## CORRESPONDENCE.

### THE GREAT FIRE IN CANADA.

[Special Correspondence of the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.]

OTTAWA, Aug. 22.—For the last two weeks Ottawa City, the capital of Canada, has been in the midst of terrible fires, which have been burning up and destroying not only valuable wood, but the crops, barns and dwelling-houses of the farmers. Very many small villages have been totally destroyed.

No such devastating fire has occurred here within my recollection, although scarcely a year passes without fires taking place in various parts of the country, very destructive to the woods.

The fires had been raging furiously up to the 20th inst., and had defied the united efforts of, I may say the entire population of the country to quell them.

To any one passing through the country the sight before them was something to be remembered. No fences to be seen for miles, cattle running loose and wild with fright, the cows bewildered with pain from not being milked, men, women and children working night and day for their lives, in vain endeavors to stop the destroying element. The amount of destruction throughout the country cannot be estimated. Most of the farmers have lost their whole crops, barns and houses.

The village of Bell's Corners, about 12 miles west of Ottawa, was completely burned up. To the north the village of Lonsdale, which has been clean swept, and all Gilmour's mills, with 15 million feet of lumber totally destroyed. On to the east of this, on the north side of the Ottawa river, a great part of the township of East Templeton is destroyed, and nine people burned to death.

At Du Chein Lake, a few miles east of the city, the villages and five mills, owned by the county's swept clean. The flames were within one hundred yards of Buckingham, on the outskirts of the city. The village of Hull, on the northwest of the city, was only saved by the large lumberers there stopping their mills and sending all hands to fight the flames. A small stream, running near the village, was dammed up to increase the supply of water.

The city itself was a dense mass of smoke—ashes drifting in large quantities through the streets, blinding every one who ventured out.

On the 19th inst. the Mayor issued a proclamation calling on the citizens to close their places of business and repair to the country to endeavor to arrest the flames.

The Sixteen Rifles and the volunteer regiments worked heroically, and with the aid of almost the entire population, the fire was literally stamped out.

Fire engines had been telegraphed for, and were to arrive by express, but on the evening of the 19th the fire was completely subdued, apparently so, at all events—though a spark may still be lingering, which may set all this going again.

The morning of the 20th broke clear and cloudless, and was hailed with joy by the citizens. W. R. B.

## CITY BULLETIN.

—Mr. Wm. V. McKean, Treasurer, acknowledges the receipt of the following sums for the relief of the families, widows and orphan children of the three members of the Philadelphia Hose Company who lost their lives from injuries received at the fire at Crown and Race streets:

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| J. B. Graham & Co. (through *North American* office), | $5.00 |
| Pinebury, | 15.00 |
| Joseph N. Peirson, | 25.00 |
| George W. Childs ($100 for each family), | 300.00 |
| | $345.00 |
| Previously acknowledged, | 937.50 |
| | $1,282.50 |

—Mr. John Rittenhouse, an engineer on the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown Railway, while examining his engine, on Wednesday, as it was running at the usual rate of speed, had his footing slipped off the step by which he was somewhat injured about the head. The engine was stopped by the fireman. Mr. Rittenhouse was taken to his residence, in Norristown.

—Mary McLaughlin was admitted into the Episcopal Hospital, on Wednesday, having been badly burned by her clothes taking fire from a grate. She was a domestic in the family of Mr. Isaac N. Baker, on Linden street, Germantown. Mrs. Baker was attracted by the cries of the unfortunate girl, and a quilt was used to extinguish the burning clothing. The injuries, though painful, are not considered dangerous.

—United States Assistant Assessors Hause, Milligan and Mears, paid an official visit to the old Richmond district, yesterday. They succeeded in capturing and destroying a number of heads of mash, and one barrel of whisky. During the destruction of the property, Assistant Assessor Mears had one of his feet accidentally mashed with an iron bar.

—The Irving Literary Association celebrated its fifth anniversary last evening, at the hall, N. E. corner of Fourth and Green streets. Addresses were made by President Strauss, J. L. Doran, E. G. Hirsch, S. L. Lipner, J. S. Appel, H. M. Isch, H. B. Sommer and H. C. Gibbs.

—Chas. Roddy, seven years old, who resided at No. 714 Medina street, died at the Pennsylvania Hospital yesterday from injuries received by his clothes taking fire at a house in Bayard street, August 17th.

—William Tuckeridge, forty-eight years old, living at Sixth and Lombard streets, was severely hurt about the head by being struck with a bar of iron, yesterday, and was admitted to the Pennsylvania Hospital.

—The Republican Convention of the Fifteenth Ward met last evening and nominated John N. Higgy for Alderman, in place of Josiah Danfield, resigned.

### Metz and Its Fortifications.

Metz, which occupies so prominent a place in the present war, is the chief of the permanent defence of France between the Meuse and the Rhine, and is, after Strasbourg, the strongest fortification in France. Its position is one of the best that a great stronghold can occupy—at the junction of two rivers. A fortress placed on a river where main communications cross not only fulfills the condition of security, but commands both banks, and offers resources for attacking the enemy that attempts to pass it. It is also more difficult and costly, on account of the necessity of constructing and maintaining bridges above and below it. Metz is washed by the Moselle on the west, the Seille on the east, and then traversing the town, where it is crossed by 16 bridges. The Seille enters the place at the south, diverging into two branches, one of which flows between the ramparts, while the other runs through the town. The maximum of water becomes an important element in the defence of the fortress. The depth of the Seille, the waters may be raised 24 feet, so as to form a lake more than six miles in extent. There are nine gates to the town, and many drawbridges. The enceinte was planned by Vauban, and constitutes the chef d'œuvre of his skill. The chief works in advance of the enceinte are the Double Crown, works of Queuleu and Belle-Croix, constructed by Cormontaigne, one of the greatest masters of the art of fortification which France ever possessed, and are considered his *chef d'œuvres*. Cormontaigne resided at Thionville, and reconstructed most of the fortifications in this part of France. Improving upon Vauban's system, he carried the salient built of the ravelin—that two-faced, wedge-like work which is constructed opposite the curtain, in front of the bastions, much further out. By this construction it became impossible for an enemy to ascend the glacis of a bastion until he had got possession of the two collateral ravelins, and out of the fire which might be directed from these upon his approaches between them, and so the time necessary for conducting a siege was increased. The Double Crown at Metz is surrounded by a triple ditch filled with water. There is also a considerable redoubt, called Le Ponté, so contrived that it may be covered into an island. The military hospital is adapted to receive 1,500 patients. The defences of Metz, however, are not confined to the fortress: Metz has forts about it which make it a great entrenched camp. On the moves of war numerous and important works were commenced on all sides of Metz. When you have cleared the numberless gates, portcullises, and bridges, you arrive at one of three intrenched camps in process of formation. Forts St. Quentin have each 60 guns, casemates, and bomb-proof barracks, and ditches twenty yards deep. They stand on the summit of a hill which overlooks for miles the broad valley in which Metz stands. Their fire would play with tremendous effect on any enemy advancing up the valley to attack the town at its feet, and a beaten de-remonstrating army might find ample shelter in the valley, guarded on one side by the guns of the town, and on the other by the forts. These new forts are not merely destined to defend Metz, the town being completely fortified as it is. They are intended to protect a vast encampment, at the present moment, or to give shelter and breathing time to a beaten army. The Emperor Charles V. besieged Metz 10 months, lost 30,000 men, and was forced to abandon his enterprise. When Blucher passed Metz in 1814, he only left a Prussian division to watch it, and merely temporary loss of Metz to France, following upon that of Strasbourg, which can no longer be considered, would be seen, on account of the number of necessaries for the army which are prepared or stored there. The population of Metz, approaching 60,000; its fine bridges, public garden, quays, and esplanade; its magnificent Gothic cathedral of the fourteenth century; its Church of the Knights Templars, joined to its historical renown, make it an object of justifiable pride to every Frenchman.

### The Siege of Strasbourg.

An account, based upon recent observation, says: Strasbourg is the centre of the defence of the Rhine frontier, and is usually spoken of as one of the strongest fortresses in Europe. It has figured in military history from the days of Julius Cæsar. It was Louis XIV. and Vauban who first gave it the importance and rank it has so long held among the fortified places of Europe. It is a fortress of the first rank, and then traversing the town, where it is crossed by 16 bridges. The Seille enters the place at the south, diverging into two branches, one of which flows between the ramparts, while the other runs through the town. The maximum of water becomes an important element in the defence of the fortress. The depth of the Seille, the waters may be raised 24 feet, so as to form a lake more than six miles in extent. There are nine gates to the town, and many drawbridges. The enceinte was planned by Vauban, and constitutes the chef d'œuvre of his skill. The chief works in advance of the enceinte are the Double Crown, works of Queuleu and Belle-Croix, constructed by Cormontaigne, one of the greatest masters of the art of fortification which France ever possessed, and are considered his *chef d'œuvres*. Cormontaigne resided at Thionville, and reconstructed most of the fortifications in this part of France. Improving upon Vauban's system, he carried the salient built of the ravelin—that two-faced, wedge-like work


## FOR SALE.

**Desirable large lot of Ground with Brick Factory.**

*S. W. corner Second and Huntington Streets.*

Lot 220 feet on Second street by 275 feet in places on Huntington street. Possession at once. Will be sold on favorable terms.

EDWARD S. MONTGOMERY,
aug24 w s 10t 1033 SANSOM STREET, above Ninth.

FOR SALE—DESIRABLE BUSINESS Property, No. 1017 Chestnut street. Apply to EDWARD L. DIEHL, aug25 3t* 439 Walnut street.

FOR SALE—HANDSOME RESIdence, Wallace street, north of Spring Garden. EDWARD C. DIEHL, aug25 3t* 439 Walnut street.

FOR SALE—A LARGE LOT OF Ground, with brick buildings, on the south side of Washington avenue, west of Twentieth street. 16 feet front and 120 feet in depth. Will be sold cheap for road passes the property. TURNS & MONTGOMERY, aug24 s s 10t* 933 Beach street, above Laurel.

FOR SALE—A VERY VALUABLE HOTEL and LOT at the S. W. corner of Ferry street and Kingsessing avenue. Three stories, three stories, 18 rooms, and finished in the best and most substantial manner. Lot 50 feet front by a depth of 100 feet. Immediate possession. Rents in West Philadelphia. Property should be seen to be appreciated. Persons wishing to purchase will find it to their interest to examine the property and to call on JAMES M SELLERS, until 10 A. M. at 144 South Front street, or at the Hotel, on the premises, on Ferry street. aug24 s s 10t

FOR SALE, OR EXCHANGE FOR City Property, a very desirable medium-sized Residence, in Germantown, containing 10 rooms, with all the modern improvements, and 2 acres of ground, with a large number of fruit trees, in the highest state of cultivation. Possession can be given immediately. Inquire of J. M. GUMBEY & SONS, 720 Walnut street.

ARCH STREET—FOR SALE—A Handsome Modern Residence, 22 feet front, with every convenience; and let 152 feet deep to a street; also a large lot on Arch street, 100 feet front by 152 feet deep. J. M. GUMBEY & SONS, 720 Walnut street.

FOR SALE—FINE STREET (1850)—Modern Residence, four-story brick, three-story back building, with every convenience; lot 16 feet front by 150 feet deep to a street; clear of ground rent. Terms to suit. FRED. SYLVESTER, 209 South Front street.

GERMANTOWN—FOR SALE—A handsome country seat, containing about two acres of land, painted stone residence, with every city convenience; large stable and other outbuildings; well improved with drives, walks, shade and choice shrubbery; situated on Germantown avenue, adjoining the Wister Mansion. Possession given immediately. J. M. GUMBEY & SONS, 720 Walnut street.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY.—WE have for sale, on easy terms, fifteen minutes from the city, a well-established Hotel, with 15 acres of ground, beautifully and completely fitted out with all the appurtenances.

Possession can be made for two years on a boarding house, and use of grounds and summer patronage. J. M. GUMBEY & SONS, 720 Walnut street.

GERMANTOWN—FOR SALE—A handsome Modern Residence, painted stone, with every city convenience and well built, situate on Germantown avenue, adjoining Chestnut Hill station on the Germantown Railroad; $8,000 each. J. GUMBEY & SONS, 720 Walnut street.

FOR SALE—THE STORY BRICK Residence, with 2 story back building, with every city convenience, on Spruce street, near Twenty-second street. J. M. GUMBEY & SONS, 720 Walnut street.

FOR SALE—FOUR-STORY BRICK Store, with steam elevator, and every convenience, on Market street, near Delaware avenue. J. M. GUMBEY & SONS, 720 Walnut street.

FOR SALE—THE DESIRABLE Three-story Dwelling, with three-story back building, with every city convenience, on Spruce street, below Twenty-second street. Immediate possession. Terms easy. Also other Dwellings, in various parts of the city. Apply to JOHN M. GUMBEY, 720 Walnut street.

FOR SALE—GREEN STREET—Two-story back building, 20 feet front, first story, 22 feet front, second and third stories, 20 feet front, 32 feet deep. Lot 20 feet front by 150 feet deep. Inquire of J. M. GUMBEY & SONS, 720 Walnut street.

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DESIRABLE STREET—Handsome four-story residence, with every modern improvement, lot 16 feet front by 153 feet deep, to Sassafras street. Situate above Twenty-second street. Price, $8,500.

FOR SALE—The handsome three-story brick residence, lot 16 feet front, with three-story back building, containing 10 rooms, bath, gas, etc., situate No. 246 West Lorain Square. In perfect order. Possession given. Price, $4,500. A bargain.

NEW BROWN STONE HOUSES, NOS. 1529 AND 1531 SPRUCE STREET, NOS. 1528 AND 1530 PINE STREET, WEST OF BROAD STREET, WITH ALL MODERN CONVENIENCES. E. D. WARREN, 202 South Front street, or 1529 Spruce street. aug24 s s 10t*

FOR SALE OR PROPERTY—FOR SALE—A valuable Wharf Property, having Pier 70 feet in front, with a large three-story brick store, and other improvements, on Delaware avenue, below Market street. Possession given on 1st of October. Also, a