

Fergus Correspondence.

THE NEW YEAR.—1888 belongs to the years that are past and gone. It was allowed to terminate its natural existence by a somewhat natural death, but it must have suffered feelings of deep regret, chagrin and anger, when compelled to leave ungraciously to the bidding of the bells for its own funeral. The good old tried and true friend '88 had his sentence of execution duly carried out at the appointed hour. Instead of being hung, it is rung out of time by almost innumerable bells all over the world. His distant friends in his new helpless condition fail to call forth any sympathy from those he befriended while strong. The thirst and pain of the dying are unheeded, the feeble fluttering pulse becomes more feeble and the sounds of death, the gasping for breath!—breath! the struggling and anguish are drowned, blotted out, obliterated for ever by the victorious ringing of the newly born infant—the year '89. To this, the moment of birth, succeeds the congratulations. A new year is given you—all is well! It is an accomplished fact, and we hasten to offer our services and express our loyalty to the new sovereign of chronology, forgetting at once and for ever the continued, consistent, faithful and true we have so constantly borne with, and the many kindnesses received. We accept on first sight, without question or explanation, and introduce to our closest and dearest the stranger, stylish new and fascinating. So it is with every day life. We must endeavor to be the better for the friend with his companions which we have so readily and affectionately brought into the bosoms of our families under the name of '88 there is nothing wrong in him and them. Would it were the same with us.

THE DAY.—As usual the old year was rung out and the new in by the bells. Many wait for this before retiring. Friends often meet to be together, in groups as well as in single couples so that happiness for the year will not be lost by waiting till daylight to be wished, and so we go visiting one year and return the next—a long visit to friends. The last day of the year was a busy one in the village. The night was quiet but towards the early morning some rollicking choruses enlivened the surroundings almost before the old year was gone. However, shyness and his father Simon soon took the distal and kept possession of Fergus till well into day-break.

QUESTIONS.—The morning brought to light the fact that some low, mean, cowardly shape of man or shapes of men had been at work. Three panes of glass were broken in the Plymouth Church, and the door broken in the Army barracks. There is no fun about this, or nothing cute—it is scarcely sharp enough for a child, it is however dastardly and villainous in the extreme and deserving of the most severe punishment. The constable is on the lookout and we hope the guilty will be punished. Leaving this, all has been good nature, fun and friendship through the night.

DOMES OF THE DAY.—A big smile, happy new year, a hearty shake meet us on every hand. As we step out we feel friendly to all mankind and are assured of perfect reciprocity. Whatever other days may be to-day we are all friends and this is a reality. There is no hypocrisy in the grasp of hands we have not touched for perhaps a year. All are free, jovial and merry. The sleighing has not returned, but Jack Frost has, and the cutlers take positions in the rink. The dam is frozen over and many glide like spirits along its smooth glossy surface. Others have family gatherings and must be at the rendezvous in time for the turkey. The society men have a duty and pleasure to perform in making calls. For whatever New York or London fashion may dictate Fergus rises above such and puts itself superior to fashion and equal to the emergency of continuing the grand old custom of seeing friends in their own homes at least once a year. All here are convinced of the benefits of New Year's calling in extending, consolidating and strengthening friendships which become stronger, torn and broken by the necessities of every day work in providing for our existence. Strict lines of caste are not adhered to, all are welcome in propriety, there is a glorious freedom and no harm done except it be to cake and coffee and their receipt is unduly imposed upon for the day. Liquors are almost entirely done away with. We have therefore everything to gain and nothing to lose by keeping up the good old custom. The sincerely wished, Happy New Year at home and abroad, along with the many other varied customs belonging to this season and Xmas, conduce when used and not abused to a better world in its wider sense, and exert a beneficial influence which we pray may continue and spread throughout the year in our lives and that of the world.

THE EVENING OF NEW YEAR'S DAY was devoted principally to skating on Wilson's dam. A large fire was kept burning and this with lanterns hung along the banks at intervals afforded sufficient light for safety and rendered the ice and the scene attractive, fascinating and beautiful; the figures of the numerous skaters flitting backwards and forwards past the lights like phantoms, while the banks of the river being only dimly lighted were weird and wild adding much to the enjoyment and novelty of the evening. With half a mile of good ice on the river and lighted up to suit the tastes, the rink was at a discount, and it has been a week, much to the disappointment and loss of its managers. When we say that a few accepted invitations to a most excellent party, so it is said, in one of the best houses and from one of the best farmers in Grandferry we have finished with the day, only to mention that one of our boys, Cumming, got a good ducking by going too near the water while skating, and two others in assisting him also got into trouble. It was a narrow escape for all and a lesson to others to be careful.

FIRE.—Our brigade and engine were nearly called out on Saturday night to put out a fire but it proved to be only Mr. A. Cumming's chimney and it soon ended in disagreeable smoke.

CONVENTION.—Steps must be taken this week to select candidates to the convention on the 14th inst. The best of judgment is necessary as this is a most important part of the election.

UPPER.—A wedding party was held over carriage and all on Wednesday last. No person hurt. Carriage visibly affected by the event. The party arrived at the station in time.

PERSONAL.—We are pleased to hear that Mr. P. Rennie is much improved and hopes to get out again soon.

CRICKET.—Fergus and Brantford purpose playing a game on Dufferin lake some time soon. It is proposed to play one club against the other, or as many as can play, 8 or 9 a side. The game was to come off on Thursday, but it is now uncertain.

SOME.—The annual tea meeting of St. Andrew's Church is to be held in the drill shed on Tuesday next, 12th inst. Good music, grab, and addresses, are the order of the night.

PRAYER.—Prayer meetings are being held every night this week in the different churches in rotation. It has been the usual practice during the first week of the year for some time past.

JUBILEE.—A meeting of the managers and elders of Mr. Snellie's Church, representative from Grandferry Presbytery, was held in Mr. Ferrie's office, on Wednesday last, to consider what action should be taken in connection with the celebration in honor of Mr. Snellie, in March next. We believe there was nothing definite settled.

ARMY.—Our village has been again besieged and assailed by some branch of

the Salvation Army. Two meetings were held on Sunday last in their barracks—the old Royal Hotel. No report of dead and wounded.

TRUSTEES.—The election for school trustees on Wednesday (to-morrow) is likely to be interesting. There are five good men in the field, Messrs Penny, Philip, Anderson, Mitchell, and Menzie. Three of these are to be elected and in lieu of no council election we may yet have some fun.

LECTURE.—Dr. Orton gives a short history of his Northwest rebellion experience at Hereward to-night. It was reported he was to favour Fergus also, but no definite time has been agreed upon as yet.

COUNCIL.—To-night was to have been the last meeting for the '85 Council. As they are all back it will not appear like a new Council for '86. This is the meeting for the passing of accounts and settling up generally.

MUNICIPAL.—Garraux elects H. Black for Deputy Reeve by 27 of a majority over Mr. McDermott. Councilors, House, Hannah and Ransom—the Reeve being elected by acclamation. Nichol gives Mr. Reynolds's Deputy and a good Council, Messrs Lindsay, Cunningham and Clarke.

The band promenade the streets on New Year's Eve.

Snow is again falling. We hope it may continue. The river has been very high, owing to the heavy rains, but the ice remains.

Several special attractions in the village this week, but they are too numerous to mention. Society includes them all, and society is very lively.

Fergus, Jan. 6, 1888.

Nervous Debilitated men. You are allowed a free trial of thirty days of the use of Dr. Dyke's Celebrated Voltaic Belt with Electric Suppressor Appliances, for the speedy relief and permanent cure of Nervous Debility, loss of Vitality and Manhood, and all kindred troubles. Also, for many other diseases. Complete restoration to health, vigor and manhood guaranteed. No risk incurred. Illustrated pamphlet, with full information, terms, etc., mailed free by addressing Voltaic Belt Co. Marshall Mich.

Beutal. W. M. FOSTER, L. D. S. OFFICE AND SUITE—OVER W. G. SMITH & CO'S Drug Store, corner of Wyndham and Macdonnell Streets, Guelph. Residence—Burling Street, opposite Central School. Visited: Air administered for extracting teeth without pain.

G. B. SAYES, L. D. S. GRADUATE OF TORONTO SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY. Office and residence over Jewell's Shop, corner of Upper Wyndham Street and St. George Street, Guelph.

R. CAMPBELL, L. D. S. OFFICE—NEXT DOOR TO FRANKLIN'S Book Store, up stairs. Residence—88 Queen Street W. G. W. PARKER. \$8.00. Honorary Graduate and Medalist, Toronto Dental Society. Artificial Teeth mounted on Celluloid Rubber and Gold. Very best set \$8. Office: Fergus and Gore Streets, corner Wyndham and Macdonnell streets, Guelph.

Legal. KENNETH MACLEAN, BARRISTER, &c. Office over Bank of Commerce. Entrance on Quebec Street. W. H. WARDROP, SOLICITOR, &c. Office over the Canadian Bank of Commerce, Private funds to loan at lowest rates of interest. COFFEY, FIELD & COFFEE, BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, &c. Guelph Office in Powell's Block, opposite the Post Office. FIELD & COFFEE, BARRISTERS, &c. Office in Seale's Block, COFFEY, G. W. FIELD B.A. J.C. COFFEE, dw. GUTHRIE & WATT, BARRISTERS, &c. GUELPH. D. GUTHRIE, G. O. dw. JAMES WATT, BARRISTER, &c. GUELPH. CUTLER'S BLOCK, dw. J. A. MOWAT, BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, &c. MONEY to loan. Office—Cutler's Block, up stairs. Entrance Macdonnell Street. MCMILLAN & MCLEAN, BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, &c. Office over Federal Bank, Guelph. Private Funds to loan on good security, and on easy terms. HUGH MCMILLAN, dw. W. A. MCLEAN, dw.

WILLIAM HART, CLERK AND LOAN AGENT, ISSUES OF Marriage Licenses, Agent for the North of Ontario Canadian Mortgage Company, and also for Local Investors. Money always on hand. Office—Upper Wyndham Street. I have appointed George Pringle my deputy to issue Marriage Licenses.

JOHN J. DALEY, Successor to Thompson & Jackson, CONVEYANCER, &c. Money to loan, Farm and city property bought and sold. Real Estate managed, &c. European and Canadian Agents. Office—101 Blandford near the Post Office, Guelph.

JOHN A. LAMPREY, CONVEYANCER, Loan, Lease and General Agent, has on hand a large amount of money to loan at lowest rates of interest. Money to let. Real Estate managed, &c. Recently occupied by Hugh McMillan, St. George's Square.

GEORGE FURMAN, BOOKBINDER, Accounts Books of all kinds made to order. Periodicals of every description carefully bound. All orders promptly attended to. 34 J. W. KILGOUR, GENERAL FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE AGENT, representing the Commercial Union Assurance Fire and Marine Insurance Companies. Risk taken in city and farm property, at lowest current rates. Office—127 Wellington Block, Guelph, near the Post Office.

JOHN DAY, ARCHITECT, OFFICE—OVER BURLING STREET, Lower Wyndham Street, Guelph.

MARRIAGE LICENSERS AND CHURCHES new Marriage Act, at the District Court Office, Guelph. No bondmen required, and License reduced in price to two dollars.

ALFRED A. BAKER, CARPENTER, JOINER and BUILDER. THOMAS SIMMONS, Shop—Macdonnell St., next to the Mercantile Office. All orders promptly attended to. Plate glass set with care.

R. W. CARTER, VETERINARY SURGEON. TREATS all diseases of Horses, Cattle and Lower Animals. Horses examined as to soundness and bought and sold on commission. Calls promptly attended. Charges moderate. Office and Residence—Bauchop's Livery Stable, Quebec St. Residence—Reynolds's Hotel, Guelph.

IRON CASTINGS. Of all kinds made to order at Crowe's Iron Works. Iron Fences, Tie Posts, Ploughs, Stoves, &c. JOHN CROWE, Proprietor.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Our Great Special Discount Sale

Will be stopped on

Saturday, January 2nd,

as it has already accomplished the object for which it was started, viz.:

The Reduction of our STOCK to a REQUIRED AMOUNT

After this date (January 2nd), goods will be sold at

REGULAR PRICES

and no discount will be allowed.

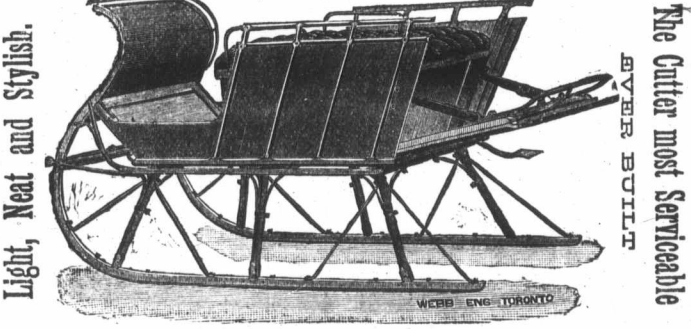
FINAL NOTICE!

Any Accounts in our Books remaining unpaid after January 2nd, except those with whom special arrangements have been made, will be handed into Court for collection.

DAVID N. HOGG & CO.

Penfold's Patent Adjustable Seat Cutters.

To carry Two or Four Persons.



AS A DOG CART PLEASURE SLEIGH.

We also make and have in stock, other styles of First Class Cutters and Sleighs. Special attention given to order work. Repairing, Repainting and Refitting done well and at low prices. All work made or repaired in our Shop, has our personal attention, and is warranted to be first-class. Give us call. All parties made welcome to examine our stock in course of construction.

S. & G. PENFOLD, Carriage Makers, Macdonnell-st., Guelph.

THE BEST YET!

PRICES PARALYZED

PROFITS ABANDONED.

During the Holiday Season we propose giving the Public a

GRAND BENEFIT

By placing before them our new and attractive stock of

Staple and Fancy Dry Goods,

Millinery, Mantles, Furs, &c.,

at prices away below all others.

DON'T BE DECEIVED.

But come and satisfy yourself by comparing quality, style and prices, at

77 Upper Wyndham Street,

A. J. LITTLE & Co.

Hardware!

Nice Plush Cases of Scissors, Ladies' Companions, Fish Knives, &c. Every Handled Knife, Plated Knives and Forks, Silver and Plated Spoons, Rodgers' Celebrated Cutlery, Razors, Sissors, Electro-plated Ware in great profusion, Acme and other Skates, Sleighs, Sleigh Bells, Gong and Chimes, Lamps and Lamp Goods in great variety Coffee and Tea Pots in Agate and Plated, Revolvers, Guns and Sporting Goods, Carpet Sweepers, Wringers, Wicker Plate Baskets, Wool and Cocoa Mats, Meat Cutters, Brass Fire Irons, Pardons and Scuttlies, And a large assortment of Goods, Ornaments and Useful for the

Holiday Season

J. M. Bond & Co GUELPH.

JEWELLERY

STOCK LARGER

Select your Xmas Boxes Early

MORE VARIED

Do not wait till the Last Day

THIS YEAR

Larger Stock than Ever.

B. SAVAGE.

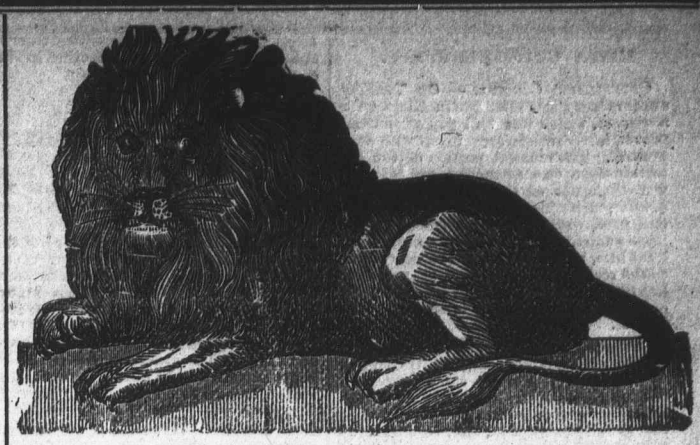
WANTED

10,000 VOLUNTEERS

To buy Christmas Cards and Presents from

Waters' Bros. Prices lower than ever: Canadian Cards, Photograph Cards, Chromo Cards, Fancy Cards, Painting Cards, Albums, Purse Artists Materials, Oil and Water Colors, Frames, Pictures, &c.

WATERS BROS., The Picture Gallery near the Post Office



THE GOLDEN

LION.

THE

DRY GOODS KING

The LION sends his greetings to his thousands of friends. The LION is happy and he is to make his Patrons happy also.

While Grit and Tory, Tory and Grit are pounding away at each other, THE LION is hard at it, early in the morning and late at night. The crowds are pressing in since the Cheap Sale began, every face beaming with pleasure. Our Mammoth Stock all fresh from the British Markets. No old Shop keepers in our house. Besides the Great Prize we offer, we have presents for everybody of every kind.

Here follows some of the Great Bargains:

\$1.00 Kid Gloves for 25 cents. 15 cent French Corsets, for 15 cents. \$4.00 Muffs, for \$2.00. \$1.00 Fur Caps, for 15 cents. Ladies' Underwear, Reduced 25 per cent. 50 cent Cashmere Gloves, Now selling at 25 cents. 350 Overcoats, \$5.00 each, cannot be bought elsewhere under \$7.50. Scotch Tweed Pants, \$1.50 a pair. Suits, Shirts, Socks, to choose from and in gross of being made. All wool for \$5.00 a suit. Men's Shirts and Drawers, 75c a set. Heavy Grey Flannel, only 17 cents worth 25c.

500 CHOICE MANTLES

All the leading styles to go during the festive season at half price. Our Mantle Trade this season has been something enormous. We have manufactured upwards of two hundred and fifty from the substantial Tweed at \$2.50 up to the finest Sateen at \$50. During the Christmas week we put out

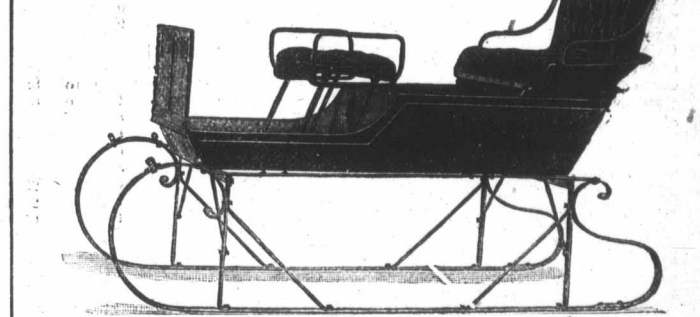
SILK DEPARTMENT

In the hands of our visitors. Every piece of Silk shall be sold at net cost price. We hold upwards of Ten Thousand Dollars of value in Black and Colored Silks and Satins. Never was such an offer made to the people. Let all take advantage of it and secure a dress. These we do not job to our neighbor merchants. We intend this benefit solely for our patrons.

Gentlemen Friends are asking the question, What shall I give Mary, Louise, Nellie, &c., &c. Well, we suggest a Silk Dress, a Mantle, a Fur Cap, a soft German Wool Wrap of which the LION has thousands. The LION'S stock is capacious, no stint of variety. Every one is speaking of the large stock at the LION, that means a good choice of variety. The LION imports his stock, he gratified and at a much less price than you are charged in the retail shops. Why? Because we buy from the makers. The LION imports his stock. The LION gladly welcomes his friends and hopes to see them all during the next ten days, and strangers who may come from a distance and not acquainted with the city, look for the GRAND OLD LION over the door of the Mammoth Store, Lower Wyndham Street, for the last 10 days.

Wholesale and Retail Double Store, J. D. Williamson & Co.

Armstrong's Tempered Steel Cutter Gear, With "Jump Seat" Body.



As a Four Passenger Cutter.

The lightest, most durable, and most stylish cutter made, and can be changed from a two passenger cutter to a four passenger pleasure sleigh in less than a minute. The public endorse them as a long needed and very suitable invention, and the large demand we are having from sections where introduced shows that they are giving complete satisfaction.

Price of "Jump Seat" Cutter, furnished complete, \$25.00

Running Gears to which any body can be attached, furnished separately for \$10.00

All the leading carriage makers handle them. Samples can be seen and purchased at our works. Catalogue and full information freely furnished to carriage builders and others.

J. B. ARMSTRONG Mfg. Co., Limited, Guelph, Canada

HARDWARE.

Lamps, Lamp Goods, Plated Ware, Cutlery, Skates, Snow Shoes, Toboggans etc.

HARVEY & Co.,

Successors to A. McBean & Co., 23 Lower Wyndham Street.