

Guelph Evening Mercury.

VOL. 1. NO. 208.

QUELPH ONT., CANADA, SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 14, 1868.

PRICE ONE PENNY

TRAVELLERS' GUIDE.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

GOING EAST. GOING WEST.
Mail, 9.45 a.m. Day Express, 9.45 a.m.
Day Express, 2.55 p.m. Eve. Ex., 2.45 a.m.
Night Ex., 2.45 a.m. Eve. Accom., 5.50 p.m.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

ARRIVE AT QUELPH. DEPART.
Mixed, 10.50 a.m. Accommodat'n, 4.45 a.m.
Accommodat'n, 11.35 a.m. Mixed, 3.00 p.m.
Do, 8.05 p.m. Accom., 5.50 p.m.

Stages leave for Walkerton at 5 a.m., and for Owen Sound at 4 a.m., Hamilton and Brock road at 11 a.m.

THE SPRING TRADE.

Advertisers will reach a large class of readers by inserting their business announcements in this paper. Our daily and weekly editions are double those of our contemporaries.

Evening Mercury.

OFFICE:.....MACDONNELL STREET.

SATURDAY EVEG. MARCH 14, 1868.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisers having contracts with this office are notified that unless their changes for the EVENING MERCURY are handed in before 12 o'clock, their advertisements cannot be altered until the following day. Advertisements for the WEEKLY MERCURY should be handed in as early as possible on Wednesday morning in order to secure insertion.

A Mrs. Crighton, we learn, poisoned herself at Oshawa, on the night of Monday last. The cause assigned for the rash act, was temporary insanity.

GALT FAIR.—There were between 400 and 500 head of cattle brought to the last fair in Galt. The business was nearly all transacted before noon, three fourths of the animals having changed owners.

ELMIRA FAIR.—At the last monthly fair held in Elmira about seventy head of cattle were offered for sale. A brisk business was done, and beef sold fifty cents per cwt., live weight, higher than it did at Waterloo the succeeding day.

SERMONS.—We are requested to announce that the Rev. Mr. James of the Presbyterian Church, Brunswick street, Manchester, England, brother of the Rev. Mr. James of Paris, will preach in the Rev. Mr. Torrance's Church, to-morrow morning, and in the Rev. Mr. Ball's in the evening.

MAGISTRATES' COURT.—A. Wickler appeared before a Magistrate's Court at Glenallan a few days ago to answer a charge of assault and battery, preferred against him by H. Rose. Defendant was charged \$13.40 for his pains. Cruel Magistrates!

CRIME IN BELEVILLE.—The annual report of the Belleville Chief Constable lately submitted shows, that the total number of offences committed against the Statutes, and the By-laws in that town amount for the year to 420. Nine cases were sent for trial, 161 were dismissed, and 250 were convicted.

MR. WEST'S FAT OX.—The enormous fat ox, "Abel Lincoln," which we referred to a few days ago as having been purchased by Mr. John West of Guelph, reached town yesterday, and was weighed immediately after being taken off the car, after three days. He weighed 2,925 lbs., his weight as given by the *Globe* a few days ago at 2,900 lbs. being incorrect. He stands close to 6 feet in height, and girls 10 feet 7 inches.

A FEMALE HORSE THIEF.—A young girl was charged at the last sitting of the County Court, in Wentworth, with the crime of horse stealing. Hamilton streets were the college in which she graduated in villainy. She had been "gavelling" with a young man from the country for some time previously, the two enjoying themselves deliciously cutter riding, when one fine morning she bolted with both horse and cutter, leaving the "greenie" behind her.

THE SILVER QUESTION.—The Guelph board of trade met on Wednesday last, and resolved to petition the Government to take such steps as they may consider most advantageous for the expulsion of American silver. The President and Mr. Goldie were appointed a delegation to proceed to Toronto or Ottawa to meet the delegates from other Boards of Trade to carry out the above resolution, when such meeting has been determined to be held. It was further resolved to memorialize the Government to place the Customs office in a more central position in the Town.

NEARLY DROWNED.—The Sheriff of Norfolk was nearly drowned on his own farm on Saturday, the 7th instant. The water flowing from the higher portions of his farm was blocked up by ice in a narrow gully, and it was while he was endeavoring to make a passage for it that it suddenly resolved to make a passage for itself, and take him along as a passenger. He was swept a considerable distance, and finally jammed by the ice against a fence. He was rescued by his sister-in-law, the hired man not possessing the courage requisite to accomplish the feat.

SPRING FASHIONS.

Now that spring is approaching, the ladies will be anxious to know what new styles are to be inaugurated with the opening of the season. A leading fashion journal supplies the information as follows:—There is a tendency to a revival of the old styles in dress fashions this spring, but only the most tasteful and becoming will be again brought out. The prevailing fashion is to have the upper part of the bodice open, with the corners turned back, like a coat; or without corners, with a lace neckerchief or chemise. This style was much in vogue more than twenty-five years ago, and was revived to some extent some years later. Skirts are gored; the back breadths full and gathered, instead of plaited, at waist, adding much to the symmetry of the figure. Skirts plain at the back were rarely becoming, but the fulness of the present style relieves the straightness and stiffness, making the train more graceful. Trained skirts are very fashionable, and a train a yard long is considered short, as they are often three or more yards in length, requiring considerable space; but generally hidden among the folds there is a button covered with the same material as the dress, which can be raised to a loop at the belt, concealed by the sash so that the train can be shortened as occasion requires. Coat sleeves will be much worn in thick material, and there is nothing new in this style except the mode of trimming, which is so varied as to be very effective. In thin material, and silk for dress occasions, the loose flowing sleeve will be a favorite. There are distinct styles, differing in form as well as in the trimming. Dresses are elaborately trimmed, particularly in the front breadth, and often the side ones also. Rich, heavy silks and poplins do not require much trimming upon the skirt, as such heavy materials are made with long trains; but thin materials for summer wear will be made up with shorter trains, tho' doubtless they will be long enough to give an immense sweep. The newest and most fashionable style for street wear is the pelisse. A pretty shape is close fitting at the shoulder, rather loose at the waist and worn with a wide belt. The collar turns down, and the front, at the neck, turns back in the form of a coat. The side seams are left open for one-third of a yard and the corners are turned back to match the *peccers* at the neck. It is trimmed with satin gimp, or velvet or satin ribbon if preferred. A new style of mantilla, to be made up in black silk, is an old one revived. It is round at the back, sloping up over the arm, and has long scarf ends in front. These are now brot around the waist and crossed at the back.

Mason's Dramatic Company.

Large audiences still attend the performances of this accomplished Company. Last night a very fair house greeted the representation of "Ten nights in a Bar-room," which was reproduced by special request. The same actors who were so generally applauded when it was first acted, again claimed their meed of praise. Mr. T. J. Daly took the part of Joe Morgan, the inebriate with a power that but few possess, and when he came to write in the agonies of *delirium tremens* the general opinion was, that he was playing a difficult part and playing it true to nature. Mr. Mason as the landlord of the "Sickle and Sheaf" gave as much satisfaction as he did at the previous representation, and that is saying a great deal in his favour. Miss Clifton, as the drunkard's wife, still evinced the same womanly affection for her degraded husband, still wore the same resigned uncomplaining expression on her motherly face, and failed not in representing a mother's tenderness when she held her dying child in her arms, and laid her head back on the pillow when she expired. Mr. Salter was reckless, as he should be, in the character of Green, the gambler, and Mr. Murphy sustained with good effect the part of Willie Hammond, once "the pride of the village," now corrupted by evil companions, until he became as bad as they. Of course Mr. Lampe, with his Yankee comicalities, and Miss Richmond with her coyness infused life into the performance, and afforded much amusement. The Company will appear again to-night in the drama "The Maid of Crossy," and the farce entitled "The Pleasant Neighbor." Mr. Lampe will appear in both pieces, also in one of his favorite dances. Be sure to go early as the house will be a full one.

The Freshet in the West.

A despatch from Chatham yesterday (the 13th) says the freshet there is the greatest ever known in that section of the country. The Kent bridge, ten miles east of that, and the Chatham Fifth street draw-bridge were swept away yesterday. Hundreds of houses in the town and country are flooded, and large quantities of furniture, provisions and loose property are destroyed. A few miles west of Chatham the flood has been very destructive. Horses and cattle, and a large quantity of farm machinery, implements, and stock, were carried away. The Great Western Railway track was overflowed and the track carried away, and all the trains between Chatham and Detroit were stopped. The morning express bound west, which arrived there at three p. m., on Thursday, returned to London at noon on Friday, and left for Detroit via Grand Trunk from Port Huron. It is likely the Great Western will require to use this route via Sarnia for several days. The mouth of the river is blocked with ice and thousands of cords of wood, timber, staves, and brushwood, which causes the river to overflow the banks, and it will be impossible to repair the railway until the mouth of the river is clear.

A RICH SCENE IN COURT.

INTERESTING CASE NOT ON THE DOCKET.

The Berlin *Telegraph* has the following:—A somewhat amusing, and at the same time, unpleasant scene occurred at the sitting of the County Court here. Upon the case standing first on the list being called on for trial, neither defendant nor his counsel was present. The plaintiff's counsel pressed on the trial, giving as a reason for so doing, that one of his witnesses was a lawyer from Bradford who had to leave in order to attend to his own cases at the County Court there. The case was thereupon proceeded with, and upon proving the service upon defendant's attorney of a notice of an intention to examine defendant as a witness and upon calling the defendant and his non-appearance, a verdict was given for the plaintiff, and upon the application of counsel the Judge ordered immediate execution. A short time afterwards during the progress of the next case, the defendant's counsel came into court having just arrived by the morning train from Toronto, which usually arrives here at half-past ten in the forenoon, but on that day was a little behind time. At the first opportunity of obtaining a hearing which was after the disposal of the second case, the defendant's counsel, after stating in explanation of his late appearance, that he supposed the same practice prevailed in this as in other counties, namely that the Court did not open until noon on the first day—then objected that no legal evidence had been given of the service of the notice to defendant before referred to, and moved to have the execution stayed until Term, so that he might have an opportunity of moving against the verdict. After some sharp cross-firing quite a lively scene, which was witnessed with breathless attention by those present took place between the Judge and defendant's counsel Hon. J. C. Cameron, Provincial-Secretary. Counsel insisted that what he asked was no more than justice under the circumstances. His Honor still refusing to stay or consider the order he had made for immediate execution, the counsel thereupon insinuated the propriety of a careful consideration of his application in view of its justice, and the fact that the Judge and plaintiff's counsel occupied the position of father and son respectively. The Judge then said he had made his decision, and that it was not the first time he had been subject to attacks of the same kind; that counsel in this county—cavalierly counsel—had attacked him behind his back, and in his absence when he could not defend himself, that he would have no degraded himself by any defence even if he had been present; that the object apparently was to drive either himself or his son out of the county; that such attempts would not succeed, that he always endeavored to do his duty as far as Almighty God had endowed him with the faculties so to do, to the best of his ability, and that he would do so regardless of what any one said or thought, and that he was not to be intimidated or disturbed in the course of his duty by any one, not even if that person should be a counsel from Toronto, a Queen's Counsel, and a member of the Government, and that he was not accountable to, nor controlled by counsel on either side—that he was accountable only and alone to his Heavenly Father. The defendant's counsel attempted to reply but was peremptorily ordered by the Judge to be silent and sit down.

Religion in Abyssinia.

The fact that most of the prisoners in Abyssinia are missionaries invites information in reference to the religious history of the kingdom. The royal family boasts its descent from Solomon, and the descendants of those Jews who emigrated to the country on the destruction of Jerusalem are still to be found there. There is a strange mixture of Judaism in the Christianity of Abyssinia; the rite of circumcision is practiced; Saturday, the Jewish Sabbath, is observed as well as Sunday; there is the prohibition of the sinew which shrunk, which is upon the hollow of the thigh; and there is a prevalent anxiety to accomplish, if possible, a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Priests and people are the slaves of the most debasing superstition. It has been for generations a land of strife, cruelty, and licentiousness.

The evangelization of Ethiopia is said to have been begun by Athanasius of Alexandria, A. D. 330, and to have been complete two centuries later. After this we learn nothing further of their church till the time of Ignatius Loyola, who sent Jesuit missionaries to attempt the task of inducing the king to acknowledge the supremacy of the Pope. They refused to do, and summarily ejected the Jesuits from his kingdom. Loyola was anxious to visit Abyssinia, hoping to succeed where his emissaries had failed; but was forbidden by the Pope. Still with admirable patience the Jesuits continued their efforts, and were finally rewarded by seeing a new emperor confess himself a vassal of the Roman See. The opposition to his action was so great, however, that he was obliged to abjure the profession he had made. Still Romanism has ever since been a power in the country, and has considerably influenced the national character.

In 1831 the Church Missionary Society of England turned its attention to this field. Dr. Krapf, Bishop of Gobat, and others, including lay artisan missionaries, have directed their labors to the conversion of both Jews and native Christians. Their prospects had been hopeful, and the disposition of the court and of the native patriarch was quite friendly till the blunder of the British consul.

A NEW FASHION.

The fashions change suddenly. The *chignon*, says an English cotemporary, which was rampant and growing bigger and bigger every week, a week or two ago, has suddenly disappeared, and a flat roll of twisted hair, not unlike a certain kind of cake which we see in bakers' shop windows, has taken its place. The cake is worn on the top of the head, much as a charity boy wears his muffin cap. The new fashion for the evening is a cataract of hair flowing down the back, the color having changed from red to pale yellow. With yellow hair the eyebrows are worn black, and they are considerably broader than they were. They used to be delicately pencilled; they are now laid on boldly with a brush.

The London *Times* of a late date publishes a letter written by a Mr. Rawson, on the Nova Scotia gold-fields. The writer, after spending three months in examining these gold mines, believes they will prove the most productive in the world. He says they need only the investment of the superabundant capital lying unemployed in Great Britain.

New Zealand as seen by a Canadian.

A Canadian who has been in New Zealand for some time writes to the *Whitby Chronicle* concerning it as follows:—The climate is so favorable you can grow almost all the year round. I planted potatoes in July which will be fit to dig about 15th November; then can plant corn which will be off in April, and then if I choose can grow turnips, (which are, however, of little use here as cattle won't eat them) cabbages, &c., which will be off in time for Spring crops again. I have also about an acre of buckwheat, sowed first September, which will be ripe about first December, when I will put in corn, which may be planted up to 15th January. In fact a man can do three times the work here he can in Canada, the seasons are so long. You can work every day except when raining, which in winter is a couple of days about every two weeks (full and new moon). No cold. Had in winter a few nights frost, hardly white, such as you so sometimes have in Canada in August. The days are very warm, scarcely any perceptible difference between Summer and Winter, as you may judge from the fact that the children sometimes go into the water in mid-winter. Broom corn when cut sprouts again, also broad beans; in fact every thing grows well when you get good land. But I think that three-fourths of the land in New Zealand is utterly worthless. The hills have had the timber burnt off them frequently, and then the torrents of rain have washed every particle of soil off so that nothing remains but the bare rock or hard clay. But when you find a flat in which the soil has lodged you get a good land as could be wished for. With respect to the class of persons who should come here, I would advise no man with a family to come unless he could command \$2,000 on landing. The first start here is very expensive, although land can be got for ten shillings an acre; but it is very difficult for a new comer to find a good situation, and travelling round, [which must be done in boats], is both expensive and tedious. However, land can now be bought from natives, and the purchase legalized by the courts and the deed made all right on the payment of a government tax. There are discoveries of gold mines not more than 25 miles from this—Thames quartz reefs, very promising. Still if I wanted to go there, I would have to go a distance of more than 100 miles, a week's journey, as the country across is impassable, as are also many other places here. This is also a great place for peaches; there are miles of trees up the river. In the season from Christmas to Easter have only to take a boat and gather all one wants. I dried over a ton of them last season, besides boiling daily half a bushel or so.

Parliament of Canada.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, OTTAWA, MARCH 13.

Several petitions were presented praying for the adoption of the Robinson route for the Intercolonial Railroad. Sir John A. Macdonald gave notice of the introduction on Tuesday, of Bills respecting the treaty between Her Majesty and the United States for the apprehension of offenders—respecting penitentiaries—respecting trial of controverted elections—respecting the continuance of Parliament notwithstanding the demise of Crown. Hon. Mr. Rose gave notice of Bills respecting currency—geological survey—establishment of consolidated revenue fund—insurance companies—civil service and to enable certain banks in any part of Canada to use notes of Dominion instead of issuing notes of their own. Hon. Mr. Cartier gave notice of a Bill respecting Railways. Sir John A. Macdonald said it was not the intention of the Government to proceed with any measure to-day. They would commence to work on Monday, and proceed *de die in diem*. They wished the benefit of the experience of the member for Chateauguay, (Hon. Mr. Holton), and would not take any advantage of him in his present state—(laughter)—as he observed he was labouring under severe hoarseness. He moved that the House do now adjourn. Mr. Mackenzie asked the Premier what arrangement, if any, had been made for filling the vacancy caused by the death of the late President of the Council, whose decease they all very much lamented. Sir John A. Macdonald said the whole policy of the Government, as to the number of departments, &c., would be explained when the bills relating thereto were brought before the House. Mr. Mackenzie said the House would also expect explanations as to the position of a gentleman who failed to obtain a seat in the House, but still held his seat in the Cabinet as Secretary of State for the Provinces, and whose office the Premier in the early part of the season stated would be abolished. The House had been told that on account of the pressure of business, it was desirable to retain him for a time in office. Did that pressure still continue? Sir John A. Macdonald said the whole question of the number of departments, with a due regard to the efficiency of the service, would shortly be brought before the House. The Secretary of the State for the Provinces had resigned his office, but had been asked to continue, on exceptional circumstances which existed and the pressure of business. The House then adjourned till Monday, having sat for only 15 minutes.

A SUPPOSED VALUABLE TROPHY.

A gentleman who was in Albany a few days ago, copied the following from a placard attached to an artilleryman's musket on exhibition at a show in connection with the State Agricultural Society at that place:—"This cap was taken from the dead body of a British soldier, (of the regiment called the Queen's Own), at the battle of Fort Erie, between the Fenians and the British in Canada, 1866; was purchased off the Fenian that secured it by Dr. Herrick, and by him presented to the State Agricultural Rooms at Albany, New York." To discover the nonsense of the above would not puzzle a child three years old, but is conclusive of the fact that if the doctor is no better up in medicine than in war, his patients are greater sufferers than the British were at Fort Erie. Not a single man of the gallant Welland Battery was killed in that engagement, although several of the filibusters bit the dust. The same valiant individual should secure the "flag" the Queen's Own lost at Ridgeway as the most likely means of perpetuating his name to posterity.

WHITEFIELD'S DESCRIPTIVE POWER.

A striking feature in Whitefield's preaching was his singular power of description.—The Arabians have a proverb which says "He is the best orator who can turn man's ears into eyes." Whitefield seems to have had a peculiar faculty of doing this. He used to draw such vivid pictures of the things he was handling that his hearers could believe they actually saw and heard them. "On one occasion," says one of his biographers, "Lord Chesterfield was among his hearers. The great preacher, in describing the miserable condition of an unconverted sinner, illustrated the subject by describing a blind beggar. The night was dark and the road dangerous. The poor mendicant was deserted by his dog near the edge of a precipice, and had nothing to aid him in groping his way but his staff. Whitefield so warmed with his subject, and forced it with such graphic power, that the whole auditory was kept in breathless silence, as if it saw the movements of the poor old man; and at length, when the beggar was about to take the fatal step which would have hurled him down the precipice to certain destruction, Lord Chesterfield actually made a rush forward to save him, exclaiming aloud, 'He is gone! he is gone!' The noble lord had been so entirely carried away by the preacher that he forgot the whole was a picture.

CHRISTADELPHIAN ASSOCIATION.

We would direct attention to the advertisement of a Free Lecture, which Mr. James Evans will deliver in the Old Masonic Hall to-morrow (Sabbath) afternoon, at half past two o'clock. The subject is an interesting one, and no doubt the Lecturer will render it instructive.

SENATOR APPOINTED.

Mr. J. R. Benson, of St. Catharines, has been selected to fill the seat in the Senate left vacant by the death of Mr. Ferguson Blair. As Mr. Benson is now a member for Lincoln in the House of Commons, there will be a new election in that county.

Insure before Fifth April

With the L.A.S. Association of Scotland. Agent for Guelph, WILLIAM SMITH, Manager Gore Bank.

BY TELEGRAPH

Despatches to the Evening Mercury.

Irish Reform Question.

Views of the O'Donoghue and John Bright.

BY ATLANTIC CABLE. London, March 14.—In the debate in the House of Commons on Irish Grievances, last night, the O'Donoghue, member for Tralee, said the disaffection among the Irish people was wide spread, and reached all classes, and seriously paralyzing trade, with the constant fear of its consequences. The Church and Land questions were leading causes of discontent, but the principal cause of all was the refusal of independence in legislation. Ireland was now voiceless and helpless. The first remedies to be applied should be to deprive the Irish Church Establishment of its endowment, and grant to tenants leases of not less duration than 21 years. John Bright said the tenants needed proprietary rights; ownership in the soil could only make a people steadily loyal. He regarded the advancement for relief, the creation of a great Savings' Bank, and the Secularian University, all impracticable plans.

American Despatches.

New York, March 13.—Mr. Diveh, Vice-President of the Erie Railway Company, has been arrested by order of Judge Barnard for contempt of court. In consequence of this all other officers of the company have confined themselves more closely to Jersey City in order to escape arrest.

New York, March 14th.—*Herold's* Merida, Yucatan, special says intelligence to the 8th inst. has been received. All political prisoners had been liberated, and a safe conduct promised to those who were held away from their homes. Gen. Alatorre had been recalled. He will be replaced by Zamora. The late unpopular Governor, Cepeda, abandons politics altogether. A number of assassinations had taken place, the victims being soldiers. Several duels had also been fought between officers and young Yucatecos. The Indians of the south had defeated those of the east, near Santa Cruz, where the insurrectionists now have their headquarters.

Herold's Havana special says there is a drought in Almagras. Several plantations have been burned. There is some small-pox at Puerto Principe. Boston, March 13.—A special agent of the Treasury Department went to Providence and seized 216 barrels of whiskey, on which the government tax had not been paid. It was offered for sale at less than two dollars a gallon.

New York, March 14th.—Warrants issued yesterday for the arrest of the Directors of the Erie Railway were placed in the hands of numerous city detectives, who immediately proceeded to the several Jersey City and Hoboken ferry houses to intercept them if they attempted to escape from the jurisdiction of the New York courts. While they were watching, however, it was known to a few that two of the most prominent Directors were at a hotel in this city arranging their private affairs. These gentlemen were subsequently found at Taylor's hotel, Jersey, after a perilous voyage across North River in a row boat, amidst a dense fog. Messrs. Drew, Fish, Gould and other Directors of the road, expressed their intention of remaining in Jersey City until the present difficulty is satisfactorily settled. All the ready capital of the Company amounting to about \$800,000, has been safely transferred to Jersey City.

New York, March 14th.—*World's* special says it has not yet been determined by the President as to who will form the addition to his present counsel. That will be decided upon probably during the coming week. Mr. Johnson has acknowledged the receipt of Gen. Hancock's request to be relieved, but no order relieving him has been issued. Gen. Thomas was not present at the Cabinet meeting this morning.

Mysterious disappearances from among the inhabitants of large cities is a marked feature in modern life. In the Morgue, at Paris, are often to be seen the mutilated and decaying remains of those who, disappearing for a time, have been found at last either floating in the river, dead in a field, or hanging by the neck in some obscure lodging. But too frequently those who disappear are lost to sight for ever, though, perhaps, to memory dear with a circle of acquaintances. In New York this phantom feature of society is a marked one. During the past four months no less than 239 cases of lost persons have been reported to the Police Bureau. Of these 89 were adult males, 35 adult females, 63 boys and 52 girls. The lost men are reported as generally young, and as having been engaged in business; the women were also for the most part young, but more old women than the majority are set down as ranging from routteen to nineteen, and the girls from fourteen to eighteen years. The latter, when found, have in almost every instance been discovered in houses of ill-fame.

AXES.

Axes and axe handles good and cheap at JOHN NORMAN.