Thirty Thousand Dollars worth more Goods sold this Spring than last, and there will be more in the future, for we are determined to keep prices down in spite of increase in the tariff. Every one remarks the great business doing at THE LION. Of course it must be so, our stock is larger than any six stocks in Guelph, and our prices so much lower, and the people find out these things, and go where they get the best value for their money.

We have received a speciality this week of over one thousand dollars worth of Double Ballon's Kid Gloves direct from French makers, that we will sell at one dollar a pair; elsewhere you pay from \$1.25 to \$1.50 for the same. Also, French Silks in all the newest shades in plain, striped, and shot, at \$1, worth \$1.50 a yard. Another lot of lovely Dress Goods in Plain Lustres, Zenobia Stripes, Australian Crapes, and Polka Spots. 59 Boys' Suits just received to suit little chaps from 4 to 10 years old at \$3.50, \$3.75, \$4.00, \$4.50 and \$5.00 a suit.

Our Agent advises that next steamer will bring us 100 pieces Linen Tasso Dresses that he has bought very cheap. The goods are worth 25 cents; we will sell them at 12 1/2 cents. The next Allan steamer will bring them.

Golden Lion, Wyndham Street, Guelph.

J. D. WILLIAMSON.

A LARGE STOCK OF NEW China, Crockery, and Glassware, NOW OPENED AT No. 2, DAY'S BLOCK, and will be sold Cheap for Cash. J. E. McELDERRY, 2 DAY'S BLOCK, THE NOTED TEA HOUSE.

GUELPH CLOTH HALL. SHAW & MURTON OUR SPRING STOCK Is now fully assorted in every department. CLOTHS, HATS AND CAPS, GENTS' FURNISHINGS, READY-MADE CLOTHING. We would inform our customers and the public in general that we never before offered such a complete and handsome assortment of Goods for Gent's Wear. Shaw & Murton, GUELPH, March 21, 1874. MERCHANT TAILORS.

JUST COME IN! GUELPH TEA DEPOT E. O'DONNELL & Co. Are putting up to-day 320 caddies best dollar Young Hyson Tea for 80c. per lb. 600 caddies of the best 75 cent Tea for 50c. per lb. 95 caddies of nice Sweet Tea at 40c per lb. 120 caddies of Japan Tea worth 75c, for 50c. A few packages of Black Tea for 35c per lb. 10 hogsheads of Good Bright Sugar, 12lb. for \$1. 50 Ingersoll Cheese, very choice. A very large stock of Groceries of all kinds always on hand Cheap. Terms—Strictly Cash. E. O'DONNELL & CO

William Stewart HAS NOW OPENED THE First Lot's New Goods for Spring! Piles of Plain Lustres, Lots of Striped Dress Goods, Fancy Goods The Newest Colors and Patterns. THE Print Department IS CROWDED With the Latest Productions in Colours and Styles, and at LOWER PRICES THAN LAST YEAR! WM. STEWART. Guelph, March 23, 1874

WOODLAND NURSERIES. New and Beautiful PLANTS Green House, Foliage, Window and Bedding Plants. The undersigned are prepared to supply healthy flowering plants at low prices. Having facilities to grow a large quantity of plants, we are in a position to fill a want that was felt in Guelph. All our stock has been selected with care, embracing many New and Beautiful Plants. Novelties of merit will be added to our stock as they appear. Vegetable Plants Cabbage, Cauliflower, Celery, Tomatoes, Asparagus, &c., &c. Strawberry Plants at low rates by the 100 or 1000. A FEW THOUSAND WELL-GROWN Apple, Pear and Plum Trees at lowest market rates. All orders entrusted to them will be executed with fidelity and dispatch. Nurseries west of St. Joseph's Hospital. G. CHRIST BROS. Guelph, April 16, '74 dw Guelph, Ont

R. MacGREGOR & Co. (Successors to W. D. Hepburn & Co.) BOOTS AND SHOES MADE TO ORDER This Branch of our Business is receiving our Special attention, and we are getting up Goods second to none in the Dominion. We Use the Very Best of Material Employ First-class Workmen ONLY, and guarantee perfect satisfaction to our Customers. R. MacGregor & Co. GUELPH, Apr. 25, 1874.

SPRING CLOTHING AT THE Elephant Clothing Store. C. E. PEIRCE & CO. Have now on exhibition one of the Largest Stocks of READY-MADE CLOTHING For Men and Boy's Wear ever shown in Guelph, Well Made and Fashionably Cut And at prices that cannot be beaten, being 25 per cent less than any other place in town. A Big Stock of Straw and Felt Hats now on hand. Hepburn's Old Stand, Wyndham-st., Guelph. GUELPH, April 10th, 1874. C. E. PEIRCE & Co., wo

SPRING HARDWARE. LOW PRICES! EXCELLENT QUALITY! IMMENSE ASSORTMENT! In the following Goods: Spades and Shovels, Manure Forks, Garden and Hay Rakes, Garden and Turnip Hoes, Plough Lines and Plough Line Rope, The Champion Pioneer Horse Poke, Whitewash and other Brushes. BUILDING HARDWARE Paints, Oils and Colours, Hardware of all kinds. Call and see us, as we are confident that we can offer superior inducements. J. NO. M. BOND & CO. Head Quarters for Hardware, Guelph.