satisfactory in its provisions that it has received its second reading in the Local Legislature, and will in all probability pass the remaining stage and become the law of Ontario on the and become the law of Ontario on the first day of July, 1869. Every person is aware that such an act is of no less importance in this Province than similar ones have been found to be in other countries, where the properly certified record of one or more of the three great events, two of which are common to all, and the third to the greater part of humanity, have proved of much moment, We propose, therefore, to summarise as briefly as possible, the provisions of the bill.

The Provincial Secretary is to be Registrar-General of the Province. Each county, or city or town withdrawn from the jurisdiction of the country shall be a registration district, and the Clerk of the Peace shall be District Registrar.

Again, each township, incorporated village, town, and every ward in cities shall be registration divisions, and the Clerks of such municipalities shall be the Division Registrars. The latter will be obliged to make their returns on or before the 10th of January of each year to the District Registrars, and these in their turn shall transmit them to the Registrar General before the first of each February. The father or mother of any child born in the Province, or in case of their death or inability, then any person standing in their place, or the nurse or any person present at the birth, shall give notice within thirty days to the Division Registrar, paying ten cents, and answering the following queries: When born? Name? Sex? Name and surname of father? Name and maiden surname of mother Rank or profession of father? And there will be entered at the same time a description of the informant with signature and residence, the date of registry and the name of the accoucheur. Although births should be registered within thirty days, nothing shall prevent their subsequent regis tration within one year.

shall prevent their subsequent registration within one year.

In the same manner, deaths are to be reported by some one of the persons residing in the houses in which they take place, or by any one who was present; but if the death has not occurred in a house, then by any person who has any knowledge of the circumstances attending the demise. The report is to be made before interment, if possible, or ten days after. Answers are expected to the following questions: Name and surname of deceased? When died? Sex? Age? Rank or profession? Where born? Certified cause of death and duration of illness? Name of physician, if any? Religious denomination? The other entries are the same as in the case of births. Physicians are required to report births or deaths at which they have attended professionally.

Ministers and all persons authorized by law to celebrate marriages must report to the Division Registrar within thirty days, paying twenty-five cents, which the happy bridegroom will be supposed to have previously forked over: Information is required on the following subjects: The name, ago, place of birth, residence, condition and profession of the contracting parties, together with the names of their parents, and the religious denomination or denominations to which they belong Also, whether the lady is a spinster or a widow, and whether the authority for the marriage has been a license or the publishing of bans.

All persons shall have a right to search these records, and to receive, for the sum of fifty cents, extracts duly certified by the Registrar General, which shall be evidence of the entry certified, and prima facic evidence in any Court of Law or Equity in this Province, of the facts therein stated. Registrars neglecting their duty may be fined any sum between one dollar and twenty dollars, the prosecution in all cases to be a summary one before a magistrate.

A CHRISTMAS PRESENT.— Our best thanks are due to Mr. Joseph Kirby, of Milton, for a couple of splendid turkeys which he has sent us as a Christmas present. It is seldom the editorial larder is graced with two such fine birds, and we think all the more highly of them from the fact that last Christmas Mr. Kirby sent us as handsome a present. He evidently appreciates the manifold services of the Mercurg in the cause of agriculture and has done his best to make us forget our thousand and one trials and vexations in the enjoyment of a feast at Christmas. May his stock always take first prizes, (which is generally the case) and his turkeys be ever the biggest and fattest in Halton.

ERIN FALL Show.—We are requested to state that the ram lamb (long-wooled) which took the first prize at the Erin Show, belonged to Mr. Robt. Kennedy and not to Mr. T. Tolton, as formerly applicable.

A case of death from small-pox occur-red in town this morning.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

COULSON HOUSE,

WEDNESDAY EV'NG, DEC. 23, 1868

NOTICE.—Rereatter local editorial business notices will be charged at the rate of ten cents per line in every edition of the Mercury.

Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

After several attempts to frame a law providing for the proper registration of births, deaths and marriages, a bill has at length been drawn up so satisfactory in the street of the control of the proper registration of births, deaths and marriages, a bill has at length been drawn up so satisfactory in the control of the control of the proper registration of births, deaths and marriages, a bill has at length been drawn up so satisfactory in the control of the cont

DIED.

CHRISTMAS

NEW YEAR'S GIFTS

JOHN HORSMAN'S

Houses to Let.

et two dwelling houses. There are sevenents in one and four in the other. Appl DAVID McCRAE, Senr., London Road.

NEW BUTCHER SHOP.

ne subscriber has opened a new Butcher Shop he London Road, near the Guelph Marble ks, where he is prepared to sell Beef, Mutton, a and Lamb as cheap as it can be bought in market sheels. The subscriber respectfully tests a share of public patronage. Guelph, Dec 23. dw4 B. B. PRESANT

PUBLIC NOTICE.

E. O'DONNELL & CO.

W place before an intelligent public this notice, and bespeak for it a kindly reception from young and old, rich and poor.

Our **Platform** is sufficiently broad and comprehensive, that every one can stand upon it to advantage. We simply seek the general good of the whole community by giving good advice and showing how to SAYE MONEY, which, we take it, is something every intelligent person is desirous of doing.

In the first place we wish to inform the public that we are in

The Grocery, Liquor and **Crockery Trade**

at our usual stand, Wyndham-st.

20 lbs New Currants for One Dollar. E. O'DONNELL & CO.

In order to meet the wants of all classes, our Stock has been greatly enlarged and improved. Every line of Goods has been carcfully classified and made as complete as possible, and now we flatter ourselves that our Stock is equal in every respect to any in the Dominion.

Everything in stock is fresh, new and sparkling. No old shop-keepers's rust and decay upon our shelves to be palmed off on the unsuspicious. We buy the VERY-BEST GOODS which the markets of Europe and the Dominion afford, and sell at the very smallest margin of profits.

12 lbs. New French Raisins for \$1.

E. O'DONNELL & CO.

The success which we have already met with since commencing business in Guelph warrants us in the belief that our efforts to conduct a First-class Grocery Establishment is fully appreciated by the public.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

The Christmas Holidays are rapidly approaching, when all scale an effort to obtain good cheer wherewith to enjoy festivities of the season. It is of importance that purchasers should get value for their money, and a visit to E. C'Donnell & Co's will convince the most section that it convince the most skeptical that it is just the place to obtain the choicest Goods at the very lowest prices.

11 lbs. New Valencia Raisins for \$1. E. O'DONNELL & CO.

During the past two weeks we have been in DAILY RECEIPT of large quantities of Goods, which are now opened and offered for inspection at

E. O'DONNELL & CO'S,

Wyndham Street, Guelph. Guelph, 23rd December.

SANTA CLAUS HAS ARRIVED,

And is superintending the RETAIL DEPARTMENT of the

Guelph CONFECTIONERY Works

WYNDHAM STREET.

ALIELDS. HTOMMAM

To be Cut and Sold at 30c. per lb., worth 50c.

Every person should have a piece of the LARGEST CAKE EVER MADE IN THE DOMINION. Please leave your order by Wednesday evening.

Also, an endless variety of GOODS for

Christmas Presents and New Year's Gifts!

For large and small. To Come one and all, come all, and see for yourselv

daelph, Dec. 23, 1868.

H. BERRY.

R. RAE & CO.

IMPORTERS OF

China, Crockery, Glassware, R. AND FANCY GOODS.

AI MA BLOCK, GUELPH, ONT

From the facilities we possess in a practical knowledge of the business, and by buying for cash at the best markets of England, France, Germany and America, we are prepared to offer our Goodi t prices that will compete favorably with any House in the Province.

Guelph is a specially central point, offering facilities for the transmission of Goods in all directions. Under such circumstances we have confidence in soliciting an examination of our stock be over purchases are made elsewhere, confident that we can offer inductments unsurpassed in the rade. We are now opening

500 Crates of Granite and Common Ware,

And 300 packages of Glassware, China & Fancy Goods

Prompt attention given to all orders, and all Goods carefully packed by experienced ware R. RAE & CO. Gueiph, 19 December.

Christmas and New Year's Gifts.

For Christmas and New Year's Presents go to

Next door to Mr. Berry's Confectionery Store, Wyndham Street.

The following choice articles will be found in Stock Ladies' Companions

Ladies' Work Boxes Ladies' & Gents' Writing Desks

Chessmen, Chess, Draught and Cribbage Boards, Inkstands, Book Slides, Vases, Parian Figures, &c.

WATCHES, CLOCKS & JEWELLERY

Of every description, and at all prices, to suit purchasers. A LIBERAL DISCOUNT ALLOWED DUKING THE HOLIDAYS.

JOHN R. PORTE.

ELECTION OF MAYOR

FOR 1869.

TOWN OF GUELPH

THE VOTE AND INTEREST of the Flector

Mr. ROBT. MELVIN

FOR MAYOR.

TOWN HALL, GUELH.

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

December 23, 24 and 25.

MATINEE on Christmas afternoon at 3

M. E. HOWORTH'S

THE HOLY LAND,

Printed on 144,000 feet of canyas, have been visited by thousands in Europe, Canada, and the United States. For particulars see programmes.

Admission 25 cents, children 15 cents. No reserve seats.

Doors open at 6.45, to commence at half-past

HARTFORD

Fire Insurance Company

WELLINGTON LUMBER YARD GUELPH.

Notice to Farmers and Others.

wTenders for cross-cutting a quantity of hard acod logs into short lengths. For particular pply at my office.

DAVID ALLAN, Guelph Mills Guelph, 22nd Dec. d4wl

GOWDY & STEWART.

Of Hartford, C RATED IN 1810. - - CAPITAL, \$2,000,000 Special Rates for Dwellings and contents for terms of one to three years.

E. MORRIS, Agent.

J. HOWORTH, Manager.

Guelph, Dec. 21.

Guelph, Dec. 21.

MENDERS WANTED.

G. SMITH, Business Agent

A MUSEMENT.

DLANCHETTE,

The Maquetre Fortune Teller

Hundreds of thousands of this the greatest curiosity of the age have been sold in the United States and Canada. To be had at

SHEWAN'S OLD STAND.

Wyndham Street.

Guelph, 23rd December.

THE WHERL OF LIFE!

ZOETROPE and PLANCHETTE

CUTHBERT'S.

ATTRACTIONS

CUTHBERT'S

For the Present Holiday

Season Exceed anything that has ever been in Guelph

CALL AND SEE.

Guelph, December 23

SPEED LODGE, No. 180. An Emergency Meeting of this Lodge e held in the Masonic Hall, on Monday ig, Dec. 28th, at half-past 7 o'clock, for in-ion of officers. Guclph, Dec. 23. Guclph, Dec. 24. Guclph, Dec. 25. Guclph

MACTORY FOR SALE OR LEASE

Bull Frog Hotel, Eramosa Road, on FRIDAY, 25th of December, when a number of capital turkeys, gees and ducks will be shoftor. Ranges for both rifles and guns will be provided. Sport to begin at noon.

Guelph, 22nd Dec. dw JAMES HOOD

New Advertisement.

FRUITS.

FRUITS SOLD

EXTREMELY CHEAP

DURING THE

THO RETO AND S

AT

GO'S., CARROLL

Day's 2 Block.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

Beautiful Jewellery?

. When you buy your Christmas Presents,

DON'T FORGET TO CALL AND SEE

d, savage's

Beautiful Stock of Jewellery.

Wyndham Street, Guelph, 18th December.

ARRIVED 201

The First Lot this Season

FRESH HADDOCK FRESH LOBSTERS, in the Shell

ANOTHER LOT OF THOSE VERY

Superior **Haddies**

PTATT & CO'S

BALTIMORE OYSTERS

SELECT, ARRIVING DAILY

SOLD TO THE TRADE AT HAMILTON AND TORONTO PRICES.

GEORGE WILKINSON,

Guelph, 18th December. dw SOLE AGENT FOR GUELPH

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50 5

Lately with Messrs. James Massie & Co., and formerly with W. J. Brown & Co., has opened out a large stock of

Groceries, Wines and Liquors DINNER and TEA SETTS, GLASSWARE, &c.

Call and judge for yourselves as to quality and price, at the Store Next Door to THE ALMA BLOCK, Guelph.

LANGDON For the best Smoking and Chewing Tobacco. FOR WINES and LIQUORS. LANGDON LANGDON For the Best Assortment of CROCKERY LANGDON Langdon

For a splendid stock of GLASSWARE JUST RECEIVED, 500 Bbls. SALT; 100 Bbls and hif bbls. Lake Huron FISH; 50 bbls. Labrador HERRING. Guelph, 15th December