

TEA TABLE GOSSIP.

An Awful Blunder.
He sent her a book
"To put in her stocking"
She gave him a look
That set his brain reeling.

It was quite in size—
The book, not the stocking—
She sits with red eyes
It was terribly shocking!

—Mr. Alex. Garrett, of Vancouver, B. C., is in the city.

—Mrs. C. E. Barrett, St. Thomas, is visiting friends in the city.

—Victoria Yacht Club will hold its regular pedro game this evening.

—Advance Lodge, C. O. O. F., will hold an open meeting this evening.

—Mrs. F. B. Vallance will be at home Thursday and Friday of this week.

—Mr. J. W. Patterson and family, of Peterboro, are visiting friends here.

—Mr. Adam Beck has been elected a member of the London Hospital Trust.

—George MacLaren Brown, Executive Agent, C. P. R., Vancouver, is in the city.

—Mr. Will Westaway, Toronto, spent New Year's day with friends in the city.

—Mr. Alex. Pong, of Onondago, is visiting Mr. Peter Marshall Kennedy, Egin street.

—Mr. James I. Miller, of Detroit, is visiting his parents, 68 Emerald street south.

—Miss Libbie Carter, Windsor, is visiting her cousin, Mr. A. Taylor, 227 Wilson street.

—The Ontario Normal School of Domestic Science and Art reopens tomorrow, Thursday, Jan. 3rd.

—Mr. Henry Kuntz presented each of his employees with a cheque equal to a week's wages.

—Mr. R. Byron is recovering from a serious illness, and is expected to be around again this week.

—Band at Thistle Rink tomorrow night and every Tuesday and Thursday nights. Carnival 8th inst.

—Miss Anna Dennis is home from Detroit on a visit to her mother, Mrs. A. Dennis, No. 270 East avenue north.

—"Her singing moves me greatly."
I heard the cello say:
"In fact, I feel I cannot get
Quite far enough away."

—Mr. Geo. Challen, of the Canadian Express, Hamilton, is visiting at home for New Year's—St. Thomas Journal.

—Superintendent Rae, of the House of Refuge, desires to thank Rev. Father Brady and Aid. Neilligan for a donation of clothing.

—Fire Chief Atkinson has prepared a report of fires for the year 1900. It shows the loss to be \$84,000. A very small amount.

—There were four generations present at a New Year's gathering at the residence of Mr. A. W. Wright, No. 107 Robert street, last evening.

—The Misses Baldwin, of Grand Rapids, who have been the guests of Miss Nicholson, George street, during the Christmas holidays, have returned home.

—This evening the old and present altar boys of St. Patrick's Church will make a presentation to Rev. Father Crofton, the newly-ordained priest.

—Jas. Stevens, Victoria avenue, and Alex. McKay, West avenue, made a bad start in the new century. They got very drunk, and the police had to place them in the cooler for a spell.

—Mr. James M. Warren and wife, of Brampton, having spent the holidays at the home of the former's parents, 16 Canton street, returned to their own home this morning.

—They both were golf enthusiasts; They played all sorts of weather, And though they never thought of love.

—Their lives were linked together;
—On New Year's Eve at Wesley Church Parsonage, Mr. John Bayman and Miss Anna Helder, both of this city, were married by Rev. W. F. Wilson. Mr. Bayman, a musical prodigy, and Miss Helder, a musical genius, were the bridesmaids.

—Yesterday afternoon the Y. W. C. A. was thrown open for the entertainment of the young women of the city. The room was most home-like and attractive, and a large number availed themselves of the association's hospitality.

—The D. D. M. P. R. E. Walker, of Caledonia, will pay an official visit to Concord Lodge, No. 291, A. O. U. W., tomorrow night (Thursday) to inspect the newly elected officers, after which a musical programme will be presented and refreshments served.

—Nelligan's orchestra played at a New Year's eve banquet, tendered in the Campbell House, Cayuga, by the proprietor, J. A. Hoshel. There was a large gathering present and a most enjoyable time was spent. Among those who made speeches were Mr. Thompson, M. P., and Crown Attorney Cramer.

—A little early, is not it, to talk about colored shirts for spring? They have been in the case at a wangle's. You might as well have them now. Shirts with separate collars fifty cents; other prices up to one-fifty. The high turn-down collars two for a quarter. Post-office opposite.

—In accordance with the wish of the Provincial W. C. T. U., January 3rd will be observed as a day of prayer in this city. A meeting of the unions will be held in the Y. W. C. A., 17 Main street west, on Thursday afternoon, commencing at 3:30. An invitation is extended to all interested in the work.

—The recent decision of the Public Library Board to throw that institution open to the public on holidays went into effect yesterday, and the innovation proved a success. The reading rooms were thronged all day, and the members of the board who were the promoters of the change from the old order of things were naturally elated.

—On Monday night Mr. Donald McKenzie, an aged and highly respected resident of this city, died at his home, No. 13 Garth street. He was in his 71st year, and death was due to general debility. Deceased leaves a widow and a family of grown up children. The funeral will take place at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning to the G. T. R. depot, Ingersoll.

—Mr. James Slater has bought out the old established umbrella business carried on for the past 52 years by Mr. George Catchpole, at 29 Rebecca street, and with a long experience in the making and repairing of umbrellas, is prepared to guarantee satisfaction to all the former customers of this old established business. Mr. Slater will carry it on at the same stand, and his address will also be 9 King William street.

AGAIN NO CRIMINAL CASES

Grand Jury at Next Week's Assizes Will Have a Snap

MANY CIVIL ACTIONS ENTERED.

Another blank criminal docket will greet the grand jury, which assembles at the Wentworth winter assizes that open here on Monday next before Mr. Justice Ferguson, and as a result the grand jurors will only have to listen to a little speech from the judge, make a pleasant little visit to the jail, say a few words to the prisoners, express their appreciation of the excellent manner in which those institutions are conducted and draw seventy or eighty dollars from the county treasury. The steady decrease in the number of serious criminal cases in this city and county affords a capital argument for the legislators who are endeavoring to secure a reduction in the number of grand jurors.

The grand jurors will be Messrs. John Carleton, Ald. David Graham, August Grossman, Geo. Hope, T. H. Husband and J. S. Hossack, city; N. H. Jordan and A. H. Hughes, Dundas; John L. Baker, East Flamboro; and Andrew Johnston, Beverly.

—Tomorrow is the last day for the entering of civil cases for the assizes, and it is expected to be a large one. The cases entered up to 3 o'clock this afternoon are as follows:

Jury Cases.
Fallis vs. Garthshore—Damages for injuries. \$10,000. Plaintiff, Garthshore; defendant, Fallis.
Lottridge vs. Roach—\$10,000 damages for slander. Plaintiff, Lottridge; defendant, Roach.
Teetzel vs. Harrison & Lewis.
Stanton vs. Marshall—Damages for injuries. Plaintiff, Stanton; defendant, Marshall.

Potter vs. Marshall—Damages for injuries. Plaintiff, Potter; defendant, Marshall.

Nagara District Fruit Growers' Stock Co. vs. Bell—Action on a guarantee. Plaintiff, Fruit Growers; defendant, Bell.

Case vs. T. H. & B. Railway—\$10,000 damages for injuries. Plaintiff, Case; defendant, Railway.

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A FLAG CEREMONY.

Crimean Veteran Honored by His Friends on Monday Afternoon.

Windsale, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Barker, Salford, was the scene of a very happy event on New Year's eve. Mr. Barker is a British Army Veteran who served all through the Crimean campaign, and is the wearer of many medals. On Monday afternoon there was a gathering of friends at his place, and the unveiling of a flag took place. Mr. George D. Phillips, another Crimean veteran, as a token of esteem for Mr. and Mrs. Barker, presented Mr. Barker with a British Ensign. At 4:30, as the H. G. & B. car passed Windsale, the flag was unfurled by Mrs. Reed, of Gainsville, and the gathering joined in singing "God Save the Queen." Cheers followed for the Queen, Canada and the Empire. A splendid supper was served immediately afterwards, and the evening was spent in singing and speeches. One of the singers was Mr. J. Moore, also a veteran, 90 years of age.

FIRST THIS CENTURY.

Fred W. Young Only Man Before Magistrate This Year.

Yesterday morning Fred W. Young, Hughson street north, generally a quiet, well-behaved man, got into a quarrel with a neighbor, and was charged with assault. Then he became quarrelsome and picked a row with his father-in-law, Mr. Diddle, simply called Detective McMahon, who took him up on a charge of drunkenness and disorderliness.

This morning before Magistrate John Young pleaded guilty to the charge. He was fined five pounds and allowed him to go free. He told Young he was the only offender he had in three days, and being the first in the new century, he thought the thought of that would be enough punishment under the circumstances.

His name was the only one on the big book today, and there was no session of the Police Court yesterday.

CLOTHING HOUSE FIRE.

Big Blaze in Switzer, Reid & Co's. Market Square Store.

ABOUT \$5,000 DAMAGE DONE.

Fire did about \$5,000 damage in Switzer, Reid & Co's. clothing house, No. 8 Market Square, early last evening. The blaze was discovered about 6 o'clock by Mr. Thomas Broadbent, foreman of the Victoria Avenue Hose Co., as he was passing the store. He turned in the alarm to the department, which responded quickly. When the brigade arrived the place was full of smoke, and the rear of the store was a mass of flames, which had licked up great piles of woollen goods. The firemen fought the fire at front and back, and it was fully an hour before the flames were extinguished. Large quantities of smoldering clothing was carried out and thrown in the alley and street.

It is estimated that between \$4,000 or \$5,000 damage was done to the firm's stock, which is pretty well insured. The loss to the building, which is owned by Mr. Chas. P. Tuckett, and is insured, will amount to about \$7,000.

Mr. Reid, one of the partners, is at present in Ottawa. The other members of the firm are at a loss to account for the fire.

The fire in the same firm had a \$700 fire in the premises adjoining their present store.

TWO WERE HURT

Accident to Young Men While Returning From Ancester.

While returning from the Lynch's road race in Ancester late yesterday afternoon, five young men figured in a nasty accident. Two of the boys, in the whiff of the two-seated rig broke, causing one of the horses to kick and run away. The young men were in the wagon began to pour out, and F. Whitehead were rendered unconscious. The other three, Wm. Sherring and two Buffalo boys, escaped injury. The injured men were picked up by the street car, and brought to the city. They soon recovered. The ambulance was sent for, but was not required.

ANOTHER HOTELMAN DEAD.

Mr. Joseph McCann, John and Cannon Streets, Passed Away.

Another hotelman passed away yesterday morning. Mr. Joseph McCann, who kept the hotel at the corner of John and Cannon streets, died of pneumonia at St. Joseph's Hospital. He had been sick only three days, and his death was a terrible shock to his family and friends. Deceased was 37 years of age, and leaves a widow and two children. He was a great dog and poultry fancier and won many prizes with his stock. Years ago he kept a hotel on James street, below the bridge.

The funeral will take place to-morrow morning to St. Mary's Cathedral.

G. T. R. CONSTABLE DEAD.

Mr. Jas. Murdoch Answered a Summons From Creator To-day.

Mr. James Murdoch, No. 15 Barton street east, died this morning after an illness of five months. He was 58 years of age and leaves two sons and a daughter to mourn his death. Deceased was for many years a constable on the G. T. R., and his kind manner and courteous replies to questions put by travellers at St. Stuart street station made him many friends among the railway company's patrons. He was ever on the alert, also, to protect the company's interests.

The funeral will take place on Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Ancester Resident Dead.

Mr. Ross, an old settler, who came to this country from Scotland about 40 years ago, passed away at the residence of his daughter, No. 104 Ashley street, on Saturday, and his remains were interred at Ancester yesterday. Deceased had resided at Ancester ever since coming to Canada. He was highly respected by all who knew him.

On Monday evening Mr. M. P. Shine, barber, received a telegram stating that his sister, in Cardiff Junction, was dying. A few hours after he left for that point a message was received from him stating that his brother-in-law was dead. His sister is still living.

A hand-cart belonging to Ed. Hewitt, Robinson street, was stolen from the rear of a James street hotel on Monday night.

MANY WITHOUT A STRUGGLE

Few Election Contests in Wentworth.

RESULTS OF THE NOMINATIONS.

There will be few election contests in the townships of old Wentworth County this year, most of the Reeves and many of the Councilors being elected by acclamation. The nominations on Monday were as follows:—BARTON—At the nominations at the Mountain View all the candidates for Reeves retired except Adam Inch, who was re-elected by acclamation. The field of candidates for councilor, from which only four can be elected, was large one, including Frank Hill, George A. Andrew, Bernard and Harry Anderson, who held office last year, and George Kilman, Benjamin Hunt, Peter Murray, Robert Louder, Fred Kerr and Wm. McFar. GLANFORD—Bate, D. Boue Snugg, by acclamation. Councilors, Simon Haslop, Wm. Bethune, Samuel Hannan, George Jerome, by acclamation. ANCASTER—Reeve, James Seggie, by acclamation. Councilors, T. A. Walker, Jacob Blain, W. Vansickle, Joseph H. Brington and Dr. Brandon.

WEST FLAMBORO—Reeve, John Oldfield, re-elected by acclamation. Councilors, Harry Ghent, James Arnold, James Gray, Wm. Dickson, Wm. Bege, Andrew Andrew, George and Harry Anderson, who held office last year, and George Kilman, Benjamin Hunt, Peter Murray, Robert Louder, Fred Kerr and Wm. McFar.

SALTREE—Reeve, Major W. H. Ptolemy and Edward Corman, Councilors, Capt. Marcus Lee, Robt. H. Dewar, O. Nash, Chas. Moore, Thos. Carcullen and Brock Garbrith.

WATERDOWN—Reeve, Dr. McClenahan, by acclamation. Councilors, John Forster, John Forster, George and Harry Anderson, who held office last year, and George Kilman, Benjamin Hunt, Peter Murray, Robert Louder, Fred Kerr and Wm. McFar.

EAST FLAMBORO—Reeve, William Emery, A. Gallagher, H. Hill, Councilors, Messrs. Emming, McNiven, Griffin, Attridge, Shoen and Robinson.

RINBROOK—Reeve, James Leonard Simpson, by acclamation. Councilors, James Bincay, John P. Segrove, Robert Evans and James Muir, by acclamation.

CAISTON—Reeve, J. M. Lymburner, by acclamation. Councilors, John Nearegarth, J. Young, Robt. Lymburner, Samuel Hannan and Anderson Asher.

SOUTH GRIMSBY—Reeve, Charles Gossie, by acclamation. Councilors, Elijah Holstead, Robt. Taylor, Adolphus Midghead, F. H. Patterson, J. S. Secor, J. M. Book and Peter E. Park.

GRIMSBY VILLAGE—Reeve, S. Wismer and J. A. Hewitt, Councilors, A. C. Cole, James Grace, K. L. Gray, F. B. Gibson, R. Shannon and Wm. Mitchell. School Trustees, H. H. Anderson, J. Lewis and A. E. House, by acclamation.

CLINTON TOWNSHIP—Reeve, Thos. Gilmore, Jas. H. Merritt, J. M. Wismer and J. A. Hewitt, Councilors, J. D. Bennett, H. Forsyth, C. Russ, J. A. Sinclair, W. F. Taitman, M. Zimmerman.

ROCKTON—Reeve, John P. Wood and A. Stewart, Councilors, John Malcolm, Henry Howard, Jos. Detzner, Wm. Riddell, Wm. Burgess, Chas. Milne. Four councilors, are to be elected. D. H. McKenzie, A. A. Stewart, who were nominated as councilors, but resigned.

ENTERTAINED MANY GUESTS.

Officers and Non-Coms. of the 13th Regt. as Hosts.

Yesterday the officers and non-commissioned officers of the Thirtieth Regiment held their annual New Year's day reception at the Drill Hall, Lieut. Col. McLaren and his brother officers entertained a large number of visitors at their handsome quarters, and music and an abundance of holiday refreshments made the afternoon pass very pleasantly.

Sergeant Major Higgins and the other sergeants of the regiments were also besieged with visitors. Among these were Mayor Teetzel, Mr. S. Barker, M. P., Lieut. Col. McLaren, and Mr. Hendrie. All four gentlemen made brief speeches to the non-coms, the Mayor expressing pleasure at the fact that they were able to entertain them at the public welcome to be tendered to the boys of the second contingent on their return from South Africa next evening, and promising that their authorities would do all in their power to make their reception a fitting one.

CUSHEN WINS AGAIN.

City Must Return the Fees Collected From the Butchers.

G. Cushen, suing on behalf of himself and other Hamilton butchers to recover \$270 fees paid to the corporation for the sale of meat on the market in quantities of less than a quarter of a carcass, has won his suit. Mr. Justice Ross this morning handed out judgment in favor of the butchers, who, it was found, were illegally collected the fees, which were illegally