

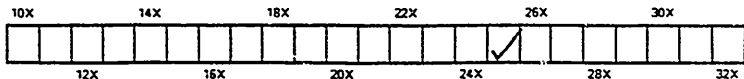
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VOL. I.

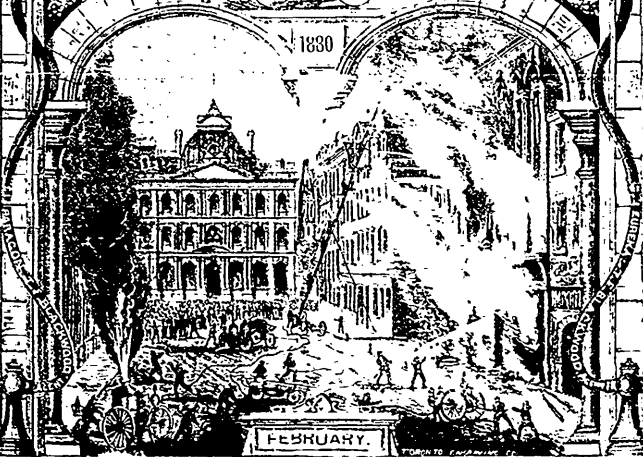
NO 10

# THE Fire Journal

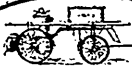
DEVOTED TO FIRE MATTERS, INSURANCE, AND ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST.



1880



FEBRUARY.



THE TORONTO

PUBLISHING CO.

# IMPORTANT FACTS

TO PURCHASERS OF FIRE HOSE

The Best Always the Cheapest: Important Statistics

## Eureka Cotton Fire Hose vs. Rubber Hose

RECORDS OF ITS DURABILITY IN THE NEW YORK FIRE DEPARTMENT COMPARED.

### FACTS FOR THE FIREMEN OF THE COUNTRY AND OTHERS TO PONDER OVER.

We desire to submit the following Statistics to the purchasers of Fire Hose to sustain our assertions by figures and facts, as to the great durability of our "EUREKA" Cotton Fire Hose over Rubber; and have selected the following from the records of the New York Fire Department:—

Quantity of Hose Purchased by the Department Since April, 1868.

"MALTESE CROSS" RUBBER HOSE.....	20,295 feet, or 7,403 lengths of 50 feet each	400	50	"
"TEST HOSE".....	30,000 "	350	50	"
"RUBBER HOSE" (No special brand).....	17,500 "	350	50	"
"EUREKA" COTTON HOSE.....	45,000 "	900	50	"
"RIVETED".....	22,000 "	440	50	"
Total.....	171,750 "	3,490	50	"

Quantity of Hose in Service in the Department April 1st, 1870.

"MALTESE CROSS" RUBBER HOSE.....	16,900 feet, or 338 lengths of 50 feet each	65	50	"
"TEST HOSE".....	3,250 "	65	50	"
"RUBBER HOSE" (No special brand).....	2,500 "	50	50	"
"EUREKA" COTTON HOSE.....	44,400 "	888	50	"
"RIVETED".....	17,700 "	354	50	"
Total.....	84,750 "	1,695	50	"

Quantity of Hose Worn Out.

"MALTESE CROSS" RUBBER HOSE.....	53,350 feet, or 1,067 lengths of 50 feet each	335	50	"
"TEST HOSE".....	16,750 "	335	50	"
"RUBBER HOSE" (No special brand).....	15,000 "	300	50	"
"EUREKA" COTTON HOSE.....	600 "	12	50	"
"RIVETED".....	4,300 "	86	50	"

The entire quantity of Rubber Hose in service was purchased prior to 1864 in all being intermediate lots purchased within a space of eight years, in total amount 101,750 feet, the balance (8,000 feet), being the "Maltese Cross," the last purchase of it being made about October, 1877. Since then no Rubber Hose of any kind has been purchased.

Therefore, taking the entire quantity of hose purchased by the Department and deducting the quantity of the respective brands remaining in service April 1st, 1870, the following table will show the percentage of loss from the quantity delivered.

### TABLE SHOWING THE PERCENTAGE OF LOSS IN THE NEW YORK FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Maltese Cross Rubber Hose,	76 $\frac{1}{100}$	per cent. in about 9 Years Average Service.
Test Hose,	83 $\frac{1}{100}$	" " " "
Rubber Hose, No special brand	85 $\frac{1}{100}$	" " " "
Riveted Cotton Hose	19 $\frac{1}{100}$	" " " "
EUREKA COTTON HOSE	1 $\frac{1}{100}$	" " " "

### A RECORD FOR EUREKA COTTON HOSE UNPARALLELED.

### REASONS WHY EUREKA FIRE HOSE COMPANY'S COTTON FIRE HOSE IS MORE DURABLE.

Rubber Hose, from the moment it is made or vulcanized, has in itself an element of its own destruction, which is moisture. It is vulcanized in live steam; at a heat, say, of 250 degrees, the steam must penetrate the mass to complete its work; the result of which is that the cotton duck is full of moisture the instant it is made, and whether in service or not, "dry rot" soon attacks the cotton duck, because the air cannot reach it to dry, being prevented by the inside and outside rubber coating. It is a well established fact that rubber hose, after being a short time in service, the duck becomes damp, and on the reels the constant heating and sweating soon destroys its strength. The reason is, it is impossible for the air to reach the duck through the rubber coating, thereby enabling the duck to dry.

Our Seamless Cotton Hose is so constructed that all these difficulties are avoided. It can be readily and rapidly dried; and when dry, and on the reel, can remain for years without any injurious effects to the fabric, as it is constantly exposed to the air to dry. To further add to its durability, the fabric is prepared mildew and water proof.

The reputation made by this Company with its celebrated brands of Cotton Steam Fire Engine Hose for Fire Department use has placed us at the head of all other makers of Fire Hose; we are, as heretofore, supplying the great bulk of all Fire Hose purchased by the cities, towns and villages throughout the United States and Canada; for the perfect equipment of their Fire Departments.

Estimates, Samples, etc., for "Eureka," "Paragon" and "Red Cross" Hose furnished on application.

**T. F. BLACKWOOD, Agent for Canada,**

16 FRONT ST. EAST,

TORONTO, Ont.



# THE FIRE JOURNAL.

Vol. 1.

TORONTO, ONTARIO, FEBRUARY, 1886.

No. 10.

## The Fire Journal

ISSUED MONTHLY.

Subscription Price, Postage Prepaid, One Dollar Per Annum.

THE TORONTO PUBLISHING CO., P. O. Box 567. TORONTO, ONT.

### NOTICE.

Further wishes to submit for THE FIRE JOURNAL may do so by either sending direct to this office or through the following gentlemen, who have kindly consented to act as our agents in their respective localities—

- Montreal—Wm. J. Mackay.
- Hamilton—J. H. Chappell, 119 McNab st. North.
- St. Catharines—Andrew Hildrey, Assisted Chf. Fire Marshal.
- Burlington—John Jans son, Broad Howe Co. No. 1.
- Thunder—John Smart, Investment How Co. No. 1.
- Cobourg—W. H. Aklen, 117 St. Francis Street.
- Orillia, Ont.—Able, Hillier, Torontian Engine Co.
- Wablay, Ont.—Charles J. G.
- Stratford, Ont.—W. G. H.

ROBT. G. McLEAN, 17 Adelaide St. W., Toronto.

Manager of THE FIRE JOURNAL.

All remittances to be addressed to THE FIRE JOURNAL, Box 507, Toronto.

Communications should always be accompanied with the name of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

### Fire Protection.

We are glad to notice that the people of several towns in Canada are showing a disposition to provide better means for extinguishing fires than have hitherto existed. A fire is very easily put out, if taken in time. It is of more consequence to be at a fire at an early stage of its progress than is generally supposed. It is in this particular that fire protection in cities is so much better than in towns or villages. Two places may have similar appliances for putting out fires but that place which has the best provision for speedily arriving at a fire is infinitely superior to the other in the matter of fire protection. A fire taking place in most of our towns during the night, generally makes such headway before the appliances for its extinguishment are in a position to work, that the fire is seldom confined to the building in which it originated. In most places the members of the fire company go to rest like ordinary citizens, and trust entirely to chance of hearing any fire alarm that may be given. Very frequently some of the most remote from the place where the fire has occurred bear nothing of it until the following day. A few of the towns grudgingly

pay a watchman, who, if awake, is relied upon to give the necessary fire alarm. Not a few places take this precaution. No wonder, then, that we have frequently such fires as that of Orillia lately. This town was supposed to have an efficient system of water works in addition to a hand engine. The town fathers met after the fire which burned down so great a part of the business portion of the town, to consider the propriety of averting any such calamity in future by providing better fire appliances. These wise men appeared to have a wholesome dread of public opinion just before appealing to their constituents, and accordingly voted down a proposition made to submit the matter to a vote of the ratepayers.

We understand that some of the insurance companies have for the present withdrawn their agencies from Orillia. So long as the present insane competition among companies continues, there is no difficulty in obtaining insurance, even at ruinous rate, even in places provided with very little if any fire protection. So long as this state of matters exists, it is no wonder that the people of our towns and villages refuse to provide appliances for the protection of their property against the ravages of the fire fiend, and it will soon be found that the feelings of apathy and penuriousness, now so common in such places, will speedily give place to energetic effort and praiseworthy liberality on the part of such as are unable to get insurance on their property.

### Mutual Insurance.

On another page will be found the Annual Report of the GORE DISTRICT MUTUAL, one of the oldest and best mutual Fire Insurance Companies in Ontario. The statement of the Directors in regard to the business of the company is clear, simple and concise, so much so that the merest tyro in insurance matters can easily comprehend. There is no mixing up of different items, either of income or expenditure—no mystification of any kind. The exhibit of the Company, as given in detail in the report of the Directors, is very creditable to the management of the company, and cannot fail to give entire satisfaction to its patrons, who get their insurance 30 per cent under the rates of proprietary companies.

### Losses of British and Canadian Insurance Companies in the U. S.

The following are the Incomes, Losses and Expenses of the Canadian and British Fire and Marine Insurance Companies doing business in the United States, reporting to the New York Insurance Department:

	Total Income	Total Losses & Expenses	Total Assets
British Commercial, Toronto	\$456,596.74	\$476,014.98	\$816,497.19
American Union, London	1,193,115.65	1,118,934.31	1,653,379.97
Guardian	24,416.49	241,711.54	861,973.48
London & Lancashire	45,559.24	416,841.16	918,590.00
Lancashire, Manchester	279,137.78	2,664,704.47	3,156,091.43
L. L. & Globe	131,614.09	206,663.65	774,074.03
London & Lancashire, London	1,212,404.69	1,404,066.11	1,864,598.31
North British and Mercantile	433,535.00	433,164.00	754,846.00
Northern Assurance, London	187,745.00	31,777.45	574,792.08
Phoenix, London	1,007,015.00	846,500.00	1,602,041.00
Queen	1,711,414.89	1,702,698.25	2,702,698.25
Royal	590,084.89	581,396.56	744,314.73
Scottish Commercial, Glasgow	561,307.84	516,339.86	1,137,717.73
London Assurance Corp'n	501,307.84	479,061.74	686,791.54
Western, Toronto	501,307.84	479,061.74	686,791.54

The above record tells its own tale. The losses of the past year have been excessive. The total income of the above sixteen companies, from all sources only exceeds their losses and expenses by about one and a half millions—and that, too, without any great conflagration. We are glad to find a disposition on the part of companies to keep up the rates in keeping with the risks incurred

During the progress of a ball at Government House, Winnipeg, a coal oil lamp in a small room adjoining the ball room adjoining, scattering the fragments in all directions. The oil took fire; and for a little while it looked as though the gubernatorial mansion stood a good chance of going up in smoke. However, a number of the guests sprang to the rescue, and with the aid of a number of overcoats and a fireman in all directions succeeded in smothering the fire before much damage was done although some of the coats suffered severely in the operation. The smoke rolled into the ball room in liberal quantities, but the ladies stood firm and behaved admirably, not a solitary scream being uttered. After the "fire fiend" had been properly sat upon, the festivities were resumed and went on as cheerfully as ever.

## Canada Fire and Marine Insurance Co.

## FOURTH ANNUAL STATEMENT.

DECEMBER 31st, 1879.

The Annual Meeting of the shareholders of this Company was held at Hamilton on Wednesday, 11th inst. The meeting was not a large one. The following statement was submitted to the meeting by the directors. This Company, in connection with others, has suffered severely during the past year. We shall have something further to say in regard to it at our next issue.

## ASSETS.

Cash in Bank and Hand Office.....	\$19,497 32
Balance, in Agents' hands, (since received).....	10,816 86
Investments (at Market value)	
Bank Anglo Canadian	
Mortgage Co., \$41,806 70	
" Leased Banking	
and Loan Co., \$2,579 30	
" Bank of Hamilton 13,254 40	
Debitments.....	
Towns of Windsor.....	11,280 00
" Owen Sound 14,100 00	
" Walkerton.....	6,480 00
First Mortgage on real estate.....	155 00
	79,755 40
Office furniture and fixtures (after writing off 10 per cent).....	5,753 18
Balance of preliminary expenses (after writing off \$4,000).....	5,000 00
Interest accrued but not yet due	2,508 45
Bills receivable.....	6,779 19
Steady items due Company.....	720 41

Total assets.....\$190,999 83

## LIABILITIES.

Losses adjusted, unadjusted and reserved.....	\$35,039 33
Net amount reserved to re-insure outstanding risk, and to cover all other outstanding liabilities	79,097 89
Surplus.....	36,862 61
	\$190,999 83

## RECEIPTS.

Gross premiums received during the year.....	\$179,854 30
On account of mortgages.....	7,311 96
Interest on investments.....	8,348 22
Dividends.....	1,261 73

\$196,471 21

## PAYMENTS.

Paid for losses (including \$96,021.83 of 1878).....	\$104,706 05
Agency — including commissions, and bonuses, return premiums and re-insurances.....	59,998 64
Head Office expenses (including salaries and fees printing and advertising, stationery, agents' supplies, interest, taxes, cost of adjustment, &c., &c.).....	30,901 99
Excess of receipts over payments.....	11,470 53

\$196,471 21

To the President and Directors of the Canada Fire and Marine Insurance Co. Gentlemen,—I have to advise the completion of the audit of the books of your company, for the year ending 31st December last and have much pleasure in certifying to their accuracy. The bank books, vouchers and securities have been subjected to a thorough examination and found correct.

The statements herewith submitted have been carefully checked and verified. The books, &c., have been kept with their usual neatness and accuracy. I have only to add that every facility has been afforded me by your staff.

Respectfully submitted,

H. STEVENS, Auditor.

Hamilton, 30th January, 1880.

## The Hamilton Muddle.

It was to be expected that the disastrous fire which Hamilton experienced in August last should excite enquiry into the state of the fire apparatus, and stimulate exertion to place it on the most effective footing.

Steps were consequently taken by the municipality to obtain new fire engines, and the various manufacturers were invited to tender for their supply. The competition seemed finally to be narrowed to a choice between the "Silaby" and the "Ronald" machines, and these two makers were asked to publicly test their engines before a committee of the Council. At this point we are led to remark on the supererogatory nature of the request, and to question with some modest diffidence the quality of the judges. We would have supposed that a decision might by this time have been obtained from the record of the respective engines, without causing to the proprietors the great expense attendant upon a further test, and that this same committee might have limited its labors to a perusal of the history of the competing steamers, together with the opinions of competent experts already expressed. But such common sense procedure found little favor with those who imagined that "seeing is believing"—and accordingly they proceeded to the test.

That so inducement might be lacking the corporation pledged themselves to purchase at least one of the engines which should be approved, and a test extending over several days was at length accomplished.

Much acrimony attended the conduct of this test and the debates that followed the committee's report to the Council. This report (already placed before our readers) favored the Silaby, but another opinion from three local engineers, sided for the Ronald. To this latter (being extra judicial) no weight can properly attach, as against it can be placed opinions just as momentous, and probably more worthy of credence. Both makers, having entered into the competition, were bound by the result, supposing the matter fairly conducted, and as to the course to be pursued by the corporation after the report of their committee, there cannot be a possibility of two opinions.

But the advocates of the Ronald had a final resource to which they resorted when much time had been lost, and when they were apparently defeated in the debate. This was an opinion from the City Solicitors, which the Mayor produced with much expressed reluctance, and which is as follows:

HAMILTON, 15th Dec., 1879.

DEAR SIR,—We are of opinion that if there are no appropriated funds available for the purchase of a steam fire engine, and it is contemplated that the engine shall be paid for out of the taxes to be imposed next year, it will be necessary that the by-law authorizing the purchase should receive the sanction of the ratepayers in accordance with the provisions of Sections 286 and 333 of the Municipal Act. The words of the statute (Section 333) are not quite clear upon this point, but, with reference to the

same section in the former Municipal Act, the present Chancellor says (in the Edinburgh Life Assurance Company vs. St. Catharines, 10 Grant at page 385): "I incline to think that any appropriation for any purpose, not payable within the year requires the express sanction of the ratepayers." If the purchase was deferred until after the 1st of January next, and the price of the engine included in the estimates for the year 1880 it would not be necessary then to submit a by-law for the approval of the ratepayers. We return herewith your letter of the 15th inst., as requested.—Yours truly,

MACKELCUM, GIBSON &amp; BELL.

J. E. O'REILLY, Esq., Mayor, Hamilton.

On the strength of this somewhat indefinite opinion the council decided to fulfil their contract, and decided to submit instead thereof, a by-law for the consideration of the people. Not content with this failure of faith, this extraordinary council, in framing their by-law, again admitted the Ronald to a competition, from which, by the result of their own test, it should have been fairly excluded, and the citizens were not asked to authorize the purchase of the engine which their aldermen had decided to be the best, but to take the whole affair under their judgment, and pronounce themselves on the merits of the two machines. Is it to be wondered at that the people have very cavalierly rejected *Auld*? So our neighbors, after six months agitation and the expenditure of about \$1,200 on the discussion of an \$8,000 purchase, are in—much the same position in which they were at the beginning, ready to commence the matter *de novo*. We add no further comment at present on the obnoxiousness of aldermanic responsibility displayed by the Hamilton Council. The usual elements of log-rolling seem not to have been wanting, a charge of bribery having been made but not substantiated, and much of the people's money wasted, with no very edifying result. As to the merits of the respective engines it is not necessary we should speak, but we take exception to one point raised in the discussion, and to which we think but little value should attach, viz.: that the Silaby is objected to as requiring more skillful handling in working it than the other.

That such an objection should come from engineers surprises us as much as any part of this curious case. We had thought that the test of superiority would rest in efficiency of result, such as rapidity of firing up—volume of water to the pressure of steam, extent of boiler, and strength of build, &c., but never expected that engineers would decline against the necessity of skilled labor in handling capable and efficient machinery.

Extend your idea, gentlemen, to the use of fire brackets in preference to pumps if any sort whatever.

THE Fire Department of Cornwall have abandoned the use of Rubber Hoses, their experience of it having proved most unsatisfactory, and have just closed a contract with Mr. Blackwood to supply them with the celebrated Seamless Cotton Hose, made by the Esraña Fire Hose Co.

## American Fire News.

"BEELED UP" BY MAC.

MONTGOMERY, Alabama, has recently put in a fire alarm telegraph.

The citizens of Elkhart, Ind., boast of a first-class volunteer department.

The number of fire alarms in Boston last year were 561, with a loss of \$320,486.

The total number of uniformed men in the New York Fire Department is 721.

BROCKTON, MASS., has appropriated \$150,000 for an improved system of water supply.

The pay roll of the Cleveland, O., Fire Department for 1879 amounted to \$9,373.81.

H. J. DRAKE has been elected Chief Engineer of the Coldwater, Mich., Fire Department.

SEVERAL firemen were severely hurt at a fire at the Opera House, Sherman, Texas, recently.

CHIEF NEVINS, of Brooklyn, N. Y., is having the Scott Lightning Hitch placed upon his fire buggy.

The Friendship Fire Company, of Chambersburg, Pa., have completed their first one hundred years as an organization.

The Bennett medal, for bravery in saving life, has been presented to Foreman Meagher, of Truck 3, New York City.

MORSE'S improved triple attachment for hose pipes, has been purchased by the Boston Fire Commissioners for use in that Department.

SUPERINTENDENT KENNERD, of the Boston Fire Alarm Telegraph, has been removed from office and Engineer Flanders appointed as his successor.

AT AN auction sale of old fire material in New York recently, an old tower bell brought \$649; an old buggy wagon, \$9; and an old two-wheeled hose jumper, \$8.

THERE are 270 members in the Boston Veteran Firemen's Association. The annual banquet of the Association occurs at the Parker House, Boston, on March 10.

FOREMAN Treworgy, of Hose 1, Minneapolis, Minn., was badly injured by the upsetting of the cart while en route to a fire recently. He will be laid up for some time.

CHARLES DIXON, Second Assistant Engineer of the Albion, N. Y., Fire Department, was the recipient of a handsome gold fire badge from Steamer Company No. 2, of that town, recently.

CITIZENS Hose Company, of Warren, N. Y., presented their foreman, Mr. George E. Jennings, with an elegant gold badge recently. A banquet and a jolly good time followed the presentation.

The Robinson Hook and Ladder Company, of Canton, Ohio, recently presented Mr. J. B. Robinson, of Toronto, with a gold-headed cane. The cane is a beauty, appropriately engraved, and is a speaking tribute of the esteem in which Mr. Robinson is held by the Hooks of his name in Canton.

TWENTY-NINE steamers, twelve hose-carriages, eight hook and ladder trucks, two chemical engines, one aerial ladder and several supply wagons were in service at the last big blaze in Boston.

CHIEF ENGINEER John A. Bennett, of Cleveland, Ohio, reports that during the year 1879, his Department attended 296 fires, total loss, \$166,635 96, on which there was an insurance of \$435,282.

THE Boston Fire Commissioners contemplate introducing swinging harness into that Department, and are now making arrangements with Assistant Chief Joseph Speddy, of Cleveland, Ohio, to give his device a trial.

FIREMAN Thomas C. Kennedy, of Engine Co. No. 36, New York City, was an elegant silver trumpeter at St. Paul's Church fair, recently. Tom is a good fireman, and very popular among his friends in New York, and elsewhere.

THE fire ladders of Lincoln Hose, Gold Hill, Nevada, have moved their "mashieen" into the old Methodist Church building. "Salvation from fire," is the standing text of the discourse indulged in nightly by the "bushote."

JACK HORTON, driver of Hose 2, Minneapolis, Minn., was painfully injured while on the way to a fire recently. The cart struck the car track, and all hands were thrown off. Horton was dragged under the wheels, and the cords and muscles of one arm were nearly cut off.

CHARLES A. PARSONS, Chief of the Ferris, Ind., Fire Department, was presented with a mammoth cigar by Messrs. C. G. Carleton & Co., of Chicago, recently. The "wood" was 84 inches in length, and it is said that nearly all the boys in the department had a "whiff" of it.

A LADY, a regular shopper, who made an unfortunate clerk (umble over all the stockings in the store, object) that some of them were long enough. "I want," she said, "the longest hose that are made." "Then, madam," replied the clerk, "you had better apply at the nearest engine house."

The widow of the late J. L. Hughes, of Hook & Ladder No. 13, New York City, has received from the Fireman's Insurance Fund the sum of \$1000. Her name has been placed on the pension roll for \$300 per annum so long as she remains single, the rules providing that any such pension terminates when a widow dies or remarries.

THE Syracuse Fire Commissioners have adopted a newly perfected scheme of instructing the firemen of that department in the general plans of the principal blocks and buildings in that city. This mode of instruction is in vogue in New York City, and is found to be of very great advantage in familiarizing the men with the general arrangement of rooms, halls and hoist ways. It should be universally adopted, as both life and limb are in danger when firemen have to go into a building blindly.

MR. E. A. JAQUITH, of the Protectives, Rochester, N. Y., celebrated the 20th anniversary of his connection with that company at his house recently. During the evening he was surprised by a delegation from his company, who presented him with a magnificent secretary, and a handsome frame containing the photographs of the "bankers" of 1879.

CAPTAIN DEERING, of the Boston Fire Patrol, came near losing six men at the big fire in that city recently. They were in the basement of a building, engaged in covering up goods, when the upper floor gave way. They sprang for the doors and narrowly escaped with their lives. Captain Deering lost ninety tarpaulins, worth \$35 each, six lanterns, an axe and two extinguishers.

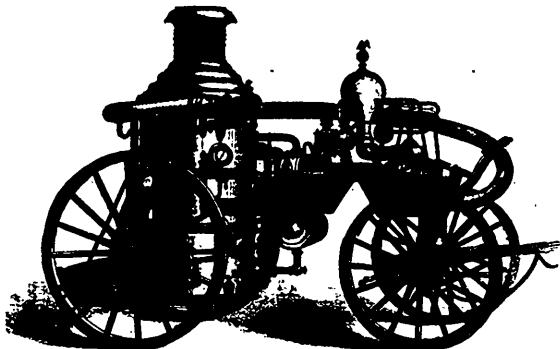
THE idea of pensioning firemen when they become disabled in service, is a good one, and we are pleased to note the fact that the Boston Fire Commissioners are taking steps to put the scheme into effect in that city. No class of men deserve more and receive less for their services than firemen, and it is high time that something of a nature that will guarantee them support in case of disaster, should be legislated upon.

THREE members of Engine Company No. 2, of Memphis, Tenn., were buried beneath a falling wall while in the performance of their duty at a fire on the 4th. Their names were P. Meath, A. Leonard and W. McCall. They were warned of their impending danger, but fearlessly stuck to their posts, and met their fate bravely. Messrs. Meath and Leonard were killed outright, but when the hot bricks and burning timbers were removed from the spot where Mr. McCall was imprisoned he was found alive, though suffering from a broken skull, ribs and internal injuries. Although in a precarious state he is expected to recover. The funeral of the other two victims occurred on the 7th, and was attended by an immense concourse of people. The fire department turned out in force. The draped trumpets and other insignia of mourning, and the solemn dirges of the band gave the funeral cortege a very impressive effect. About \$5,000 has been raised by subscription for the benefit of the families of the victims of this terrible accident.

PAUL BAUER, of Hook and Ladder 4, New York City, performed a brave and daring act in rescuing a lady named Avilla Starford from a burning building recently. The woman was in a third story window, and all avenues of escape were in a burning condition. The longest ladder available was about four feet too short to reach the window, and the woman's life seemed lost. Finally Bauer hit upon a plan, and collecting a crowd of citizens, the ladder was placed upon their shoulders, and he nimbly sprang up, and securing the imperiled woman, brought her in safety to the pavement. The ladder was only 34 inches broad by 24 inches thick at the base of the stiles, and tapered up—a very slender and rickety affair. Bauer weighed 172 pounds, and the lady 160 pounds, so the fall danger of this daring feat can be realized. For this noble act of heroism the name of Paul Bauer goes upon the roll of honor of the New York Fire Department.

# SILSBY MANUFACTURING CO'Y,

SENECA FALLS, N. Y.



THE SILSBY "CRANE-NECK" STEAM FIRE ENGINE.

**MORE THAN SIX HUNDRED SILSBY ENGINES IN USE.**

First Prize and Gold Medals at Moscow, 1872; Vienna, 1873; Chicago, 1878.

The SILSBY ENGINE has been before the public twenty years, and has proved itself to be the most reliable, durable and efficient Steam Fire Engine in the world. Builders of HOSE CARRIAGES, CARTS and REELS in all styles; THE SILSBY HEATER for Steam Fire Engines; HOLLY'S PATENT ROTARY PUMPS, the best known Fire Protection for Mills and Factories; and Dealers in FIRE DEPARTMENT SUPPLIES.

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Roofs, Turntables, Trestles and Wrought Iron Work in General.

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TABULATED RECORD OF FIRES IN CANADA FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY.

DATE Jan. 1 to 31.	PLACE.	Build'g	Cause of fire.	Insur-ance on prop'ty.	Total Losses Incurred.	DATE Jan. 1 to 31.	PLACE.	Build'g	Cause of fire.	Insur-ance on prop'ty.	Total Losses Incurred.
1...	Halleboro, Ont.	22	9	3	\$1,000	17...	Greenwood.....	23	9	\$1,800	2,000
1...	Dublin, Ont.	22	9	9	8	18...	Chatham.....	22A1	31	9	8
1...	Scott's Bay, N. S.	30	9	9	8	20...	St. George.....	53	9	16	\$1,500
1...	London.....	51	9	16	\$2,000	21...	Kingston.....	10 1/2	9	\$3,250	
1...	Hollin, Ont.	12	9	16	27	21...	Odesa.....	41	13	2,100	\$5,500
3...	London.....	22	9	9	\$400	21...	London.....	22	13	9	8
3...	Hamilton.....	14	9	9	\$500	22...	Gravenhurst, Ont.	33	9	9	8
3...	London.....	15	13	\$1,500	\$4,500	22...	Prescott.....	4	9	9	8
3...	Barton, Ont.	30	9	\$1,200	\$2,000	22...	Fort Elgin.....	14	9	1000	\$4,000
4...	Erin, Ont.	30	13	400	27	22...	Dunville.....	27	22	9	\$1,000
5...	Goderich.....	24	9	900	\$1,200	22...	Westminster, Ont.	22	13	9	\$1,000
5...	Sherbrooke.....	38	9	\$7,000	\$15,000	23...	Mitchell.....	30	29	3,000	\$8,000
6...	St. Jean Baptiste, Que.	14	9	9	600	26...	Hull, Que.....	30	9	9	\$7,000
7...	Ottawa.....	15	9	21	\$4,000	27...	Fort Elgin.....	17	13	2	\$3,600
7...	Woodstock, N. B.	57-30	31	2	\$5,000	27...	London.....	3	3	1,000	\$1,500
8...	Picton.....	22	3	9	250	27...	St. Catharines.....	14	13	9	\$400
8...	Millbrook.....	14	9	9	8	28...	Wallaceburg.....	14	13	2	8
10...	Virgo.....	14	9	600	\$1,000	28...	Ennismore, Ont.	14	9	700	\$1,500
10...	St. Marys.....	4	9	2	400	28...	Ottawa.....	14	9	9	500
10...	Kingston.....	14	9	400	8	28...	Second Falls, N. B.	30	9	2	8
11...	St. John, N. B.	22	9	16	\$1,000	28...	Derlin.....	15	13	9	\$6,000
11...	Kincardine.....	22	9	9	8	29...	Delhi.....	6	49	9	1,600
13...	Winnipeg.....	14	9	16	\$2,000	29...	Lloydton, Ont.	22	13	9	8
13...	Leamington, Ont.	14	3	\$2,200	\$4,000	29...	Ennismore.....	22	9	500	8
13...	Beaverton.....	14	9	2	\$600	29...	Truro, N. S.	16	23	9	1400
13...	Ottawa.....	14	9	400	8	29...	Kingston.....	14	9	9	8
13...	Lindsay.....	49	9	\$3,000	\$5,500	30...	Belleville.....	17	13	9	8
15...	Lucas, Ont.	22	13	\$2,000	\$4,000	30...	Fredericton, N. B.	4	9	2	800
15...	Frankford.....	22	21	9	\$1,000	30...	Carleton Place.....	37	9	2	\$2,000
15...	Port Elgin.....	37	9	9	\$1,000	30...	Victoria Farm, Ont.	23	9	9	\$1,000
16...	Parthill.....	51A	9	16	\$5,000	31...	Amherstburg.....	15	13	9	8
16...	Cobourg.....	22	9	500	800	31...	Belleville.....	47	9	16	2000
17...	Brough Townshp.	49	9	\$1,800	\$3,000	31...	Claudeboyrne, Ont.	14	22	9	6000

FIRES BROUGHT FOR JANUARY.—Number of fires reported, 66; losses on 42 fires, particulars of which are given, \$111,550; number of fires, partial particulars of which are supplied but losses not stated, 1; number of fires reported of which no particulars are given, 8; total amount of insurance reported, \$7,340,000.

FOLLOWING IS THE KEY TO THE ABOVE TABLE.

1—School House.	16—Dry House.	31—Jewelry Store.	47—Various Buildings.
2—No Insurance.	17—Tannery.	32—Children Playing with Matches.	50—Hop House.
3—Cane unknown.	18—Woolen Factory.	33—Shipper Factory.	51—Furniture Factory.
4—Railway Repair Shop.	19—Fully Insured.	34—Halls.	52—Blacksmith Shop.
5—Furniture Warehouses.	20—Cane and Stables.	35—Hub and Spoke Works.	53—Stereos.
6—Church.	21—Grocery Stores.	36—Grain Storage.	54—Barn Shop.
7—M. R. Depot.	22—Crane Storehouses.	37—Hub and Spoke Works.	55—Overs House.
8—Loss not reported.	23—Court House.	38—Grain Storehouses.	56—Baggage Car.
9—Not stated.	24—Large Linn over Insurance.	39—Drying House.	57—Spools from Locomotive.
10—Carriage Shop.	25—Printing Office.	40—Hot House.	58—Lamp Explosion.
11—Stationary and General Stores.	26—Saw Mill.	41—Chest or Floor Mill.	59—Bakery.
12—Accessibility Fwd.	27—Saw Mill.	42—Block of Stores.	60—Confabration.
13—Incapacity.	28—Saw Mill.	43—Residence and Outbuildings.	61—Cooper Shop.
14—Dwellings.	29—Saw Mill.	44—Sheddy Mill.	62—Barn Shop.
15—Steamboat.	30—Saw Mill.		63—Children burned to death.
16—Partially Insured, amount not reported.			

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(Successor to A. F. SPAWN & Co.)

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FIRE APPARATUS,

—AND—

UNIFORMS OF ALL KINDS,

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\$5 to \$20 per day at home. Stomach worth for a week in your own town. Terms and 25 cent fee. Address: BRITTON & Co., Portland, Maine. 7-19

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KINGSTON.

Illustrations of the danger attending oil lamps crop up every now and then. The explosion of a lamp in Mrs. C. Austin's premises on 26th ult. was nearly followed by disastrous results, and it was only due to the prompt appearance of the firemen with an extinguisher that such little damage was done.

On the same evening the brigade had another tussle with the flames in an old wooden building on Brock street, the property of Judge Price. The building was saved in a half-burned condition, and the fire is said to be the work of an incendiary.

The firemen are indebted to Mr. Meadows for an oyster supper, to which they were invited subsequent to the fire; and to the wife of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Brigade for coffee and refreshments while the burning was in progress.

NEEDS IMPROVEMENT.—Mr. E. Horsey, Chief of the Fire Department, needs a Morse key, by which he may communicate with any ward or fire box in the city. The nearest boxes to him are Nos. 3, 6 and 7, and Mr. Horsey says that with a key the apparatus at his place can be made to do double service, and answer as a sort of central box. The key should be ordered at once. He asked for it a year ago.

THE NEW YORK Belting and Packing Company, manufacturers of Rubber Hose, and also of the cotton hose known as "Cable Hose," has commenced suit against the American Hose Company, of Chelsea, manufacturers of what is known as "Jacket" hose for infringement of patent. It is claimed that the "Jacket" hose is made according to plans for which the Belting Company holds patents.



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INCORPORATED 1851.

Capital and Assets.....\$1,550,392 22  
Income for Year ending Dec. 31, 1878. \$905,806 66

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lightning on mercantile, manufacturing, farm and household risks, at current  
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AGENT, TORONTO.

THE  
LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE  
Insurance Company.

CAPITAL.....\$10,000,000  
INVESTED FUNDS (over).....\$29,000,000  
ANNUAL INCOME.....\$8,000,000

Liability of Shareholders, Unlimited.

Losses Paid since Organisation over \$70,000,000.

The especial advantage in insuring in this Com-  
pany is the security to policy holders against loss  
in the event of a large fire as well as a small one.

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AGENT AT TORONTO.

### Silsby Manufacturing Co. vs. Ridgetown.

We observe that application has been made in Chambers at Osgoode Hall to set aside a judgment obtained by the Silsby Manufacturing Co., of Seneca Falls, N. Y. From a glance through the papers we find the following to be the facts of the case:

Before taking up the matter a few words of explanation will assist the reader in arriving at a correct view of the case. The council of the corporation of Ridgetown for 1879 consisted of Mr. Whyte, Reeve (a highly respectable gentleman and private banker in the village); and Messrs Tolmie, McDonald, Moody and Rocky; councillors Among the council previous to the submission of the By-law, a difference of opinion, as usual, existed as to the best means of protection, and the council, in order to obtain information, sent a deputation to Buffalo, and on their return two reports were submitted to the people. One report by the Reeve, favoring Chemical Engines, and another by Rocky, favoring Steamers, and as the public meeting favored steamers almost unanimously, a By-law was submitted for purchasing a Steamer.

A By-law was passed on the 23rd of Aug. to raise by way of loan \$5,000 for purchasing a Steamer and equipments.

A few days previous to the voting on the By-law a Ronald engine was sent down from Chatham (in the same county) and tested. Messrs. Rocky and Moody, who took great interest in the Ronald engine, were invited by their sympathizers to a supper and their course endorsed. This, however, did not secure the immediate order for the purchase of the Ronald engine.

A resolution to purchase was now introduced into the Council by Messrs. Moody and Rocky to purchase the Ronald engine, which was militantly received by the opposers of this engine, but no contract was executed, or other action taken by the council to legally bind the corporation.

Immediately after this a petition was presented at the next meeting of the council, signed by 63 of the largest taxpayers, praying the council to stay completion of the purchase and invite manufacturers to bring steamers there to compete at their own expense, which was granted, and the clerk issued invitations as ordered by the council. To this the Silsby Co. replied that if the council would agree to take their engine if it did the best work, they would compete.

A deputation was now appointed consisting of Messrs. Whyte, Moody and McDonald to visit St. Catharines, which city had a second-hand Ronald engine for sale. The sympathizers of Ronald now got up a cry against a second hand engine, and subscribed a fund to pay the expenses of Rocky to accompany and watch the deputation which went to St. Catharines. The test of the St. Catharines engine being satisfactory to the deputation, they agreed to take it, but asked the matter to be held over till the committee reported, but the sympathizers gathered in

force, and it was decided a second hand engine was not the thing.

The council now agreed to the Messrs. Silsby's proposal, viz., to accept the engine which did the best work.

The Silsby Co. shortly after brought on their engine to test with the Ronald, and the result of the contest proved the superiority of the Silsby engine, and being at a less price than was asked for the Ronald, was purchased formally by the council under contract duly executed. A fire brigade was then formed and put in charge of the Silsby machine by the council.

The friends of the Ronald also formed an independent company, who took charge of the Ronald on their own account.

Ronald, on hearing of the action of the council, filed a bill in chancery to compel the council to hand over the debentures for the claimed purchase and delivery of his engine, some \$3,150.

And by resolution the council ordered the treasurer of the village, Mr. John A. Moody, (who, by the way, is a son of Councillor Moody) to hand over to the Messrs. Silsby \$3,000, the price of the engine, and some \$80, for hose, etc. The treasurer refused to hand over the debentures. The council then, very properly, dismissed Moody and appointed one Thos. Brown, and as Moody now refused to deliver over the debentures to his successor, the council, as their year of office was fast closing, now ordered new debentures to be made out and handed to the Silsby people, and now follows one of the most extraordinary proceedings of the whole transaction.

When some eight of the debentures had been signed and sealed, Rocky snatched at the roll, and got hold of them before the new treasurer, Brown, could secure them. A struggle then ensued for the possession of the debentures, during which they were completely destroyed.

The Silsby Co., who had a short time previously commenced an action to recover the price of the engine and equipments, now pressed for judgment, which was obtained by default in the early part of January. The municipal election returned all Ronald men, who, when they took office, immediately instituted proceedings to set aside the Silsby judgment, and the matter is now pending.

Should the Silsby judgment be set aside, both questions will be tried at the spring sittings on the court, whether the village of Ridgetown will be compelled to pay for one engine of two.

### Old Fire Department.

THE ELECTION—THE RESOURCES, AND A BELIEF THAT "CHARITY SHOULD BEGIN AT HOME."

Detroit, Jan 29

The Old Fire department, at its annual meeting last evening elected Alex. W. Copland, president, Henry W. Starkey, vice-president, Mark Flanigan Secretary, and a

board of Trustees comprising Oliver Bourke, Thos. S. Christie, Jas. Reid, Daniel Sullivan, Simon Cohen, Daniel Shanahan (to fill vacancy), and William Sales. Mr. Copland went in upon a vote of 73 to 33 cast for Mr. Hinchman. The secretary's yearly report showed total assets of \$56,361.73, with no liabilities.

The trustees made a long report upon the condition of the association's property, and suggested that Firemen's hall on Jefferson avenue should be remodelled and renovated all through and have a new roof new fronts, and a general and thorough overhauling, at the expense of about \$8,000 or \$10,000. During the year \$6,732 has been paid to disabled and indigent firemen, their widows and orphans, under the recommendation of the relief committee and special cases acted on by the board. The board thought that worthy applicants should not be limited to the pittance hitherto doled out to them, and that the clear duty of the association was to make the declining years of the helpless, sick and destitute as comfortable as possible. The members were fast thinking out, many of the old men, and old women and children suffering, while the coffers of the association were overflowing with money resulting from their labor and services rendered in their youth and vigor. In conclusion the board refers vaguely to the moral fight of last summer and says that "charity should begin at home," that the money earned by the members by toil and hardship, valorous and efficient service, loss of health, time, money clothing, want of rest, anxious watching night and day, and the many incidents of a fireman's life entitle them to their own property; that all contributions by citizens have been amply repaid by the protection of their lives and property; that all such donations were given by noble and voluntary organization for that purpose; that no claim has ever been preferred, nor can justly and equitably be maintained that a full equivalent has not been rendered for such donations. They then say that many old members are indigent, disabled and their families in need; that numerous widows and orphans of deceased firemen are suffering and that they should be liberally and generously provided for before making any magnificent donation to outside charities, which are numerous and well supported with all the public and private means they ask for.

A CORRESPONDENT writes: I am now having built a fire ladder, the invention of a New Yorker. It is 115 feet in length, with Truck and turntable complete. This ladder, when hoisted and on the Truck, is ten feet shorter than the Truck and Ladder now in use; will rest on the sides of the street and be extended to the roof of any building; is self-supporting; can be thrown up in any angle, is as firm and strong when perfectly perpendicular as at any angle, can be hoisted and operated by two men; when run to a fire can be fully extended to any angle in 2 1/2 minutes, and when fully extended will sustain at the extreme end, from ten to twenty men without leaning against the building. It will rescue people on both sides of the street without moving the Truck. We are in hopes to have a ladder and Truck finished by April, when we propose to take a person from the top of the Astor House, a second from the Post Office, and a third from the building on the upper corner of Barclay street, without moving the truck from its first position on Broadway. Our model has been examined by the fire commissioners and pronounced by them the ladder wanted. With this ladder in use in our fire department there need be no loss of life in burning buildings for want of means to escape when the person reaches a window or the roof.—F.F.

# HOLLY'S IMPROVED WATER WORKS

## DIRECT PUMPING PLAN.

Combines, with other advantages, over older systems the following: 1—Secures by variable pressure a more reliable supply of water for all purposes. 2—Less cost for construction. 3—Less cost for maintenance. 4—Less cost for daily supply by the use of Holly's Improved Pumping Machinery. 5—Affords the best fire protection in the world. 6—Largely reduces insurance risks and premiums. 7—Dispenses with fire engines in whole, or in part. 8—Reduces fire department expenses.

## HOLLY'S NEW AND IMPROVED COMPOUND PUMPING ENGINE

is so arranged that it may be operated on the COMPOUND, LOW PRESSURE, OR HIGH PRESSURE PRINCIPLES and changed from one to the other at pleasure without stopping. The arrangement is essential to securing

### ECONOMICAL DAILY PUMPING and PROMPT INCREASE OF POWER for EFFICIENT FIRE PROTECTION.

These engines show a daily output of 61,000,000 and over pounds of water raised one foot, with one hundred pounds of coal, when pumping directly into the mains.

Water works on this plan of operation ranging from one to twelve million gallons daily, have been put in successful operation by this company within the last few years in over SEVENTY cities and villages in the United States, including the following important places:

Acworth, Ga., Capital of California; Denver, Capital of Colorado; Atlanta, Capital of Georgia; Indianapolis, Capital of Indiana; Des Moines, Capital of Iowa; Columbus, Capital of Ohio; Evansville, Ind.; Burlington, North Island, Ill.; Evansville, La.; Jackson, Miss.; Lexington, Ky.; Johnson, Tenn.; Erie, Pa.; New York, N. Y.; Boston, Mass.; Cambridge, Mass.; Cumberland, Maryland; Bay City, Mich.; St. Louis, Mo.; Dayton, Ohio; Youngstown, Ohio; Toledo, Ohio; Duluth, Minn.; St. Paul, Minn.; Memphis, Tenn.; Norfolk, Va.; Martinsburg, West Virginia.

Notes—The cities retained in Holly's Improved Compound Engine. All others have the other styles of Machinery. These marked \* have both steam and water power.

For information by descriptive pamphlet, or otherwise, address the

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## FIRE HYDRANTS

With SINGLE or DOUBLE FROST JACKETS, with and without INDEPENDENT GATES. Catalogs and price lists on application

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## THE FIRE KING AN UNCHALLENGED RECORD

### EXTINGUISHER.

During the last six years that THE FIRE KING EXTINGUISHER has been before the Canadian public.

Hundreds of Fires Have Been Extinguished

BY THEIR USE, and hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of property saved by this means alone.

The Cheapest and Most Efficient Fire Protection for private buildings, hotels, factories, etc., obtainable.

What E. R. BULLWINKLE, Superintendent of Fire Insurance Patrol, Chicago, Says of the Fire Extinguisher.

As to their workings, I cannot find words enough to speak as I feel in their use, for without them this organization (The Chicago Fire Insurance Patrol) many times would have been helpless. The love that we have entertained, in all probability, in a great many cases would have been terminated in a non-recognition, ending a great loss to insurance companies, the insured as well as the insured.

We would call the attention of Chiefs of Fire Departments to the importance of having Extinguishers on every Hose Reel and Hook and Ladder Truck, as they can frequently be used in otherwise inaccessible places, while the hose is being unrolled and the engines getting ready for work, thus saving much valuable time and damage of goods by water.

Charges for Fire King and Babcock Extinguishers on hand.

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Through a long series of years conclusively proved

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STANDARD  
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OAK LEATHER HOSE.

THE MOST ECONOMICAL,  
THE MOST DURABLE

THE MOST RELIABLE  
HOSE FOR FIRE SERVICE.

The oldest and most experienced Firemen admit that LEATHER HOSE WAS SO EQUAL, and publicly state that

The Life of Standard Leather is from Five to Twenty Years.

While that of Fabric Hose does not exceed three years.

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See Our monthly-published pamphlet of 24 pages, on "Fire Hose, Water Pressure and Engines," sent free to any address.

## For the Fire Journal.

## The Night Alarm.

The night was cold with icy blast—  
The sky with clouds was overcast—  
The piercing wind and blinding sleet  
Were shivering thro' the open street.  
The patrollers flushed and gave pain,  
Dancing to the music of the gale.  
The fire patrol, with weary feet,  
Alertly paced his dreary beat;  
With watchful gaze and watchful horn,  
Braving the fury of the storm.

At length his eye detects a glare,  
And he hears a cry in deep despair—  
"Fire! fire!" "Help! help!" "My God, the fire just!"  
And the sound on the temple's bench is heard.  
As quick as lightning the alarm springs  
To the corner box. The alarm bell rings!  
And, in a moment, down the street,  
Comes the sound of galloping horses' feet,  
The rattle of gong and the rattle of wheels,  
Made by the engines, trucks and reels.  
A volume of smoke and loud steam,  
Leap upward and their victim claim.

In the upper story of the block  
A fair young girl awaits the shock  
Of death in one of our cruelest shapes,  
As a fiery pit beneath her gapes.  
Her agonizing prayers are o'er,  
She slinking sinks upon the floor,  
The militant firemen are quick to act  
And do their duty with ready feet.  
A ladder is raised with willing hands,  
To a window among the burning brands,  
And a brave young member of their band  
Springs up the rungs with a steady hand.  
He reaches the window and sees the frame  
He descends in the smoke and flame.  
The crackling floor boards 'neath his feet  
As he presses on their smoky and heat  
To the spot where the hapless maiden lies  
With pallid face and staring eyes.  
Grasping his prize in a firm embrace,  
He bears her one with a glowing face.  
His blundered hands and slugging hair  
Are frozen in the sheets that trail the air—  
"She's saved!" And his comrades cluster round  
As he brings her safely to the ground.  
He gasps—"Here, take her, I'm done for Dave,"  
And he hurries back on the icy pave.  
His fearful comrades rushed into haste,  
But found that their brave young comrade was dead.  
He had borne his pain without a moan  
And in saving a life gave up his own.

All honor to his gallant name,  
We'll worthy of the roll of fame,  
And say the grass in beauty wave  
E'er fresh and green show his grave.  
God bless the fireman in every land,  
Who daily take their lives in hand;  
With quick response to duty's call,  
They leave both fire and falling wall.

J. A. MACDONALD.

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 29, 1880.

## An Efficient Fire Department.

The statistics of the Fire Department show that there were 1,541 fires in the city in 1879, against 1,655 in 1878. In 1877 there were 1,430. The only printed statistics with which these can be compared are those of the first three years of the existence of the paid department—1865, 1867 and 1868—when there were 798, 873 and 740 fires respectively. The increase in the number of fires may be accounted for by the increase of

the city, and the addition of such districts as Westchester to the area covered by the statistics. The higher efficiency of the fire department is indicated in the fact that while the percentages of total destruction of buildings by fire were 7, 6.1-3 and 5 per cent. for 1866, 1867 and 1868 respectively; the percentage for 1877, 1878 and 1879 were only 3.45, 1.14 and 1.6 per cent. of total loss. This difference is said to be due to the perfected system of fire alarm now in use, the convenient arrangement of quarters for men and horses, insuring the prompt response to the signals, and the introduction into the city of a large number of new hydrants, which have always been regarded as soon as the Commissioners requested them.

The principal causes of fires have been carelessness on the part of servants or occupants of houses (this is accountable for nearly one-fourth of all the fires) lost chimneys, explosion of kerosene lamps, and window curtains near gas jets. The number of fires from kerosene has been reduced from 136 in 1877 to 93 in 1879, by the methodical inspection of the oil ordered for sale, and the reputation of its quality, and of the quantity kept in store. Men are constantly employed in collecting samples, which are labelled and tested, and the dealer is attended to if his sample is below the standard fixed by the law. The dealers are getting to understand that they cannot keep an inferior oil without detection, and the consequence is that there is seldom any offered for sale that is not of good quality.

A letter was recently sent to the Fire Commissioners by the Commissioners of Education and Correction calling attention to the inadequate protection against fire at Blackwell's, Randall's and Ward's Island. Commissioner Breanan has been endeavoring for a long time to get better facilities for putting out fires that might occur at the various institutions, and since the fatal fire at Bellevue Hospital he has not allowed the subject to rest. The Fire Commissioners have given the matter prompt attention, and have appointed Commissioner Van Cott and Gorman a committee to make personal inspection of the islands.

Commissioner Breanan has also consulted with the Dock Department with reference to the facilities for taking fire engines from New York to the islands in case of fire, and the department has already altered the pier at One-hundred-and-sixth st. to allow the passage of the engines to Ward's Island, and has taken steps to make similar alterations in the piers at 525, 530, 535 and One-hundred-and-eighty-eighth st., for access to Blackwell's and Randall's Islands.

## Great Britain.

Although Captain Shaw's report upon the fires in London last year speaks well for the zeal and energy of the Fire Brigade, it is clear that the existing organization of the brigade does not afford adequate protection to the metropolis. It is true that last year there was a less number of serious fires than in 1878; but compared with the average of the seven previous years, the more serious ones showed no decrease in 1879, while there was an increase of 151 in the total number. Again, if a comparison is made with 1866 (the year the brigade was established) the total number of fires last year showed an increase of 360, or no less than 28 per cent;

though the proportion of serious ones was considerably less. Although the value of property destroyed by fire in 1879 was exceptionally small as compared with the previous year, the fires were more fatal during last year, no fewer than 31 persons losing their lives, or seven more than in 1878. The strength of the brigade consisted of only 432 men of all ranks, and when we are told that during the year there were 297 cases of ordinary illness, and sixty-nine injuries, or 366 in all, many of which were serious, it is evident that the number available for duty must have been reduced far below what was safe. Three years ago the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the working of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade expressed a strong opinion that the strength of the force was inadequate for the work assigned to it, and the committee drew attention to the fact that after deducting the number of men employed with the fire-escapes there were only 265 available for duty with the engines and at the stations. Since then fifty men have been added to the brigade, but as the fire-escapes have been increased from 106 to 139, the number now available for ordinary duty remains much the same. If the rate were increased to a penny, as recommended by the Select Committee, the additional sum obtained would probably suffice to place the brigade upon an efficient footing.

The Metropolitan Board of Works has recently tried an experiment in the conduct of Fire Brigade Department which has proved so successful that it will be acted upon immediately. As London increases from year to year, the number of stations is increased, so that there should be a certain proportion between the chances of danger and the proximity of aid. But houses are now run up so lightly, walls are so thin, and lath and plaster are so largely substituted for stone and brick, that it is found that to make assistance effectual it should be rendered with extraordinary promptitude. A fire brigade station is necessarily a fixture. The engine must be permanently kept in its own house, with men and horses on the spot to manage and transport it. In the meantime the alarm has to be given and notice sent to the other stations. In this respect, indeed, the service is above all praise. Speed is the first duty in the fireman's code, and has been handed down as a tradition from the days when Horace Smith described the race of the various engines to the relief of the burning pile in Drury Lane. But the London streets are not what they were in the days of the Rejected Addresses; and though a fire engine seems to thunder along with resistless force, it is clear that in the course of its journey there must often be delay, and some serious danger. The new experiment seeks to deal with this difficulty. The permanent stations of the Fire Brigade are retained, and additions will be made to their number as necessity shall arise. These local institutions will, however, be supplemented by movable fire stations which will be placed at selected centres of traffic. For some time past one of these has been quartered at Lodge-gate, and the success of this tentative measure has decided its general adoption. Some means should be taken to make the selected localities well known to the interested householders. The stations are connected by a network of telegraph wires. The delay arises in the first communication of the intelligence.

Last year the London Fire engines traversed 50,497 miles, or about 1 1/2 times the length of the circumference of the globe. The quantity of water used for extinguishing fires in the Metropolis in the year was 16,122,123 gallons, or about 72,000 tons.

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# SAMSON, KENNEDY & GEMMEL

Are making extensive preparations for the coming Spring Trade. They have **THREE** BUYERS at present in the EUROPEAN MARKETS selecting at the chief SOURCES OF SUPPLY GOODS for the approaching Season. Already they are advised of the **LARGE PURCHASES** of

## DRESS GOODS & PRINTS

Notwithstanding the general advance in all classes of goods, they have secured nearly everything at old prices. Their Stock will be more than usually attractive. In Staple Goods, their assortment of

Prints, Shirtings, Linens, Ticks, Linings, Ducks, &c., &c.,

**WILL BE LARGE**

---

IN HABERDASHERY AND SMALL WARES

Their Assortment will be unrivalled.

---

—IN—

## Dress Goods and Cashmeres

They will show the largest Stock to be found in the Trade.

---

IN HOSIERY AND GLOVES

The assortment will be immense, embracing German Products.

---

IN GENTS' FURNISHINGS

They will show the latest novelties.

---

**44 SCOTT & 19 COLBORNE STS.,**

**TORONTO.**

## Toronto Firemen's Wages.

The Fire and Gas Committee met yesterday. Present—Ald. Farley (chairman), Love, Adamson, Crocker, Ryan, Trees, Baster and Piper.

A petition was presented signed by over 600 ratepayers, for an increase of pay to the firemen, 1-5 cents per hour more being asked for the foreman of each station, and 2-5 cents for the men. This would be an increase of \$705 per year for the former and \$123 for the latter, giving them in all \$705 and \$603 per year respectively.

A number of gentlemen were present to support the petition, and were asked to address the Committee.

Mr. Walter S. Lee thought the men were trustworthy and efficient, and would like to see them well paid. He would not give a decided opinion as to the sufficiency of their present pay.

Mr. James B. Huestead asked the Committee to look into the matter thoroughly, and to grant the increase if they thought there were grounds for doing so. He would not recommend the increase, but thought the question deserved consideration.

Mr. Pearson addressed the Committee in favor of an increase.

The deputation then withdrew and the Committee proceeded to consider the matter.

Ald. Baster would not agree to an increase at the present time, and moved that the petition be not entertained.

Ald. Close moved in amendment that it be left over until the salaries by-law come up for consideration. He saw that Messrs. Manning, W. B. Butler, John Morrison and other members of the Property Owners' Association had signed the petition, and he would like to ascertain how these gentlemen could sign it and then advocate the general cutting down of salaries.

Ald. Love suspected that these property owners wished to ingratiate themselves with the firemen.

Ald. Ryan was altogether opposed to the increase and would support Ald. Baster's motion.

After some further discussion Ald. Close's amendment was carried.

Among the many anomalies in the relation of men to each other, that of the employer to the employe furnishes more matter for thoughtful reflection than most. If this may be maintained in individual cases, it is sometimes more manifest in corporations, which are said to have "neither bodies to be kicked nor souls to be saved." It is indeed noted that men who would separately shrink from action of a mean or oppressive nature, become, in their corporate capacity, oblivious of the respect due to any shred of generous character they may happen individually to possess, and are thereby led to results which, calmly considered, may well cover them with shame.

To the interests especially under our care the effects of parsimonious dealing with the firemen's pay are so plainly disastrous that the advocacy of an opposite course would seem superfluous. Instances, however, are constantly occurring to demonstrate the contrary, and it becomes necessary to deal with them as they arise. It usually happens that men in office, yielding to a general feeling, carry it to extremes, and at present a sort of retrenchment fever possesses our corporations, so that now you will see alder-

men and councillors ready to out-Herod Herod in the race for economic glory.

A strange sight truly, though not one to be discouraged—but let them set bounds to their zeal. There is surely "ample room and verge enough" without grudging a reasonable wage to men who, day and night, are held at call for perilous service, and whose life is circumscribed to the limits of duty. Does the city father, who may be presumed to fare sumptuously and "sleep well of nights," realize the discomforts, not to say dangers, of a fireman's life? Surely not, or the heart that lives quietly in an easy bed, would readily yield to these men wages more compatible with their arduous labors than the amount at present paid them.

## Explosion in a Paper Mill.

This is the second explosion, within a short time, that has taken place in a paper mill. A little over a year ago a pulp boiler exploded in the Dominion Paper Mills, and last week another similar one has taken place in the Canada Paper Company's premises, near Sberbrooke, Quebec; attended with loss of life and maiming others for life. An adjustment of the loss will be a difficult matter, as the Fire Insurance Companies are only liable to damage not caused by explosion, which is very great, but the burning after.

## Fire Insurance Business in New York for 1879.

The losses chronicled in our last issue for Canadian Fire Insurance Company's business of 1879 have had their parallel in New York.

Only nine of the eighty-one companies of that state increased their surplus last year, and the capital invested has been reduced by over \$1,300,000. The following six companies having retired from business, viz. Adriatic, Amity, Atlantic, New York Central, Ridgewood and Safeguard.

## Nitro-Glycerine Explosion.

At six o'clock this morning, January 16th, the citizens of Prince Arthur's Landing were awakened from their slumbers by a most terrible shock. Some thought the world had come to an end, while others took in the situation at once, and thought it must have been the Ontario Powder Company's works, situate nearly a mile from the main part of the town. Such it proved to be. Less than half an hour after the report there were over one hundred men on the scene. The cause of the explosion was fire in the main building. The buildings comprising the works are situated as follows:—On the right is the engine-house, in connection with which is the composition room. In the rear of this is the residence of Dr. Volney, the proprietor, where some of the men in connection with the works board. To the left of the engine-house is a storage building, and to the left of that again is the main building, where the nitro-glycerine and Volney powder is manufactured. Again to the left of this is the magazine where the nitro-glycerine and powder is kept after being manufactured. From the

engine house to the factory are extended water and steam pipes, the place being heated by steam from the engine-house. A heat of 80° is required to be kept up all the time, therefore they have a night watchman to keep up the fire in the boiler. The watchman was looking out of the window facing Thunder Bay, when he saw a reflection on the snow. He went over to the other window and saw a light shinning from the window of the boiler room, but could not put it out. He went over, and upon opening the door, saw the building was on fire. He grabbed some old clothes hanging near, and threw them upon the fire, but could not put it out. He then rushed out to the house to tell Dr. Volney, who, seeing how matters stood, told him to turn on the water and get out of the way. He turned on the water, and when rain outside and lay down behind a woodpile. He had barely got there when the terrible explosion occurred. It so happened that the building and its contents went in the direction of the engine house, riding that and the residence into splinters and carried the debris for several hundred yards out into the bay. Large masses of frozen earth, weighing at least fifty pounds, were carried for a quarter of a mile in various directions. The engine was removed out of place, and everything else turned upside down. The shock must have exploded the glycerine in the magazine as not a particle of that remains to be seen. Where it stood is a round hole fifty feet across and about twenty feet deep. The ice in Thunder Bay cracked, and a short distance out can be seen open water.

The escaped occupants of the residence seem almost miraculous. Dr. Volney, Mr. Cole, and a lady, who was housekeeper, were in the building at the time and escaped without injury.

Dr. Volney reckons his loss will be in the neighborhood of \$3000, while the damage in town and at Fort William is considerable. On the principal streets of Prince Arthur's Landing no great structures are broken. The places that received the most damage are O'Connell's drug store, windows broken and bottles emptied on the floor; Mark's windows; Crush's saloon, bar and windows; also the windows of Messrs. Vigar, Kennedy, Daniels, Pratt, Griffin, Bonin, Claver, Clark, Street, Park, Gellion, Wilcox, Cook; the Queen's Mining Exchange, and American hotels; town hall and school house, some of the churches and private residences without number. In the *Sentinel* office the type was upset and made into pt, and the front of the building almost torn out.

There was a great demand for glass in the stores next morning. The fire in the factory cannot be accounted for.

Goodrich fire alarm has been found inefficient.

A WRITER in HAPER'S Magazine tells us that in 1774 George Washington was a member of the "Friendship Fire Company."

THE Corporation of Perth, having determined to place their Fire Department in the front rank as regards appliances, have ordered a quantity of the Eureka Seamless Cotton Hose from Mr. Blackwood, the agent for Canada.

THE two highest and best throws of water of which there is definite record are the following: At Burlington, Ia., at the time of the recent Grant reception, a solid three inch stream was thrown to a height of 304 feet; at Rochester, N. Y., a solid four-inch stream to a height of 297 feet.

### Gore District Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

The forty-first annual meeting of this Company was held in Galt, on Monday the 26th day of January. The President, Mr. R. S. Young, occupied the chair, and Mr. R. M. Strong, Managing Director, read the following

#### REPORT.

The directors at the expiration of their term of office beg to submit the following statement of the transactions of the Company during the year 1879.

There have been issued 1879 new policies (not including renewals) and the total number in force is 4,559, insuring \$4,019,780.

The income from all sources was \$51,162.41 and the expenditure for losses paid expense of management, agent commission, etc., \$65,666.25. From this it will be seen, that taking into consideration our surplus of last year as well as this, a slight reduction in the rate of assessment might have been made—but your directors—carrying out the system of prudent management which they laid down for their guidance two years ago, have not thought it advisable to do so; but rather to create the reserve fund which the statute permits, feeling assured that this action on their part will meet with your approval, as it has done with that of our customers generally.

Reference to the statement of assets and liabilities will show that our surplus has increased very satisfactorily. The fact that we have been able to pay our losses and all other expenses, and, after giving your insurance at a saving of 30 per cent. as compared with stock companies, and setting aside 50 per cent. of all cash premiums as a reinsurance fund, still have a cash surplus of \$11,056.67, should be sufficient to refute the statements of those who make it their business to decry Mutual Companies, and at the same time to confirm the opinions of those, who maintain that mutuality is the true principle of insurance, and that it only requires to be carried out with wisdom and integrity to be proved such.

The deposit with the Government has been increased to 16,000, and on July 1st will be still further increased.

In consequence of the cancellation and expiration of old policies and the refusal to renew others at former rates, the total volume of business is about the same as last year, but the number of new policies issued during the year just closed is 335 in excess of those issued in 1878, and the amount insured under them is \$428,915 larger than the amount written in that year. Your directors point with pleasure to this feature in the Company's business, as an evidence that the "Gore" not only maintains its good name with the public, but that its popularity is increasing.

During the year just closed, the Ontario Government appointed an Inspector of Insurance whose duty it is to examine into the condition of the various companies doing business in the Province, and report the same to the Lieutenant Governor. We anticipated

poor good results from this action; already some weak companies have been prohibited from doing business, and we think it will have the effect of preventing similar ones from starting. This will prove beneficial to solvent, loss-paying companies, as without doubt the plausible statements of the agents of the companies—established largely in the interests of a few officials—have had the effect in many cases of making parties dissatisfied with the rates which sound principles of underwriting render it necessary to impose.

We beg your careful consideration of each item of our expenditure, confidently believing that you will be satisfied therewith.

The law costs have been reduced to a minimum; the sum of \$21.19 only having been expended on that item.

The two unadjusted losses reported last year were both settled amicably; the claimant in each case accepting the sum first offered by the company.

We are pleased to be able to tell you that the losses of the year just expired, with one exception, involving a small sum only, have been satisfactorily adjusted.

The Inspector's report and the statement of receipts and expenditure in detail, and of assets and liabilities certified by your auditors are appended.

We regret to note the death of Mr. Adam Ker, one of your directors, during his term of office, whose usefulness as a member of this board his co-directors take this opportunity of recognizing.

We have much pleasure in stating that the attention bestowed upon the Company's affairs by the officers in charge is all that we could desire.

Signed,

JAS. YOUNG,

President.

R. S. STRONG, Secretary and Managing Director.  
Galt, 26th Jan., 1880.

#### STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS.	
Balance from 1878.....	\$10,188 32
Cash premiums.....	\$25,615 47
Assessments.....	24,863 21
	30,478 68
Extra premiums.....	77 24
Transfer fees.....	39 44
	136 68
Bills payable.....	8,400 00
Interest.....	547 06
	8,947 06
	\$69,730 74

EXPENDITURE.	
Claims of 1878.....	\$ 2,075 00
Claims of 1879.....	30,601 37
	32,676 37

Commission.....	5,347 36
Salaries.....	3,799 72
Law costs.....	31 19
Interest.....	262 61
Office postage.....	233 44
Agents' postage.....	144 56
Fringing.....	136 65
Stationery.....	314 86
Telegrams.....	37 10
Unearned premiums.....	724 83
Traveling expenses.....	573 03
Office rent.....	130 00
Advertising.....	120 39
Incidentals.....	155 30
Re-insurance.....	543 09

Transfer fees returned.....	3 00
Auditors fees.....	50 00
Carriage.....	30 75
Bonus to agents on profitable balances.....	367 03
Directors fees.....	665 00
Government license.....	25 00
Contingent to claims.....	148 57
	13,989 88
Bills payable.....	8,158 44
Balance as per statement of assets and liabilities.....	14,956 75
	\$69,730 74

ASSETS.	
Cash in office.....	75 35
Cash in bank.....	2,846 88
Cash with Treasurer of Ontario.....	6,000 00
Agencies.....	5,690 35
Recoverable law costs.....	399 74
Office furniture.....	73 93
Mortgages.....	70 00
	14,956 75

Accrued interest.....	87 50
Assessments unpaid due and not due.....	1,109 02
Assessments at 21 per cent. earned to 31st Dec. 1879.....	12,243 10
	13,439 62
	\$28,395 86

To balance being surplus.....	\$11,056 67
To premium notes.....	\$116,601 00
Less for assessments.....	36,729 31
	79,871 69

Total capital to meet losses.....	\$90,968 36
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LIABILITIES.	
Claims adjusted not due.....	958 00
Claims unadjusted.....	200 00
	1,158 00

Bills payable.....	3,225 76
Re-insurance of other companies.....	100 70
Interest accrued.....	7 00
	3,333 46

Fifty per cent. re-insurance cash premium policies.....	12,807 33
Balance.....	11,056 67
	\$23,864 00

Signed,

Wm. M. TORRING, } Auditors.

J. M. CAVEAS, }

Galt, 26th Jan. 1880.

To the President, Directors and members of the Gore District Mutual Fire Insurance Co.

Gentlemen,—We hereby certify that we have examined the Company's books for the year ending December 31st, 1879, having gone over all the receipts and expenditures, with vouchers, agents' accounts, claims against the Company settled, and still pending, the journal and ledger carried and bank account with cheques, also carefully inspected the premium notes assets of the Company, and find the whole correct.

We would likewise take the liberty of stating that the method of book-keeping in use appears to us to leave little to be improved on, and its efficiency speaks highly for the qualifications and industry of the Company's officers here.

Wm. M. TORRING, } Auditors.

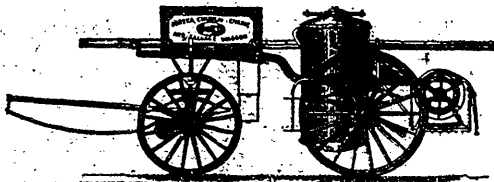
JOSEPH CAVEAS, }

Galt, Jan. 24th, 1880.

THE EUREKA

# CHEMICAL ENGINE.

THROWS A STREAM FROM 50  
TO 100 FEET.



CAN BE RECHARGED IN TWO  
MINUTES.

## THE MOST EFFICIENT FIRE APPLIANCE

NOW BEFORE THE PUBLIC.

FULLY EQUIPPED WITH LADDERS, AXES,

And everything to attack fire in the quickest possible manner.

A COMPLETE FIRE DEPARTMENT IN ITSELF.

Science and Speed vs. Steamers and Old-Fashioned Theory.

An Effective Fire Stream in Ten Seconds from the Time the Machine Arrives on the Ground.

Experience has proved that Corporations depending upon Chemical Engines for their fire protection save SEVEN BUILDINGS STANDING OUT OF TEN, with comparatively small damage by water, while for steamers the best record is three buildings standing out of ten, with a large damage by water.

One town in Illinois of 7,000 inhabitants, with a Fire Department consisting of two steamers and one Chemical, has not used their steamers but once in three years, doing all the work with the Chemical, Hook and Ladder truck, and light apparatus. This town had eight fires last year alone.

Second-Hand Steam and Hand Fire Engines for Sale.

Send for circular and price list of fire apparatus.

W. MORRISON,

Secretary FIRE EXTINGUISHER MANUFACTURING COMPANY, TORONTO.



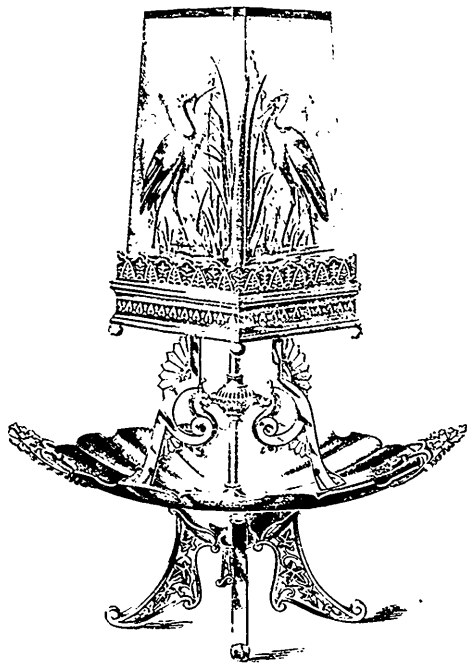
ZIMMERMAN, McNAUGHT & Co.,

MANUFACTURERS' AGENTS,

56 YONGE ST., TORONTO.

The Leading Electro-Plate House of Canada

Fine Quadruple-Plated Hollow Ware.



Electro-Plated Spoons and Forks, Etc.

SHEFFIELD STERLING SPOONS & FORKS. UNPLATED.

STEEL AND PLATED CUTLERY.

Zimmerman, McNaught & Co., 56 Yonge St., Toronto.