

amount of £12,000 or £13,000 can be accounted for and it is hoped that that is the end of the matter.

BUCKS.—INCENDIARY FIRES.—On the night of the 19th inst., a fire broke out in the rich-vary of Mr. Sheen, farmer, of Worminghall, and before it could be got under nine racks of corn were entirely consumed. The fire was so violent that it was being broken out in four racks the same time, and it can be imagined that it was the work of an incendiary. Fortunately for Mr. Sheen, he was however insured, and that he escaped the ruin contemplated by those guilty of the crime. We have heard that two other farmers in the county of Bucks, who had been consumed the following evening; and in this case also, the fire is supposed to have been kindled by an incendiary. Notwithstanding the most anxious inquiries were immediately set on foot, we have not yet been able to ascertain who the guilty party was. It is to be hoped that the guilty party has been discovered, and that the law will be duly administered.

DESTRUCTION OF FLY PROOFS.—One of the most extensive configurations that has occurred in this neighbourhood for many years broke out on the early hour on the morning of the 18th inst. The place where the fire originated was at the homestead of a gentleman who has a large establishment.

of earth, a large quantity of plaster and lime, and the building materials, implements, and all the buildings, except the dwelling-house, which escaped destruction. The loss sustained exceeds \$2,000, exclusive of the buildings; the total loss being estimated at \$3,000. Mr. Peto is insured in the San Fire-office. There is but little doubt that the conflagration was caused by an incendiary, as the two ricks close to the public road were first on fire, and the locality, in which an incendiary fire occurred only on the previous Tuesday, is proverbial for the bad deeds which have been committed on the Thicket.

THE SCHEME TO ESCAPE FROM FIRE.

The Kent Mutual Fire-office has just issued the following instructions to assist persons to escape from premises when on fire. They say:—"The want of presence of mind at the time of an alarm of fire is by far the greatest hindrance to escape. The time for such preparation can be laid down, but a few simple directions to be observed by the bystanders and inmates, well considered and acted upon in a time of safety, will, in a great measure, tend to discreet and successful efforts in the hour

1. Every householder should make each person in his house well acquainted with the parts thereof in which afford the best means of escape, whether the fire breaks out at the top or at the bottom ; and in securing the street door and lower windows for the night, care should be taken that an easy outlet for

every member of the house is not thus prevented in case of fire. There are many excellent fire-escape invented for use in dwelling houses, among which we may mention Thompson's, Baylis's, Butler's, and Lee's.

2. Inmates at the first alarm should endeavor calmly to reflect what means of escape there are in the house; if in bed at the time warn themselves in advance of bed-side carpet, and open neither window nor door until more than necessary, and shut every door after them.

3. It must be borne in mind that in the midst of smoke it is comparatively clear towards the ground, and consequently progress through the smoke can be made on the hands and knees; if there is much smoke, and no other means of escape, it may be necessary to crawl under the door, or under the bed, or other flannel substance, drawn over the head, without being folded, permits free breathing, an excludes the smoke from the lungs.

4. In the event of being unable to escape either by the street door or roof, the persons in danger should endeavor to break their way to a window or room window, taking care to close the door after them; and those who have the charge of the house

5. All persons thus circumstanced are earnestly entreated not to precipitate themselves from the window while there remains the least probability of assistance; and even in the last extremity, recourse may generally be had to joining sheets or blankets together, fastening one end round a bed-post or other piece of furniture in the room. This will enable one person to lower all the others separately, and the last may let himself down with comparative ease and safety.

In all such cases it is advisable, if possible, to select a window over a doorway rather than over an area.

FOR BYSTANDERS.

6. On an alarm of fire, it should be the object of all persons to direct their efforts to save the inmates, and see that instant notice is forwarded to the engines and escape stations, also ladders and ropes should be sought for. All these should be ready procurement.

7. Two well qualified persons (constables or others) should ascend to the roof, through the adjoining houses ; it is often the case that most efficient assistance can from thence be rendered to inmates by an entrance to the upper part of the house on fire, either by the attic windows, the ladder, or by removing the tiles.

9. When no other means present themselves the bystanders had better collect all the blankets, bedding, etc., at hand, and thus be prepared for the worst, throwing themselves from the windows; there is a scarcity of blankets in the city, and the persons who are held stretched out by several persons will serve the purpose. At each of the City police stations jumping sheet is always at hand, and has frequently proved of great use.

sewer in Kenilworth-street, Mallico, was resumed, and concluded on Monday, at the Clarenceau Hall, before Mr. J. H. Ford, Attorney General. The jury, after about an hour and forty minutes, returned in court with the following verdict:—"We find that the deceased men, Daniel Port Thomas Gee, and John Atwood, died from the inhalation of noxious gas generated in a neglected and unventilated sewer, situate in Kenilworth-street. And we find that the deceased Henry Wells and John Smith met their deaths from the same cause, in their laudable endeavours to save the lives of the three first sufferers. The jury unanimously consider the Commissioners and officers of the Metropolitan Sewers are much to be blamed for having neglected the duty imposed on them by law."

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