

**Canadian Series of School Books.**  
The discussion concerning the paramount right of a certain individual to publish a Canadian series of school books has been almost forgotten, but the books themselves have just made their appearance. On one side of the title page we are informed that they have been "entered according to Act of the Provincial Legislature in the office of the Registrar of the Province of Canada," by the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, and on the other, that Messrs. James Campbell & Son, of Toronto, are the publishers. Judging from the educational works already issued by this firm, it will at once be supposed that neatness and taste will be found characteristic of that part of these books which is merely mechanical. Those who have formed these conjectures will not be disappointed. The type is of a proper size to render reading easy, the proofs have been pretty accurately corrected, the printing is clear, and the binding tolerable. There are some slight departures from the old English style of spelling, but perhaps in this country the deviation is at last pardonable. The Irish National Series has had its day, and ill-adapted as it was for Canada when adopted without change, yet like Othello it has done the State some service, and we know not how many of our best scholars drew the first rudiments of that portion of their knowledge which was acquired by reading from the old books compiled by the Irish Board of Education. We may not lightly condemn old friends that have long stood us in good stead simply because we have found new ones.

With regard to the books designed to supersede those in use in our schools, after a very careful perusal of them, and a due consideration of what is required by the youthful mind, we find nothing in them to condemn, but very much to praise. From the easiest to the most difficult kind of reading the ascent is so gradual as to be almost imperceptible, and the matter in each volume is as enchanting as a Persian tale. The chief object in compiling reading books for the use of children is to provide such as will interest while they instruct, and Campbell's Readers do this. We apprehend that the design of "reading books is to enable pupils to pronounce words with facility, and by means of emphasis to give them their proper value in a sentence, and that an attempt to combine reading books and text books must always fail. That the old series endeavoured to do this was one of its defects; that the new series makes not the slightest effort to accomplish the same impossibility is one of its chief recommendations. The few dry scientific outlines, and the rapid dissertations on political economy which were contained in the former, while they possessed no interest in language could lay no claim to conferring anything but the most indistinct idea of the subjects of which they treated; the latter has little or no pretensions to give a slight smattering of science, but confines itself to its more legitimate province. The mode of conveying instruction that has been adopted is the most suitable for the young mind known. The peculiar modes and habits of various creatures in the animal kingdom are made known by the relation of anecdotes in connection with individuals of the species, which are certain to be far better remembered than any general description would be.

Another and a last good point in these books and then we shall have done. The sentiments expressed in them when they are not British, are Canadian, or neutral, that is not national. In the higher numbers of the series there are extracts from the best British authors and parliamentary and pulpit orators, and where Canadians have been found worthy they have been unsparingly made to do duty. A due proportion of space has been devoted to selections whose tendency is to foster and strengthen a spirit of loyalty and patriotism, and the samples of glowing, animated and correct composition that are given will have a mighty influence in moulding the taste of pupils, and inclining them towards a love of the pure and beautiful in the English language. We are glad to see that the question of School Books has been settled, and that those just issued are so well adapted to meet the public requirements. The sooner the old are exchanged for the new, it will be so much the better.

**LEGISLATURE OF QUEBEC.**—On Tuesday evening, the House went into committee of the whole, to consider the indemnity to be paid to members. It is proposed to pay each member of Council and Assembly \$6 for each day's attendance, if the session does not extend over thirty days; but if it extends beyond that period, a sessional allowance is to be paid of \$450. A debate arose on the subject. Resolutions for indemnity to be paid to members were adopted, as proposed by government.

We give below the leading features of the new Agricultural Bill, for an early copy of which we are indebted to Mr. P. Gow, M. P. P.

The main features of the Bill are the amalgamation of the body heretofore known as the Board of Agriculture with the Agricultural Association of the Province, and the abolition of the Board of Arts and Manufactures. These two Boards absorbing a considerable amount of public money, and acting each independently of the other and both of the Agricultural Association, have not hitherto accomplished all that might fairly have been expected of them.

In future the recognized organizations for the development of agriculture will consist of the Bureau of Agriculture, which will be attached to the department of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Public Works, the Agricultural Association, of which the Council consisting of twelve members will, until an election takes place next year, be formed of the present Board of Agriculture; and the electoral division, county and township agricultural societies already in existence. The Agricultural Association will exercise the powers and perform the functions hitherto performed by the Board of Agriculture and the agricultural societies, with the exception that county societies will make their reports directly to the Commissioner instead of to the Board, and receive their grants directly from the department. The Council of the Association, composed, as we have said, of twelve members, will be elected to represent two Electoral Divisions into which the Province will be divided. These districts will be designated by numbers and will comprise the following counties, cities and towns:

1. Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott, and Cornwall.
2. Lanark, Renfrew, city of Ottawa, Carleton, and Russell.
3. Frontenac, city of Kingston, Leeds, Grenville, and Brockville.
4. Hastings, Prince Edward, Lennox, and Addington.
5. Durham, Northumberland, Peterborough, and Victoria.
6. York, Ontario, Peel, and the city of Toronto.
7. Wellington, Waterloo, Westmorland, Halton, and city of Hamilton.
8. Lincoln, Welland, Haldimand, and Niagara.
9. Elgin, Brant, Oxford, and Norfolk.
10. Huron and Bruce, Grey, and Simcoe.
11. Perth, Middlesex, and city of London.
12. Essex, Kent and Lambton.

**COUNTY OR ELECTORAL DIVISION SOCIETIES.**

An Agricultural Society may be organized in each of the Electoral Divisions of Ontario, for the purpose of representation in Parliament, (but as constituted previous to the passing of the Confederation Act), in which there was not one at the time of the passing of this Act, whenever fifty persons have become members thereof by signing a declaration and paying each not less than one dollar annually to the funds of the said society; and a true copy of the said declaration shall, within one month after the money has been so paid, be transmitted to the Commissioner of Agriculture.

The first meeting for the formation of a county or electoral division agricultural society under this Act shall be called by the Warden of the county or union of counties, in the third week of January in each year, at which meeting the election of the various officers shall take place, and the society so organized shall be deemed the County or Electoral Division Society, and shall be entitled to receive the Government grant hereafter provided; and all subsequent annual meetings after the first meeting, shall be called and held as provided in the next following section of this Act.

That said societies shall hold their annual meetings in the third week, that is to say, between the fifteenth and twenty-first days of January in each year, and shall at such meeting elect a President, two Vice Presidents, a Secretary and Treasurer, (or a Secretary and Treasurer), and not more than seven other Directors, who shall constitute the officers of the society; and shall also elect two Auditors.

The said officers and directors shall, in addition to the ordinary duties of management, cause to be prepared, and shall present at the annual meeting a report of their proceedings during the year, in which shall be stated the names of all the members of the society, the amount paid by each being set opposite to his name, the amount awarded in prizes to each kind of live stock, agricultural products, implements, domestic products or other objects, respectively, together with such remarks and suggestions upon the agriculture and horticulture of the county, and arts and manufactures therein, as the directors are enabled to offer.

The county or electoral division society shall receive the reports of the township societies, and shall transmit them to the Bureau of Agriculture, with such remarks thereon as will enable the Commissioner to obtain a correct knowledge of the progress of agricultural improvements in the County or Electoral Division.

The officers and directors shall answer such queries and give such information as the Commissioner of Agriculture may from time to time, by circular, letter, or otherwise, require, touching the interests or condition of agriculture in their county or electoral division, and generally shall act as far as practicable upon the recommendation of the said Commissioner.

**TOWNSHIP SOCIETIES.**

A Township Agricultural Society may be organized in each Township in Ontario, in which there was not one already organized at the date of the passing of this Act, or in two or more such Townships together, wherever a sufficient number of persons, not less than fifty, become members by signing a declaration in the form of schedule B, to this Act annexed, and subscribing a sum of not less than fifty dollars annually, to the funds thereof; and a true copy of the said declaration, certified by the President or Vice-President of such Society, shall be forthwith transmitted to the County Society.

In cases where a part of a township is in one electoral division and part in another, there may be a township society formed in each such part, and each of the said societies shall report to the County society of the electoral division in which it is situated.

The said societies shall hold their annual meetings in the second week, that is to say on some day between the seventh and fourteenth day inclusive, of the month of January in each year, and shall elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, and not fewer than three nor more than nine other directors, and two auditors.

The said officers and directors shall prepare and present to the annual meeting of the society, a report of their proceedings during the year, in the same manner as heretofore directed for county societies, and containing information under the same heading, and shall transmit a true copy thereof, certified by the President or Treasurer, to the Secretary of the County Society, in time for the annual meeting thereof in the month of January.

TO BE CONTINUED.

The sentries over the Magazine at the Old Fort were doubled on Friday night last, in consequence of a piece of wire having been found inserted through the door of the building. The wire was of some length, but how it came there is as yet unknown. It is, however, suspected that it was the first step towards effecting the destruction of the garrison. It is hardly probable that the circumstance alone justifies this supposition, but the military authorities have determined to be on the alert for any demonstration of this kind that may be attempted. The murderous proceedings in England are in reality the prompting cause to the strengthening the sentries as well as for the order that for the present compels the soldiers to carry their rifles loaded while on sentry.

**ACCIDENT.**—A young man, named Joseph Welsh, who was employed in the St. Catharines paper mill as a rag cutter had his right hand cut off on Friday last, while engaged in feeding rags into the cutter.

**New Advertisements.**

**JOHN A. WOOD**  
WILL SELL

**INGERSOLL FACTORY**

**CHEESE!**

**Goderich SALT**  
AT THE  
**LOWEST RATES,**

**Wholesale and Retail**  
WYNDHAM-ST., GUELPH.

**Social Concert**  
A SOCIAL CONCERT will be held in the School House of Section No. 4, Guelph Township, for the purpose of raising funds for increasing the Public School Library.

**Readings, Recitations!**  
and SINGING, by gentlemen from the town and vicinity will fill up the evening's entertainment. Admission will be taken, during which refreshments will be served. An evening of rare pleasure and entertainment is anticipated.

**HUNDRED PERSONS**  
Will do well to call and examine those solid meat Oysters which I sell by measure. Bring your bowls and pails, and thus save the price of cans and canning. My Oysters are not

**KILLED**  
By frost or starvation before they are opened.—My arrangements are such, that the Oysters I receive are taken from the beds, opened, packed, and shipped to me the same day. I can assure those who purchase from me, that they need have no fear of

**EATING OYSTERS**  
Oysters that, from causes well known to the trade, often become stale, and, in fact, totally unfit to eat.

**IN GUELPH.**  
Solid Meat Oysters by the keg, can, or measure. Also, Finner Haddies and fresh and salt Fish of every description, wholesale and retail.

**BRICK FOR SALE.**  
200,000 WHITE BRICK FOR SALE AT MORRISTON.  
JAMES MORISON.  
Guelph, 17th Jan. 1867.

**Tea Meeting**  
A Tea Meeting will be held in the Lecture Room of the New Church,  
On Monday Ev'g, 20th Inst.,  
at which addresses may be expected from Rev's Dr. Jennings and J. Wood, J. Boyd, Esq., M.P., for Prescott; J. Roof, Q. C., and Geo. Hagne, Esq., of Toronto; also, from some of the local ministers. The CHORUS will sing some choice pieces, accompanied by the new and powerful Organ.

**COW STRAYED.**  
STRAYED from the premises of the subscriber on New Year's Eve, a white and red cow, mostly white. Had a rope round her neck which she left. Was rather thin, not giving milk. Any person returning her, or giving such information to the owner, or at Frost & Hepburn's shoe store, Guelph, as will lead to her recovery, will be rewarded.

**THOMAS HAMBLY,**  
Corner Elora and Edinburgh Roads,  
Guelph, 14th January, 1868.

**DEPOT,**  
No. 4, Day's Old Block, Gordon Street.  
Guelph, July 31, 1867. (dw J. MOLTON)

**Four Corners' Hotel,**  
EMERALD ROAD.  
JOHN ANDERSON, Proprietor. The best of accommodation for travellers. First-class liquors and cigars. Good stabling and attentive hostler.

**ESTRAY COW.**  
STRAYED on the premises of the subscriber on New Year's Day, a small spotted cow about 5 years old. The owner is required to prove property, pay expenses and take her away.  
Guelph, 17th Jan. 1868.

**MONEY FOUND.**  
FOUND on the floor of Messrs James Massie & Co's Store, yesterday, a sum of money.—The owner can have it by proving property and paying expenses.  
Guelph, 15th Jan. 1868.

**CARD OF THANKS.**  
WE beg to tender our thanks to the Directors of the Lancashire and Gore Mutual Insurance Companies for the prompt settlement of our claim for the loss by fire at the Alma Block. And also for the honorable and courteous manner of the Inspectors while examining our statement and books.  
JAMES MASSIE & CO.  
Guelph, 16th January, 1868.

**JOSEPH HOBSON,**  
CIVIL ENGINEER, P. L. Surveyor and Architect, has opened an office in Guelph, at Messrs. Davidson and Chapwick's, Town Hall Building.  
Guelph, Jan. 2nd, 1868.

**PRIVATE TUITION.**  
THE undersigned is prepared to give private lessons in English, Latin and Greek, either at his own house or the house of his pupils, two hours of each day.  
GEORGE GRAFFTEY.  
Guelph, 3rd January, 1868.

**SPECIAL NOTICE!**  
DURING the year 1868 I have determined to sell Goods lower than ever, but my terms will be strictly CASH, and on no condition will Goods be charged.

**T. J. DAY,**  
Bookseller, opposite the Market.  
Guelph, 11th January, 1868. dw

**MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.**  
THE annual meeting of the Guelph Mechanics' Institute, for the election of Office-bearers, and other business, will be held  
On Tuesday Evening, 21st Jan. in the Town Hall, at half-past seven o'clock.  
E. NEWTON, Secretary.  
Guelph, 15th January, 1868. w1

**PLATT & CO'S**  
WORLD RENOWNED

**OYSTERS**  
Received daily by Express. Wholesale and Retail.  
GEORGE WILKINSON.  
Next door to Telegraph and Express Office.  
Guelph, Jan. 7, 1868. daw 1f

**SPECIAL NOTICE.**  
CANADIAN  
National Series of Reading Books,  
Authorized by the Council of Public Instruction, for Ontario.

**ROCKWOOD Commercial, Mathematical, and Classical ACADEMY.**  
THE THIRTY-FIFTH SEMI-ANNUAL SESSION COMMENCES ON THE SIXTH JANUARY, 1868.

**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.

**GEORGE PALMER**  
BARRISTER AND ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Solicitor in Chief, and Notary Public and Conveyancer. Office, No. 3, Day's Block.  
Guelph

# ENGLISH AND AMERICAN MAGAZINES.

## ENGLISH MAGAZINES.

	per year.	per copy		per year.	per copy
All the Year Round	\$3 00	25c	Good Words	1 50	12 1/2c
Army List	5 25	45c	Homilet	2 63	25c
Art Journal	9 00	75c	Hunt's Yachting	3 50	30c
Astronomical Register	3 50	30c	Illustrated London Magazine	3 50	30c
Aunt Judy's Magazine	1 75	15c	Intellectual Observer	5 25	45c
Bay	1 75	15c	Journal of Local Science	5 25	45c
Boy Belts	1 75	15c	Ladies' Cabinet of Fashion	3 50	30c
Boys of England	1 75	15c	Companion	3 50	30c
Broadway Magazine	1 75	15c	Gazette of Fashion	3 50	30c
Baileys' Magazine of Sports	5 25	45c	Treasury	2 00	17c
Baptist Magazine	1 75	15c	Leisure Hour	1 50	12 1/2c
Beau Monde	3 50	30c	London Journal	1 75	15c
Belgravia	3 50	25c	Society	3 00	25c
Bentley's Miscellany	9 00	75c	and Paris Fashions	3 50	30c
Bookworm	3 50	30c	Magazine, The	3 50	30c
Boys' Journal	1 75	15c	MacMillan's Magazine	3 50	30c
Own Magazine	1 75	15c	Medical Mirror	3 50	30c
Monthly Magazine	0 50	05c	Methodist New Connexion Magazine	1 75	15c
British Controversialist	1 75	15c	Minister's Gazette of Fashions	7 00	60c
Friend	1 75	15c	Month	3 50	30c
Journal of Dental Science	3 50	30c	New Monthly Magazine	12 25	1 06c
Chambers' Magazine	1 75	15c	Our Own Fireside	1 75	15c
Chambers' Journal	1 80	15c	Pharmaceutical Journal	3 50	30c
Chees Player Magazine	3 50	30c	People's Magazine	1 75	15c
World Magazine	3 50	30c	Poultry Book	3 50	30c
Christian Advocate and Review	2 63	25c	Quiver	1 75	15c
Observer	5 25	45c	Reynolds' Miscellany	1 75	15c
Society	3 50	30c	Routledge's Boys' Magazine	1 75	15c
Spectator	1 75	15c	St. James' Magazine	3 00	25c
Treasury	1 75	15c	St. Paul's Magazine	3 50	30c
World Magazine	1 75	15c	Sharpe's Magazine	3 50	30c
Work	1 75	15c	Shorthand Magazine	1 75	15c
Churchman's Magazine	3 00	25c	Sixpenny	1 75	15c
Civil Engineer and Architect's Journal	7 00	60c	Sporting	8 75	75c
Colburn's United Service Magazine	12 25	1 06c	Sporting Review	8 75	75c
Colonial Church Chronicle	1 75	15c	Sportsman	1 50	12 1/2c
Contemporary Review	8 75	75c	Stamp Collector's Magazine	1 50	12 1/2c
Cornhill Magazine	3 00	25c	Sunday at Home	1 50	12 1/2c
Cuttler's Monthly	3 00	25c	Sunday Magazine	1 50	12 1/2c
Day of Rest Magazine	1 75	15c	Sunday Reader	3 75	30c
Dublin University Magazine	8 75	75c	Temple Bar	3 00	25c
Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal	7 00	60c	Tinsley's Magazine	3 50	30c
Englishwoman's Magazine	3 00	25c	Victoria Magazine	3 50	30c
Family Friend	1 75	15c	West End Gazette of Fashions	3 50	30c
Treasury	1 75	15c	World of Fashion	3 50	30c
Herald	1 75	15c	Young Englishwoman	1 75	15c
Follet, Le	5 25	45c	Young Ladies' Journal	2 50	20c
Fortnightly Review	7 00	60c			
Fraser's Magazine	8 75	75c			
Gentleman's Magazine of Fashion	3 50	30c			
Gentleman's Magazine	8 75	75c			

### ENGLISH PAPERS.

	per year.	per copy		per year.	per copy
The Illustrated London News	\$8 00	15c	The News of the World	5 00	10c
Bell's Life	9 00	20c	The Lady's Own Paper	5 00	10c
The Field	10 00	20c	London Journal	2 50	05c
Sporting News (Illustrated)	5 00	10c	Family Herald	2 50	05c
Sporting Life (S. W.)	5 00	07c	Reynolds' Miscellany	2 50	05c
London Weekly Times	3 00	07c	Cassells' Paper	2 50	05c
Lloyd's Weekly	3 00	07c	etc.	etc.	etc.

### AMERICAN MAGAZINES.

	per year.	per copy		per year.	per copy
Harper's Magazine	\$3 00	25c	Godey's	\$2 40	20c
Atlantic Monthly	3 00	25c	Mde. Demorest's	3 00	25c
Lippincott's Magazine	3 00	25c	Frank Leslie's	3 00	25c
Blackwood's	3 00	25c	Our Young Folks	2 00	20c
The Reviews, each	2 00	50c	etc.	etc.	etc.

Can supply any Magazine published (not on this List.)  
All the American Daily and Weekly Papers kept constantly for sale.

Orders for any of the above Magazines received, and will be supplied regular.

**AT DAY'S BOOKSTORE,**  
Opposite the Market, Guelph.

**GREAT AUCTION SALE.**  
EVERY EVENING.

**UNRESERVED AUCTION SALE OF**  
Books, Stationery,  
Fancy Goods,  
Every Evening for a limited period.

**AT R. CUTHBERTS,**  
Commencing this P. M. at half-past Seven.

As it is intended to make this establishment the most attractive and essential of any other—not only in the Town of Guelph, but in this section of the Dominion—an AUCTION SALE is adopted to effect a rapid and complete clearance of the above named Stock.  
Guelph, 14th January, 1868. daw-1f

**South Wellington**  
**AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**  
THE Annual Meeting of the above Society will be held at ELLIS HOTEL,  
On SATURDAY, 26th January,  
at 2 o'clock p. m. for the election of Office-bearers and transaction of other business.  
GEORGE MURTON, Secretary.  
Guelph, 8th January, 1868. vtd

**NOTICE.**  
THE business of Messrs. BLAIR & GUTHRIE will be continued at the same office by the surviving partner, Mr. GUTHRIE.  
Guelph, 6th January, 1868. dw1m

**MONEY FOUND.**  
FOUND on the Mercury Office steps, on Tuesday, 14th inst., a sum of money. The owner can have the same by calling at the Mercury Office, Macdonnell-st.  
Guelph, 14th January, 1868.