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## DEDDINGTON.

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS.**—The annual examination and inspection of these schools took place on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday last, but the result will not be known for some time. We are sorry to learn that the managers have again been unable to make both ends meet, there being a balance due to the treasurer of about £45 on last year's accounts.

**VESTRY.**—On Friday evening last, a vestry meeting was held to consider the advisability of the fire engines being placed under the inspectors appointed under the Highway and Watching Act. It was unanimously agreed that this should be done, and it was stated that the annual expense to the rate-payers would be small, several gentlemen in the room announcing their readiness to join a volunteer fire brigade for the town, and we understand that steps have already been taken towards the formation of such brigade. With its population, Deddington ought to find no difficulty in obtaining plenty of volunteers.

**PRACTICAL JOKING ?**—During the past few days, what would appear to be intended for practical joking has taken place here. At several houses in the town, cayenne pepper wrapped in smoldering rag has been surreptitiously placed inside the front door, the result being a strong smoke and smell of fire throughout the house, causing great alarm to the inmates. The performer or performers may consider their conduct a good joke, but if they continue it they will no doubt discover their mistake. It is not only excessively silly, but might lead to most disastrous results.

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