

# The Evening Mercury

VOL. 1. NO. 144.

GUELPH, ON., CANADA, SATURDAY EVENING, JANUARY 4, 1868.

PRICE ONE PENNY

**The Guelph Mercury**  
DAILY AND WEEKLY.  
OFFICE: - - - EAST MACDONNELL STREET  
**McLAGAN AND INNES,**  
PUBLISHERS AND PROPRIETORS.

**The EVENING MERCURY**  
CONTAINING the latest News by Telegraph up to the hour of going to press, is published at 5 o'clock every afternoon (Sunday excepted), and mailed to all parts of the country by the evening mails on the following

**TERMS:**  
Single copy, one year, \$4. | Single copy, 3 mo's \$1.60  
6 months, 2. | Single do, week 10c.  
Copies may also be had of the News boys on the streets, price one penny. Town Subscribers are supplied at their residences by our own carriers.  
In addition to the Telegraphic News given in the Evening Mercury will be found a vast amount of Local News, interesting articles on all the leading topics of the day. Special care will be taken to give CORRECT MARKET REPORTS.  
Every Business Man should read it.

**"The Weekly Mercury"**  
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY.

THE LARGEST COUNTRY NEWSPAPER in the DOMINION, containing 40 columns of reading matter. Special care is devoted to the Weekly Mercury, and care is taken that none but the best and most select reading appears in its columns. It is the Great Family Paper of Ontario, and the unprecedented additions to its subscriptions list within the last two years, and the demand still increasing, is a certain guarantee that our assertion is correct. Our facilities now for getting up a Great-Class Weekly are unrivalled by even the metropolitan press, and we are determined not to relax our energies.

Letters containing money, properly registered, will be at our risk.

**TO ADVERTISERS.**  
Business men will find the EVENING and WEEKLY MERCURY to be unrivalled advertising mediums, as their respective circulations are 25 in advance of any others in North Western Canada, and is the only means by which extensive settlements can be reached by the judicious advertiser.  
Advertising rates are very liberal, and may be learned on application at the Office.

**Book and Job Printing,**  
Executed on short notice, at reasonable rates, and in the best style of the Art. Having every facility at our command, in this department, we defy competition as to style, quality and price.  
McLAGAN & INNES, Publishers.  
Office:—Macdonnell Street, East of the Guelph Lion, Guelph, Ontario.  
October 29, 1867. daw-11.

**OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO'Y.**  
1867  
GUELPH AGENCY.  
Steam to Liverpool, Londonderry and Glasgow.  
Steamship MORAVIAN, Portland to Liverpool, 7th December, 1867.  
Tickets to and from the Old Country, Passage Co. tickets to bring friends out. Return tickets for 6 months, issued at reduced rates. State of affairs secured, and every information given on application. Insurance Policies for the voyage issued at the low rate of \$1 per 100 up to 10,000.  
Apply to  
GEORGE A. OXNARD,  
Agent, G. T. R., Guelph,  
Guelph, Oct. 21 1867. da

**FLOUR, GRAIN, PROVISIONS,**  
ASHES, LEATHER, &c.  
CONSIGNMENTS solicited. Highest prices realized, and returns promptly made. Every possible information afforded consignors in reference to the Markets, Packing of York, Manufacture, &c., as required.  
Kirkwood, Livingstone & Co.,  
Kirkwood, Livingston & More,  
HALIFAX.

**ADVANCES.**  
DRAFTS authorised against Consignments to Montreal and Halifax may be made at the option of Consignors, on either City. Cash advances made on shipments to our Correspondents in Foreign Markets.  
Kirkwood, Livingstone & Co.,  
Kirkwood, Livingstone & More,  
HALIFAX.

**FISH, OILS, &c.**  
ORDERS for Fish, Oil, and India Produce executed at the most reasonable rates.  
Kirkwood, Livingstone & Co.,  
HALIFAX, N. S.  
October 12 1867. dawly

**THE BARCLAY SEWING MACHINE.**  
WITHOUT any exceptions, the Barclay Sewing Machine, Manufactured by the British American Sewing Machine Company,  
AT PARIS, ONTARIO,  
are the best in the Dominion of Canada for general purposes. An examination is merely required, which will be to the advantage of those intending to purchase. All machines warranted.  
Also, Agent for the DALTON KNITTING MACHINES, one of the best machines in the market.  
Apply to  
MOSES BECHTEL,  
General Agent for the County of Wellington  
Blair P. O., Dec. 4th, 1867

**STORE for SALE**  
In the Village of Stirton.  
A GOOD STORE for general business, with commodious Dwelling House attached, and Stable in rear. Also, a BLACKS MITH SHOP with two forges. The shop is 20 x 30 feet; connected with this shop is a good Dwelling House. The buildings are all of frame, and put up within the last three years. These two properties will be sold together or separately for Cash or on Credit. The Post Office is kept on the premises. For terms apply to  
LEMON & PETERSON, Guelph  
or to  
JOHN LUXSON, Proprietor, Stirton P. O.  
Guelph, August 29 1867. 723-4f

**MIDWIFE.**  
MRS MORRIS, Midwife. Residence, Essex Street, half way between the Market Square and Holyday's Brewery, first house east of Mr Min-

**BRITISH AMERICAN COMMERCIAL COLLEGE.**  
PRIZE PENMANSHIP!  
Superior Advantages Offered!

THE attention of young men looking forward to mercantile life is earnestly requested to the internal arrangements of this college, which afford every possible advantage and facility for acquiring a thorough 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 results of this system are readily seen in the 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 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 1865, 1866, and 1867, the only occasions 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 tuition. Infinitely more advantageous would it be to the student, since his full course of tuition is 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 credence 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 opprobrium 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

**Medical Dispensary**  
JUST received at the Medical Dispensary, large supply of  
**Tooth, Nail and Hair Brushes!**  
**TOILET SOAPS, &c.**  
Also, the largest and best assorted stock of English and French PERFUMERY in town.  
**COAL OIL**  
of the best quality always on hand.  
**E. HARVEY**  
Opposite the English Church, Wynnham-st., Guelph, Ontario.  
Guelph, 11th Dec., 1867. dw

**PRESENTS FOR CRISTMAS**  
To the Inhabitants of Guelph and surrounding Country.  
FOR a very large assortment of the cheapest and best  
**FANCY GOODS**  
And Christmas Presents call  
**AT SHEWAN'S Bookstore**  
Next door to Hugh Walker's Grocery Store.  
M. S. has imported some of the most choice articles of the above kind from England, Germany and France. Call and see.  
**WALL PAPER** selling at a sacrifice. Must make room for the Spring stock. Call and look at the endless varieties. The trade supplied on the most liberal terms.  
Guelph, 4th Dec., 1867.

**JOHN HARRIS,**  
CONFECTIONER, and  
BISCUIT Manufacturer.  
Wholesale and Retail!  
MY Goods are all made of the best material, and under my own supervision, and having no need to pay, am prepared to offer to  
**Wholesale Purchasers**  
Goods as cheap, if not cheaper, than any other house in the trade.  
**JOHN HARRIS,**  
Guelph, 7th Dec., 1867. Market Square, Guelph dw3m

**LLOYD'S Double MAP!**  
of EUROPE and AMERICA.  
THESE Maps are newly issued, are large and beautifully finished, and mounted on rollers, in fact, no expense has been spared to make them the best Maps ever brought before the public; each Map is twenty feet square and occupying only the space of one map on the wall, Europe on one side, and America on the other. These Maps are valuable to business men and travellers, showing all the different roads and routes and stations on both continents; they are also worthy of a place in every house, for they are both useful and an ornament.  
**ANOTHER DOUBLE MAP.**  
The Subscriber has also for sale a Double Map of America on one side, and Canada and the United States on the other. Sold by  
WM. P. TOLTON, Paulinech,  
Agent for the South and Centre Ridings of the County of Wellington.  
Paulinech, Jan. 2nd, 1868. 741-w-5t

**Four Corners' Hotel,**  
ERAMOSA ROAD.  
JOHN ANDERSON, Proprietor. The best of accommodations for travellers. First-class liquors and cigars. Good-stabling and attentive hostler.  
**HAY IN TRUSSES**  
Constantly on hand. Also Straw for beds  
**TERMS CASH.**

**NEW LAW OFFICE.**  
**FREEMAN & FREEMAN**  
BARRISTERS AND ATTORNEYS,  
**SOLICITORS IN CHANCERY,**  
CONVEYANCERS, &c.  
S. B. FREEMAN, Q. C. G. O. FREEMAN.  
Office over Berry's Confectionery Store, Wynnham Street, Guelph.  
Guelph, 4th December, 1867. dw

**Evening Mercury.**  
OFFICE: - - - MACDONNELL STREET.  
SATURDAY EVEN'G, JAN 4, 1868.

**Local News.**  
**ACCIDENT.**—Dr. Dunbar, of Mount Forest fell on Tuesday last week, and fractured the small bone of his leg.  
**MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.**—The Librarian of the Mechanics' Institute desires us to intimate, that he would be much obliged if parties who have books out of the library would return them immediately, in order that he may have them all in before the annual meeting.

A man named James Murphy, a resident of the township of Arthur, had his shoulder dislocated by a horse which he was holding by the halter suddenly jerking up its head. Under careful treatment the sufferer is doing well.  
**THE NARROW GAUGE.**—The Mount Forest Examiner says the County Council of Bruce has adopted a resolution in favor of the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway. In regard to the location of the line in the county of Bruce, the report recommends that the line enter the county near the south-east corner of the township of Warkent, thence to or near the village of Kincardine; thence to or near the village of Paisley; and thence through Port Elgin to the village of Southampton.

**GARATRAXA RAILWAY BY-LAW.**—The Observer says—On Friday, the 27th of December, the Garatraxa Council met at McKee's Corners, when a protest was entered against the Railway By-law. The poll books at Douglas were illegal, and Mr. James Johnston entered the protest. The majority in favor of the By-law was 34. No doubt men favorable to the By-law will be elected to the Council for 1868.

**THRASHING MACHINE ACCIDENT.**—Another of those accidents which are constantly recurring is noted in the Elora Observer. A young man named Charles Carnegie, while thrashing on the farm of Mr. James Cross, of Peel, was caught by, and wound so tightly round the tumbling shaft, that his clothes had to be cut to pieces before he could be liberated. His shoulder was put out of joint, and he received internal injuries. Had it not been that the horses were just started it might have gone worse with him.

**MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.**—We would remind our readers that the municipal elections take place on Monday next, the polls opening at 9 a.m. and closing at 5 p.m. Of course it is unnecessary to say that the polling continues only one day. In the North Ward there is no contest, Mr. Harvey having been elected by acclamation. In the South Ward the polling will be done in the School House; in the East Ward in the Town Hall; and in the West Ward in the Senior Girls' School.

**SABBATH SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.**—The annual Sabbath School Anniversary in connection with Knox's Church, will be held on Thursday next, the 9th inst., beginning at seven o'clock. Refreshments consisting of cakes, fruits, &c., will be served to the children, and the entertainment afterwards will be made up of dialogues and recitations, interspersed with sacred music. The occasion will be an interesting one, and the parents of the children as well as the public generally are cordially invited to attend.

**DONATIONS TO THE POOR.**—The Licensed Victuallers of London, Ont., opened a subscription list among themselves for the benefit of the poor of the city, and \$42 were contributed. Besides the money, there were divided among the starving unfortunates on New Year's day 400 lbs. of beef, 275 lbs. of mutton, 10 bushels of potatoes, 10 lbs. of tea, and 100 loaves of bread which had been collected, that they too might partake of some of this world's comforts at a season of general festivity.

**NEARLY AN ACCIDENT.**—The Owen Sound Times says: An incident occurred on Christmas day which should prove a caution against the discharge of firearms in the most thickly populated portion of the town, where there is always a danger that (no matter how cautiously they are used) accidents may result. On the morning of that day a young man was firing at a mark near Scrope street, not thinking of the possibility of mischief, when one of the balls penetrating thro' two boards, crossed Poulett street, and entered the shop of Mr. John Creighton, striking a sewing machine which he had just left. A number of children were playing on the street at the time, and narrowly escaped being shot. Those who wish to practice rifle shooting should retire to some safe place to do so, and not

**Funeral of the Hon. Mr. Blair.**  
The remains of the Hon. A. J. Ferguson Blair reached Wellington Square on Friday morning. The corpse was followed to the station at Ottawa by the Governor General, all the members of the Cabinet who were at Ottawa, and the officers of the Departments. The car, draped in mourning was brought directly through from the Capital to Wellington Square. The body was followed from the latter station to the family burying ground by a number of friends, among whom were the following: The two remaining brothers of the deceased, D. Sirton, Esq., M. P.; Sheriff Orange, Judge Kingdon, James Cowan, Esq., of Galt, T. W. Saunders and Jas. Webster Jr., Esq.'s, besides the Hon. Sam'l Mills, Jas. McMonies, Esq., M. P., and friends from Toronto, Berlin, Fergus, Waterdown, and a large portion of the inhabitants of Wellington Square. The Rev. Dr. Green, of the Church of England, officiated.

The Band of the Wellington Battalion will give a concert in Elora at an early date.  
**EXTRAORDINARY BARGAINS IN CLOTHING.**—Smith & Botsford, opposite the Market, are now offering extraordinary bargains in Clothing of all kinds. See advertisement.

**SOUTH WARD.**—Mr. Kennedy and his friends have been actively engaged in the canvass for some days, and have met with much success. We hope his friends will be stirring early on Monday morning so as to secure every available vote. If they begin early, and work with a will for a few hours they have every prospect of returning their candidate.

**NARROW ESCAPE.**—The town of Picton came near being left without a mayor lately, for as that functionary was passing through a tannery, he missed a step and fell head foremost into a vat. Fortunately for his Worship assistance was near, but it was not without difficulty he was drawn out. In order to restore consciousness fully it was found necessary to assure him that when voting day came he would not be forgotten.

**THE EAST WARD.**—A meeting of Mr. Wm. Allan's Committee was held in Lindsay's Hotel last night, when after comparing votes it was found that his chances of election were excellent. We trust his supporters will turn out early on Monday morning and record their votes. A little earnest vigorous work in the forenoon will secure his election. This we would like to see, for Mr. Allan we believe will make an excellent representative for the East Ward.

**THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER OF THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.**—Mr. T. J. Day has received a full supply of the Christmas number of this world renowned publication. "The Hair Loom" is the subject of the colored plate, an attractive assortment of rich fruits. Besides this plate, there are a large number of illustrations bearing upon the "merry" season as well as on a variety of other matters. It can be had at Day's bookstore, opposite the Market.

**DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL.**—An advertisement of another entertainment in the Town Hall, will be found in our columns to-day. The Ladies of the Benevolent Society are making preparations for a concert, which will consist of only a few pieces, carefully selected and sung by some of our best local vocalists. But they have enlisted besides the aid of the Guelph Dramatic Club, and by the special request of the ladies as well as the urgent solicitation of many who were not present on Monday night last, the play, "The Coal Burner," will be produced again, the dramatic personae we presume being the same. Good singing, first rate acting, and charitable considerations will no doubt draw a good house.

**ANOTHER GREAT CLEARING SALE.**—Among all the great clearing sales yet announced, Messrs. Fraser & Henderson state through our columns to-day that theirs is to be the greatest sale of the season. It commences on Monday first, and as the goods have been marked down to cost, and in many cases below cost, splendid bargains may be expected. It is well known that Messrs. Fraser & Henderson have a very large and very superior stock of dry goods, comprising all the staple articles, as well as every new and fashionable fancy fabric. Those therefore who want to lay in a stock of first class goods at the lowest prices should make an early call at Fraser & Henderson's. Remember the sale commences on Monday first.

**SERIOUS FRACAS.**—The Belleville Intelligence tells of a very serious row that occurred in that town on New Year's eve. It tells the following tale: It appears that several rowdies went into a hotel shortly after midnight, and got into a quarrel with one Sullivan, a person boarding in the house. Under the influence of liquor high words soon led to blows, and while scuffling, the cellar door was forced open and Sullivan and one or two others tumbled down cellar. When one of the parties belonging to the house went down stairs with a light, he found two of them kicking Sullivan, who had been so seriously injured that he was unable to move. He was assisted to his room and Dr. Lister immediately sent for. Upon examination it was found that his spine was very much injured, and but little hope is entertained of his recovery. The rowdies escaped, and are still at large.

**FATAL AFFRAY.**—The St. Mary's Argus says that on Monday last an inquest was held by Coroner Harrison, on the body of a boy named Joseph Clark, of Blanshard, who died on Friday, the 27th ult. It appears by the evidence that the boy Clark, while on his way home from school on the 28th November last, was attacked and beaten by two brothers, named John and James Webster. The injuries he sustained confined him to his bed, where he remained till he died. The jury returned the following verdict: That Jos. Clark came to his death from inflammation of the spinal cord and membrane, but the evidence against John Webster.

**Grammar School Teachers' Convention.**  
In accordance with a call by circular, the teachers of the County Grammar Schools of Ontario assembled in Toronto on Friday for the purpose of forming a Grammar School Teachers' Ass. with the object of mutual assistance and improvement, and of instituting certain reforms in their peculiar sphere of duty which has not hitherto been reached by the Provincial Teachers' Association.  
The following officers for the year were then elected:—Rev. Dr. Wickson, Toronto, President; Wm. Tassie, M. A., Galt, Vice-President; J. Howard Hunter, M. A., Secretary; J. M. Buchan, M. A., Treasurer; Wm. McCabe, L.L.D., Oshawa; Samuel Woods, M. A., Kingston; Thos. Kirkland, Whitby, Councillors. The subjects discussed were the advisability of adopting a uniform course of classical reading, preparatory to admission to Universities and learned societies in this Province—the question of providing a suitable and inexpensive series of grammar school text books. Some discussion also took place in reference to the relation of Upper Canada College to the Grammar Schools of the Province. It was arranged that the annual meeting of the Association will be held on the first Monday in August, to give members an opportunity of attending both conventions—the Grammar School Teachers' and the Provincial Association; the latter of which meets the next day, (the first Tuesday in August).

**An Ingenious Swindle.**  
A rather original swindle has been brought to light in Montreal. The way in which it has been discovered is as follows:—Certain letters, their contents being similar to each other, have been received by individuals in the States, many of whom have been thereby victimized of considerable amounts of money, besides compromising their characters to an extent which might be disastrous, were their replies to these epistles to be published. Two of these letters had been placed in the hands of the Superintendent of the Metropolitan Police, New York who sent one of them to the Chief of Police, Montreal. The following extracts from it will give an idea of the general character, and the way in which it was intended that it should work on the susceptibilities of those to whom copies of it might be sent.  
"MY LORD,—Your Lordship's letter of 26th ult. reached me just now, and it is with an almost breaking heart I hasten to reply. It was as a near relative that I appealed to you; how then, could you so cruelly reply? You know how shortly since I was the innocent, idolized daughter of a proud nobleman, who, for years, I believe, before you came to your title was your constant and loving friend. You on the day I was presented at court my extreme loveliness fascinated you, and you then would have made me your Countess; but offended at the little gratification expressed for the honour intended, you gave up the idea, nor were surprised when a few months later, you heard the pretty butterfly had scorched her wings on the Continent." The letter then referring to some insulting proposals made by his Lordship, goes on— "I met in this far country one kindly hearted man who would protect me from the world, his faithful, willing slave would I be, and love him with a love as intense as true. Alas, could I find my kind-hearted American friend of Genoa, whose generous heart and ready arm so ably protected me, to him would I bend the willing knee, proud if any way I could add to his happiness and pleasure. Often have I regretted that he left without thanks or naming his address. Last night as weeping out here, and other parts of Portugal in consequence of the imposition of new taxes. The unpopularity of the new system, and the excitement created by the attempt to carry it into effect, have led to the resignation of the Ministry.

**American Despatches.**  
New York, Jan. 4.—The Herald's Havana special says: At St. Johns, Porto Rico, there were slight shocks of earthquake felt on Sunday, Dec. 29th. The shocks caused but little alarm, as the inhabitants have become accustomed to them.  
Providence, R. I., Jan. 3.—Sylvester G. Sherman, Justice of Rhode Island Supreme Court, died suddenly last night.  
New York, Jan. 4.—The Herald's special says the President is gathering all the official information in possession of the War Department in relation to the destitution in the Southern States, and has called upon Gen. Grant to report on the subject.  
New York, Jan. 4.—Senator Pugh, the special ambassador from St. Domingo to propose a lease of Samana Bay to the U. S. Government, arrived on Thursday, and will leave here to-day for Washington.  
Judge Blatchford has decided, in a suit brought by Drake & Cohen, of London, against the assignees of Robt. L. Taylor and Henry W. Hubbell, that they are entitled to be paid as creditors the sum of \$200,000.

**ONTARIO TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.**—The Board of Directors of the above Association held their annual meeting in the Temperance Hall, Toronto, on Thursday, the 3rd instant. Arrangements were made by the Board, for the next annual meeting of the Association to be held in the City of Toronto, on Tuesday, the 4th of August, 1868. Besides other business, the following topics were appointed for discussion at the next annual meeting. 1st. Is it desirable that prizes be given to the pupils in our schools, and if so, which is the best method of awarding them? 2nd. The importance of securing the attention of pupils, in order to successful teaching. 3rd. Are any changes desirable in the examination and admission of candidates to the profession of teaching, so as to raise its status? 4th. What steps can be taken to remedy the irregular attendance of pupils in our Common Schools? 5th. Is the present regulation respecting the selection and copyright of school books conducive to the best interests of education? 6th. Is it desirable that the clause in the Common School Act, respecting teacher's Institutes, be put into operation.

A London writer who has been engaged in dissecting Ward Beecher's novel of "Norwood," says that it is a

**Y TELEGRAPH**  
Despatches to the Evening Mercury.  
**Discovery of Fenian Headquarters.**  
**SEIZURE OF IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS.**  
**Startling Revelations!**  
**Increased Military Vigilance in Ireland.**

**BY ATLANTIC CABLE.**  
Brussels, Jan. 3.—Le Nord newspaper has received intelligence from Paris that the headquarters of the Fenian brotherhood on the continent have been discovered in the Faubourg du Temple, Paris, and have been seized by the French police. A large quantity of letters and documents revealing the plans of the organization, and a list of the head centres of the brotherhood, were found on the premises, and have been forwarded by the French authorities to London. The account in Le Nord also states that among the documents brought to light was one containing the details of a plot for destroying a portion of the British Channel fleet, by fire. Other papers of a similar character have been discovered, all of which have been placed in the hands of the British Government.  
London, Jan. 2.—The examination of Desmond, Allan and others, alleged to be implicated in the Clerkenwell gaol explosion, has resulted so far in producing no satisfactory evidence as to their criminality, and leaves the affair almost as much a mystery as it was before the investigation commenced. The magistrates has adjourned the examination one week.  
Paris, Jan. 3.—An urgent note has been received by the French Government from the Sublime Porte, in which it is stated that Russian agents are endeavoring to incite revolt among Christian subjects of the Sultan, and a vigorous protest is made by the Turkish Government against such hostile action, or at least connivance therein on the part of Russia.  
Paris, Jan. 3.—It is now generally conceded, notwithstanding the recent attempt of certain journals to revive an impression to the contrary, that all hopes of the assembling of a general conference of the European Powers for the settlement of the Roman question has been abandoned by the French Government.  
London, Jan. 3.—It is thought that the conference on the Eastern question recently held in St. Petersburg, by leading diplomats of Russia, has warlike significance.  
Dublin, Jan. 2.—Lord Strathairn, the commander-in-chief of the forces in Ireland, is actively engaged in disposing his troops to meet a public outbreak. Particular attention is directed to the counties of Cork and Tipperary, in which extraordinary precautions are being taken. The banks of the river Shannon and the west coast of the island are guarded with increased vigilance to prevent a landing. The police in all the large cities, especially in the south, are unusually active and watchful.  
Florence, Jan. 3.—Menebra has not yet succeeded in completing his new Cabinet, and the ministerial crisis continues. Meanwhile political agitation in the country is incessant and wide spread.  
Lisbon, Jan. 3.—Tumults have broken out here, and other parts of Portugal in consequence of the imposition of new taxes. The unpopularity of the new system, and the excitement created by the attempt to carry it into effect, have led to the resignation of the Ministry.

**Gooderich Salt is only to be had at John A. Wood's.**  
SOIREE AT ROTHSAY.—A soiree was held in the Rev. Mr. Anderson's church, Rothsay, on New Year's Day. The Hollin Volunteer Company paraded in the morning and attracted a large crowd. The ladies of the congregation spread gratuitously a most tempting banquet to which those assembled nothing loath applied themselves. The speakers were Rev. Geo. McLennan, Dr. Tuck, and others. The proceeds are to be applied towards seating the church.  
**A DOUBLE SURPRISE.**—One night last week, says the Mitchell Advocate, a surprise party, consisting of young men and maidens, called on a Mr. McTee, of Tuckersmith, and enjoyed themselves until midnight. Mr. McTee having had two surprise parties the week previous, imagined these things were becoming a little too troublesome, and to surprise them and stifle their mirth, he roasted a quantity of cayenne pepper on the stove, which soon had the effect to set the whole company sneezing. One gentleman made for the door, being troubled with a turning of the stomach, and the remainder of the party kept sneezing. At last the room became insufferable, and the whole party bolted to imitate him who went first. One lady exclaimed that she was surprised, a gentleman expressed himself as entertained like emotions, another wondered what was the matter, while a delicate

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