THE LAST BIG FIRE THERE AND WHAT IT SUGGESTS.

Something Is Yet to Be Learned-Precautions That Amount to Nothing in Emergencies-Some of the Striking Incidents of a Very Lively Day.

Boston, March 14.—Friday afternoon a number of gentlemen who profess to know talked very wisely in a room in the city ergency. hall. They have been talking ever since ago, and they haven't got through yet.

One gentleman made the remark that there was no great danger of a fire in the same district for some time to come. This was taken for what it was worth, but was consolation for a number of those who heard it; for anyone who can give any good reason why there will not be a big fire in Boston, within a few weeks, or can show any practical way of preventing one, or stopping it once it gets started, has a great future if the average Bostonian can do anything to help him work it out.

Shortly after the remark was made, howin city hall counted 52, and looked at each other. Then it came again and they looked out of the windows. The fire had come, and with a vengeance.

Before it got through about \$4,000,000 fold. worth of property had been destroyed.

All Boston was excited. It has been more or less excited since the beginning of the year, and despite the fact that President Cleveland has been inaugurated since that time, and that the rapid transit question has been very much on top, the fire problem has been worrying a large proportion of the people.

The excitement has not reached the pitch it did in St. John in 1877, when everybody who was not burned out and " lived in the rink," sat up nights waiting for their turn to come, and when every stranger was looked upon as a fire-bug who was waiting till nightfall to apply the torch. The circumstances are different, but the peoplethe business men more particularly—are

efficient fire department, and so did Boston | the fund themselves, and it is claimed that when it had its great scorcher many years ago, but now it has a fire department which embraces everything the 19th century affords, and men who have experience enough to know how to use it. Still the fires burn when they get a start. Something else is needed. Something is wrong. What it is is the great problem, which, although discussed almost to death, has not been solved?

It was claimed that the Federal street fire was not properly handled, but no complaint has as yet been made about the management of the recent fire. The construction of the buildings is the complaint. This has been discussed before, but now is the one great subject. The huge Ames building covered nearly a block, and was divided by a single brick wall, on each side of which were scores of rooms with thin par-

The fire swept through these as though they were paper. Scores of people had to jump from windows, or run through fire to escape being burned to death. Four or five were killed.

And this with laws innumerable upon the Statute books, laws on the constuction of buildings, the placing of fire escapes, of fire-proof walls, and goodness knows how many 'other things, all of which special inspectors are supposed to look after, and see that the law is complied with-and the thousands of dollars worth of fire apparatus, the ladders, the life-saving nets, and all the inventions and devices that man can think of.

But with all these precautions such things will happen .- accidents, fires, epidemics, and the innumerable scares of one one kind or another, that bob up serenely from time to time, are supposed to be pretty well provided for, but they get there just the same. And every time the people learn a lesson. They see something wrong and it is speedily remedied while the excitement lasts. An inspector is appointed to inspect something or other, until now-a-days everything imaginable is "inspected"-precautions are taken to protect this or that, and the chances are that nobody ever has occasion to have taken advantage of them, or when the crisis comes does something he never thought of before, and lives, dies or gets a broken limb in consequence. All these precautions are good in their way, and should be taken, but will the time ever come when man can prevent all these things from happening, or effectively stay their progress when they come.

One practical, cooled headed man saved the life of a district chief at the Lincoln street fire. The chief was on the roof of a high building, the fire all around him, and John was some distance away. All of a the only way he saw open to him was to cross sudden, Johnnie came running up to his the street on a cable of wires. He got half way across and could get no further. Below him a crowd of excited people breathlessly waited to see him let go and drop from the immense height. They could do nothing to save him. A lineman noticed off and get out." him, grasped the situation in a moment, shouted to him to cling on, then ran to the roof of the building, which the chief had tried to reach. He cut the end of the cable tied a rope to it and lowered it so that the chief could slide down to the street. He the year.

BOSTON WAS EXCITED. did so and his life was saved. Nobody had thought of it till the lineman came along.

What does this show? Simply that a cool head and a practical mind, could do more to save a life than all the fire-escapes the law provided for. Also that there was something more to learn.

It may be a long time before another man climbs out on a cable to escape being burned to death, or that a man will be on a great deal about fires, and others who are a roof with no other alternative before him, anxious to learn all there is on the subject, but the people will provide for such an em-

The necessity of having ropes on the top the big Federal street fire about two months of buildings or in places where they will be of more use than iron fire escapes has been made apparent, and this is now being con-

When Fred Young lost his life in Courteney Bay, and the people on the wharf watched him battling with the waves and could do nothing to save him, the necessity of having ropes at convenient points around the harbor front was admitted by every one. Life buoys with ropes attached were placed all along the wharves of St. John harbor, and for all I know are there to day. How often have they been used? Seldom, it ever, but what's the difference? One of ever, an alarm of fire rang out. The men them may save a life some day, if they are not allowed to go to rot, and become useless when the time comes-and when one of them does save a life, the investment for the whole lot will be repaid an hundred

Yet fires will burn, accidents will happen, men will drown, will be burned, and neet death in scores of unaccountable ways-we cannot prevent it-man cannot prevent it, but he can do his best.

Referring to the hero of Courtenay Bay, calls to mind the incident at Cuttyhunk, where several brave fishermen lost their lives in an endeavor to save the crew of the St. John brig Aquatic. The heroism displayed by the islanders struck a tender cord in the heart of Boston, with the same result as in St. John. But there will be no monument, except it will be in the form of an agent who will go to Cuttyhunk to distribute the large fund, contributed by admirers, among the families of the men who lost their lives. For there is a squabble as In 1877 St. John realized the need of an usual. The Cuttyhunkers want to handle in case they do, certain people will not get what they deserve.

When the Aquatic went down Capt. Halcrowe lost his home, for he lived on the sea and the brig was his castle. He had sailed in her a long time, and the cabin contained all his treasures. It was to him what the "den." or study of a cosy little home, is to hundreds of other men, but no matter where he went, he took his house with him and was always at home.

So the wreck was a double blow-he lost his workshop and his dwelling.

#### HE CHOSE HIS WEAPONS.

An Extraordinary Old-Time Dual in Which a Preacher Was the Victor.

Forty years ago a travelling preacher named Bowman-a strong, muscular man -was conducting some services in Kentucky. At one of his meetings a well-known desperate character created a disturbance, and on being publicly rebuked by Bowman, sent him a challenge to fight.

Bowman, as the challenged party, had the choice of weapons. He selected half a bushel of Irish potatoes as big as his fist for each man, and stipulated that his opponent must stand fifteen paces distant, and that only one potato at a time should be taken

from the measure. The desperado was furious at being thus freshly insulted, and made an indignant protest; but Bowman insisted that he was the challenged man, and had a right to choose his own weapons, and threatened to denounce the desperado as a coward it he failed to come to time. As there was no way out of the fix but to fight, the desperado

The fight took place on the outskirts of

Almost everybody in the place was present to see the tun. The seconds arranged the two men in position, by the side of each being a half-bushel measure filled with large, hard Irish potatoes.

Bowman threw the first potato. It struck his opponent and flew into a thou-

A yell of delight went up from the crowd. which flurried the desperado, and his potato flew wide of the mark.

Bowman watched his chance, and every time his opponent stooped for a potato another one hit him in the side, leaving a wet spot on his clothes, and then scattering to the four winds of heaven. He hit the desperado about five times, and then the sixth potato struck him in the short ribs, knocking the wind completely out of him and doubling him up on the grass.

The people were almost crazy with laughter, but Mr. Bowman looked as sober as if he had just finished preaching a tuneral sermon. The desperado was taken home and put to bed, and there he stayed for more than a week before he recovered from the effects of his Irish potato duel.

### In at the Wrong End.

Farmer Brown had a little son and a hired man named Mike. They were all working in a swamp one day, and farmer father with a blanched face. The boy's eyes were almost starting from their

"Say, Pop," he gasped. Mike's in the swamp up to his ankles." "Wal, if that's all," said the farmer, "let

him stay there. Tell him to take his boots "But he can't do it, Pop. He's in head

### Rubber Goods.

Estey & Co, have everything in the line of rubber goods suitable for this season of

CAPTAIN. Fair the Isle of Sirens be And the sunset on the sea: Sparkle in their ruby flow Laughing waves that roll between us;-Mirthful as the drops that glow Ruddy, falling soft as snow On the hot lips of Silenus: -Sorceress! thou with him dost share What the poets deem so rare,-Pledge of Bacchus and of Venus! What wilt thou with me,-

Softly thou callest me? CIR E. Come, Come, Come! Over the wave come hither; Be strength and beauty at home, The brave, the fair together! Rest on the flowery lea; Sleep! I will watch with thee!

CAPTAIN. Haste, my mariners, to shore! Slack the sail, and rest the oar; On this island ours shall be Wine, and song, and soft caress, In a sylvan luxury: Hasten from the sea's distress, Ever buoyant, glad and free!

Come, thou distrest,

From the sea, and rest-

With me!

For see! see! You glorious creature beckons still! She weaves a garland for her hair;-

MARINERS.

Every shining mesh, a snare!

Come, come, come! From raging seas and rocks, come home! Look! She her lily breasts doth bare, And thrills her calling voice to me; Wild love entreats the melting air, Calling us from the homeless sea! Now let music's soft caress Lull our spirits, dream-enthralled, For the fretful world hath gailed; -

MARINERS. 'Tis enchantment perilous!

Come, come, come!

From the falling night come home! CAPTAIN. Haste, my mariners to shore For I will not wander more! Brother-sailors, let us rest In this Island of the Blest! Famished we for wine and song And the sea hath held us long: Look where that glorious creature stands, Beckoning o'er the rocks and sands! face so fair, a smile so sweet, can never mean

> MARINERS. Nay, my Captain, haste away! All the sailors say 'Tis a wanton doth entreat, Luring thee with singing sweet, And delicious coquetry! Ruin lurks on yonder shore, Wasting, wailing, and despair, And the sailors' bones are there; Pestilence is in her breath, And her foul feet lead to death; They that land or tarry long, They that listen to her song, Perish, and are seen no more!

Come, come, come!

To the blushing morn, come home! CAPTAIN.

Silence! Slaves! Will ye not go? To von shore my galley row! Truth and beauty ye belie! -Then if her embrace be woe. In her arms I mean to die!

MARINERS. Will he leap, and swim ashore? -Madman! we will hear no more! -Back-cease-forbear! The lion's lair,-

The aspic's nest is safer than her singing Seize our Captain! bind him fast Twine the cords about the mast. Till the perils may be past! See! See! See!

The siren's raging harlotry! Her mask is off! Her herd and stye Wallow in her contempt, close by! Listen to their brutish blare! And hark! her voice is hoarse upon the air! Look! there are smothering serpents round her clinging!

#### CAPTAIN. Lo! my better angel calls!

Down the curtain-glamor falls: Stretch the sail, and bend the oar, Hasten from yon fatal shore! Traitress, hag, awakened, free, I will shake my fist at thee! I shall not lay me in thy lair, Nor touch the cup that breeds despair! Rejoiced, I see thee rave and rend thy hair, And stretch thy skinny palms, my coming to implore! Ha! she lightens all her place With a new superior grace! See! she crowns her whitening brow,

And lifts her cup!.... Thou canst not win me now Stand again on thy green isle, With thy sweetest song and smile! Some thou wilt, alas! beguile To their never-ending woe; O'er them thy wet tresses flow, An engendering cloud, that will A deadly dew distill

But not for me The snare shall be, Over my perished love thou can'st not work thy will Brother-mariners, to thee Shall the meed of caution be: Danger lieth far a-lee, And, between, this tinted sea.

> Ah! thou rosy-fingered devil! Beauty-starred, be-flowered evil! Clasping, clinging, subtlety! -Hold thy fluid madness higher, Sing the song that wakes desire,-Sing and sparkle, glance and glisten,-From afar I well may listen; But, thyself, dare come no nigher,-Lay no touch on me!

PASTOR FELIX.

Preserving by a New Process.

A French doctor wants to introduce his patent process of preserving the remains of the dead. It is not embalming them nor yet mummifying them, though the bodies must be embal ned before the doctor's new process takes hold of them. The new idea is to electro-plate the whole body, and thus preserve to posterity the noble lineaments of those whose estates cut up sufficiently well to allow the expense. First the body is embalmed, after which it is dipped into a bath of nitrate of silver. It comes from this bath the colour of polished silver. After that the face is subjected to a regular electro-plating dip, and comes out burnished

copper, ready to be preserved to the latest generations. In order to insure perfect success, the face is varnished, and this is the last operation. The burnished copper face is then warranted to remain the same for centuries, if treated with reasonably

#### Epidemic.

Whether the prevailing epidemic is La Grippe, a Catarrhal cold, or a type of acute Bronchitis, there is one thing certain, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is the most reliable and unthe cough, starts the phlegm, and promotes expectoration. It is prompt to act, sure to cure.

Best Chance Yet to Learn to Dance. at Prof. Spencer's Standard Dancing Academy, Market Building, Germain street (entrance South Market street). I make the following offer in prizes to all who wish to learn to dance the best style. Young and old can come. First Prize, \$40.00; Second Prize, \$20.00; Third Prize, \$10.00; Fourth Prize, \$5.00; all in gold, to be guessed for in this way: The number of stamps in a sealed jar. The first, the right number or nearest to it; the next nearest, Second Prize; the next nearest, Third Prize; the next nearest, Fourth Prize. Any one can join the classes, afternoon or evening, a regular term price. Each person or child will get a coupon with number to correspond with number of guess deposited. All who dance in Classes, Assemblies, Balls or Parties of any description, by paying not less than \$2.00 and upwards, whether it includes one or more dances, also anyone hiring Costumes, Wigs, or Whiskers to the amount of \$2.00, will be entitled to a guess, or any one who buys \$2.00 worth of Furniture and upwards, or any articles for sale in my premises; each purchase will entitle the buyer to a guess. The prize list will be open from January 3rd to April 5th, 1893. This is an opportunity to learn to dance in proper style, and still get pay for learning the fine art. Private Pupils will be entitled to two guesses, who take a course of 12 lessons. Now is the time to learn, and don't miss it. Remember the cheap Sale of Furniture is still going on, and parties will get some awfully good bargains in furniture, as well as other goods. Such as the best Lamp Burner in the world non-Explosive self-filling, filling self-extinguishing, and warranted to last ten years with reasonable care. Try one or more of these beautiful Burners. One branch of this business does not inter-

ments at great bargains. Don't forget the entrance, South Market St., where you will see signs. Private classes can be formed day or

fere with the other. Come and see and

take a part in these Grand Offers. A com-

mittee of disinterested persons will count

the stamps and pay the money to prize holders in Gold Coin,—positively on the

date mentioned. All the dances must be

held in my Academy and the amounts paid

to me. Musical Instruments; last but not

least, Splendid Violins and other instru-

on Thursday, Jan. 5th., Afternoon and Evening, at regular prices. Assemblies, Balls, Parties, outside of regular classes will be done by invitation. I will give a guess on every 50cts. paid for dancing, hiring costumes, wigs and whiskers, or goods mentioned as above. A. L. SPENCER, Teacher.

New classes for beginners will be formed

We give the cream of business requirements in 3 months for \$20 or \$25. First Business College to teach Business Memory. Write for information, free.

Snell's Business College, - Windsor, N. S.

CONDENSED ADVERTISEMENTS.

Announcements under this heading not exceeding five lines (about 35 words) cost 25 cents each insertion. Five cents extra for every additional

ENTERTAINMENT. Tuesday evening, March 21st, Mr. G. Ernest Fairweather has kindly consented to give his fine selection of Lime-Light Views for the bene-fit of the Aid Society of Queens Square Methodist Church. The Germain Street Quartette and other musical favorites will assist. Admission 15 cents.

TO LET. Part of flat—four rooms, for small family of adults; over T. J. Cochran's Drug Store, Main St., North. Inquire of Miss

SPRING Our Stock of suitable Cloths is now fully assorted. The latest novelties in Trouserings, etc. A GILMOUR, Tailor, 72 Germain Street.

CASH PAID for old postage stamps used before 1869, on original envelopes preferred. Selections sent to collectors on approval. Am breaking up an old collection. H. L. Hart, 71, Gottingen street, Halifax, N.S.

June 11—tf

AMATEUR PHO-ishing and general finishing for amateurs. Detographers, toning and fixing solutions for sale.

LUGRIN PHOTO STUDIO, 38 Charlotte St., St. John, N. B.

STAMPS used before 1869 wanted. Highest ingen St., Halifax, N. S.

SECONDHAND TYPEWRITERS. Secondhand Remington and Caligraph typewriters, almost new and in excellent repair will be sold from one-third to one-half their original cost. Samples of work and particulars on application to IRA CORNWALL, Yost Agency, 104 Prince Wm. St.,

SHORTHAND, Scovil System, practically and thoroughly taught. FRED DeVINE, Court Stenographer, Bayard's Building, Prince Wm. St., St. John, N. B. 7-4\*

WANTED Agent for my fine approval sheets of Commission, reference required. Packet A contains 100 varieties stamps from Mexico, South America, Hong Kong, etc., and a New Brunswick stamp worth 12c., price 18c. F. Burt Saunders, Box 309, St. John, N. B.

FRAZEE'S BUSINESS COLLEGE, 119 Hellis St., Halifax is in session day and evening. Best place to learn Bookkeeping, Business, etc., also Stenography and Typewriting. Send for our circular. J. C. P. FRAZEE, Principal.

BOARDING, A FEW PERMANENT or commodated with large and pleasant rooms, in that very centrally located house, 78 Sidney street.—Mrs. McInnis.

IMPORTANT TO FLESHY PEOPLE. We have noticed a page article in the BostonGlobe on reducing weight at a very small expense. It will pay our readers to send two cent stamp for a copy to Walker Circulating Library, 10 Hamilton Place, Boston, Mass.

# Sheffield Cutlery

all the Best Makers. From Solid Silver Ware. Plated Ware.

iversally popular remedy for it. It loosens A LARGE AND VARIED STOCK TO CHOOSE FROM

## W. H. THORNE & CO.,

Market Square, St. John.



# THE ROYAL ART

is beyond doubt the best RANGE on the market. It is strictly firstclass, very moderate in the consumption of fuel, easily managed, a good Water Heater,

A Perfect Baker.

EVERY RANGE GUARANTEED.

### EMERSON & FISHER,

75 TO 79 PRINCE WILLIAM STREET.

P.S.-Don't forget our "Model Art," a low-priced Range for small families.



### **Granite Ware**

TEA POTS. BAKE DISHES, SAUCE PANS. STEW KETTLES.

Give Us a Call.

BURPEE, THORNE & CO., Prince Wm. St.

### SCISSORS.



A large and varied assortment comprising Button Hole, Nail, Embroidery, Cutting out and

Fancy Work scissors.

T. McAVITY & SONS,

13 & 15 King Street.

ESTABLISHED 1855 FIRE & BURGLAR

HAVE MANY PATENTED IMPROVEMENTS NOT FOUND IN OTHER MAKES

THAT WILL WELL REPAY AN INVESTIGATION BY THOSE WHO DESIRE TO SECURE

THE BEST SAFE J. & J. TAYLOR. TORONTO SAFE WORKS. TORONTO. MONTREAL WINNIPEG

Agent for the Maritime Provinces B. B. BLIZARD, St. John, N. B.

DEMAND.

MITCHELL'S CAFE

HOT DINNERS EVERY DAY. Reasonable arrangements made for supper parties. Everything provided and served in first class style. DAVID MITCHELL,

Trotting Bit AT WM. ROBB'S HARNESS SHOP. 204 UNION STREET.

# **ALWAYS ASK FOR MACKIE'S**

DRONOUNCED BY THE GOVERNMENT Chief Analyst Superior to all other Whiskies imported into Canada. See page 21 of the Official Report of the Inland Revenue Department, issued December 31, 1891.

AND TAKE NO OTHER,

Sold by all the Leading Retail and Whole sale Dealers everywhere. T. WILLIAM BELL.

ST. JOHN, N. B.,

Sole Agent for New Brunswick,

hourly expected per schooner Marion. HONEYBROOK LEHIGH COAL

RESERVE and CALEDONIA House Coal all screened before delivery. Prices low.

In Yards

Morrison & Lawlor, Cor. UNION and SMYTHE STREETS.

Notice.

A pplication will be made to the Legislature of New Brunswick, at the first session, for an Act to Incorporate a Company for carrying on the business of Mutual Assessment Life Insurance and full powers and privileges in connection therewith.

## **Gold and Silver Plating**

All kinds of old SILVERWARE repaired and replated and made to look as good as new.

W. HILLMAN, 87 Germain St., St. John.