

POETRY.

Old Year, a kind Good-night.
Old Year, a kind good-night,
Your reign is almost o'er,
Soon we'll see your face no more
And it makes us very sad to part from you.
Old friends, both true and tried,
We have journey'd side by side
In your beauty and your pride,
And your gifts to us were neither mean nor few.
All the hours of joy you cast
O'er our lives, will soon be past,
For too bright were they to last,
But the friends you gave to us are kind and true,
And for this we hold you dear,
Love your very name, Old Year,
Mourn our parting is so near.
And the hours you have to live have grown so few.
So Old Year, a kind good-night,
Your reign is almost o'er,
Soon we'll see your face no more,
And it makes us very sad to part from you.
But we long to see the Night
Going hand in hand with Light,
And triumph in the fight,
Over darkness and oppression in the New.
HETTY HAZELWOOD.

The Grave of the Year.

Be composed every toil and each turbulent motion
That encircle the heart in life's treacherous snares,
And the hour that invites to the calm of devotion
Undisturbed by regret, unencumbered with cares.
How cheerless the late blooming face of creation;
Weary time seems to pass in his rapid career,
And, fatigued with the work of his own dissolution,
Looks behind with a smile—On the grave of the year.
Hark! the wind rustles rudely—the shadows are closing,
That envelop his broad path in the mantle of night;
Whispering to the winds in their quiet reposing,
Undisturbed at the wrecks that have numbered his flight.
From your temple where fashion's bright tapers are lighted,
Her votaries in crowds, decked with garlands,
And (as yet) their gay hopes by no spectres affrighted,
Assembled to dance round the grave of the year.
Oh! I hate the stals cup which the idlers have tasted,
When I think of the ill of life's uncomfortable day,
How the flowers of my childhood their verdure have wasted,
And the friends of my youth have been taken away.
They think not how fruitless the warmest endeavor,
To recall the kind moments neglected when near,
When the hours that oblivion has cancelled for ever,
Are interred, by her hand, in the grave of the year.
Since thy last solemn reign of this day of reflection,
When throughs have relinquished life's perishing breath;
How many have shed their last tear of dejection,
And close their dim eye in the darkness of death.
How many have sudden their pilgrimage ended,
Beneath the low pall that envelopes their bier,
Or to death's lonesome valley have slowly descended,
And made their cold beds with the grave of the year.
'Tis the year that so late its new beauties disclose,
Rose bright on the happy, the careless and gay;
Who now on the pillows of dust are reposing,
Where the sod presses damp on their bosoms of clay.
Then talk not of bliss while her smile is expiring,
Disappointment still dwells in its misery's tear;
Reflect and be wise, for the day is retiring,
And to-morrow will dawn on the grave of the year.
Yet awhile and to seasons around us will flourish,
But silence for each her dark mansions prepare,
Where beauty no longer her roses shall nourish,
Nor the lily o'erspread the wan cheek of despair;
But the eye shall with lustre unfading be brightened,
When it wakes the true bliss in your orient sphere,
By sunbeams and splendour immortal enlightened,
Which no more shall go down on the grave of the year.

Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet.

The London Telegraph of the 9th Dec. thus speaks of the personnel of Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet:—
"The Cabinet is at last completed, and some advance has been made even in what are called the subordinate appointments. The definitive list will be found in another column. It certainly is sufficiently 'strong,'—if that be the right word—in Peers. The contemporary which has of late appointed itself to the honorary, though not very high, office of Peers to the House of Lords, may sing an evening song of thanksgiving as it recites the titled roll. To give Deacons his due, his sacred pages enshrine statesmen who would be eminent even if they were not grandees of the British Empire; but as we read the catalogue of titles, 'Argyle, Clarendon, Granville, De Grey, Kimberley, Hartington,'—the six Lords appointed to Cabinet offices—we are obliged to confess that most of them might have failed to prove themselves 'leading men,' if they had not been born Peers. The Commoners in the Cabinet are Messrs. Bright, Bruce, Cardwell, Childers, Fortescue, Goschen, and Lowe. Of Mr. Bright's claims it is needless to speak; and there can be no doubt that his presence is significant. We know that his acceptance of the Board of Trade, rather than a Secretaryship of State, is his own choice; yet many persons will believe that the post allotted to him is hardly worthy of his reputation or just influence, and hardly commensurate with his past services and unabated political power. Still, he is a Cabinet Minister, and the advanced Liberalism of the time will be ably represented by him in the councils of our rulers. But when we name Mr. Bright, we name the only man in the new Cabinet who represents the Radical school. Mr. Cardwell originally belonged to the Conservative side, being distinguished among the immediate followers of Peel; Mr. Childers, Mr. Goschen, and Mr. Bruce are most intelligent Liberals, but are not known as belonging to the 'advanced' school. Mr. Fortescue has thoroughly statesmanlike views, and is personally popular in England as well as in Ireland. Mr. Lowe is an Adullamite; and the rest are Whigs. We have heard that on Monday evenings Brook's was in a ferment; it was said that, for the first time since the Deluge, there was to be a new Liberal Cabinet without the due admixture of Whigs; but Brook's must now be more than satisfied. The Whig element so largely dilutes the Cabinet, that it is difficult to detect the Radical flavour. Mr. Bright, of course, is there, but one Radical among so many is not much; can so little heaven lighten the whole lump? The Duke of Argyll is a Whig, Lord Clarendon is a Whig, Lord Granville is a Whig, Lord Kimberley is a Whig, Lord Hartington is a Whig, Lord De Grey is 'something' more; but still a Whig. It would almost seem as if Herod's line, a little altered, must be applied to Downing street: 'A sense of Whiggery the spirit daunted, And said, as plain as whieper in the ear, 'The place is haunted'—by the family ghosts—the Bishops in livery, of the old great houses. In this particular aspect of the Cabinet, one thing is truly lucky: Mr. Gladstone offered places to Lord Russell and Sir George Grey, and both declined. Had they accepted, there would have been eight Whigs in office; but it is something, it shows that 'the earth still moves' when—mirabile dictu—the satirists are for once unable to reiterate their taunt that a Liberal Cabinet cannot be constructed without a Russell and without a Grey."

FIRE AT AMHERSTBURG.—It appears that the portion of the lunatic asylum destroyed by fire at Amherstburg, was attached from the main building, and that only one of the inmates was suffocated. The building referred to was occupied only by unruly patients, among the number being a colored woman known as "Black Nancy," and a white woman whose name is unknown. In order to prevent accidents and to guard against any freaks of fancy the inmates might be disposed to execute, a heavy wire screen was constructed around and over the stove which heated the place. The white woman alluded to above, however, seems to have overcome all difficulties, to have set the place on fire, and paid the forfeit with her life. She managed to thrust a portion of her bed clothes through the screen upon the stove, and by this method set the place on fire. The building was pretty badly burned, and she was found quite dead, and is supposed to have been choked with the smoke. "Black Nancy" was taken from the building as was supposed in a dying condition, but will recover from the effects of the heat and smoke.

Special Notices.

ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM!
FOR THE CURE OF
CONSUMPTION!

And all diseases that lead to it, such as Coughs, neglected Colds, Pain in the Chest, and all Diseases of the Lungs.

AS AN EXPECTORANT IT HAS NO EQUAL.

It has now been before the Public for a number of years and has gained for itself a

World-Wide Reputation.

Physicians recommend it in their practice and the formula from which it is prepared is highly commended by Medical Journals, all the Druggists and get a pamphlet. Every Druggist sells the Balsam.

R. P. HALL & CO., Proprietors
No. 17, Front St. Montreal P. Q.

HALL'S VEGETABLE SICILIAN HAIR RE-NEWER

Is the only infallible Hair Preparation for RESTORING GREY HAIR TO ITS COLOR AND PROMOTING ITS GROWTH.

It is the cheapest preparation ever offered to the public, as one bottle will last longer and accomplish more than three bottles of any other preparation.

Our Renewer is not a Dye—it will not stain the skin as others. It will keep the hair from falling out. It cleanses the Scalp, and makes the Hair Soft, Lustrous and Silken.

Our Treatise on the Hair sent free by mail.

R. P. HALL & CO., Nashua, N. H., Proprietors.

For sale by all Druggists.

BACHELOR'S HAIR DYE

This splendid Hair Dye is the best in the world. The only true and perfect Dye—Harmless, Reliable, instantaneous. No disappointment. No ridiculous tints. Remedies the effects of bad dyes. Invigorates and leaves the hair soft and beautiful brown or black. Sold by all Druggists and Perfumers, and properly applied at Bachelor's Wig Factor No. 16, Bond-St. N. Y. 417

ELECTION OF MAYOR

FOR 1869.

TOWN OF GUELPH

THE VOTE AND INTEREST OF THE Electors are respectfully solicited in favor of

Mr. ROBT. MELVIN

FOR MAYOR.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

The subscriber in returning thanks for the liberal patronage bestowed on him in former years, begs to announce that he has erected a NEW OPERATING ROOM at considerable expense, introducing all the improvements of the day, as well as

New RUSTIC Accessories.

He is prepared to execute Photographs and Portraits of all kinds

From the Locket to Life Size

Equal, as regards finish and life-like appearance, to any that can be obtained in the Dominion.

Copping of PORTRAITS in all its branches as usual, done in a satisfactory manner.

In Large Photographs with Frames he intends offering Special Inducements during the coming Holidays.

Parties requiring a large sized Photograph with handsome frame, or any other Portrait of themselves or friends, will find it to their advantage to call and examine specimens at his prices.

Rooms: Directly over John A. Wood's Grocery Store, Wyndham-St.

Guelph, December 12. WILLIAM BURGESS.

Removal.—Card of Thanks.

WM. HOOVER,

CABMAN and Livery Stable Keeper, begs to thank his patrons and the public for their support, and to inform them that he has

Removed to the New Stone Stable, in rear of Miller's Hotel,

WEST MACDONNELL STREET

Orders may be left at his office in the Stable, a his house, near the Alma Block, or at Miller's Hotel, and will be promptly attended to.

THE CAB STAND

For the winter will be at the corner of Mr. Hogg's Dry Goods Store.

Guelph, Dec. 10th, 1868. 43m

Something New!

JUST RECEIVED at the Dominion Store, a very nice assortment of

Men's Underclothing,

and Socks, also,

Ladies' Breakfast Shawls

Stockings of all colors, of the best quality made and can be bought cheap.

BERLIN WOOLS.

The Largest Stock of Wools to be had in any store in town, including English, Fingering, Clondra, Berlin, double and single, Fleecy, Merino, and Fancy Wools of every description. All kinds of Canadian Yarns.

Stamping and braiding done to order.

Guelph, Oct. 15 1868. MRS. ROBINSON. 44m

FUNERALS

FUNERALS.

WILLIAM BROWNLOW, UNDERTAKER.

CHOP, in rear of the WELLINGTON HOTEL, N. Douglas Street. Hours in rear of Mr. F. W. Stone's Store, and fronting the Fair Ground.

The subscriber intimates that he is prepared to attend

FUNERALS.

As usual in Town and Country. Collins always on hand and made to order on the shortest notice. Terms very moderate.

WM. BROWNLOW. 45m

Dec. 29, 1868.

FRUITS.

FRUITS SOLD

EXTREMELY CHEAP

DURING THE

HOLIDAYS

AT

E. CARROLL & CO'S.,

Day's 2 Block.

Guelph, December 21st.

PETRIE'S DRUG STORE,

OLD POST OFFICE BLOCK.

A Very Superior Article

COAL OIL!

NOW ON HAND.

AT PETRIE'S

Drug Store, Wyndham Street, Guelph

150

Cutters for Sale

I. X. L.

CARRIAGE WORKS,

Awarded at Provincial Fairs

1866, Two First Prizes.

1867, Two First Prizes.

1868, Five First Prizes.

THE Subscriber has now on hand a stock of those ELEGANT and SUBSTANTIAL

CUTTERS

Which have taken prizes wherever exhibited, to be sold at LOW PRICES for cash or short credit.

J. B. ARMSTRONG.

Guelph, Nov. 19. 46m

OPENING NOTICE.

The GUELPH BAKERY

Upper Wyndham Street.

H. BERRY in taking this opportunity of thanking his numerous customers for the very liberal patronage bestowed on him, begs to intimate that owing to the rapid increase of his Wholesale Confectionery business, he has disposed of his Bread business to ARCHIBALD GILCHRIST, whom he has great pleasure in recommending, and who, he is confident, will do his utmost to give satisfaction to all who may patronize him.

A. GILCHRIST

Has much pleasure in informing the public that he has opened the Store

NEXT DOOR TO M. SODEN'S,

Where he hopes by strict personal attention to business, and keeping a first-class article, to merit the share of public patronage so long bestowed on his predecessor.

A. GILCHRIST,

Fancy Bread, Biscuit & Cake Baker

Guelph, Dec. 12.

Executors' Notice.

All parties having claims against the estate of the late Dr. Thomas S. Parker, of Guelph, are required to present the same forthwith for adjustment; and all parties indebted to said estate to make payment to the undersigned.

GEORGE ELLIOTT,

NATHANIEL H. BIRNBOHAM,

EDWARD BLAKE, Executors

Guelph, Nov. 6. 47m

SALT SALT

Wholesale and Retail at

A. H. R. KENNEDY'S

FLOUR AND FEED STORE,

UPPER WYNDHAM-ST., GUELPH

Guelph, July 14. 47m

PUBLIC NOTICE.

E. O'DONNELL & CO.

We place before an intelligent public this notice, and bespeak for it a kindly reception from young and old, rich and poor.

Our Platform is sufficiently broad and comprehensive, that every one can stand upon it to advantage. We simply seek the general good of the whole community by giving good advice and showing how to SAVE MONEY, which, we take it, is something every intelligent person is desirous of doing.

In the first place we wish to inform the public that we are in

The Grocery,

Liquor and

Crockery Trade

at our usual stand, Wyndham-st.

20 lbs New Currants for One Dollar.

E. O'DONNELL & CO.

In order to meet the wants of all classes, our Stock has been greatly enlarged and improved. Every line of Goods has been carefully classified and made as complete as possible, and now we flatter ourselves that our Stock is equal in every respect to any in the Dominion.

Everything in stock is fresh, new and sparkling. No old shopkeepers' rust and decay upon our shelves to be palmed off on the unsuspecting. We buy the VERY BEST GOODS which the markets of Europe and the Dominion afford, and sell at the very small margin of profits.

The success which we have already met with since commencing business in Guelph warrants us in the belief that our efforts to conduct a First-class Grocery Establishment is fully appreciated by the public.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

The Christmas Holidays are rapidly approaching, when all make an effort to obtain good cheer wherewith to enjoy festivities of the season. It is of importance that purchasers should get value for their money, and a visit to E. O'Donnell & Co's will convince the most skeptical that it is just the place to obtain the choicest Goods at the very lowest prices.

12 lbs. New French Prunes for \$1.

E. O'DONNELL & CO.

11 lbs. New Valencia Raisins for \$1.

E. O'DONNELL & CO.

During the past two weeks we have been in DAILY RECEIPT of large quantities of Goods, which are now open and offered for inspection at

E. O'DONNELL & CO'S,

Wyndham Street, Guelph.

Guelph, 23rd December. 48m

MONEY TO LEND.

The undersigned are requested to obtain Farm Securities for several thousand dollars. To be lent at moderate interest.

LEMON & PETERSON,

Barristers, Solicitors, &c.

Guelph Dec. 9th, 1868. 49m

APPRENTICE WANTED.

Wanted at THE MERCURY Office an apprentice to the Printing business. A stout, active lad, possessing a good English education, 15 or 16 years of age, from the country preferred. Apply at once

Guelph, 3rd December.

Christmas and New Year's Gifts.

For Christmas and New Year's Presents go to

JOHN R. PORTE'S

JEWELLERY AND FANCY STORE,

Next door to Mr. Berry's Confectionery Store, Wyndham Street

The following choice articles will be found in Stock:

Ladies' Companions

Ladies' Work Boxes

Ladies' & Gents' Writing Desks

Chessmen, Chess, Draught and Cribbage Boards, Inkstands, Book Slides, Vases, Parian Figures, &c.

WATCHES, CLOCKS & JEWELLERY

Of every description, and at all prices, to suit purchasers. A LIBERAL DISCOUNT ALLOWED DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

Guelph, 17th December. dw JOHN R. PORTE.

B. L. S.

Lately with Messrs. James Massie & Co., and formerly with W. J. Brown & Co., has opened out a large stock of

Groceries, Wines and Liquors

DINNER and TEA SETS, GLASSWARE, &c.

Call and judge for yourselves as to quality and price, at the Store.

Next Door to THE ALMA BLOCK, Guelph.

LANGDON

FOR WINES and LIQUORS.

LANGDON

FOR TEAS.

LANGDON

FOR SUGARS.

LANGDON

For the best Smoking and Chewing Tobacco.

For the Best Assortment of CROCKERY

For a splendid stock of GLASSWARE

JUST RECEIVED, 500 Bbls. SALT; 100 Bbls and 1/2 bbls. Lake Huron FISH; 50 bbls. Labrador HERRING.

Guelph, 15th December. daw

Sale of Cloths and Clothing!

A. THOMSON & CO.

WOULD intimate that as their Mr. Thomson is retiring from business, the whole of their store must be sold and the business wound up. To facilitate this, they have determined to

Commence a Clearing Sale on Monday 21st Dec.,

When they will offer their immense stock of

Cloths and Clothing,

Shirts, Drawers, Hats, Caps, &c.

AT COST AND UNDER. As this is a rare opportunity of securing first-class Goods at auction prices, they would recommend all to take advantage of the great bargains which shall be given. There will positively be no credit given during this sale. All indebted to the firm are respectfully requested to call and settle their accounts at once.

A. THOMSON & CO

Guelph, 17th December 1868

Distinguished Arrivals

A. O. BUCHAM'S.

AT

A. O. BUCHAM'S.

An Immense Stock of CLOTHS, in every color, from Three York Shillings up

Another lot of the co. extra

"GRECIAN BEND."

AMERICAN "FELT SKIRTS,"

Something quite new for Ladies and Misses

DRESS AND JACKET BUTTONS, a splendid lot just in.

BREAKFAST SHAWLS for \$1 and \$1 25, worth nearly double the money.

DUNDAS COTTONS at 10c. 11c. 12c. An extra heavy article, 1 yard wide, 14c

BLANKETS—On hand, 200 pair extra heavy Canada Blankets, from \$2.50 up, well adapted to meet the wants of the people during the cold weather.

LADIES OF GUELPH!

Visit our establishment during the coming week. We are now opening up and showing an immense stock of New Goods suited for the present season, at remarkable prices. Call and see.

A. O. BUCHAM.

Wyndham St., Guelph, December 19. 49m

The Sale of Cloths, Clothing, AND GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS,

STILL GOING ON

AT JAMES CORMACK'S,

MERCHANT TAILOR, No. 1, Wyndham Street, Guelph.

now on hand the Largest, Best Assorted and