

THE SYDNEY FIRE.

A Bad Scorching for the
Enterprising N. S.
Town.

THE LOSS ESTIMATED AT
\$225,000.

Insufficiency of Water to Fight
the Flames.

FIRE WAS CAUSED BY UPSETTING
OF AN OIL STOVE.

Sydney, Oct. 20.—Chaos reigns in Sydney. Where large and flourishing mercantile establishments stood Friday there is now nothing but smouldering ruins. Tall chimneys, charred brick walls and smoking debris tell the story of the greatest conflagration in the history of Sydney. The scene last night was in striking contrast to that of last Saturday night. Then stores aglow with electric lights, were crowded with shoppers and everywhere was bustle and activity. But last night was vastly different, for there are very few stores standing, and these are enveloped in blackness. Disorder and confusion reigns and hundreds of citizens, drenched to the skin from the downpour of rain, jostle and knock one another about in their mad desire to gaze on the scene of desolation.

It was a minute or two after 1.30 o'clock yesterday afternoon when the electric light station sounded the first alarm, and it was not long before the citizens of Sydney realized that the greatest conflagration in the history of the town was about to launch forth in all its fury, and all on account of the overturning of an oil stove in the large furniture store of Gordon & Keith, on the western side of Charlotte street. The stove was being used at the time for melting glue, and when the accident occurred the employees of the establishment hastened to the water faucet, only to find that the water was not running.

A short while before a break occurred in a pipe in the centre of the town and, consequently, there was little water to fight the flames. When the firemen reached Gordon & Keith's establishment flames were coming out of every window. In a very short time three streams of water were playing on the burning building and those adjoining. But it was apparent that it was a hopeless task.

From Gordon & Keith's the fire spread to the building occupied by A. R. Carr, jeweller; A. D. Gillis, grocer; Blanchard, Bentley & Co., and the Maritime Premium Company. A strong southwest wind was blowing and the flames leaped across the street to the buildings occupied by H. Balls & Co., butchers; Chappell & Warren, bakers and confectioners; and Isaac Greenwell. A few doors north of the last named store stood the large brick three-storey department store of Prowse Bros. & Crowell, and the flames spread with lightning rapidity to it; it was soon a mass of flames and nearly the whole of the stock was consumed. The flames shot across the street to Barnes' corner and also down Prince street toward Bentinck street.

In less than an hour the whole east side of Charlotte street, Prince William street to Pitt was in flames. The next street east of Charlotte is Bentinck and a number of cottages on the west side of this street proved ready victims of the fire.

At Prince William street a hard fight was waged, and it also proved to be a victorious one, for here the fire was held in check. Back of Gordon & Keith's another brigade worked hard and succeeded in saving Esplanade front. While the firemen were successful in some quarters, they were unable to cope with the sea of flames in other sections. It was a task beyond the power of human skill.

Three blocks on Charlotte street, two blocks on Prince street, one on Pitt street, three on Bentinck street and one on George street were all ablaze at one time. The spectacle was gruesome, and it was then that the firemen worked with might and main. Eight thousand feet of hose were out, which included 900 feet belonging to Glace Bay, 1,000 feet to North Sydney and 1,000 feet to the steel company. The local firemen had the assistance of brigades also from the above mentioned places. Besides, J. H. Means, superintendent of blast furnaces, was on hand with 30 negroes from the furnaces, and the service they rendered will not soon be forgotten by the citizens of Sydney. J. F. Wieschusen, architect of the steel company, secured a large quantity of dynamite and, with the assistance of some employees of the works, used it to good effect. For three hours the fire burned with great fury along the above

mentioned streets, and it was thought that the whole of the town would be destroyed. But, shortly before 6 o'clock, the conflagration seemed to center around the corner of Pitt and Charlotte streets, and every effort was made to keep it there.

It was then quite dark and myriads of sparks floated about in the air, lending a fascination to the gruesome scene. Several nearby buildings were ignited, but in every case the firemen were on hand and saved them, and at length it became apparent that the worst fire Nova Scotia has seen since Windsor was wiped out was under control.

Fortunately no one was seriously injured during the fire, but there were scores of slight accidents. Robert Mughah fell from a wagon and struck his head on an axe, receiving bad injuries, and John Edwards of Annapolis, had an arm broken.

The majority of people burned out will rebuild. A. D. Ingraham states that he will commence at once the erection of a brick building, and Prowse Bros. and Crowell will probably do likewise.

At present only a rough estimate at both total loss and total amount of insurance carried can be made.

J. E. Burchill and A. M. Crofton agree in estimating the total loss at from \$200,000 to \$250,000 and the total amount covered by insurance at from \$150,000 to \$175,000.

J. E. Burchill represents the British America, Canadian Imperial, Liverpool, London and Globe, Phoenix of London, Queen, Sun, Union, National and Western. The loss of these 10 companies will be about \$60,000 to \$70,000, fairly evenly divided between them except the National, which had comparatively few risks. Of this total sum about \$25,000 represents insurance on the block in east side of South Charlotte street between Prince William, Henry and Pitt streets.

The companies represented by A. M. Crofton, secretary of the board of trade, with their approximate loss are: Royal, \$6,000; Phoenix, of Hartford, \$6,000; Hartford, \$8,000, and Caledonian, \$5,000.

On the whole nearly all the property destroyed carried fair insurance.

Prowse Bros. and Crowell's large dry goods establishment had \$43,000 on their stock and \$8,000 on building. Unfortunately the dry goods merchants burned out all had their full stock of fall and winter goods. Other insurances at present known are: McDonald, Haurahan & Co., \$6,000; Bate block, \$6,000; Maritime Premium Co. \$6,000; Gordon and Keith, \$10,000; A. D. Gillis, \$4,000; Blanchard, Bentley & Co., \$10,000; A. Hagell, \$2,000; F. Falconer & Sons, \$3,000; Acadia House, \$20,000; C. P. Moore block, \$15,000; Reynolds & Co., \$8,000; Patillo's book store, \$2,000.

DUKE'S FAREWELL

(CONTINUED FROM SIXTH PAGE)

become acquainted more intimately with its various districts and their people. But we have seen enough to carry away imperishable memories of affectionate and loyal hearts, frank and independent natures, prosperous and progressive communities, boundless productive territories, glorious scenery, stupendous works of nature, a people and a country proud of its membership of the empire, and in which the empire finds one of its brightest offsprings.

Our hearts are full at saying farewell. We have made many friends in all parts of the dominion and that we owe and gladly extend to its people our sincere friendship and good wishes. May the affectionate regard which all races and classes have so generously shown us knit together the people of Canada and strengthen existing ties that unite the empire.

Believe me, dear Lord Minto,
Very sincerely yours,
(Signed) GEORGE.

BOER LEADERS BANISHED.

The Enemy Routed by a Party of
Canadian Scouts.

(Special to Daily Herald.)

Pretoria, Oct. 21.—Twelve more Boer leaders, including commandant Scheepers were captured Aug. 12th, and have been permanently banished from South Africa.

Pretoria, Oct. 20.—A force of Canadian scouts surprised a Boer laager near Balmoral. The Boers fled after a short fight. The Canadians had two men killed and an officer and two men wounded.

A JURIST'S DEATH

(Special to the Daily Herald.)

London, Oct. 21.—Sir Archibald Smith, who recently resigned the position of master of rolls, died last night in Morayshire, Scotland. He was born in 1834.

No Opera To-Night.

The Opera House management here received a telegram from manager Frank French of the Robinson Opera Co. Saturday evening, that he would be unable to

fill his engagement here commencing this evening, but would surely give Fredrickton a few evenings of comic opera later on, perhaps the first week in November. The Co. which is a large one will open in St. John in a few days.

Won Hearts.

The Fiddettes is one of the most interesting concerts. The scene on the stage was a charming picture in itself. The programme was one of artistic excellence, and in the desire of the players to please the people, they were generous in encores. In fact, they played as if they love to play and this won the hearts of the audience from the very first.—See adv.—d.

Wealthy Apples.

G. T. Whelpley is offering a lot of very choice wealthy apples.—d.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The face
simile
signature
of *Dr. H. H. Fletcher* is on every
wrap

Pillsbury's Best
Flour, only

\$5.10 a Barrel. . . .

The greatest value in Bread Flour
on the market. The retail price of
this Flour in Montreal is \$6.00 a
bbl, and in Boston \$5.25 a bbl, so
you can see what a bargain I am
offering you. Your grocer will supply
you at this price.

JAMES HODGE.

New Dress
Goods

Shirt Waists

Wrappers and Prints

Mens' and Boys' Clothing

Hats and Caps

Lace Curtains

Oilcloths

Trunks and Valises at

OWEN SHARKEY'S

G. T. WHELPLEY

ONE CAR LOAD OF

"King of Patents."

FLOUR

RECEIVED TO-DAY.

King of Patents

Is the Best

Bread Flour Made.

G. T. WHELPLEY,

310 Queen Street, Fredericton

MODERN DENTISTRY

Drs. Sewell & McMurray.

Office Queen Street, Opp. Soldier's Barracks,
Telephone 93.

Latest method in Crown and Bridge work.
Gas administered for painless extraction.

Office Hours 9 to 6, 7 to 8, p. m.

TENNANT, DAVIES AND CLARKE.

Tasty Fall Styles in
Skirts at \$2.25,
\$3.00 and
\$3.75.

Seekers for excellent values in **Jackets
and Capes** will find our lines well adapted
to their requirements.

Our Black Silk Waists at \$4.75
and \$6.00 are well made and finished, and are
attracting attention.

TENNANT, DAVIES & CLARKE.

Agents for New Idea Paper Patterns, 15c. each.

Dever Bros.
New Wrappers,
New Hosiery, all sizes.
New Stocking Web
at Low Prices.
DEVER BROS.



You Appearance

And the impression you make depends so much upon the garments you wear. We supply the best Ladies' and Gentlemen's Suits to order from the latest and choicest materials. The cutting of every garment is carefully executed—not the hit or miss way of some tailors.

The price is arranged of course on our usual plan of giving the greatest value, for a moderate outlay.

Call and examine my stock for
Fall and Winter

JAMES R. HOWIE

Established 1859.

150 Queen Street.

Rubber Goods,

Direct From Manufacturers.

We bought these rubber goods direct from the makers and are able to save you the jobbers' profits: Hot Water Bottles, Syringes, combined Hot Water Bottle and Syringe, Rubber Tubing, Invalid Cushions, Ice Bags, Rubber Pessaries, Sponge Bags, Nursing Bottle Nipples.

GEO. Y. DIBBLEE

Druggist and Chemist.

TAM O'SHANTERS

All Colors. All Shades.

Only 50 Cents

For Best Quality

A. A. BELMORE

190 Queen St.