

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. Single copy, 6 months, 2. Single copy, 1 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.

IS 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 of the best and most selected reading appears in its columns. It is the Great Family Paper of Ontario, and the unprecedented additions to its subscription 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 First-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 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 moderate, 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 Golden Lion, Guelph, Ontario.

October 29, 1867. daw-ff.

BRITISH AMERICAN COMMERCIAL COLLEGE.

PRIZE PENMANSHIP!

Superior Advantages Offered!

The attention of young men looking forward to mercantile life is earnestly invited to the internal arrangements of this College, which afford every possible advantage and facility for acquiring a thorough practical knowledge of the business life of the world. The great characteristic of this institution is its actual business system. It is not only the first College in British America in which the system was established, but likewise the only one in which that system is rationally, practically and efficiently carried out. The result is that any youth who enters our College through the course is ready on getting his 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 what 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 Exhibition of 1866, and 1867, and on other 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 enabled by the saving of money to study 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 the more lucrative situation. The wisdom of such haste entails is highly detrimental not only to the student himself, but also to the College where he graduates, and besides it brings upon the Commercial Colleges generally, the common practice, therefore, of holding out this "troubling" system as an inducement to students is most deceptive and highly reprehensible.

For penmanship, circulars, &c., address

MUSGROVE & WRIGHT,
Toronto, 6th Dec, 1867. dw

Double MAP!

OF EUROPE AND AMERICA.

THESE Maps are newly issued, are large and beautifully finished, and mounted on rollers, in fact, an expensive luxury. They are the best Maps ever brought before the public for some time past, and occupy only the space of one map on the wall, Europe on one side, turn it over and you have America on the other. These Maps are valuable to business men and travellers, showing all the different railroad 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, laid out in Counties. - Sold by

WM. T. TOLTON, Puslinch,
Agent for the South and Centre Ridings of the County of Wellington.

Puslinch, Jan. 2nd, 1868. 741-w-3t

PRIZE DENTISTRY.

DR. R. CAMPBELL

DENTIST.

OFFICE, next door to the ADVERTISERS' office Wyndham Street, Guelph.

References: - Drs. Clarke & Orton, McQuibban, Herod, Fitzgerald and Cowan, Guelph; Drs. Buchanan & Phillips, Toronto; Drs. G. L. Elliott and W. Myers, Dentists, Toronto.

Teeth Extracted Without Pain.
Guelph, 20th J. Dec. 1866

New Saddlery Shop

Do you want a set of Harness, double or single, light or heavy, call at the new shop, next door to Coffee's Hotel.

Do you want a good Saddle? We can supply you cheaper than ever, 15 yards from O'Connor's Wellington Hotel.

Everybody in want of a good Trunk, Valise, or Travelling Bag, can be supplied at the new shop, two doors from the Post Office.

WHIPS, Horse Covers, Sleigh Bells

A very large and well-assorted stock of Whips will be sold at 25c. on the dollar of our former low prices, 50 yards north of St. George's Church.

We have a few pairs of imported made up Horse Covers, made to order, also a nice lot of common blankets.

What is more cheering than the merry Sleigh Bells? We can supply you. Call at the new shop, next door to Mr. Hoover's Livery Office.

We have on hand all kinds of articles, and will make up on the shortest notice anything you want in the Saddlery line, a few doors South of the Registry Office.

Brushes, Combs, Spurs, Bits, in endless variety. REPAIRING done as usual.

In consequence of the present premises being too small for our large stock, we will for a short time have to sell at a reduced price, to keep our present staff of superior workmen.

SMITH & METCALF,
Late proprietors of the premises destroyed by fire, adjoining the Alma Block
Guelph, 20th December 1867. dwif.

Oyster Rooms

Valentine Wald

BEGS to announce to the public that he has fitted up Oyster Rooms in connection with his Hotel, on MACDONNELL STREET.

The very best of Oysters always on hand, and served up in all styles at short notice.

TOM and JERRY, and all kinds of Fancy Drinks prepared in the most approved manner.
Guelph, 27th December, 1867. dw6m

H. HOGG'S

FLOUR AND FEED STORE

Opposite the Market Shed.

CONSTANTLY ON HAND, all kinds of Mill Feed, Chopped Peas, Middlings, Shorts, Bran.

Cornmeal, Oatmeal, Flour!

Bacon, Sugar-cured Hams, and Potatoes.
Guelph, 28th August, 1867. - - -

\$20. STAR \$100.

SHUTTLE SEWING MACHINE.

Patented May, 1867.

THE Star Shuttle Sewing Machine makes a stitch alike on both sides of material, and works equally as well as Singer's high-priced machine, combines simplicity with durability, and is warranted for five years. It is suited alike for the dressmaker, tailor, manufacturer or family.

Mr. J. SPAFFORD having been appointed General Agent for Ontario, wishes to engage a few good local and travelling agents, to whom good inducements will be offered. For machine, sample or work, or terms, address

J. E. SPAFFORD,
P. O. Box 459, Toronto.

MRS. HUNTER'S

FANCY STORE,

West Market Square.

JUST received, a large lot of FANCY GOODS, all kinds, suitable for PRESENTS for

Christmas & New Year's

She has the LARGEST and BEST ASSORTMENT in town -

Stamping for Binding and Embroidery.

MRS. HUNTER,
Guelph, 11th Dec. 1867. dw

Liverpool & London & Globe

INSURANCE COMPANY.

Capital Surplus & Reserved Funds \$16,271,675.

DIRECTORS IN CANADA:
T. B. ANDERSON, Esq., Chairman, (President Bank of Montreal.)
HENRY STARNES, Esq., Deputy Chairman, (Manager Ontario Bank.)
E. H. KENZ, Esq., (General Manager Bank of Montreal.)
HENRY CHAPMAN, Esq., Merchant.
THOMAS CRAME, Esq., Merchant.
G. F. SMITH, Esq., Resident Secretary.
F. A. BALL, Esq., Hamilton, Ont.
JAMES STEEL, Montreal.

Fire Insurance & Life Assurance

Policies issued at moderate rates.

This Company offers to insure the security of Wealth, Position, Increasing Revenue and Liberal Management.

G. F. SMITH, Resident Sec., Montreal.

THOS. W. SAUNDERS,
Guelph, Oct. 28, 1867. A. set. Guelph. w13-d86

Dominion Store!

(Late Post Office Store.)

MRS. ROBINSON

HAS on hand a varied stock of GENERAL GROCERIES for

Christmas & New Year

consisting of Almonds, Brazil Filberts.

NEW FRUIT!

Another supply of No. 1 Coal Oil at 15 cents per gallon, and Tin Cans of any size with patent tops and spouts; also another supply of the new Barbers, at John Horsman's.

Note, for the future I shall keep none but the Genuine No. 1 Coal Oil.
JOHN HORSMAN.

NEW LAW OFFICE.

FREEMAN & FREEMAN

BARRISTERS AND ATTORNEYS.

SOLICITORS IN CHANCERY, CONVEYANCERS, &c.

S. B. FREEMAN, G. C. G. O. FREEMAN.

Office over Barry's Confectionery Store, Wyndham Street, Guelph.

Guelph, 4th December, 1867. dw

Evening Mercury

OFFICE: - - - MACDONNELL STREET.

THURSDAY EV'G, JAN 16, 1868.

Immense sale of Books, &c., at

Cuthbert's store this evening. See advertisement.

GODERICH SALT COMPANY.

The Signal says: We understand that the Goderich Salt Co. will declare a dividend of 25 to 35 per cent for past half year. Really splendid, considering that over and above that everything is paid for and a stock of wool on hand. If we had twenty wells paying as well wouldn't some one make money pretty fast.

GALT CO-OPERATIVE STORE.

According to a report of a meeting of the Galt Co-operative Society which appears in the Reformer, the business is still prosperous, the directors having been enabled to declare a dividend of eight per cent on the members' purchases for the quarter, besides making provision for interest, and allowing the usual deductions on fixed stock, &c.

NEW ENTERPRISE.

A very important branch of industry was commenced last week at the foundry of Messrs Latta & Co. of Galt. The enterprising proprietors have commenced the manufacture of nuts. The machine makes sixty strokes per minute, and each stroke fashions a nut if the supply of iron be kept up. An expert feeder will turn out at least 12,000,000 per day.

The Stratford Herald of Wednesday

informs us a movement has been commenced to recuperate the woollen mills in that town lately destroyed by fire. A meeting has been held with a view of starting a joint stock company, and a committee appointed to get the stock sold. About \$20,000 is said to be needed to put the factory in motion, and this sum it is proposed to raise by the sale of 800 shares of \$25 each. The same journal says that there will be no difficulty in getting the stock taken up.

THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

The County Council met on Tuesday first at two o'clock. The following are the members composing it:

Municipality	Reeve	Deputy Reeve
Guelph Town	Robt. Melvin, J. W. Peterson, R. Mitchell	
do Township	Wm. Whitelaw, R. Campbell, John Duffield, John Rea	
do Puslinch	David Shirton, M. Cassin	
do Erin	Wm. Cornock, D. McMillan	
do Nichol	John Matr, John Broadfoot	
do Pilkington	John Smith, E. Pastore	
do Elora	Charles Clarke, George McInnes	
do Fergus	John Dobbin, W. H. Hunter	
do Orangeville	Thomas Jell, C. Gillespie	
do Amaranth	L. Saunders, J. Small	
do Luther	Arthur	
do Mount Forest	James Connell, Wm. Boyd	
do Minto	John Johnston, Sam'l Robertson	
do Maryboro	J. Cross	
do Peel	J. S. McManus.	

Church Dedication.

We noticed the dedication of the New Congregational Church, Guelph, on Wednesday, so far as to where a moderately large company sat down to an excellent collation after the close of the morning services. When all had partaken to their satisfaction a number of sentiments were proposed, and appropriately responded to by gentlemen present, both ministers and laymen. In the evening, Rev. Mr. Manley, of Toronto, preached an eloquent sermon from Luke, 15th chapter, from the first to the third verse, inclusive: -

"Then drew near unto him the publicans and sinners for to hear him. And the Pharisees and scribes murmured saying, This man receiveth sinners and eateth with them, &c." A collection was taken up at the close of both morning and evening services. The amount, we believe, is not yet known, as the donations have not been summed up, but it is thought to be generous. The proceeds of the collation are in the neighborhood of \$75. The members of the Congregational Church are worthy of honor, for the energy with which they set about, and accomplished the erection of a new house of worship, and for their successful efforts to raise the means wherewith to meet the expenses necessarily incurred.

Police Court.

Before T. W. Saunders, Esq., Police Magistrate.

THURSDAY, 10th. - George Pearson was brought up on a charge of having beaten his wife. He was discharged after His Worship had read him a homily on conjugal duty.

COAL OIL.

Another supply of No. 1 Coal Oil at 15 cents per gallon, and Tin Cans of any size with patent tops and spouts; also another supply of the new Barbers, at John Horsman's.

Note, for the future I shall keep none but the Genuine No. 1 Coal Oil.
JOHN HORSMAN.

Special Meeting of the Wellington Mutual Insurance Company.

A special meeting of the members of the above Company, called by the President in answer to a requisition, was held in the Anglo American Hotel, yesterday afternoon, to take into consideration the claim of Messrs. James Massie & Co., for \$4,000 insurance in the Company on his stock destroyed by fire at the Alma Block, on the 14th Dec. last. There were over 50 members present. The President of the Company, Richard Jackson, Esq., was called to the chair.

The chairman introduced the business of the meeting by reading the requisition sent to him about a meeting of the members of the Company to be held. As soon as he received that requisition, the Board of Directors had been called together, and while they came to the unanimous conclusion that inasmuch as Messrs Massie & Co.'s policy had expired, and the renewal note had not been returned, they could not legally assess for the amount which he claimed, yet taking into consideration the peculiar circumstances connected with the loss sustained by them at the late fire, the Board passed the following resolutions: -

"Resolved that while this Board deeply sympathize with Messrs. Massie & Co. in the loss sustained by them, regret that as their policy of insurance had expired before the fire occurred, the Directors feel that they have no authority to entertain the claim made by them.

"Resolved further that this Board recommend the President of this Company to comply with the request of D. Guthrie and others, and call at an early date a general meeting of the members of the Company, so that Messrs. Massie & Co. may have an opportunity of bringing the subject matter of their loss before the shareholders, in the hope that they may agree voluntarily to assess themselves so as to make good the claim."

Mr. Massie was then asked to address the meeting, when he made a full and candid statement of the whole circumstances bearing on the case, which he read from a circular which had been sent to each member of the Company previous to the meeting. The following extract from this circular will put the public in possession of all the facts of importance bearing on the case: -

"On the 29th of November, a notice was sent me by Mr. Davidson, that my policy would expire on the 13th of December, 1867, and also a requisition for a note for my signature. The notice and note did not, however, come under my observation until a few days before the fire, when I was advised of it by my book-keeper. I removed it from the invoice file, and gave him positive instructions to have it sent with \$1 for renewal fees to the Secretary's office at once. This, by oversight and press of business omitted, and did not reach me until after the fire. I feel confident that the Secretary was aware of my desire to continue the insurance, and when I asked him regarding it, as soon as I found that the note had not been returned, he assured me that the omission of not having sent it in would not affect my policy, and the morning after a notice appeared in the Advertiser to the effect that in consequence the note not having been sent in, the Company was not responsible for the loss referred to, I met him in company with Mr. Murton, and asked him what he thought as to my intention to reinsure in the 'Mutual.' He said he most certainly understood my determination was to keep insured in the Company, and in reply to my question in words to the effect - 'What course he as Secretary would have pursued towards me, although I had not returned the note to him, had any other insured member of the Company been burned out instead of myself, and an assessment been made on the following Monday?' - his answer was, that he would most assuredly have assessed me along with the other Policy holders, thus considering me responsible for any loss sustained by the Company. Had such an assessment been made, does any member of the Company imagine that I should have objected to pay it, or that it would not have been as promptly met as all its predecessors?"

"Respecting my stock, I may add that at the time of the fire its cost value was about \$70,000, including duties unpaid on goods in bond on the premises. On the 31st of May, 1867, when I had stock taken, the inventory showed it to be \$39,400, not including duties unpaid on goods in bond, and in June more stock amounting to \$31,000 on which I was only insured for \$31,000. I then insured for \$9000 more in the 'Royal,' through Mr. Davidson, as I could not be permitted to increase the risk in the 'Mutual.' While negotiating with him, I stated my idea of dropping one of the existing policies when it expired, if my stock should be reduced to such an extent, so far from that being the case, the full supply was raised it above the average, and I wrote to him to say that I must keep all my insurances going. From the foregoing statement it is obvious that it would have been folly to have willingly allowed a \$4,000 insurance to expire, and not to insure, and, if anywhere, what office so likely as the 'Mutual,' in which I then was and still am insured, and where I was to get a larger risk taken."

In conclusion he said he had nothing to keep back. His books, the statements drawn up for the information of other Companies after the fire, were at their disposal, and everything he had said or put down on paper in regard to the matter he was willing to verify on oath. He heartily thanked those present for sparing the time to attend the meeting, and for the sympathy which they had expressed for the heavy loss he had sustained. He did not ask this claim out of sympathy or in charity. He rested his claim solely on its justice and equity, for he held that at the time of the fire he was as much insured in the Company as he was at any previous period. But he would leave the matter in their hands, feeling confident that they would do him every justice.

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Dr. Parker would like to know the exact grounds on which the Directors refused to entertain the claim.

Mr. Davidson, Secretary, referred him to the first resolution passed by the Board, and given above. In reply to Mr. Melvin he stated that all the Directors were present except the late Hon. Mr. Blair.

Dr. Parker asked if there had ever been a similar case during the existence of the Company.

The Secretary could only recollect that of Mr. Presents, but it seems that eleven days elapsed between the time his policy expired and the time his mill was burned. Moreover, he wanted to get his insurance lowered, which the Secretary declined to do. The case turned out therefore to be in no respect similar to that of Messrs.

Massie & Co. The Secretary also stated in reply to Dr. Parker that the facts as stated by Mr. Massie were generally correct, also the practice of the Company previous to the expiration of a policy. Parties whose policies are about to expire are notified of the fact on the 27th of the previous month, and the renewal note sent to them.

Mr. Massie - In the event of such notice being sent, and the renewal note omitted to be returned in time, is the policy regarded as being expired?

Mr. Davidson - Yes, but if the party sends in a note the same month (near the time assuming all the risk during the intervening period from the time the policy expired to the time the note is returned) he accepts it, or the insurer is obliged to pay 5 per cent, as if he was taking out a new policy. He would here refer to one part of the circular read by Mr. Massie in which he alludes to a conversation they had together about his policy, and one from Abraham Tyson, who were never spoken by him.

Mr. Massie - I am certain enough in the matter, for I give you the name of the witness.

Mr. Davidson - I have asked Mr. Murton since whether he heard me use these words, and he says he did not. How could I assess on a policy where there was no note to represent it?

Mr. Stone - Do you think we could assess on a note when we had none on hand. The best thing to do in this matter is to take the law and act on it. Show where Messrs. Massie & Co. were insured or not. If it is shown that they were, then they ought to be paid; if not insured, then they ought not to be paid.

Mr. John Hogg - If Mr. Davidson said he considered Mr. Massie to be insured to all intents and purposes, and if the Company are responsible for his acts, then it is a strong point in Mr. Massie's favour.

Mr. Sheriff Grange said he was sure everyone present had the utmost confidence in Mr. Massie, and every statement he had made. It certainly was a hard case, and totally different from that of Mr. Presents. The note had been signed by Mr. Massie, and he had given orders to have it returned in time, but unfortunately it was not. So far as the intent and act were concerned, Mr. Massie was as much insured as any of them, and he considered it would be an act of injustice on the part of the Company to try and get out of the responsibility on a mere legal quibble. He begged to move the following resolution: - "That in the opinion of this meeting, Mr. Massie having stated his case, and it being shown that he had signed the premium note, and delivered the same to his Clerk to hand to the Secretary, is in all justice entitled to his insurance of \$4,000 in this Company, and that the Secretary be directed to strike a rate in the ordinary way in order that all the members may pay their share."

Mr. John Hogg had great pleasure in seconding it.

Before putting the motion Mr. Davidson said it would be as well to read some letters he had received from members. The first was a joint letter from Messrs. A. Warnock and J. Crombie, of Galt, in which they stated that if Mr. Massie's book-keeper would take an affidavit that Mr. Massie had signed the note previous to the fire, and had given it to him to return to the Secretary, they would be willing to pay their share of the assessment. He also read one from Chas. Ross, of Preston, and one from Abraham Tyson, of Berlin, both of whom stated they would refuse to pay their assessment. Mr. Ross said if they meant to collect it in the shape of a subscription then he would pay it.

Mr. Massie as an offset to these read a letter from Mr. Elias Ely, of Bridgeport, in which he expressed his opinion that the Company were liable for the amount insured, and his great willingness to pay his share. Mr. Massie in referring to Mr. Ross's letter would say again to the meeting that he did not ask - nor would he take - his claim on the ground of sympathy. Respecting the subscription spoken of, he said he had not much, and he had worked hard for what he had, but he would sooner starve than accept the money in that shape.

Mr. Melvin said Sheriff Grange had put the matter in its proper light. Mr. Stone said he had no objection to Mr. Massie, and on a technical quibble say that Mr. Massie was not insured. But would it be right for the Company to take their position on this ground. Mr. Massie states he signed the renewal note, and that he had been assessed for any other loss sustained by the Company, he was willing to pay his share. He held that it would be beneath the dignity of this Company to take advantage of an omission made by Mr. Massie's clerk, and refuse to pay the claim on a mere technical quibble. It would be far from creditable to the Company to take such an advantage.

Mr. Thos. McCrae said it was sufficient proof that he intended to continue his insurance when he signed the note.

Mr. Guthrie to Mr. Davidson, Did you say at the time of the fire, that the Company lost \$4,000 on Mr. Massie's stock?

Mr. Davidson - Yes, but I was not then aware that the renewal note had not been sent in. With regard to a remark made by another gentleman, he (Mr. Davidson) had said he believed Mr. Massie intended to renew his insurance, but he (Mr. Massie) had never said so to him.

Mr. John Hogg said it was very good evidence that Mr. Massie intended to continue his insurance in the Mutual when in the fall his stock had increased \$31,000, and he had only increased his insurance by \$9,000 in the Royal.

Sheriff Davidson to Mr. Davidson - Have you any doubt in your own mind that Mr. Massie's intention was to continue his insurance?

Mr. Davidson - Not the slightest.

Dr. Parker said Mr. Stone had stated it was not competent for the Directors to pay such a claim as Mr. Massie's. He might not be thoroughly versed in the Act, but he knew of no such prohibitory clause. It must be an extraordinary Act if it did not give a Mutual Company permissive powers. The Stockholders composed the Company, and they have the legal right to assess themselves if they choose. In Mr. Massie's case there was the intention and the act, but the omission. He thought the Company were fairly bound in equity to pay the amount.

Sheriff Davidson said it was impossible for the Directors under the circumstances to look upon this matter as a claim. For himself he would be very willing to pay his assessment, but he did not think it could be carried out by the Directors.

Dr. Parker - You can carry out a resolution of the meeting.

Sheriff Davidson - We can't, unless

every member was here, and agreed to it. Mr. Stone said he was sorry there were only three of the Directors present. They all felt for Mr. Massie, but as Directors they could not admit the claim as he put it in.

Mr. Knowles asked when the renewal note was sent in.

Mr. Davidson - On the 21st of December. He read the letter accompanying it, and also his letter which he sent when he returned the note to Messrs. Massie & Co.

Mr. David Allan said the Directors all entertained the same sentiment that they could not legally assess for the claim. But morally he felt bound to pay it, and would with pleasure pay his share.

Some discussion then took place on the legality of making the assessment, and on the obligation under which members were to pay it. Mr. Guthrie, as the Company's Solicitor, said there would be nothing illegal in striking a rate and serving a notice of assessment, although he had grave doubts whether they could compel payment from those who refused. He thought it would hurt the Company much more if they refused payment because of the omission of the clerk. It would lower its character and bring discredit on the Company.

The resolution was then put and carried by a very large majority, only seven voting against it.

A vote of thanks was then passed to the chairman, after which the meeting broke up.

Guelph Board of Trade.

The Annual Report of the Board of Trade, read at its last meeting, was as follows: -

"The Council of the Guelph Board of Trade beg to present their second annual report. During the past year they are happy to state that the general trade with this town from the country, as ascertained from the market reports, has been considerably in excess of that of the previous year. Whilst the aggregate returns for 1867 give a total of \$1,962,812 37c., those of the year 1866 amount only to \$1,189,745 84c.; whilst compared with those of the year 1865, a very marked increase is visible, the same for this latter year being \$510,004 18c. Your Council would remark that they have employed various measures calculated to promote the general interests of the commercial public - amongst which they may refer to the following questions: as to the Collectors' of Customs retaining original invoices; as to transient traders and auctioneers, and the protection of traders in produce from fraudulent practices; as to what is commonly termed the Silver nuisance; to secure weights for testing heavy scales and for inspecting the organs of a Road Company from Guelph to Elmira and Peel; the opening of another Express Company office in Guelph; as to the weighing and classification of grains passing through the Elevators at Toronto and Hamilton; as to securing united action of certain other Boards of Trade so as to secure from the railways the option for shippers of taking delivery of goods from the cars.

Your Council would also report that they have taken steps to have the Board incorporated by the Legislature of Ontario at its present session. A petition for that purpose was presented last week and it is expected that the Act of Incorporation will be passed and become law in a few weeks. The increased powers which will be then conferred upon the Board similar to those possessed by the other incorporated Boards of Trade in Canada, will materially add to the usefulness and the efficiency of the Guelph Board of Trade.

In conclusion, your Council would express their congratulations in view of the general prosperity of the county, which they fondly believe will be vastly augmented by the important changes in our national existence so auspiciously inaugurated in the confederation of the most important of the British American Provinces.

JAMES GOLDIE, Chairman.
Guelph, January 14, 1868.

FERGUS ORANGE LODGE.

At the regular monthly meeting of Loyal Orange Lodge, No. 761, held in their Lodge room in Fergus, on the 11th ult., the following officers were elected for the year 1868: - Bro. Jas. Whyte, W. M.; Bro. John Ross, D. M.; Bro. James Chambers, T. M.; Bro. John Berry, Sec.; Commodore: 1st, Bro. Thoms. Wilson; 2nd, Bro. H. McIntyre; 3rd, Bro. Robert Millar; 4th, Bro. Robert Williams; 5th, Bro. Robt. Agnew.

BY TELEGRAPH

Despatches to the Evening Mercury.

BY ATLANTIC CABLE.

Florence, Jan. 15 - A large class of the Catholic population of Italy which since the consolidation of the kingdom, under Victor Emmanuel, has steadily refused to recognize his government by voting, has resolved to abandon its policy of inaction and will take an active part in the next Parliamentary elections.

Lisbon, Jan. 15 - The Lower Chamber of the Cortes has been dissolved by the King, and orders have gone out for election of Deputies for the new chamber, to meet next April.

London, Jan. 15 - The Fenian officers and men arrested in South Wales on 31st December, have been committed on a charge of treason. It is said Prussia has joined France and Austria in their note to the government of Servia, censuring its hostile preparations.

Paris, Jan. 15 - The Patrie of today says the governments of France and Prussia agreed to act together on the Bpman question so far as to restore relations between the kingdom of Italy and the States of the Church to the exact status created by the September convention between Italy and France.

The Patrie hopes Italy will not interrupt any obstacle to the accomplishment of this purpose. The appearance of the pamphlet on foreign relations and domestic affairs of France, which is being prepared by Prince Napoleon, is eagerly awaited by the public.

Vienna, Jan. 15 - The approach of the frigate Movera having been signalled from Trieste, the Emperor Joseph, the Archduchess, and other members of the imperial family left today on a special train for that city, to receive the remains of Maximilian.