If you want your taxes kept down go early to the Poll and vote for Babb, Rath, Hibbert, Hollands and Gobel, the people's Candidates.

The Mitchell Advocate.

"BE JUST AND FEAR NOT."

FRIDAY MORNING, DEC. 29, 1865.

THE YEAR 1865.

With the present number of the ADVOCATE we complete our issue for 1865, a year which will be long remembered in the annals of the world for the magnitude and importance of the events by which it has been distinguished. These events have been described in our columns from time to time, as they occurred; but, as it is customary at the close of each year to take a retrospective glance at its history, we shall briefly review the most remarkable.

Foremost in importance we place the conclusion of the protracted and desolating civil war which had been raging in the United States. Numbering only five millions of whites in the eleven seceded States, and sadly deficient in everything needed for the equipment of an army, the South was yet enabled, by the valour of her heroic sons, to maintain a resistance which reminds us of the days of Leonidas and his Spartans, or those of "Wallace Weight." But after a time the vastly superior resources of the North began to tell with terrible effect. Having a population exceeding that of the South nearly five-fold to draw upon, and attracting to her standards by high bounties hordes of foreign mercenaries, she was able to augment her armies from year to year, and to commence the decisive campaign with the enormous force, as we now learn from official returns, of a million of men, of whom at least 600,000 were actually in the field. On the other hand, the South, losing thousands of her gallant men in every engagement, and unable to fill their places, saw her armies waste away, notwithstanding their brilliant achievements, until she could hardly muster 250,000 men for the last struggle. Under such circumstances it was without surprise, although with regret, that we received intelligence of the fall of Richmond, and the surrender by General Lee of the remnant of his noble army, followed at a short interval by that of General Johnson. But we were surprised, we confess, at the short-sighted policy by which England and France not only permitted a brave people to be crushed in contending for their independence, but suffered the most selfish and overbearing of all nations to increase a power which is now dangerous to the security of their own possessions on this continent, and may be hereafter to the peace of the world.

Hardly had the echoes of the great conflict ceased to roll, when the intelligence of the assassination of President Lincoln shocked every heart. We were far from approving the policy of the deceased President. We believed that he had waged an unjust war on his Southern brethren, for claiming that very right of choosing their own government which the United States had not only successfully asserted for themselves, but declared in their public documents to be the right of every people; and we saw that, to attain his object, he did not hesitate to trample upon the laws which he had sworn to observe, and to consign innocent men to prison merely for being his political opponents. But we looked upon his murder as a treacherous and shocking crime; and we heartily rejoiced when the progress of the investigations showed that with its guilt neither the Southern statesmen nor the Southern people had any connection; that it was planned on Northern soil, and perpetrated by Northern hands.

Crossing in thought the Atlantic, we are naturally reminded of the death of Lord Palmerston. But we have so recently spoken at length on the subject that we need add nothing now, save to remark that we are sorry to observe that the Radical appointments lately made by his successor seem to indicate that it is his purpose to depart from the wise and moderate policy of Lord Palmerston. We hope that the good sense of England will reject the political quacks who would fain exercise their skill upon her well-tried constitution; but it is far easier to open the flood-gates of innovation, than to close them against the tide.

Upon the continent of Europe unhappy Poland, abandoned to her fate by the nations who were bound by treaty to maintain her rights, has been crushed a third time by the iron power of her oppressor, and her ill-fated people are suffering the worst of atrocities at the hands of the brutal soldiery of Russia. In Italy, on the other hand, the work of national regeneration is rapidly progressing; the Emperor of the French is observing his compact faithfully, and withdrawing his troops from Rome; and the day is not far distant, we trust, that shall see one free and united kingdom, from the Alps to the Adriatic.

Looking to our own country, we have to chronicle this year an abundant harvest, good prices, and a corresponding return of national prosperity. There is a cloud on the horizon, however. During the next year, the U. S. government has given notice to terminate the Reciprocity treaty, from which both countries have derived so much benefit. We can hardly believe that the American people will be so foolish as to put an end to a trade which is as profitable to them as to us; yet our merchants and farmers would do well to prepare themselves for such an eventuality, should it come. In political matters we have had almost a dead lull. Confederation, Intercolonial Railroad, Fortifications, have all been postponed, and nothing of a more exciting nature than an election or two has taken place until within the last few days, when the resignation of the Hon. Geo. Brown has been announced, for some reason not yet made known. We are inclined to suspect that the announcement has not been received with great regret by any portion of the public. Mr. Brown's sudden and extraordinary changes have shown so clearly that his ruling motives are self-interest and ambition, that but few, we imagine, even among those who formerly believed in him, now repose any confidence in him as a politician.

For ourselves, we may be permitted to say that we are not ashamed of the course we have pursued as public journalists during the past year. We have received some gross abuse, it is true, from certain of our County contemporaries, but we feel that it has been wholly undeserved. We have steadily and heartily maintained those Conservative and loyal principles which we have always professed; and in matters of a local nature, we have always kept in mind our motto, "*Be just, and fear not.*". And we think that our large and increasing circulation is a good proof that the public are not much influenced by the attacks of our enemies. To our friends, we would say that we are grateful for their support, and will endeavour to merit their patronage, in the future, by honest and impartial criticism of public men and matters, as well as by a good and ample selection of local and general news. And, as we cannot carry on the campaign without the "sinews of war," we would remind any of our subscribers who may be in arrear that they would greatly oblige us by transmitting the amount due, and beginning the new year with clear accounts.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

The Ottawa *Union* of Monday says, it is said that Parliament will not be called to meet before the first of May, or thereabouts. By that time it is expected that Nova Scotia and New Brunswick will have decided by a new election, or otherwise the question of Confederation.

Retaliation is said to be the decision regarding reciprocity. If the American Government will impose heavy duty upon our products, Canada will impose heavy duty on American products.

In the meantime it is rumored that Mr. Galt will be sent on another embassy to Washington.

THE QUEEN TO OPEN PARLIAMENT.

The Queen will open the new Parliament in person, which indicates a change in her personal feelings, and is probably only a prelude to the full resumption of those duties which have been more or less in abeyance since the death of the Prince Consort. The *Times* of the 30th November, in announcing this on authority, says, "a few modifications will be made on the old ceremonial."

THE NORTH-WEST.

The *Nor'-Wester* of November 18th has been received. From it we learn that there was considerable emigration into the Red River Settlement last season, but no Canadians among the new-comers. The fall hunt for buffalo turned out a complete failure, and those who depend upon the proceeds of the chase are in actual want of food. Many of the hunters were preparing to start out again. The buffalo on the plains are yearly decreasing, and every season the people of the settlement, who rely upon hunting instead of agriculture for support, find it more difficult to gain a livelihood. The *Nor'-Wester* reports the arrival of a number of miners from Essex, among them are two Canadians, Mr. Connor and his son, who report the mines during the past summer to have given more than their usual yield, and return to Canada with substantial proofs of the richness of the mines.

Fresh Fenian Excitement.

We find the following telegram from New York in some of the western papers:—"It is rumored that the Senatorial department of the Fenians have determined on a Canadian war immediately. Measures of compromise between the Cabinet and the Senators are now under debate. The staff of the Secretary of War is announced; two of its members are graduates of West Point. Despatches have also been received, by special envoy, from the Head Centre, Stephens, and so important were they considered by President O'Mahony, that he at once ordered them before General Sweeney, or those who represent what is called the Senate, with a view to have their requirements complied with. The nature of the despatches is not made public."

A Great Scourge of Cholera.

The Rochester *Union* calls attention to the well known fact that the wheat crop of last season in that section of the west which finds its market at Chicago, was mostly spoiled by a wet harvest and says:—"This damp grain has been pouring into the Chicago storehouses all the fall and winter and now lies there by the millions of bushels awaiting shipment as soon as navigation shall open in the spring. The process of decomposition will be partially arrested by the weather of winter, but will be resumed in the spring and go on at a rapid rate wherever this grain may be, but the process will be hastened on shipboard. Now if this grain remains at Chicago that city will be decimated by Cholera, and wherever that rotten grain goes the scourge will follow and fatten, sweeping away people who live within its foul influence. This wheat will be sent to all the ports of the lower lakes, turned into Canal boats at Buffalo and Oswego, be brought to Rochester, carried eastwardly to Albany and New York, spreading death and devastation in its path. Of this there can be no doubt. Millers who have bought the Chicago wheat this fall are quite unanimous in saying that it shows sign of decay, and some parcels are now actually so far gone in decomposition as to be useless. They are likewise unanimous, we believe, in the opinion that none of this grain will be fit to manufacture into flour in the spring. This wheat was purchased and is now held at Chicago by speculators there and at the eastward, and is falling under the load. They will rush the foul grain towards the eastern market as easily as possible next season, to save what they can before it is wholly lost. But should the health and business of a hundred cities and towns—of the whole country, we may say, be sacrificed to the cupidity of these unprincipled and selfish men? The answer will be no, everywhere that this subject is understood.'

Reciprocity Treaties and their Effect of Commerce.

A lecture was delivered on this subject before the American geographical and statistical society of New York, on Thursday evening last, by Mr. E. H. Dadley, of Boston. The New York *Times* says of it:—"After narrating the histories of the various international treaties and their effects, the lecture went on to regret the precipitate legislation which threatened to abolish that treaty now existing between this country and the British Provinces, showing at considerable length and with much force of argument, we wanted closer ties with Canada and not a severance of those which now exited, and concluded a highly interesting lecture by expressing the hope that our government would act wisely in this manner of a treaty with the Canadas and the other Provinces, by opening wider the great avenues of trade instead of narrowing them in opposition to the interests of both countries and to the spirit of the age. On the conclusion of the feature a vote of thanks were tendered to Mr. Derby, embodying the society's appreciation of the lecture. Mr. Young, a gentleman connected with important engineering affairs in Canada, made some remarks relative to the necessities of increased canal navigation to New York and the eastern cities, for the produce of the great west, which were highly interesting and applauded.

Queensland.

Queensland, one of the newest of the British Colonies, seems to be prospering finely. It was originally a convict station, next a dependency of New South Wales, and was erected into an independent colony in 1859. It extends from the frontier of New South Wales to the northern extremity of the Australian continent at Cape York—has a coast-line of 1,500 miles—and laying for the most part in the torrid zone, possesses a very warm climate. Yet it has not been found too warm for successful colonization by natives of Great Britain. An English paper, remarking upon the gratifying progress of Queensland, thus summarizes the statements of the Government of the colony on proroguing his Parliament in September:—"Since December, 1859, the European population of Queensland has increased from 25,000 to 90,000, that is it has increased nearly four fold, while the revenue and the trade, including imports and exports, have been more than trebled. Cotton, sugar, and tobacco have been added to the list of staple products; a line of new ports have been opened along the eastern seaboard from Keppel Bay to Cape York, a distance of 1,000 miles. While pastoral occupation has spread over a distant area at least four times the size of the United Kingdom, it has extended at least 700 miles to the west and a thousand miles to the north of Brisbane, the capital of the colony. The cattle stations now reach to the Gulf of Carpentaria, and there is yet no check in the course of onward progress.' Nor is this all. The Colonial Government works like a charm. They have responsible government, but they do not change ministers every few months, as has been somewhat the fashion in other parts of Australia. They never have dead-locks like Victoria, nor interminable wars with the savages like New Zealand. Though they produce cotton, tobacco, and sugar, the raising of cattle and sheep constitute their chief industry. The country is almost boundless in extent—the capital required for raising cattle is small, while the profits are large. There is every reason why Queensland should continue to prosper and to be a model for the older British colonies in that remote quarter of the earth.

OTTAWA, Dec. 27, 1865.

The *Times*, the new organ of the government here, contained an article assailing Mr. Brown and the *Globe* in the strongest terms.

The annual dinner of the Masonic lodges took place this evening.

A serious stabbing affray occured on Christmas day, at the Rideau hotel. The parties implicated have been arrested.

Thaw continued this forenoon, with drizzling rain.

A LIBERAL COLLECTION.—The collection at St. Peters R. C. Church, London, C. W., on Christmas day, in the several services, exceeded the handsome sum of $527.

Financial Condition of Europe

(From the London Times, Dec. 6)

The most cursory reader of newspapers must have been struck with one fact within the last two days, for it has stared him in the face on every page of every journal. From all parts of the world, from the East, the West, the North, and the South, from Pope, from King, and from Kaiser, from Princes and from public companies, rival Princes in their pride and pro[illegible] there appears to have arisen simultane[illegible] a demand for money. Our columns [illegible] been full of accounts of loans just cont[illegible]ed, or loans in process of being contrac[illegible] and of loans now announced for the first time as being about to be contracted. That all these demands should have been made public within a day or two of one another is an odd coincidence, but it serves to draw attention to a state of things which may well excite grave apprehensions. How can the price of money be other than high, or the price of consols other than low, when there are so many competitors in the field whose joint requirements would exhaust the annual savings of the nation many times over?

The financial condition of Europe at this moment is not inspiriting. With one or two exceptions every nation is a borrower, and we may read without surprise in the report of the Stock Exchange that there has been a general decline in foreign securities. Russia is not as yet in the market, but so far as an opinion may be hazarded upon a subject so inscrutable as Russian finance, the time is not far distant when she must reappear. M. Fould's energy has at last, we believe, brought him within sight of an equilibrium, but, though relieved from the necessity of borrowing money for France, he must soon have to do so for the Imperial *protege* in Mexico. The effect of all these loans on ourselves is apparent, and though it is not absolutely so great as the effect on the borrowing nations themselves, we are justified in looking on it as of primary importance to us. These borrowers, scattering the produce they have not amassed, keep up the rate of interest, embarrass the operations of trade, retard the progress of manufactures, and depress the condition of the laborer. The capital which would have been devoted to fresh production and the improvement of the state of the industrial classes is wasted in military shows abroad, or is worse than wasted in maintenance of injustice and oppression. We suffer, but the effects on the nations themselves are far more deplorable. The revenue of States have everywhere enormously increased during the last ten years, and yet so much faster has the expenditure grown that the debt of nations has been augmented to an extent almost without a parallel even in times of war. The advantages which free trade has brought the taxpayers of Europe are lost through the increase of taxes, and an inheritance of debt is prepared for the generations which come after. The peasant in the field and the artizan in the workshop are mulcted of portions of their labor through the mischievous perversity of their rulers. Had such things happened in the midst of a desolating war, when enemies threatened the existence of nations, they might have been suffered with patience, and even with cheerfulness; but that they should be possible in the midst of peace, and through the caprice or ignorance of rulers, is a fact which it needs no prophetic spirit to foretell must some day arouse a dangerous resentment.

Confederation in Newfoundland.

We perceive by Newfoundland papers received recently, that the Coalition Government was handsomely sustained by the people at the elections just closed. The Hon Ambrose Shea, (Premier) a strong Confederate, and one of the Quebec Delegates was returned by a large majority. According to the published list of members returned to Parliament in Newfoundland, ten are Union men, sixteen are anti unionists, while four are set down as 'doubtful.' In the face of this, we find in the Yarmouth *Herald*, a journal strongly opposed to Confederation of the Provinces, the following, which goes to show how careful its readers should be in receiving its statements in reference to this momentous question:

The general election which has just passed off in Newfoundland, proves that the people of that Colony are almost unanimously opposed to Confederation.

The fact of two such leading men as the Hon. Messrs. Shea and Carter being returned by increased majorities, for their constituencies, speaks hopefully for the cause of Confederation in Newfoundland.

BUFFALO & LAKE HURON RAILWAY

TRAINS LEAVE MITCHELL AS FOLLOWS.

GOING EAST.	GOING WEST.
Mail, 11.15 A. M.	Mixed, 9.30 A.M.
Mixed, 5.45 P. M.	Mail, 2.30 P.M.

Mail Train going West leaves Stratford at 1.30.

Village and County.

Vote for Messrs. Babb, Rath, Hibbert, Hollands and Gobel, the people's Candidates.

Mr. Mortar has received a stock of Groceries in his new stand near Mr. Stewart's store.

We will have something to say next week to the youth who libelled many of our friends in last week's *Beacon*.

Our Carrier Boy requests us to thank those of our readers who responded to his Christmas Address; and wishes us to jog the memory of those who made "promises," that he will again call upon them during the present week.

We trust the public will turn out in large numbers to the tea-meeting to be held by the Bible Christian denomination in Mitchell, on Monday next. Sermons will be preached on the Sunday previous by Rev Messrs, Roaffe, at 10½ a. m.; W. R. Roach, at 2½; and T. S. Howard, at 6½ p. m.

TEMPERANCE LECTURE.—Mr G. A. Bailey, now making a tour through this county, will lecture in the Good Templars' Hall, at ½ this (Friday) evening. As Mr. Bailey is a stranger here we hope the friends of temperance will greet him with a full house. A collection will be taken up at the close of the lecture.

Mr. Cuningham has received his Fall and Winter Stock of Boots and Shoes. He is selling them at low rates, and parties will find it to their advantage to give him a call.

CORRECTION.—In our report of the Wesleyan tea-meeting lately held in Mitchell we said that Rev. Christopherson admitted that "many hypocrites found their way into Wesleyan pulpits." We are informed that the Rev. speaker alluded to pulpits in general [redacted]

IN A MESS.—The office-seekers experience great difficulty in making up their "ticket." They use the name of Thomas Matheson, Esq., as one of their candidates, but that gentleman has repeatedly, in our presence, refused to stand. Should the Reform party insist on running him, parties supporting him will be throwing away their votes.

We have pleasure in acquainting our readers that Mr. Thomas Leadston has just received a lot of new and improved chemicals and paints from Douglass & Co., Buffalo, which enables him to take Photographs or Ambrotypes which for correctness cannot be beat. He is both civil and obliging, and parties calling at his Gallery, sign of the red flag, near the ADVOCATE office, will get a true picture. His rooms will be opened on New Year's Day.

"LECTURE.—The Rev. George McRae delivered a lecture in the Good Templar's Hall, Morningdale, on the 11th instant, under the auspices of the Mitchell Mechanics' Institute. Subject—"The American War and Slavery." Mr. McRae is an exceedingly clever lecturer, and bids fair to rank among the best."—We are indebted to the annexation organ for the above interesting waif. The Editor must have totally gone out of his mind in attempting to hoist his bosom friend into the mayoralty chair. For his information we might state, that Mr. McRae was in Mitchell on the evening above alluded to, nor has he ever lectured in Morningdale. In pilfering our columns he should be more careful in future. We suppose the blame, however, will be thrown upon that unfortunate *cat*.

MASONIC.—Tudor Lodge, No. 141, Mitchell, held a meeting on Tuesday last when the following officers were appointed for the ensuing year:

V. W. Brother T. MATHESON, *W. M.*
Brother J. M DUNSMORE *S. W.*
Brother D. H STEWART, *J W.*
Brother E STILES, *Treas.*
Brother J. W. CULL *Sec*
Brother Dr. HORNBROOK, *S. D.*
Brother W. SEDGWICK, *J. D.*
Brother G. HIBBERT, *I. G.*
Brother H ROBINSON, *Tyler.*

After the installation on Wednesday, the 27th instant, St John's day, the brethren adjourned to the Ross Hotel, where "mine host" had provided a most sumptuous repast, which was followed by the usual patriotic and masonic toasts. On this occasion the brethren illustrated the teaching of their craft by manifesting brotherly love and temperance, and mixing their hilarity and social enjoyment with inculcating the principles of morality and religion, and in giving mutual council to walk with upright lives and well squared actions. The brethren parted at an early hour, "Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again.'

SCHOOL EXAMINATION.—The Christmas Examination of the Mitchell Common School was held on Friday last. The two junior departments were examined in the forenoon, and we are told the pupils showed considerable advancement since the previous examination. Mr. Dunsmore's department was beautifully decorated with evergreens and artificial flowers, and the children were all clad in their best. The number of visitors present was larger than usual, evincing that the interest taken by parents in such gatherings is becoming greater. The classes of Reading, Arithmetic, Geometry, English Grammar, and Geography, all went through a thorough scrutiny, and notwithstanding that the most difficult questions were put to the pupils they met ready and correct answers. None but those who regularly attend the examinations of our Mitchell School can form the least idea of the advancement made by the children in their several branches of study. Children of scarcely twelve years of age can solve the most difficult questions in mathematics or arithmetic so quickly that the spectator would imagine they had scarcely time to enter the figures upon their slates. To Mr. Dunsmore, the efficient teacher, the credit is due. Unless he took the greatest pains with his scholars it would be impossible for them to reach their present high standard of education at such an early age. The children having passed through a most trying ordeal, over forty of them were presented with prizes, supplied by the Trustees. This part of the programme having been gone through with, Dr. Hornbrook presented Mr. Dunsmore, in the name of some of the scholars, with a handsome writing desk and an address, as a mark of appreciation of his untiring zeal in furthering the moral and mental improvement of his pupils. The following is a copy of the address:

DECEMBER 22nd, 1865.

To J. M. DUNSMORE, Esq.,
Principal Mitchell C. School.

DEAR SIR,—Please accept this writing-desk and its contents from the undersigned pupils of your school, principally from the class in English History, as a slight token of their esteem and respect which your generous disposition and kind heart have engendered in their breasts. They leave the duty of recompensing you for your diligence, ability, and patience, as a teacher, to the trustees of the school, knowing that they will not fail to appreciate the talents which are ever most actively employed for the good of the school. During the five years you have taught our school we have ever recognized that anxiety for our mental and moral improvement which could have emanated only from a kind heart and a never tiring zeal. Our earnest wish is that you may long hold the position which has been of so much advantage to us, and which, we hope, reflects no little credit on yourself. Wishing yourself and Mrs. Dunsmore a merry Christmas and a happy New Year, we subscribe ourselves.—Mary A. Babb, Eliza Campbell, Carrie Abbott, Christenna McIntyre, Isabella McIntyre, Sarah Wills, Sarah Jane Gray, Mary Jane Wills, Isabella Aiken, Hannah Yeo, Ann Jane Brown S. W. Howard, Wm. Alcock, Michael O'Farrell, John Honey.

In reply, Mr Dunsmore was taken so much by surprise that he scarcely knew what to say. He had not the slightest idea that he was to be the recipient of such kindness at the hands of his pupils. It came so unexpected that he was almost struck dumb. After recovering himself he replied in most appropriate language, thanking them most kindly for the high opinion they held of him. Dr. Bowie, the Superintendent, and Messrs. Hornibrook, Clarkson, Campbell and Hicks, Trustees, and the Rev Messrs. Caulfeild and Howard, each delivered short addresses, all of whom deservedly eulogised the teacher, and spoke in the very highest terms of his efficiency as a tutor. Drs. Bowie and Hornbrook handled the gentlemen who signed the petition for his dismissal without gloves. Such men, they said, could not have the interests of the school at heart.—We might mention that Dr. Hornibrook's term as a trustee expires the end of the present year. It is his intention to again offer himself, so that parties having an interest in the school, should make his election sure.

Mr. Wm. Clegg, whose office is one door east of the ADVOCATE, is Agent for Wanzer's and Raymond's Sewing Machines, and Williams's Organs and Melodeons. He is also commissioned to loan money on farm property, and take risks on buildings in one of the best Mutual Fire Insurance Companies, and in the "Commercial Union," a large and influential Stock company of London, England, being for both Fire and Life assurance. And the New York Accidental Assurance Co., which insures against accidents of all kinds, for death only, and death and compensation," at low rates of premiums. Having been appointed Commissioner in the Queen's Bench, he is prepared to transact all kinds of business connected therewith, such as filling up deeds and mortgages, &c. He also acts as an Accountant and Collector, and Estate and General Agent. Being a man of smart business habits, we can promise those who may have any transactions with Mr. Clegg, good satisfaction.

ELMA.

ACCIDENT.—We regret to learn that Mr. Joseph Bennett of the "Monckton Hotel," Moncton, had his leg fractured below the knee on Christmas evening. He is under Dr. Hornibrook's care.

The Municipal Elections in this Township are likely to pass off very quietly—The present efficient Councillors have given good satisfaction and will be elected again without any trouble. Rumor says that Mr. Robert Cleland is desirous of being brought forward as a candidate against our very efficient Reeve, Mr. D. D. Hay. He has no chance.

LOGAN.

We are so crowded with election news that we are again obliged to leave over the reports of the two last council meetings.

On the 23rd inst., Mr. Thomas Shipley, of Wallace, was thrown from a sleigh opposite Mr. Gabriel Murphy's tavern, by which both arms was broken, and a wrist dislocated. Dr. Coon was soon in attendance.

We understand that Mr. Keyes has obtained the deed of his farm and is now able to qualify for the office of councillor. In this case the whole of the old council will be returned.

HOWICK.

L. O. L. 767. At a meeting held in the Orange Hall, Howick Village, on Monday, Dec. 4th, the following officers were elected for the insuing year:

Robert G. Roberts, re-elected W. M.
Robert Walker, " D. M.
Nathaniel Leech, " *Treasurer.*
James Young, " *Secretary.*

Henry Perkins, Jas. McWade, John Donley, Richard James, and John Stinson, "Committee men". The above Lodge meets the first Monday in each month for the transaction of business.

JAS. YOUNG,
Secretary

FULLARTON.

At the polls on Monday next, we trust the rate-payers will demand an explanation in regard to the Ruffiach and $5 00 affair. If there has been any trickery going on, those who perpetrated it should receive their reward.

This evening (Friday) the members of L. O. L. No. 1176, Carlingford, intend holding a Soiree in the School House, for the purpose of raising funds to buy a flag. The Rev Messrs. Caulfeild and McCrae, of Mitchell, T. M. Daly and Jos. Watson, Esqs. of Stratford, and others, are expected to address the meeting. We trust that the Brethren in other parts will assist the object by being present on the occasion. A pleasant and interesting time is anticipated.

STRATFORD.

On Monday and Tuesday next the ratepayers of Stratford will be called upon to elect a Mayor, to preside over the affairs of the town. Of the two in the field, Messrs. Jarvis and Scott, the former has the advantage of the latter, Mr. Jarvis has been tried and not found wanting, and is a firm supporter of British connexion. Of the annexation proclivities of Mr. Scott, no better proof is needed than the fact that he receives the indirect support of the annexation organ. The canvassing goes bravely on, and although we admit that the contest will be a close one, if the friends of good government work, there is not the slightest doubt of Mr. Jarvis's success. Should the ratepayers of the county town allow Mr. Scott to be returned in preference to his rival we say they will not be looking to their interests. Go to work then, and leave no stone unturned till you secure the triumphant return of Mr. Jarvis. Because the Cat man has sold himself body and bones to the enemy, that is no reason why you should forsake an old and well tried friend,

EGMONDVILLE.

To the Editor of the Advocate.

DEAR SIR,—Mr. Hugh Chesney, under the cognomen of "Fair Play," has thought fit to write an answer in the *New Era* in reply to your Seaforth correspondent's letter, signed "Mun Dozer." Now, I beg Mr. Hugh Chesney to understand that I knew nothing whatever about that letter or its contents until it was in your hands for publication, in fact never thought of such a thing; if I had I would have no hesitation in signing my name. For whatever I have to say, I will say it face to face, or at the Poll. And, with the exception of a little exaggeration, I must admit the charges in "Mun Dozer's" letter are quite true. If any person will take the trouble to read the ungentlemanly, vulgar letter signed "Fair Play," in Clinton *New Era*, they will see that the principal parts of "Mun Dozer's" letter are actually admitted. But I have no desire to open a written controversy with a person capable of writing an epistle so degraded. There is no doubt but I could make a very even and truthful retort by calling to mind some family reminiscences of the Messrs. Chesney, but I am fully determined, no matter what the provocations are, not to be dragged into any such personal conflict. I can assure you, sir, that it was only through a sense of duty, and at the request of many of the Electors, I was induced to oppose the present Councillor of Ward No. 1, Tuckersmith.

I remain, sir, yours truly,
GEORGE E. JACKSON.

Egmondville, Dec. 22, 1865.

SEAFORTH.

John Hart was sentenced at the late assizes held in Goderich to two weeks imprisonment, for unlawfully taking $10 from Mr. Brett, the particulars of which appeared in one of our previous issues.

Farmers visiting Seaforth seldom tie their horses, but leave them standing on the streets without any one to look after them. The result of which is, that we have lately had several runaways. People should be more careful, for if an accident should occur to the property of any person by a runaway, then the neglectful will suffer by "footing the bill."

DEAR EDITOR,—Will you allow me a small space in your paper to correct an erroneous report of your Seaforth correspondent, "Mun Waker," of the petroleum meeting held here last week? Unless your correspondent has fallen into one very common vice of tiro correspondents of coloring truth in the garb of falsehood for the purpose of indulging in a little critticism, he must have been a "Mun Sleeper" instead of a "Mun Waker" when he attended the meeting—if he did attend it. Permit me to state that, instead of the committee being "formed of the principal men of the village," out of the 21 independent members of which it consists *four* only belong or live in the village, and two of the three office bearers live in the country—viz the president and treasurer. Also, Mr. Thos. Currie never made the slightest allusion to any desire of having the test well, or any other well sunk on his farm; but he only advocated the immediate sinking of a test well somewhere as soon as the necessary funds could be subscribed, and that the particular spot and when to begin operation should be left to the committee.

Yours Respectfully,
W. N. WATSON.

MR. EDITOR,—While striving to have a merry Christmas with the merry jingle of bells, Turkey dinner, &c., I wandered my way to the busy village of Seaforth to have a merry time, attending a Tea meeting in the Wesleyan Methodist church there, and, I must say, I was really surprised in different respects. The crowd of people assembled to help to eat off the debt on the church; the choice eatables;—the excellent choir; and the excellent speeches; and last, though not least, the sum of money realized. The proceeds of the tea amounted to $100. The amount subscribed to be paid within 3 months, $95.50, so that the amount of debt remaining unprovided for, is only $54.50. The ministers present on the occasion was Revs. A. Hurlburt, R. Whiting, R. Bruister, Graham, (Presbyterian) Yokum, (Episcopal Methodist) and Mitchell, of Clinton. The speaker of the evening were Bruister & Whiting, there not being time to call upon the others. Space will not permit me to say more, but we feel satisfied that all came pleased were pleased while remaining and pleased when they left.

Yours &c.
ONE THAT WAS THERE.

Mitchell, Dec. 27th, 1865.

DEAR ADVOCATE,—"Mun Waker's" letter which appeared in your last, seems to require some reply. I can only reiterate the statements made in my former communication and defy Mr. Chesney or any of his clique to disprove any of them. Just fancy any man of common sense claiming credit for being made a tool of by those smart Reeves north of us who persuaded Chesney the poor innocent fellow, to vote the money which they spent forty miles north of this, or away down in the Township of Stephen. The ratepayers of Ward No. 1, Tuckersmith, doubtless have a great deal to be thankful for, "If they could only view the affair in that light," and should feel under great obligation to the extraordinary genius who during his term of office has overburdened us with Taxes, has spent our hard-earned money on his improvements, has appointed his Brother, Assessor, increased his salary $20 *payable in advance*, has dismissed the best collector the township ever had, and in his place has appointed an ignorant fellow who does not know B from a hole in the ground, and last, but not least, wants to destroy our School Section and build a school house on the front of his own place, after which he is willing to retire from the cares of office. The rate-payers will have found by this time that it is to their interest that Mr. Chesney should be elected to stay at home and as a slight return for his valuable services, present him with a 'Basswood medal,' to which no one would subscribe more liberally than yours truly,

MUN DOZER.

Mitchell Markets.

Fall Wheat	1.20 a 1.25
Spring Wheat	0 94 a 0.96
Barley	0.40 a 0.45
Peas	0 45 a 0.50
Oats	0.25 a 0.30
Hay, per ton	6 00 a 7 00
Butter, fresh, per lb	0 16 a 0.17
Potatoes, per bushel	020 a 0.25
Flour per 100 lbs	2 75 a 3 00
Bran and Shorts, per 100 lbs	0.00 a 0 75
Middlings	1.25 a 0.00
Eggs, per dozen	0 00 a 0.12
Apples	0.37½ a 0 50
Hides	6 00 a 0 00
Sheep Skins	0 75 a 1.25

BIRTH.

In Mitchell, on the 22nd inst, Mrs. Wm. Abbott, of a son.

MARRIED.

At the residence of the bride's father, Fullarton, on the 27th inst., by the Rev. Mr. Hamilton, Mr. James Thom, lately of Mitchell, to Mary, eldest daughter of James McClacherty, Esq.

In Mitchell, on Monday last, being Christmas Day, by the Rev Mr. Roach, Mr. Wm. Davidson, to Mrs. Elizabeth Hockings, both of Mitchell.

DIED.

In Howick Village, on Wednesday, Dec. 20th, of inflamation of the brain, Albert Leslie, only surviving child of Mr. James Young. Aged 8 months and 11 days.

STRAY HEIFER.

STRAYED from Lot East half of 17, 2nd Con., Fullarton, about the month of August last a year old Heifer. Colour, red, with a white spot near the flank. A liberal reward will be paid for such information as will lead to her recovery.

DAVID KYLE.

Fullarton, Dec, 27th 297