

(To the Editor of the Daily Ontario.)

The Late Fires. *Jan. 28,*
1872

DEAR SIR,

I solicit a small space for the purpose of offering a few suggestions upon what I regard as a matter of public interest. The late destructive fires have once more demonstrated, that with all our facilities for battling with similar conflagrations, we are still much at the mercy of the devouring element. Not that I regard our Fire Departments in any manner deficient, for with our citizens in common I look upon them as representative Firemen, and worthy of comparison with the best in the country. They have repeatedly given proof of their ability to grapple successfully with the enemy, but in many respects they are compelled to labor under serious disadvantages. Owing to the natural formation of our Town site, and the considerable elevations which exist on either side of the river, a fire any distance from Front St., or the river is difficult of control. This arises from the want of a sufficient supply of water, and the time required for getting the apparatus in working order when the distance is so great.

Now Mr. Editor, what I wish to suggest is this:—If the question of "Water Supply," as understood in connection with the proposed "Water Works," is yet in abeyance, and with little prospects of our accomplishing it, cannot some other means be adopted by which our citizens may feel more security from fire? You, Sir, will agree with me that a fire on either Taylor's or Murney's hill is quite beyond the reach of the Fire Departments, owing to their

TRENTON COURIER

Thurs. Feb. 1, 1872.

MARCHMONT BURNED— On Monday morning last, Miss Macpherson's home for homeless children was destroyed by fire. One of the inmates, Miss Baylis, was aroused by a strong smell and alarmed Miss Bilbrough, who immediately got all the children out. One little fellow woke up when he felt the snow through his nightclothes. The youngest of the 13 boys, Robert Grey, nearly 7 years old, went back into the burning building instead of going to the neighbouring houses as directed, and his charred remains were found in the morning. There was not a thing of the furniture or clothing saved; so kind hearted people will find an outlet for their charity by forwarding contributions to Hon. Billa Flint, Belleville.