

THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORY.

The resolutions proposed by Mr. McDougall in reference to the North-west Territory are important, not merely in that they propose to annex a vast extent of country to the new Dominion, which in itself is a work not light of accomplishment, but also in that they propose to solve a very difficult problem—the settling of the claims of the Hudson's Bay Company—before the chief work can be begun. It is a momentous question how the territory shall be reclaimed, and it has evoked a parliamentary debate, the length at least of which is proportionate to the magnitude and importance of the subject. Why this expansive tract of fertile soil should be annexed to Canada, we are sorry to observe, has also become matter for discussion. The means whereby its incorporation should be most quietly and advantageously effected we did expect would be carefully and maturely considered, but we were not prepared to hear the expediency of incorporating it questioned, for we considered, that that was a point which had been agreed upon mem con. We are inclined to endorse the opinions delivered before the House by an honorable gentleman, who was at a loss to comprehend how any person could be in favor of Union and opposed to the carrying out of a policy without which the Union is incomplete. The Act of Confederation foreshadowed the time when the North-west would form an integral part of Canada, and it provided for its admission. Deny this territory such an union—treat its inhabitants as strangers—turn a deaf ear to their entreaties (for they have entreated)—let its wide-stretching prairies still lie in a state of nature,—let its gold and its other precious minerals still remain hidden in the earth, and let the surplus of European population seek homes, not where a more genial sun shines, or where a more productive soil invites their laborious hands—and one of the chief aims of Confederation shall have been defeated, or left unaccomplished.

We admire a prudent administration of finance, but we depise that system of false economy which bears the name of parsimony. It is true that the present condition of the exchequer of Canada warns us against extravagance in most emphatic terms, and we admit the acuteness of the gentlemen who have been pleased to make it known that they have heard these admonitions, but if they would please to draw a distinction between a lavish expenditure and a necessary outlay, they would perhaps speak with much more hesitancy—if they spoke at all—their disapproval of the admission of the North-west territory into the Union. Britons have a two-fold failing with regard to forms of government—they idolize monarchy and detest everything else. They are perhaps extreme in both cases, for no institution can be perfect of which humanity constitutes the materials. But of all forms of government which they hate there is perhaps none so repugnant to their tastes as republicanism. We, for instance, lay our laws and institutions alongside those of the Americans, and smile at the advantages we possess as shown by the comparison, but yet there are one or two points in their policy which it would be to our benefit to imitate. They are extending the boundaries of their country, not by conquest as empires were formed of old, but by purchase; and they are inviting population from other shores, and appending to their invitations inducements which have secured, and will continue to secure, their acceptance. With all their vanities—their vagaries, and their nonsense,—they show true wisdom in this respect, for population, the cause of poverty in some European countries, is exactly what is required to make North American countries rich. But some of our legislators deny the truth of this, at least they do so indirectly by making no efforts to retain in the country the thousands of hardy and thrifty emigrants who year by year go to swell the millions that people the States, and who would be as content and as willing to sow and reap in the valley of the Saskatchewan, if they were permitted to do so, as they are to perform these labors in the country that they seek. Canada has money to spend on a railway that it is admitted will not pay the working; she has cash on hand for any absurd project, but not a penny to invest in a scheme that would profit her incalculably. Let not members from the West flatter themselves that their constituents will endorse that economy which would prevent our limits reaching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, if it can be done at anything like a moderate price, nor let not carping Nova Scotians imagine that the selfish spirit, which prompts them to say a

rection, at the same time that they predict utter ruin by the opening of the North-west, has escaped the most obtuse observation.

It was a flimsy argument of a certain member, that the people did not desire to be annexed to the Dominion. We have been all taught something quite different lately, and that too from numerous, and, we believed, well-informed teachers. There is no doubt an obstacle in the way of the union of the region with Canada—the Hudson's Bay Company are there, as terrible by their charter as the Anakims in days of old were by reason of their stature. We think it pretty evident that they have some claims to possession of that tract of country which bears their name—claims which how unjust soever they may be, might not be easily wrested from them. They would be like an inveterate distemper—slow to disappear though vigorously combated. If Britain would, as it has been suggested she should, extinguish these claims, it would of course make matters much easier for us, but we imagine it is rather too late to request such a favor, nor are we sure that the newly found plea, that Charles had no right to grant a charter of a country that belonged to the King of France, will avail to deprive the Company of their monopoly. Canadian statesmen then have three courses open to them; to satisfy the claims of this corporation, to engage in litigation with it, or to allow the territory to remain as it is. To give the Company ten million dollars, or whatever other sum they might be pleased to value their special privileges at, would of course be the climax of folly, but a moderate compensation for the relinquishing of what usage, if nothing else, must have converted into a right, would be preferable to either of the other alternatives; and by all means if there must be a purchase let the terms be submitted to Parliament, to be by it approved or rejected. It is a shame that indifference on our part should tend to foster an inclination on the part of British subjects in that territory to seek a more generous recognition, a less equivocal friendship where another than Britain's flag, they have long revered, would flaunt above them. Let those millions of acres of fertile plains that lie waste at present be converted into habitations for an industrious and numerous population; let them be annexed peaceably if possible, but if the Hudson's Bay Company should be unreasonable in their demands, as they threaten to be, let them be taught that the rights and claims of civilization are paramount to, and must extinguish those of avarice. If we are to establish a new nationality let us begin on a wide material basis, as well as on broad catholic principles, let the boundaries of our country be oceans, let us look upon the honest emigrant as a brother, accord him a hearty welcome, and extend to him the kindness of which all who have sought a foreign strand stand in need, and with a country and policy such as these we may reasonably hope, that our aspirations to become a great nation are not unreasonable, nor will be ultimately disappointed.

Guelph Carling Club.

The above Club "opened the ball" this season with the match between the Married men and Bachelors. The ice upon the dam of the Victoria Mills was selected—and though slightly biased was considered by old "heroes of the broom" as quite up to the mark. Play was begun at two o'clock and continued to five, when victory declared in favor of the Bachelors by 6 shots.

BACHELORS. BENEDICTS.
John Scott, Thos. McCrae,
James Dobbie, J C Bridgeford,
James Davidson, R B Coulson,
David McCrae, James Anderson,
A. Robertson, skip 14. C. Davidson, skip 8.

This being the first victory gained by the Bachelors in the annals of their club, they felt rather inclined to crow last night and went home convinced that they were fully as tall and weighty as they are.—They have the audacity, moreover, to presume that their conquest should lead to conquests of a tenderer nature, and that as 1868 will be leap year, the ladies should not be particularly anxious to conceal their admiration of the manner in which the stones were thrown and the brooms handled. We do hope that as these gentlemen desire, the ladies will pick them up before another year has passed, and show them the way to handle a broom after a different, but by no means original fashion.

Holiday Advertisements.—We have much pleasure in calling the attention of our business men to the additional publicity we are enabled to offer for Holiday Advertisements through a large increase in the circulation of the EVENING and WEEKLY MERCURY. Within the last five months over One Thousand new subscribers have been added to our previously large list. We distribute through the Guelph Postoffice (as may be learned on application to the officials there), more papers than all the other journals in the town combined, and vast additions are being made weekly. We can present to the advertising public no stronger claim upon their patronage than the great ad-

Board of School Trustees.

The Board met on Monday night. Present Mr. Peterson, chairman, Messrs. Fife, Fraser, Newton, Bruce, McNeil, Howard Watson, Knowles Herod, and Innes.

A letter was read from Mr. Graffey, offering his services as teacher for another year, and asking an increase of his salary. Laid over till next meeting of the Board.

Accounts were presented from Messrs. Evans \$11.00, Howard \$40.20, Jacob \$3.10, Bayers \$8.05 for repairs done on schools. The last two are for putting in glass in the West Ward and other schools in places where panes had been broken.

Dr. Herod read the report of the School Property Committee on the petition of Henry L. Drake and others asking for the use of the North Ward School on Sun days, in which to hold services in connection with a religious body calling themselves the Christadelphians. The Committee cannot recommend that the petition be granted, as it has been decided by the Board on former occasions not to grant the use of the school for any other than educational purposes.

Some remarks were made by members on the accounts presented for repairing windows, and on the wanton destruction of property which has lately taken place at the different schools, especially the West Ward School. Mr. Innes moved, seconded by Mr. Newton, that the School Property Committee be requested to make enquiry on the subject, and also to take into consideration how far teachers should be made responsible for such destruction of school property.—Carried.

The Board then adjourned.

CANADIAN SECURITIES.—A gratifying advance has taken place since the 12th ult. in the value of Canadian Securities in the London Stock market. Sizes are quoted at 108 to 105, the highest point attained for three or four years. Referring to the advance, a London paper says:—"The chief operations were in Colonial Government Securities, which have obtained great popularity among speculators as well as the investing public. Numerous dealings in these bonds are recorded in the Official List at an average rise of 1 per cent. For months past investors, tempted by the low price to which many of the more sound and promising of such stocks had been permitted to descend, have been gradually buying them up, and the consequence has been a steady advance and comparative scarcity now in the market."

THE WEST INDIA ISLANDS.—These islands occupy a collective area of 19,583 square miles and in 1861 contained a population of 923,484, of whom 451,538 of whom were males, and 461,956 females. Of the above total number, 441,255 belonged to Jamaica, 152,727 to Barbadoes, 36,412 to Antigua, and 95,487 to Bahamas. The gross amount of public revenue in 1865 was £263,794—£296,898 of which belonged to Jamaica, and £220,794 to Trinidad.

BIRTHS.
RUDD—In Guelph on the 9th inst, the wife of Mr John Rudd of a daughter.
PARKER—In Salem on the 2nd inst, the wife of Mr George Parker of a son.
HARRISON—At Harrison on the 3rd inst, the wife of Wm Harrison, Esq, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.
FINDLAY—HAY—At the residence of the bride's mother, on the 4th inst, by the Rev James Davidson, Alma, Mr Robert Findlay, to Jane, third daughter of the late Francis Hay.

DEATHS.
FARROW—In Elton on the 1st inst, Arthur Farrow, aged 29 years.

New Advertisements.

Apprentice Wanted.

WANTED a smart, intelligent lad from 14 to 16 years of age, respectably connected, as a fair hand. Every opportunity will be afforded him to acquire a thorough knowledge of my business in all its departments.

JOHN HORSMAN,
Hardware Merchant, Guelph,
Guelph, 10th December, 1867. d6w2

Excellent Farm for Sale.

FOR sale that valuable farm, composed of the West-half of Lot No. 28, 3rd Concession, Eramosa, 100 acres, with about 70 acres cleared. Land of excellent quality, and well watered. There is a good two-story stone house containing nine rooms, pantry, and cellar the whole size of house—the building is nearly new. There is also a large Farm Barn nearly new, and a thriving young orchard of the best grafted fruit. This property will be sold cheap. For terms and particulars apply to

HENRY HATCH, Guelph,
Guelph, 10th December, 1867. w3m

1867. NEW FRUIT, 1867.

- New London Layer Raisins
- New Malaga Layer Raisins
- New Select Valencia Raisins
- New Seedless Raisins
- New Turkey Figs in Layers
- New Soft Shelled Almonds
- New Hard Shelled Almonds
- New Filberts
- New Brazil Walnuts
- New Lemons, Oranges, &c.

AT H. WALKER'S
FRUIT DEPOT,
WYNDHAM STREET, GUELPH.

Guelph, 20th November, 1867. d6w

CHRISTMAS HO!

Wholesale, Wholesale!

CONFECTIONERY.

DEALERS buy your confectionery from the undersigned, who has reduced his prices as low as any house in the Dominion. Call and see before purchasing eawhere, as the Goods cannot be beat, and by buying here you save freights, packing cases, breakage, &c.

FANCY GOODS!

A large lot of Fancy Goods on hand, and a lot daily expected direct from Paris.

BRITISH AMERICAN COMMERCIAL COLLEGE.

PRIZE PENMANSHIP!

Superior Advantages Offered!

THE attention of young men looking forward to be necessarily requested to the internal arrangements of this College, which affords every possible advantage and facility for acquiring a thorough and practical knowledge of business life and business habits. The great characteristic of this institution is its actual business system. It is not only the first College in British America in which this system was established, but likewise the only one in which that system is rationally, practically and efficiently carried out.—The result is that any youth who passes carefully through the course is ready on getting his diploma to take his place behind the accountant's desk. Both, therefore, by right of priority and unexampled success this institution has secured in fact what by its name it professes to be—THE BRITISH AMERICAN COMMERCIAL COLLEGE.

One of the direct means of attaining and holding this high position has been the constant and wary selection of thoroughly competent, conscientious and energetic teachers in each department. In the Writing department the First Prizes for Business Penmanship were awarded to us at the Provincial Exhibitions of 1863, 1866, and 1867, the only occasion on which we competed. As this honor undoubtedly places this College at 'the top of the wheel,' we shall always strive to maintain that superiority in this, as in all other branches of study which are characteristic of the institution. Plain legible business writing is the style to which we have ever given the most prominent place, our motto being 'a business hand for a business man.'

The time required to complete the full course varies considerably according to the attendance, attention and ability of each student. Young men, however, are earnestly cautioned against the injurious practice of hurrying through the course from the mistaken idea that they will thus be gainers by the saving of money in the item of board. Infinitely more advantageous would it be to the student, since his full course of tuition already paid for, to incur the comparatively small additional expense of a few weeks' board in order to make himself completely master of the course, and thus by a small present outlay, qualify himself for some lucrative situation. The crudeness that such haste entails is highly detrimental not only to the student himself, but also to the College where he graduates, and besides it brings reproach on Commercial Colleges generally. The common practice, therefore, of holding out this crowding system as an inducement to students is most deceptive and highly reprehensible.

For penmanship, circulars, &c., address

MUSGROVE & WRIGHT,
Toronto, 6th Dec, 1867. dw Toronto.

Apothecaries' Hall,

MARKET SQUARE, GUELPH.

JUST RECEIVED!

A large supply of

SYDNEY BROWN'S

PERFUME

WATCHES!

Superior to either the "Russell" or "American" Watch, containing as it does a new and

DELIGHTFUL PERFUME

for the Handkerchief, unrivalled for the sweetness of its odour and lasting properties.

Price Twenty-five Cents each

ALEX. B. PETRIE,
Chemist, Market Square,
Guelph, Dec. 7, 1867. dw

LOOK OUT

For No. 1.

WILKINSON'S

BY going to WILKINSON'S for

OYSTERS

They are admitted by customers to be the best, largest and cheapest in Guelph.

FINNAN HADDIES

If you want real Finnan Haddies, fresh Cod Fish, fresh Haddock and Yarmouth Blowers, Go to GEO. WILKINSON'S.

SEALED GOODS!

FOR hermetically Sealed Goods, consisting of Strawberries, Lawton Blackberries, Peaches, Cherries, Tomatoes, Green Peas, Lobsters and Sardines, go to

FRUIT, FRUIT

BUY your Fruit at Wilkinson's, and save 20 per cent. To convince you of this fact, below are quotations.

- 10 pounds Layer Raisins for - \$1
- 10 " Seedless Raisins - - - 1
- 10 " French Prunes - - - 1
- 20 " Currants - - - 1

GEORGE WILKINSON,
Next door to Telegraph and Express Office,
Guelph, Dec. 9, 1867. daw f

TOWN OF GUELPH.

ALL CLAIMS

AGAINST the Corporation of the Town of Guelph must be presented forthwith, in order that they may be discharged and entered in this year's accounts.

JAMES HOGUE,
Town Clerk and Treasurer.

Town Clerk's Office,
Guelph, 9th Dec, 1867. f d6

WANTED

FOR a country school, a youth about 16 years of age—one who has been at the business before preferred. Apply (if by letter post-paid) to

ANDREW LIGHTBODY.

New Advertisements.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE of the AMERICAN WATCH



THE American Watch Company of Waltham, Mass., being determined to place their several grades of Watches at prices within the reach of all parties, and to effectually shut out all Swiss counterfeit Watches, have decided from this date to supply their Watches in the Dominion of Canada at the net Gold value of American Currency. The Company by thus paying all duty, costs and charges on their Watches into Canada, will supply to the people of the Dominion the

Cheapest Watches in the World.

The Watches are of all grades, from the finest Gold Watch made, adapted to any climate from the Tropics to the Poles, at a price to suit the wealthy connoisseur or for presentation, to the Cheap Silver Lever, strong and serviceable, regulated to minutes, suitable to the Mechanic and Farmer, and quite as low in price as any moderate quality Swiss Watch. Our grades of Extra Heavy Cased Watches for Railway Engineers and Lumbermen deserve particular attention in Canada, as nothing can equal them for the purpose. Our leading Watches in 18 Carat Gold Cases for Ladies and Private Gentlemen, at medium prices, will also be found very desirable.

We are frequently asked why we don't advertise prices. We reply that as we only supply the trade, and as our Watches are now kept by most respectable houses, the public can rely on being served at a fair advance on the Manufacturer's List. Our trade marks are AMERICAN WATCH CO., APPLETON, TRACY & CO., WALTHAM WATCH CO., P. S. BARTLETT, WM. ELLERY, HOME WATCH CO. Guaranteed in all cases by special certificate (except the HOME CO., which is warranted by the seller. The purchaser should always require the guarantee, as there are Swiss counterfeits for sale in some places.

ROBBINS & APPLETON, New York, } General Agents.
ROBERT WILKES, Toronto and Montreal. }

D. SAVAGE, Agent, Guelph.

December 10th, 1867. dw

THURSDAY

NEXT.

IMMENSE SALE!

GREAT SALE OF

TEAS, SUGARS,

Fruits, Spices, Wines, &c.,

AT THE STORES OF

JAS. MASSIE & CO.

All General Groceries for this Month

REDUCED IN PRICE!

THE WHOLE STOCK TO BE CLEANED OUT.

Crockery, Glassware, China,

VASES, FANCY GOODS, &c., to be

SOLD OFF AT COST!

Retiring from this Branch of Business.

J. MASSIE & CO.

Guelph 19th August 1867 daw

JOHN HARRIS,

CONFECTIONER, and

BISCUIT Manufacturer.

Wholesale and Retail!

Wholesale Purchasers

Goods as cheap, if not cheaper, than any other house in the trade.

JOHN HARRIS,
Market Square, Guelph,
Guelph, 7th Dec., 1867. dw3m

SPEED LODGE No. 180

A. F. & A. M.

The above can be had either Black, Green or Mixed.

To be had in packets of Quarter Pound Half Pound, One Pound, and upwards, or in tin cases of 1 lb. and upwards from the Company's Agents in all the chief towns of Canada.—N.B. All the packages are lined with tin foil paper, and the Tea will consequently retain its favour any length of time.

Observe.—All packages have the Company's trade-mark, without which none are genuine.

MR. N. HIGGINBOTHAM
Agent, Guelph,
Guelph, August 3, 1867. daw-12

THE next regular meeting of the above Lodge will be held

On Tuesday Evening, 10th Dec., at half-past 7 o'clock. By order,

Marriage Licenses
ISSUED by authority, at the District Court