

**A \$12,000 Fire in East Garafraxa.**

WM. H. HUNTER'S FINE BARN AND STABLES BURNED.

About three o'clock last Saturday morning the splendid outbuildings connected with Mr. W. H. Hunter's premises in East Garafraxa were discovered to be on fire, and all the barns and stables were consumed, together with nearly the whole of their contents, two horses only being got out, and one of these was badly burned. The buildings were among the very finest in the county, well arranged throughout, and all nicely painted. The contents comprised 18 horses, old and young; 30 head of cattle, 26 sheep, 10 pigs, 2,000 bushels of grain, of which 1,800 bushels were wheat; and the whole of his implements, harness, &c. The horses were very fine, and we understand that a splendid team which he bought quite recently for \$300 were lost. His cattle were among the best in the township, some 13 being thoroughbreds and the remainder all high grades. Mr. Hunter worked 500 acres, and his stock of implements was so extensive and complete that the ruins after the fire looked as though a foundry or machine shop had been heretofore. It was a sad sight to see the charred remains of the horses and cattle lying in rows where they were confined in their places in the stables. The losses of everything were immense, no less than \$120 worth of clover seed having been brought from Toronto only a few days before the fire occurred. The total loss will probably be between ten and twelve thousand dollars, on which we understand there was only one thousand, or a trifling insurance. The origin of the fire is completely shrouded in mystery. Mr. Hunter had been in Toronto and got home about 11 o'clock on Friday night, at which time everything appeared to be as usual. About twelve o'clock a man whom he saw in Orangeville and promised work upon his place for a time arrived, and all was right then also. About two o'clock some members of the household were up attending to a sick child, and still nothing unusual was noticed. But within an hour afterwards the fire broke out with the terribly calamitous results narrated above. Were it not that Mr. Hunter is so universally popular—were it not that he is believed not to have an enemy in the world—one would be inclined to think that the fire was the work of an incendiary. But Mr. Hunter never gave any cause for ill-will, but innumerable causes for gratitude and thankfulness, and hence we incline to the opinion that the conflagration must have been caused by accident—possibly by a spark from the pipe of some tramp who may have entered the buildings to spend the night. To say that Mr. Hunter has the heartfelt sympathy of the whole community but feebly conveys a correct idea of the state of feeling that exists, as many as 200 sympathizing friends having called upon him in a single day.—Vergus News-Record.

**Circassian Atrocities.**

**FOUR HUNDRED PERSONS SMOTHERED.**  
About the following most horrible, abominable and unheard-of crime, in itself a colossus of savagery, a whole abyss of misery, I have most authentic and reliable information, though for the sake of humanity I should have been glad were it otherwise. It appears that the inhabitants of the village of St. George, eight hundred souls in all, Greeks entirely, flying before the Circassians, who had attacked and destroyed their village, managed to hide themselves in a large cave near Kara Dera. The Circassians, ever thirsting for Christian blood, were scouring the country in search of victims, and finally fell upon and discovered the place of refuge of these unfortunate people, and immediately tried to effect an entrance into the cave. In this, however, they were baffled, the entrance to the cave being well guarded and bravely defended by the refugees. This show of resistance on the part of the people, and the fact, perhaps, that three of their number were mortally wounded by the shots fired from within, seemed to exasperate them the more, and after two or three further attempts to effect an entrance, but without success, they determined by any possible means to put immediately to death those within. They accordingly set to their infernal work, and by means of crowbars they ultimately succeeded in opening a hole on the roof of the cave, through which, without loss of time, they proceeded to pour a large quantity of brimstone and sulphur, to which they set fire by firing their guns through the hole. As a consequence, the inside of the cave was in a few minutes filled with smoke so dense that the poor people dropped down one by one dying of suffocation. And the souls of eight hundred martyrs fled almost simultaneously toward the foot of the throne of their Creator, the Almighty. Out of the eight hundred who entered the cave only eighteen were saved, almost by a miracle, having on first entering the cave taken their stand at the farthest end of it, and having, after the Circassians had taken themselves off exulting no doubt in their abominable work, come out of that immense grave by dragging themselves over the dead bodies of their fellow villagers of yesterday.—Constantinople Correspondence, London Daily News, Feb. 13th.

**UTILISING THE NETTLE.**—At a village near the well-known German watering-place, Langen-Schwandach (in the Prussian province of Nassau), some interesting experiments have been recently made with the common nettle (*Urtica dioica*). They consisted in working this weed in the same manner as hemp; the fibres obtained were as fine as silk, while they yielded nothing to hemp fibres as regards durability. A considerable area has recently been planted with nettles at the locality named.

**THE PACIFIC RAILWAY.**—The reports of the progress of works of construction on the Canadian Pacific Railway made by contractors, are very satisfactory. The track is laid and the engine running from Winnipeg to Selkirk, a distance of 211 miles, and from Selkirk eastward on section 14 of the main line 50 miles. Tenders for track laying, bridging, and ballasting between Winnipeg and Pembina have been before the Department of Public Works since March the first, and the contract will shortly be awarded. This gives 714, all told, in working order within the Province of Manitoba. At the eastern end of the line, Pared & Ryan have pushed their work to a very advanced point, and expect to have the road built 113 miles westward from Thunder Bay this fall.

**A Story of Victor Immanuel.**

His Majesty, one day, hunting in the neighborhood of Rome, shot at a hare at the very moment when a stout citizen, out enjoying the pleasures of the chase, discharged his piece at the same object. The king claimed that he had killed the hare, and the citizen, ignorant of the person of his rival, declared in very impudent terms that he himself was the successful marksman. The result was a regular trial of strength for possession of the game—a tussle which resulted in favor of the king, who walked off with his prize, while the citizen poured upon him a perfect flood of such abuse as only an Italian of a certain sort has at command. At the city gate the king ordered the commandant of the guard to follow the angry citizen and report his name and residence. After a few hours the officer was able to say that the unknown hunter was an honest cabinet-maker of the Porta del Popolo, when the king sent one of his carriages to fetch him to the palace. Naturally the man was terribly anxious as well as full of wonder why he should be wanted at the palace, and he was not much relieved when he recognized in the king the man whom he had abused. "Master Salvina," said his majesty, and at the sound of his own name from royal lips, the man trembled in every nerve—"Master Salvina, I have sent for you because I have found out different from mine in the hare; we both hit the beast. Come, we will eat the hare together," and thereupon the door of the dining-room was opened, where, between two plates with appurtenances, smoked the hair properly roasted.

**THE LATE GENERAL SIR W. O'GRADY HALEY**, whose death at Halifax has been already noticed, entered the service in 1828, and at the opening of the Crimean war had attained the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. He was one of the few who served throughout this war. He had a horse killed under him at the Alma, and received four bayonet wounds at Inkerman; and he was in engagement at Balaklava and saw the fall of Sebastopol. For his services he was made full Colonel and a Companion of the Bath; he received the Crimean medal with four clasps and decorations from France and Turkey. He was made a general officer in 1869, a Lieutenant-General four years later, and a General in full in October, 1877. During the temporary absence of Earl Dufferin last year, he acted as administrator. In his long military career he saw much active service and bore a high reputation. His death will be deeply regretted. He had already been superseded in his office of Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's forces in North America by Major-General MacDougall, as recently announced.

**CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE.**—Cleopatra's Needle has at last found a permanent resting-place. The Metropolitan Board of Works, at the usual weekly meeting, assented to the request of Mr. Dixon to erect the Needle on the Victoria Embankment. A discussion took place, in the course of which the chairman called upon Sir Joseph Bazalgette, who stated his opinion that the embankment was quite capable of sustaining the additional weight of the obelisk and its pedestal.

**HORSES KILLED.**—One evening lately the late passenger train on the Wellington, Grey & Bruce Railway ran into a team of horses, north of Palmerston. The driver thought he could make as good time as a railway train. He attempted to cross in front of the approaching train, but the horses were struck by the locomotive and killed. The driver escaped unhurt, although the wagon was badly wrecked.

**TOO HOT FOR PLANTS.**—Most of our plants are injured by too much heat. For a general collection of house plants it is not best to allow the thermometer to be above 70, and if they could be kept in a room where the thermometer would not usually range much above 65, it would be better. In the night time 50 is enough. Give a little fresh air every day, and all the sunlight attainable. An effort should be made to give moisture to the atmosphere, for your own good as well as the health of the plants.

While three young men were out shooting near the village of Embro the other day one of them, on being told by a companion that he might fire at him, drew a revolver and fired, the ball entering the loin injured the victim fatally.

It is reported in London that another batch of knights is shortly to be taken from the ranks of literature and science, and the name of Prof. Owen, the venerable and eminent paleontologist, is suggested as one of those worthy of the honour.

If, as proposed, the Queen's youngest son, Prince Leopold, should be created Duke of Sussex, only four counties in England will be left unoccupied as titular designations—Dorset, Middlesex, Monmouth, and York. There are two counties vacant in Wales, five in Ireland, and ten in Scotland.

The Prince of Wales has been re-elected Grand Master of English Freemasons. The election of Grand Treasurer was deferred for three months.

Lovers of "good old English beer," who have always fancied that they could trust in the virtue and integrity of that article, will regret to learn that out of 89 samples of beer and materials used in brewing examined last year by the internal revenue authorities, 61 were found adulterated and false.

The advocates of temperance are wisely widening the circle of their influence in seeking to gain to their cause those who are not strictly abstainers. At a late meeting in Ottawa, the following resolution was passed, which we commend to the attention of the temperance people throughout the country: "That this Alliance desires to include in its membership all those who are in favor of lessening and restricting the traffic in intoxicating liquors, and do now resolve that they will earnestly assist in all means by which such result may be attained, such as shortening the hours during which liquor may be sold, doing away with saloon licenses, and promoting and assisting in the starting of coffee-houses and temperance hotels."

What makes England rise? Too much East.

The courts are busy now-a-days with the frequently successful attempts to break the wills of certain rich men, but no one has ever yet succeeded in breaking a woman's will.

Singular, ain't it, that when a man gives his wife a dime to buy a box of hair pins, or a gum ring for the baby, it looks about seven times as big as when he plunks it down for a little bittern for the stomach's sake.

Young couple drifting into a gallery of statues. They looked around for the one with the most draped on. "It is Venus coming out of the bath," said he, consulting the catalogue. "That seems to be the case with most of them," answered she. They left.

"Give me twenty cents worth of your poorest tobacco," said a comparatively wealthy resident of Auburn to the corner grocer. "I am afraid you couldn't smoke your poorest tobacco," remonstrated the salesman. "Oh, that's all right," replied the purchaser. "I don't smoke myself; I want it for my old mother. She does love a pipe so much!"

**Friendly Notices.**  
THE GREY REVIEW.—This is the title of a new paper published in the town of Durham, by Mr. J. Townsend. It is neatly printed, Reform in politics, but its articles are rich and rare. We wish it success financially.—"Grand River Spectator."

**MONTHLY CATTLE FAIRS.**  
Durham—Third Tuesday in each month.  
Mount Forest—Third Wednesday in each month.  
Havelock—Monday before Durham.  
Dundalk—Tuesday before Orangeville.  
Guelph—First Wednesday in each month.  
Harrison—Friday before the Guelph Fair.  
Drayton—Saturday before Guelph.  
Elora—The day before Guelph.  
Douglas—Monday before Elora Fair.  
Hamilton—Crystal Palace Grounds, the day after Guelph.  
Berlin—First Thursday in each month.  
Brantford—First Thursday in each month.  
Lafontaine—First Friday in each month.  
Fergus—Thursday following Mount Forest.  
Rosemont—Fifteenth of February, April, June, August, October and December.  
Primrose—Wednesday preceding the Orangeville Fair.  
Orangeville—The 2nd Thursday in each month.  
Marvill—Second Wednesday in each month.

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FURS AT COST.  
Durham, Feb. 14, 1878.

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