Brockville butter 19 cents a pound.

The Detroit River is clear of ice.

Gough lectured in Brantford on the evening of Good Friday.

A new epizootic among horses has broken out in the vicinity of Hamilton.

All Roman Catholic laws have been forbidden, from the pulpit of Notre Dame Cathedral, to read the Montreal Witness.

Wm. Orsler, teacher in the St. Marys Common School, was found drowned in a cattle guard on Saturday evening.

Mr. Thos. Sutherland has been appointed Manager of the Dominion Telegraph Company.

The name of A. H. Dymond, M. P., is mentioned for clerk of the Northwest Council.

Capt. Richard Graham, of Pickering, sold a one year old colt, imported this year, to Mr. R. Cheyne, of Toronto, for $1,100.

Victoria, British Columbia, was visited by a fearful hurricane on Wednesday last, which dismasted vessels and damaged property.

A respectable young lady, Miss M. A. Lee, of West Gwillimbury, committed suicide by taking a dose of strychnine, on Friday night. Disappointment in marriage is said to be the cause.

An immense hog was bought in the Cobourg market on Wednesday. It weighed over 900 lbs. and brought eighty-six dollars. It measured eleven feet from its snout to the end of its tail.

The handsome County Court House at Kingston, Ont., which cost $80,000, was burned down on Wednesday morning. The insurance is only $15,000.

On Friday morning the body of a newly-born infant was found, with its throat cut, in a back yard in Wood bridge. No trace has been found of the unnatural parent.

A little child of James Foester, of Belleville, fell into a pot of hot water on the 19th, of last week, and was scalded so badly that death ensued on the following morning.

In accordance with the dictum of the Kincardine Town Council the old verandahs and the signs which are hung across the sidewalk, are being rapidly pulled down.

Miss Lizzie Briggs, of the Township of St. Vincent, has just completed a quilt containing 1763 pieces, there not being two pieces alike in the quilt.

Some New Brunswick Assemblyman complains, through the papers, that the pay of members is too low. $4 a day does not meet current expenses in the gay capital of our sister Province.

The Long Sault Rapids were frozen on the 19th of February, and the Cline Brothers drove up and down the centre of the river, a feat never performed before.

J. P. Billington, of Dundas, offers a reward of $500 for the apprehension and conviction of the person or persons who maliciously set fire to his premises in that town on the night of the 22nd inst.

A company is being organized at Prescott for the purpose of building a grain elevator at that town. The estimated cost is $150,000, capacity half a million bushels, situated at the undertaking would prove highly successful.

At the Simcoe Assizes, on Thursday the jury found a true bill against Geo. Carter, for abusing and outraging his step-daughter, Isabella Mara Stafford, a child of about 11 years of age. The prisoner is a man of 27 years, and lived in Orillia.

In the Assize Court at Hamilton, last week, Robert Freeman, of the County of Oxford, had a verdict of $600 damages awarded against him for the seduction of a young woman named Elizabeth Harper, belonging to the County of Halton.

In the Brockville abortion case, tried at Brockville, the Grand Jury brought in true bills against Greaves, Dr. Sparham and Mrs. Sparham for murder. The trial will likely be on Thursday. Jas. O'Reilly, M. C. Cameron and T. M. Brooks, for defence; B. M. Britton, prosecuting.

An unknown man was found lying dead on the front of the engine, on the night of the 22nd, at Morrisburg, by the engineer as he was oiling his engine. A broken bottle, with a corn cob stopper, and a mitten were left on the engine. The body was taken off at Morrisburg.

A little girl eight years of age, daughter of Mrs. Westover, a widow living in the township of Malahide, was killed instantly on the 23rd, under painful circumstances. It appears the child's brother was rolling a log while the child was holding a pry. The weight of the log coming upon the pry caused the other end of it to fly up and strike the child across the neck with such force as to cause dislocation.

A girl named Miss Poppa, of Aylmer, 17 years old, while working in the house, on Saturday, saw her little brother, playing on the ice on the creek, fall in. She at once ran down to pull him out, and in doing so was drawn in, and while in told her brother to get on her back and get out; he did so, but as she came time pushed his sister under the ice. She drifted about five yards under the ice, and when taken out was quite dead.

The General Manager of the Grand Trunk Railway offers a reward of $100 for the discovery and detention of the writer of a letter which recently appeared in the columns of the *Mail*. The letter in question stated that the fire at Point St. Charles was the work of an incendiary, and that the incendiary was a trainsman in the service of the Grand Trunk Co. The sum of $500 is offered the writer of the letter if he will voluntarily give such evidence as will substantiate in a court of law the truth of the statements he has made.

Canadians will come to the "top of the heap." Here is what the Atchison, Kansas, *Patriot* says of a former citizen of St. Mary's:—Murphy, of Ellis, is the youngest member of the House and of the Legislature. He is a young gentleman of industry, ability, and popular, both as a representative and a citizen. As an evidence that his people have confidence in him as an able business young man, I will state that he holds the office of county clerk of Ellis county."

A narrow escape from a serious accident occurred on Wednesday, on the W. G. and B. Railway, at Swan's bridge, about two miles from Elora. The tender ran off the track about two hundred yards before reaching the bridge, not being noticed by the driver until fairly on the bridge, and before it was stopped it had two more cars of the train. It broke several stringers, damaging some of the rails, but fortunately no person was hurt. Had it rolled over the bridge, a distance of about thirty feet, a great many lives would have been lost.

AMERICAN.—A band of thieves made a raid on the People's Savings Bank Washington, on Friday, and seized a box which they thought contained the assets of the bank, with which they made their escape. The box, however, contained private papers, mortgages, etc, valued at $12,000, belonging to the cashier, and which can be of no possible use to the raiders.

It is expected by those engaged in the Brooklyn trial that Beecher will be called on the stand this week. It is said further that the trial is likely to last till the beginning of July!

Eighty convicts at work in the foundry in the Indiana State prison, on Friday suddenly quit work, overpowered their guards, tied and blindfolded them, and succeeded in partially cutting a hole in the outer wall, when a general alarm was given the outside guards, who rushed to the rescue, and at the muzzle of their rifles forced the convicts to desist.

SPAIN.—Don Carlos has issued a decree calling into military service all males in the Navarese Province over 18 years of age.

General Loma has arrived at Zurugaza. An advanced post of the Carlists there fraternized with the Alfonsist, and demonstrations were made in favor of peace.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, March 31, 1875

An Exile's Defence.

Among the despatches to the morning papers of Friday was one from Ottawa of a decidedly sensational character. The subject of it is a letter addressed to the House of Commons, from W. B. O'Donohue, formerly Secretary and Treasurer of Riel's Provisional Government, which it is said was transmitted some time ago for the purpose of its presentation to the House. The letter was published in the Ottawa Citizen, and created a decided sensation. Its purport is a denial of the connection with the murder of Scott and the Fenian raid which is attributed to O'Donoghue and which is the reason of his present banishment, and places serious blame upon certain Hudson Bay officials. He declares that the insurrection was advised by Governor, Mr. McTavish, who was aided and abetted by other officers of the Hudson Bay Company, who fully recognized the Riel government. O'Donoghue is ready to prove that he had no connection with the rebel up until about four weeks after the first up taken, and two weeks after Fort Garry was taken. The Provisional Government had nothing to do with the murder of Scott, and when he was summoned as a witness at his trial before the Military Council refused to attend. The Fenian raid, in which he took so prominent a part, is characterized as a continuation of the rebellion of 1869, and he says that he was merely acting as the agent of a council assembled at La Riviere Salle over which Riel presided. After declaring his absolute innocence from any complicity in the trial and execution of Scott, O'Donoghue winds up his letter by threatening to expose, in his own good time, certain "immaculate persons" who are industrious in saddling him with all the iniquity.

The declaration is startling, but since no evidence is advanced the story will be treated with incredulity and the only interest manifested as a desire to hear what the man has got to say for himself. Throughout its existence the Red River difficulty has proven a ticklish subject to deal with, national, religious and political feelings being mingled with the case in such a manner as to create a great difficulty in arriving at a settlement satisfactory to the majority. The banishment of the three leaders temporarily seemed to settle the case; but if there is anything in this communication from O'Donohue the end is not yet.

In order to give some idea of the circumstances of the case, and what a degree of complication there exists in it we will furnish a few facts gathered from a reliable source, and which will indicate that the true offenders have not yet been found. In the first place we might state, at the time the Canadian Government negotiated with the Hudson Bay Company for the purchase of the North West Territory, the Company was losing a large sum of money annually in retaining posts in that district and were glad to dispose of the land—inflict the purchase money was a gift which relieved them of a sore burden. Governor McTavish, whom O'Donoghue declares was Riel's adviser, at the time of the trouble was seriously ill and was kept rigorously to his room, his friends and family physician being denied admittance thereto and the room jealously guarded by a sentinel. Being interested as a shareholder of the Company, what his reasons would be for aiding and abetting the insurrection under the circumstances are not easy to be imagined, and the surveillance under which he was placed indicate that an opposite feeling was his. Little next in command was John H. McTavish, the accountant of the Company, and this man conducted the affairs of the Company during the period of the insurrection and the Governor's illness. When Riel and his followers took Fort Garry, although known to be perfectly unacquainted with the interior arrangements of the Fort, they made their way through it as though guided by some one well acquainted with it; in fact one man who had been in the fort for over ten years declares that they entered rooms and passages with which he was before unacquainted and which none but John McTavish knew of, excepting the Governor. It is said that John H. McTavish was surrounded in his sleeping room by Riel's ruffians and made to give up £15,000 of the Hudson's Bay Co. funds, but this was really done, it is said, at McTavish's instigation and for the purpose of blinding the public. Donald A. Smith, the government commissioner who was sent to arrange some peace terms with the rebels declared that he could place his hand upon the person who conducted Riel and his followers through the fort, and, when asked if it was J. H. McTavish held his peace, there by almost expressing himself in the affirmative, and other evidence has been gleaned which points still more clearly in a direction to indicate that the Accountant was the tool of cunning parties and that Governor McTavish was not in any way cognizant of the circumstances with which his name is now associated.

Were we to go further and give all the evidence furnished, a most startling plot would be disclosed. The muttered threat uttered by Riel, in one of his drunken orgies as the Government troops were nearing Fort Garry, to one of the high officials, that he would divulge the whole secret of the rebellion unless his position was better secured, shows plainly that he was urged on by some person of more intelligence than himself. The insurrection was a deep laid scheme planned by a more cunning brain than ever Riel, Lepine or O'Donoghue possessed, and these men were made the tools for its execution. John A. McDonald must be cognizant of the hidden plans, but the originators are influential and it would take much ingenuity to unfold the tale and attach the guilt conclusively to the guilty parties. Possibly it would be better for the country if the truth were not told, and so long as O'Donoghue is unable to prove that injustice has been done him the country will escape a further investigation of the matter. Suffice it to say that by accusing Governor McTavish of encouraging the rebellion, his endeavor appears to be to get himself out of his present difficulty, and not involve the real parties, by placing the weight of guilt upon the name of a dead man.

A Re-organized Opposition.

The announcement of Wm. McDougall's name in connection with the constituency of South Simcoe is a significant circumstance to the Ontario Opposition. The record of this body during the late session of the Provincial Legislature is of such a character as to be more creditable to the country if consigned to oblivion than if retained amongst its imperishable documents. Cameron, the nominal leader, has been openly rejected by the leading Tory journal, and he has himself confessed his incompetency, which announcement will create no surprise except that it pronounces him possessed of the capacity to detect his own incapacity. His opposition was factious, which is as much attributable to the fact that he knew less of political history than the most of his followers then to any illiberal political spirit. His monitor and right hand supporter, Charley Rykert—the spotless and honest (?)—whose capacity better fitted him to occupy the position held by Mr. Cameron, has virtually acted as leader, but even Tory honor resented the idea of being led by a man of his repute, with such a leadership no wonder Her Majesty's loyal opposition was disorganized. The nominal leader absented himself from the House as often as occasion would permit and the remaining few being left to the free exercise of their own sweet wills acquired a degree of independency which was fatal to the unity of the body and the tractability of the members. This condition of that portion of the House which is as important, almost, in the discussion on legislative measures as the majority itself, is by no means satisfactory to the public, and was a source of annoyance to the party whom that portion represented. With an eye therefore to restoring the tarnished escutcheon of Toryism to something of its former brightness, it is announced that Wm. McDougall is destined to be the new leader of the Opposition, not at once, but he will be brought on the scene in such a way that the public will not fail to see that he is the man, and in order to lift Mr. Cameron from his dignity with all ease and respect for his sensitiveness.

Mr. McDougall has been for many years past a waif, upon the political sea, but different from waifs generally inasmuch as his Nomadic career has proven him the man to be adopted by any party which finds itself in a difficulty. His staunch adherence to one set of principles has only been equalled by his readiness to embrace and accept another, when his ambition might find thereby an opportunity of gratifying itself; and this elasticity of doctrine has evidently tempted the Tory party to entice him, by the tempting offer of the leadership of the Ontario opposition, to permanently take stock in their policy. Mr. McDougall is certainly capable for the position, and the government will hail him as "a foe worthy of their steel" in the legislative tilts. His lengthy experience in the political arena and it has been a remarkable and trying one—fits him to more successfully lead the minority of the House than Mr. Cameron. He has the capacity, but we question if he has the stability; his career in the past leads to the conviction that his reliability is doubtful. Radicalism has characterized more or less, all his political conduct, and the public need not be surprised if he should strike off into some mad cap race which would shock modest Dame Tory.

But that is a matter for the Tories themselves to bother their heads about. They, by this proposed arrangement, will help themselves out of one awkward position, with general satisfaction to the public, and when the possibility mentioned shall occur, which we hope not for the sake of Mr. McDougall and his future reputation, there will be some other means of overcoming it.

The Summer Hotel.

There was a meeting of stockholders on Monday night for the purpose of finally deciding what action would be taken, as the offer made by Mr. Kirkpatrick was only open for acceptance till to-day. Several stockholders were rather "down in the mouth" on account of some foolish opposition there appears to be to the scheme, and also for the reason that some of the wealthiest men in town will not subscribe at all. Mr. Savage, the original mover and the working man of the scheme, brightened matters by stating that the amount of stock now subscribed is $9,600 with every prospect of increasing that sum to $10,000 or more, and he asked the stockholders to come forward and authorize Messrs. Ross, Davison and Jordan to close with Mr. Kirkpatrick at the price and terms offered. Mr. Garrow drew up the proper document and the stockholders present all subscribed, and yesterday Mr. Savage obtained the signatures of almost all the remaining stockholders. Mr. Ross referred to the letter from "Tax payer" in the *Star* of last week. The statements made in that letter are incorrect and calculated to lead tax payers astray, for they are now called to vote on a totally different matter to that voted on before. This is a scheme for the purchase of the property for a public park, to be held by the town for ever for public use, and not for the benefit of any individual or company. The former scheme amounted to a bonus to Hotel Company like a free gift, but in this case the Hotel Company has nothing at all to do with the portion to be purchased by the town. The bargain with Mr. Kirkpatrick was closed this morning.

Mr. SWINYARD has presented two reports of the condition of the Prince Edward Island Railway, which discloses a very ungratifying state of affairs. The building of the roads was commenced in 1871, and was to be built from Casumpec harbor in the east to Georgetown harbor in the west. The Dominion Government has been frequently abused by the Local Government of the Island for tardiness of action. An investigation by Mr. Swinyard developed the fact that the contractors, who had remarkable privileges in laying out the route, had seriously departed from the obligations of the contracts, the work had been done unsatisfactorily and that omissions and deficiences existed amounting in the aggregate to about $100,000. The provincial government were chary about assisting Mr. Swinyard in his investigation, and he only succeeded in his mission through the courtesy of the contractors. No provision had been made for station agents in the way of dwelling rooms, although provisions was made for this in the contract. It is expected however, that the road will be in running order by the 1st of May next, as the necessary repairs and other works are being pushed with all despatch.

THE BILL for the prevention of cruelty to animals in transit by railway has passed its third reading in the House. Its provisions, are that cattle shall not be confined upon cars for more than 28 consecutive hours without being unladen for food, rest, and water for at least six hours. It provides that when cattle are unladen the cars shall be cleaned out and freshly littered with clean sawdust or sand, except in periods of frost. Penalties are imposed for the violation of the Act, and suitable provisions are made for its enforcement.

A CAUCUS of members of the House of Commons agreeable to the abolition of the liquor traffic, took place in Ottawa, on Wednesday morning. Hon. Malcolm Cameron, M. P., occupied the chair, and after a lengthy discussion upon the question of jurisdiction, the length to which prohibitionists should go in demanding legislation and the best means of obtaining the views of the public, a resolution was adopted appointing a committee to draw up a programme of a further movement in the question and an address to the people of Canada detailing the basis of action to be hereafter adopted. The committee consisted of Messrs. G. W. Ross, Burpee (Sunbury), Walter Ross, Sinclair, Lanrier, Simms, Gendge, Cunningham, Farrow and Dymond, who were to have reported at an adjourned meeting last evening.

THE Stratford *Beacon* warns the High School Board of that place from rashly co-operating with the High School Board of Goderich in the proposal with reference to lowering the standard for admission to High Schools. The paper says: "it does not appear to us that the change demanded is, at the present time, either desirable or practicable. Such a change could not be introduced into our school system without necessitating, as the Board admits, a re-organization of the present machinery, and there has been too much tinkering done of late in this direction, that we deem it unnecessary, at the present time, at least, to make further changes."

A STATEMENT of the receipts and payments of the Dominion from 1st July, 1874, to 20th February, 1875, shows the following—receipts $15,568,766.50 payments $14,968,057. 68.

THE latest returns from North Wellington give Higinbotham three of a majority, instead of five as reported last week.

BUSINESS in the House is so far advanced that it is predicted the session will close this week.

JAPAN.—Destructive fires in Yeddo are of almost nightly occurrence.

An American named Pease has been murdered by his companion in Bonin Island southeast of Yeddo Bay. Pease was reputed to be little better than a pirate, and was known to have carried on the slave trade on a small scale among the eastern islands.

There was a great fire in Osaka on the 7th of Feb. Twelve hundred buildings were destroyed, including temples and schools, and several lives were lost.

FRANCE.—Minister Buffett in an address to the staff of officials of the Department of the Interior, dwelt with emphasis on the fact that the present Ministry is essentially Conservative.

PRALIAMENTARY.

Ottawa, March 23.

In the Commons, petitions were presented by Mr. Wilkes for the re-imposition of the ten per cent. duty on tea imported from the United States, and by Mr. Irving from the Fruit Growers' Association asking that apple barrels and peach baskets be regulated as to sizes.

The House went into Committee on the Insolvency Bill. Some trifling amendments not affecting the principle of the Bill were made in those clauses down to the 27th. Mr. Palmer moved an amendment to leave the appointment of assignees with the Boards of Trade. Mr. Laflamme moved, in further amendment, to allow of more than one assignee being appointed in certain districts in Quebec. Mr. Jones (Leeds) moved that the Sheriff shall be the official assignee of that county or district over which he holds office. All the amendments were lost. The clauses down to the 56th were adopted without change, Mr. Devlin objected to the clause which provided that if less than a dividend of 33 per cent. were paid a discharge might be refused. Mr. Jones suggested that it be ten cents instead of thirty-three. This was lost on a division. Mr. Goudge wanted the minimum fixed at 33½ per cent. The clause was carried on a division without amendment. All the remaining clauses having been carried without amendments, the committee went back to the 22nd section, which was amended by adding the words "unless he be a candidate for the office of creditors' assignee, in which case the creditors shall appoint a chairman from amongst themselves." The Bill was then reported as amended, and concurred in.

Ottawa, March 24.

In the Senate, Hon. Mr. Aikins, in moving for an address for statistics respecting the population of the North-west Territories, condemned the policy of the Government in respect to the provision for separate schools in the Territory.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Cartwright introduced a resolution in committee, offering the expediency of abolishing the export duty on stave bolts and oak logs. The proposition was opposed by several members, who contended that this was a Free Trade step calculated to build up American manufactures at the expense of Canadian; others urging that if the duty were taken off one class of timber it should be taken off all, and thus no favoritism be shown to a particular locality. The resolution passed.

Dr. Orton moved for a special committee on agricultural interests, making an eloquent speech, in which he urged the claims of the farming community to the consideration of the House. The motion was opposed by Mr. Mills and others, and the debate was interrupted by the House rising for recess.

In reply to a suggestion from Dr. Brouse, the Minister of Militia promised that every precaution should be used to prevent the grant to aged veterans from passing into the hands of swindling speculators.

Ottawa, March 26.

In the House, petitions were read in favor of prohibition.

On the motion for the third reading of the Insolvency Bill, a number of amendments were submitted in succession, aiming at a change of the principal features of the measure, but they were all defeated by majorities ranging from 30 to 80. The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

Ottawa, March 27.

Mr. Cartwright laid upon the table the supplementary estimates for the year now current, ending June 30th, 1875, and also those required for the expenditure of 1875-6. The former amount to $1,783,787, the latter to $511,100.

An amendment to the Coasting Trade Act of Canada was adopted imposing a fine of $100 upon all vessels not British found carrying goods from one port to another on the Canadian coast.

The House went into committee upon the Supreme Court Bill. Mr. Baby's amendment to the effect that the Bill was unconstitutional was lost on a division of 28 to 113.

Town Council.

By call of the Mayor a special meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday evening of last week, to receive the report of the Committee appointed to confer with the directors of the Summer Hotel Company and to act thereon. The Mayor in the chair and all members present, except Mr. Graham, who was unavoidably absent.

The clerk read the report of the committee recommending that the town take one half of the land offered to the Hotel Company by Mr. J. C. Kirkpatrick, at the same rate per acre as agreed upon between the Hotel Company and Mr. Kirkpatrick, which will amount to $6,000 for about three and a half acres.

Mr. Savage moved that the report be adopted.

Mr. Seymour stated that as he was not present at the last meeting of the Council, he desired the object of the Council in appointing said Committee to be explained—The Mayor explained the course pursued.

Mr. Ross asked if a by-law would require to be passed to submit to the people, and stated that he would not support any project taken in this matter unless it be submitted to the tax payers. Council submitted to be of the opinion that it was compulsory to submit this to the people.

Mr. A. Watson was willing to submit the matter if necessary, and was confident there is a strong feeling in town in favor of securing this property for a public park. He advocated strongly in favor of closing the bargain at once as another chance would not likely ever be had. Mr. Watson spoke at considerable length and with force.

Mr. Seymour thought there was no necessity for a park, and it would only be raising the taxes instead of lowering them as he intended to do. He therefore moved, seconded by Mr. Evans, that the by-law be submitted to a vote of the people.

Mr. Watson proposed that the town purchase the property and that it be referred to Arbitrators, one on behalf of the town and one appointed by the Hotel Company, to decide as to the price to be paid for so much of the property as the town may purchase.

Mr. Savage contended that even if a vote were taken the by-law would carry, and he stated that the amount to be levied on each tax payer would only be about twelve cents.

Mr. Campbell was sorry to see any feeling of opposition to this scheme, and expressed a belief that a by-law would carry if submitted. Prompt action was necessary now as Mr. Kirkpatrick would not hold his offer open many days longer.

Mr. Garrow said that after giving the whole matter his most careful consideration he concluded that it was necessary to submit the matter to the popular vote, and in support of his statement, he read several clauses from Harrison's Municipal Law and referred to the statute also bearing on the point. Mr. Garrow moved that the Mayor be authorized by the Council, in the meantime, to execute a contract for the purchase of the said property on the terms offered and that the whole matter be submitted to the people at an early day.

Mr. F. W. Johnston seconded this amendment, believing it to be the legal and proper mode of procedure.

Mr. Seymour withdrew his motion in favor of Mr. Garrow's amendment.

Mr. Savage asked for a seconder to his motion. Mr. Smaill seconded, and the report was adopted.

Mr. A. Watson stated that this was a different matter to submit to the taxpayers than that voted upon before, inasmuch as this property is actually for the town and to be used for the purpose of a public park, whereas the matter as first proposed amounted to a bonus to certain individuals for their own use and not for public use.

Mr. Garrow's motion was then put and carried.

Mr. Garrow moved, seconded by Mr. Smaill, that the by-law be considered read a first time.

The Council then adjourned to meet again on Monday evening, March 29th.

Monday, March 29th.

Pursuant to adjournment, Council met, the Reeve in the chair. Present—the Deputy Reeve and Messrs. Savage, Pasmore, Graham, Campbell, Evans, A. Watson and Geo. B Johnston. Mr. Savage moved, seconded by Mr. Pasmore, that the by-law be read a second time—Carried—The clerk then read the by-law.

Mr. D. Watson enquired if Mr. Kirkpatrick is willing to accept the terms mentioned in the by-law.

Mr. A. M. Ross, who negotiated with Mr. Kirkpatrick, was called on to explain, and he stated that the terms were quite satisfactory to Mr. Kirkpatrick.

On motion of Mr. Savage, seconded by Mr. Campbell, Council went into Committee of the whole, Mr D. Watson in the chair. The by-law was then taken up and read and the several blanks filled up.

Moved by Mr. Savage, seconded by Mr. A. Watson, that by-law be adopted as read—Carried.

The Committee rose, and having reported, the by-law was adopted and ordered to be published according to law.

Mr. Garrow referred to a letter which appeared in last week's issue of the *Star* signed by "Taxpayer," in which the writer accuses several of the Councilmen of selfish motives in pressing this by-law upon the people. Mr. Garrow repudiated the sentiments expressed as absurd and untrue, and stated that after he had paid up his stock he would sell it to said "Taxpayer" at 20 per cent. discount.

Mr. A. Watson also denied the statement of "Taxpayer" as untrue and cowardly.

The proper description not having been obtained of said property, Mr. Graham moved, seconded by Mr. Savage, that Mr. Weatherald be instructed to procure an accurate description of the property and stake out the line as run, and that the Public Works Committee attend on behalf of the Town—Carried.

The Council then adjourned.

LOCAL NEWS

MANCHESTER HOUSE.—Two first class Journeymen Tailors by applying at Crofts & Johnstons will find constant employment.

HORSE DIED.—Mr. Anderson of Wawanosh, lost a valuable mare last week, from an over-feed of peas. He was offered the large sum of $180 for it a short time since.—*Advance.*

THANKS.—We are obliged to our town cotemporary for the very correct manner in which it copies our local news. It would very much more oblige us by giving us credit for the same.

PERSONAL.— Our town cotemporary has secured an addition to its editorial staff in the contributions of Dan Moran, who is at present confined in jail for drunkenness. His weekly letters are the single points of attraction in that journal.

MAPLE SUGAR.—This is the time of the year when the "stuck up" city folks suddenly remember that they have country cousins, upon whose hospitality they impose only once in the year—at sugaring off time.

OUT HIS FOOT.—A young man named Proudfoot, on Wednesday last, cut the first tendon of one of his feet whilst wielding an adze at Ogilvie's mill. Cassidy dressed the wound. He will lose the use of the big toe.

TOO LATE.—Mr. Campbell's advertisement came too late for insertion this week, but will appear next week. He offers excellent bargains in ladies gaiters, and as his spring stock is daily arriving a call at his store will repay intending purchasers.

MAGISTRATE'S COURT.—On Tuesday Mrs. Thrower was tried before C. Crabb, Esq., for using abusive language to Mrs. Merrick. The defendant was fined $1 and costs, with a caution to be careful in the future.

REMOVED.—Mr. G. M. Trueman is removing his auction mart to the rooms formerly occupied by Messrs. E. & J. Downing, on the corner of Kingston street and the Market Square.

"THE CHORISTER."—Number four is just out, containing the two fine choruses, "The Pic-Nic Chorus," and "Hail to the Queen of the Silent Night," also a splendid Quartette for male voices, "Oh, I am a Merry Sailor Lad." Published by C. H. Ashdown, Amherstburg, at 56 cents per annum.

THANKS.—Our thanks are due to our old friend Mr. P. T. Barnum, the veteran showman, for a number of complimentary tickets for admission to his travelling exhibition. Mr. Barnum is going to travel during the coming summer with a larger show than ever before, and will probably visit this neighborhood.

POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY.—Messrs. D. Appleton & Co., have forwarded the April number of this superior periodical. The articles are as well written as ever; Chief amongst them are "The Triangle Spider," "First Traces of man in Europe," a paper upon photographing, and a sketch of the celebrated German optician Dr. Joseph Fraunhofer.

FROM THE "POINT."—Mr. J. J. Wright, on Tuesday afternoon, drove down from the "Point Farm" on the ice, a circumstance unprecedented in the history of winters on Lake Huron.

PETER'S HOUSEHOLD MAGAZINE.—No. 4 of this excellent publication is to hand and contains seven beautiful pieces of music, by Will S. Hays, Fanny Abt, J. R. Thomas and others. Price 50 cents only; address J. L. Peters, 599, Broadway, New York.

TAX PAYERS.—Remember that April 26th is the day appointed for a poll on the Park Question. Goderich will have a park if each tax payer is willing to give about twelve cents a year for ten years towards the object. Surely no reasonable man will object to this.

LECTURE.—A Lecture will be delivered (D. V.) on Friday next, at 7 30 P. M, in the rooms over the Signal office. Subject, "In the Lord coming for his Saints before the Judgment." Bring your bibles. Also gospel preaching Wednesday and Thursday evenings at 7.30 p.m., next Lord's day at three and seven p.m. All are invited. E. J. Hayhoe.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE ALBION HOTEL. A considerable addition has been made to the Albion Hotel by throwing in the whole of the wing opposite Crabb's Block and several large rooms over Mr. Cattle's and Messrs. Whitely & Elliott's stores. All the rooms which include several sitting rooms, will be furnished in the most comfortable manner. One sitting room of unbroken front, extends and was respectively 25 x 20. Visitors to Goderich this summer may be under no apprehension of lack of accommodation.

SHOW WINDOWS.—The windows of the dry goods store on town present a gay appearance just now, being newly fitted up with the fresh spring and spring stock. A very handsome blue silk dress, trimmed with lace and white satin was on exhibition in Messrs. Crofts & Johnston's window, and attracted a large number of ladies and gentlemen. It was made for Miss Marsh, of Beedle's Ball Ringers, and was made by Miss Williams.

GOOD FRIDAY.—This day was recognized in town by a general suspension of business, and special services in the English and Catholic churches. Our juvenile readers will remember the cry of

"One a penny,
Two a penny,
Hot cross buns,"

but perhaps few know the origin of it, which was as follows: There used to prevail a superstition that all bread baked on Good Friday should be kept by the family for a year, as the crumbs were efficacious in curing all manner of diseases.

L. H & B. R.—An adjourned meeting for the consideration of the subject of granting $1000 towards extending this road from Blyth to Wingham, was held in Lucknow on the 22nd. The persons present were of opinion that the road would be of little benefit if built, and if it were to be of such great advantage the item of $1,000 would be no barrier of consequence to its completion. Dr. Tennant, seconded by Mr. M. Stewart, moved that further consideration of the subject be not entertained at present, which was carried.

VETERANS OF 1812.—Four of the veterans of 1812 have made application for pension money, namely Richard Papst, Goderich, aged 89; Glode Lacource, Stanley, aged 80; John Hoover, West Wawanosh, about 82 years old; and a Mr. Cook, of Howick, the latter having merely applied, and the former three having their papers properly filled out. All seem to be enjoying good health, especially Lacource whose hair was hardly gray and who drove all the way from Drysdale on the ice to have the necessary papers drawn out by Mr. Adamson. There are no more papers in the hands of the County Clerk at present, but a number will be forwarded from Ottawa in a few days and any who have not yet made application can do so.

PERSONAL.—Mr. Ira Lewis has been appointed issuer of tavern and shop licenses for the County of Huron.—

—Mr. Wm. Bannatyne's poems are in the hands of Messrs. Jas. Campbell & Son, publishers, of Toronto, and already proof sheets have been forwarded to the author. The work will make about 200 pages, 16 mo., and the proof sheets indicate that the work will be one of great typographical beauty. The price of the work will be $1 per copy, and no doubt many will secure it.

—Mr. Greenway, M. P., has been confined to his lodgings in Ottawa, for some days by illness.

—Mr. Darius Smith, Government light house inspector, made an inspection of the light house here on Monday.

—The *Gazette* announces the promotion of Capt. Jas. Thomson, G. S., Goderich Battery of Garrison Artillery, to the rank of Major.

REAL ESTATE.—Mr. William Andrews sold his farm of 68 acres, being part of lot 18, 1st con., Goderich Township, last week, for $3.00 per acre.

—Mr. Wm. Chisholm sold his farm lot 9, 4th con., Goderich Township, to Mr. John McDougall last week, for $3,500. The farm contains 80 acres, and is well improved.

—Mr. Henry Seegmiller has sold the farm known as the "Wilkinson farm," lot 24, 4th con., Goderich Township, to Mr. Jas. Elliott, the former owner, for the sum of $5,500. The farm contains 89 acres, well improved, has a good orchard and fine buildings. An auction sale of stock will take place on the farm on Thursday, 15th April, by G. M. Trueman.

PROPELLOR BENTON.—Mr. D. W. Gooding has shown us a letter received from C. A. Chamberlin, manager of the Cleveland, Saginaw, Detroit and Mackinaw line of steamers, in which it is stated that the "Benton," Capt. S. McGregor, will resume her regular trips on the opening of navigation. She has been greatly improved in her passenger accommodations and has been fitted out equal to any passenger boat on the lakes. Capt. McGregor is well and favorably known in this locality, and his connection with the boat will ensure a successful season's business and be satisfactory to the travelling and business public. The "Benton" will commence running to Goderich earlier this season than usual, Mr. Wm. Lee is agent for Goderich.

COURT OF CHANCERY.—His Lordship Chancellor Spragge was in town on Monday, the 22nd inst., and on Tuesday morning presided at the hearing in this court. There were only two cases set down which were disposed of as follows:—

Underwood vs Hunter.—On the application of Mr. Doyle, who appeared for the plaintiff, the venue was changed to Walkerton, where the case will be tried at the next sittings of the court there. Mr. Boyd, of Toronto, and Mr. J. T. Garrow appeared for defendant.

Belfray vs Twitchell.—Referred to the Master here to take evidence and report specially. Mr. Doyle for plaintiff, and Mr. Garrow for defendant. The witnesses were in court, and the Master proceeded at once to take evidence without waiting for the decree. The Chancellor left on the afternoon train.

THE HARBOR.—Preparations are in progress for the opening of navigation, and vessels are being put in trim, repaired and improved. The Grand Trunk dock is being greatly improved, the foundations of the elevator are strengthened and in a short time the work on that portion toward the lake and about the elevator will soon be completed. Fears have been expressed that the solid condition of the ice in the harbor and for a a good distance out in the lake, the spring freshet would result in considerable damage to the shipping and docks, and several persons have been discussing the propriety of loosening the ice by blasting with dynamite. Although the prospects at present are that the river will broad up gradually, yet it might be well to take the precaution and ensure safety from the possibility of a heavy freshet and its consequences.

NARROW ESCAPE.—While Mr. James Martin, pump maker, was chopping a tree down on Friday last, and just as the tree was falling, the top struck a withered tree which fell back and a branch of it struck Mr. Martin on the elbow of the left arm, inflicting a severe wound.

JOURNALISTIC ENTERPRISE.—The Montreal *Star* has introduced the first Prussian web printing machine ever used in the Dominion. This press is the most complete printing machine ever manufactured, cost $18,000, was manufactured in Preston, Eng., prints two sides of a sheet at once, and the paper is supplied in a continuous web which is supposed that's circulation is about 7 miles in length. The speed of the press is nominally 17,000 impressions per hour, which can easily be increased to 20,000. The machine was first put in operation two weeks ago, and its work was witnessed by a large number of admiring journalists. The success of the proprietors of the *Evening Star* upon the increasing popularity of the journal and the success they are meeting in their business.

A GHOST STORY.—On Saturday night, two of the prisoners in the jail were very much frightened by what they at the time supposed was the visit of a being from the spirit land. They were locked up for the night in what is known as "Malady's Ward," and the sombre associations connected with the memories of the room probably preyed upon their minds. One of them was awakened about midnight by hearing distinct sound like the tapping of a nail on a window pane, and listening it continued at regular intervals with varying distinctness. Calling to his fellow prisoner, they both listened and heard the sound, and at times they imagined they saw a wierd figure pass to and fro and heard a rustling of garments. There terror can be imagined, and the morning dawned none too soon for them. When an investigation had been made it was found that a pair of pantaloons, which had been hung up to dry and the wind causing them to flap about, one of the buttons was constantly coming in contact with a nail, which in the silence that prevailed and to the strained imaginations of the prisoners had an unearthly sound. They had been too much frightened, however, to laugh at the circumstance.

MAITLANDVILLE.

PRESBYTERIAN AND SCHOOL EXAMINATION.—Tuesday, the 23rd inst., was an important day in the history of the Maitlandville school. This day was the occasion of the annual Easter examination and in the afternoon the children were put through a rigorous examination by their teachers and others in the presence of visitors who were present, though not in such numbers as to be entirely satisfactory to the teachers, and acquitted themselves with great credit. Their proficiency in the various branches reflected flatteringly upon the capacity of the head teacher, Mr. N. D. Moore, and the assistant teacher Miss Donagh. One marked feature of the proceedings was the orderly conduct of the children, and we were pleased to learn that Mr. Moore has not had occasion to resort to corporal punishment since his entrance into the school. In the evening the village people assembled in goodly numbers until the spacious class room of the school was filled to its fullest capacity. Mr. Jos. Beck was called to the chair, and deported himself to the satisfaction of all, receiving at the close a cordial vote of thanks for his services. The chief feature of the evening was the presentation to Mr. Arch. Sands, who has acted as trustee and treasurer for the section during a long period and with great satisfaction. The inhabitants of the section took advantage of this occasion to present him with a testimony of their appreciation of his efforts. Accompanying the presentation of the articles, which were very handsome, was the following address, read by Mr. J. Stewart:

To Archibald Sands, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—A number of the friends of this school section beg to mark their appreciation of your services as Trustee and Treasurer of the School Board, for the last nine years. You have endeared yourself to the general public, by your urbanity of manner, and your indefatigable exertions in promoting education in our midst. We would therefore beg of you to accept this Bamboo Cane, Inkstand, paper Cutter and Penholder, as a small token of our regard, and trust that you may long be spared to work amongst us.

Signed on behalf of the Section.
Maitlandville, March 23, 1875.

Mr. Sands replied in fitting terms, thanking his friends for the honor done him. He had taken a lively inter