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ST. THOMAS REPORTER

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CHAS. BURKE.
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CHAS. BURKE.

DOTS AND DASHES.

A CONDENSED SUMMARY OF LOCAL HAPPENINGS—ALL AROUND TOWN.

Special Services are being held nightly this week in the Central Baptist Church.

Amasa Wood, Esq., has been prostrated by brain fever, but is slowly recovering.

Mr. J. G. Graham has been appointed secretary of the East Elgin Agricultural Society.

The Opera House was packed on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings upon the re-appearance of the popular Dime Company.

The balmy breezes of gentle spring are wafting us upward. Several lads were enjoyed in fishing one day this week with good results.

Sunday next is the first of February, and it is worthy of note that although comprising only four weeks, the month will contain five Sabbaths.

Mr. James Martin, reeve-elect of Yarmouth, has been chosen to occupy the honorable position of Warden of the county of Elgin for the present year.

And now many citizens are fervently praying for the advent of cold weather sufficient to enable them to lay in their supply of ice for summer use.

Leut. Col. O'Malley entertained a few friends, including several officers of the 25th Battalion on Tuesday evening.

Two valuable horses belonging to D. M. Barnes, of this town, have died during the past week from paralysis of the bowels combined with other maladies.

Josie Bain, a well-known member of the soiled dove and demi-monde order, was fined \$30 and costs at the police court yesterday for keeping a house of ill-fame.

The members of the volunteer companies in town and the pupils of the Collegiate Institute have fitted up a gymnasium in the drill shed, and engage in athletic exercises nightly.

A fat Cow, aged 5 years, fed and bred by Mr. Thos. Fatcher, Southwold, was sold to Messrs McIntosh & Bromell Wednesday last. The animal weighed 1800 lbs.

Charles and Marcus Hubbard, who are under arrest as being concerned in the Eden shooting case and Bayham robberies, will be brought up, on remand to-morrow (Saturday) for examination.

It is proposed to erect a fine Opera House—on the lecture plan so popular across the line—in this town, and Mr. Alfred Ware is preparing plans for the edifice.

The 25th Battalion band will give a public serenade to-morrow (Saturday) evening, and perform a variety of popular music, under the leadership of F. H. Walker.

Rapid progress is being made in the construction of the brick block now in course of building for the Messrs Risdon. When complete it will, in a large measure, tend to promote the appearance of the old market square.

A parlor concert, for the benefit of the Ladies Aid of the First Methodist Church will be held at the residence of Mrs. J. Wilkinson to-night, and the best local talent will participate.

On Tuesday, Mr. Minor Barnes, of Fingal, shipped from this town to Syracuse, N. Y., a car load of fine horses. The animals—sixteen in number—were purchased in this county and are said by connoisseurs to be the best lot of horses that have left this vicinity for some time.

LITTLE LOCAL BRIEFS.

Rev. Manly Benson is on a lecturing tour.

The officers of the 25th Battalion have organized a rifle association.

The January session of the Elgin County Council terminated at noon to-day.

The County Council has granted \$1,500 to the St. Thomas Collegiate Institute.

The Fox Brothers, boy pianists, will give an entertainment in the Opera House on Monday evening.

The Delmonico is the best place in town for a dish of oysters, beefsteak, or other edibles.

The annual meeting of the Canada Southern reading room association will be held to-morrow evening.

The receipts of the Alvin Joslin Comedy Company, which performed at the Opera House here a short time since, were over \$318.

The ladies of the Roman Catholic congregation will hold a bazaar in the Town Hall on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week.

Dishonest tradesmen should take advantage of their opportunity now, for the Mail understands that the Insolvent Act will be repealed at the coming session of the Dominion Parliament.

The London Junction Railway Bill came up before the Railway Committee of the Ontario Legislature on Thursday, and after some discussion passed the committee by a vote of 19 to 9.

Col. Robert Ingersol, the eloquent free-thought orator, is to lecture in St. Catharines shortly, and the liberals of this vicinity talk of engaging him to deliver a lecture in this town.

A C. S. R. brakeman named Frank Gillette, while coupling cars at Hawkeville last Friday, had his arm caught between the drawheads. The limb was broken in two places, besides being badly bruised.

The youngest commercial traveller "on the road" arrived at one of our fashionable hotels last evening. A peculiarity of this precocious juvenile was that he was leans tooth or hair, but the healthy nourishment of Florence may benefit him immensely, especially as he's such a little duck of a fellow.

Dr. Cascaden is to be forced to explain his equivocal conduct, Mr. C. O. Ermatinger, solicitor for Mr. Edgecombe, of Port Stanley, having notified the member for West Elgin to bring on his action for libel at the next sittings of Assize, or in default judgment will be entered against him for costs.

The County Council have offered a reward of \$250 for the recovery, either dead or alive, of Maggie McVey, the Yarmouth girl who disappeared so mysteriously about a year ago. This, with the addition of the \$1,000 offered by the family and \$250 by the Ontario Government makes the total reward offered \$1,500.

Mr. Jos. Laing, Jr., has opened an office over the Imperial Bank Buildings, for Conveyancing, Collecting of accounts, and Rents—also making up Books at reasonable charges. This is a boon which was very much needed in our town, and we feel confident Mr. Laing will do justice to those who may entrust their business with him.

The 25th Batt. Band, under the leadership of Mr. Fred. J. Walker, will play to-morrow (Saturday) evening, (weather permitting) the following programme:

Grand March—Mexico.....M. Demany
Beautiful Lancers.....N. Bosquet
Fantasia.....J. Trendall
Polka—Pet of the Band.....Arbuckle
Galop—Texas.....F. J. Walker

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

The many accidents constantly occurring from the carelessness of persons endeavoring to clamber on and off trains while in motion, evidently have little effect as a warning. On Tuesday afternoon, a passenger on the C. S. R. mail eastward bound attempted to alight at Hagersville while the train was in motion, and as a consequence fell upon his head, bruising himself severely.

Appropos of the prospective block pavement a prominent citizen has industriously commenced storing up his dismantled pedal coverings and expects to realize a big bonanza therewith. He believes one pair will suffice for a street crossing.

A young man of well-known lady-kill-ing proclivities was heard remarking the other evening, "that he'd got a nice cat to play with now." As he's not very much addicted to childish sport, what could he have meant?

Machinists and other workmen out of employment should seek the Stearns Manufacturing company, of Erie Penn., who require twenty boiler makers, five blacksmiths, forty machinists and several moulders at once.

A Literary Association was formed at Grace Church on Friday evening last, when the following officers were elected, Rev. J. E. Iancley, Pres.; J. D. Roberts, Sec.; H. J. Brooks, Vice; Miss C. Ashford, Treas.

St. Thomas has the champion horse-shoer, who has shod a horse "all around" that is driven and clinched the nails in seven minutes and eleven seconds, and is willing to wager that he can repeat the feat with only a second's variation.

Mr. Thomas Fatcher, of Southwold, the well-known breeder of thoroughbred cattle, has disposed of a splendid Durham cow. The bovine will be shipped to England and will make a fine carcass of beef, turning the scales at 1,800 lbs.

Two tramps haling out the cognomen of Edward Burke and James Cavanaugh were committed for trial by the P. M. on Wednesday. They were arrested by Detective Raymond last Friday on a charge of breaking the seals of bonded cars on the C. S. R.

The popular Dime Company will present the "Ticket-of-Leave-Man," at the Opera House Wednesday evening next. Thirty valuable prizes, including a china tea set will be distributed among the audience at the close of the performance.

It is astonishing the number of young men who drop into sample rooms almost every morning and in a hoarse whisper remark to the high-toned, diamond-studded beverage compounder, "S-h-da and B." Come boys, draw it milder.

The educated donkeys gave a free exhibition in the vicinity of our churches last Sunday evening, and after lounging around until the congregations were dismissed some of the donkeys assumed killing attitudes to display their figures, while others boldly accosted some fair worshipper and started to "see her home."

On Sunday last a rumor obtained credence that Parnell, the Irish agitator, was to pass through this town, and upon the arrival of the C. S. R. express trains here the platform of the passenger depot was filled with citizens eager to obtain a glimpse of Erin's champion, but the throng was doomed to disappointment.

On Wednesday the Police Magistrate issued summonses against twenty-one persons who had neglected or refused to pay their poll-tax. This summary proceeding had the effect of inducing several delinquents to pay up, and the remainder will be dealt with in a summary manner.

On Friday last the P. M. gave judgment against George Nunn for selling goods within the corporation limits by public auction and private sale without having first obtained license. Defendant claimed that he had been selling under the license of J. Green by whom he had been requested to sell. He was fined \$5 and costs, but we understand, has appealed from the magistrate's decision.

The Popular Dime drew houses packed to the doors on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of this week, and gave excellent representations, Miss Minnie Estelle impersonating the leading characters with great talent. The distribution of prizes was a popular feature, the principal premium, a handsome china tea set, being taken on Tuesday evening by Michael Nester, while on Wednesday it fell to the lot of Miss Mary McMahon, 26 Francis street. On Wednesday evening next the company will present the "Ticket-of-Leave-Man," when twenty valuable prizes will be given away.

Mr. Thomas Kains, an old St. Thomas boy, has been visiting his friends here for a few days, but has left for the Northwest, where he is engaged on the Dominion Survey. Mr. W. Pearce, who is in charge of the party, visited his friends in Dunwich recently.

Under the new regulations, the young men in attendance at the St. Thomas Collegiate Institute will be instructed in the manual of drill daily by a competent person, and will be inspected weekly by a Government officer. They will drill with muskets, and then let the Fenians dare to invade this Canada of ours and these brave school boys will boldly prove equal to the occasion—in fleetness.

Plans are being prepared for exhibition buildings which it is proposed to erect on the grounds of the East Elgin Agricultural society. The society propose to hold a mammoth exhibition continuing for three days next fall, on a scale unprecedented here. A switch will be laid down from the L. & E. S. R. for the convenience of exhibitors in bringing their articles to the spot.

Young ladies cannot exercise too much caution in their intercourse with men who are comparative strangers. A few nights ago a young woman named Maggie McDonald, who hails from the classic precincts of Sandytown, but has been employed in a domestic capacity at Port Rowan, became too intimate with some of the village roughs, and becoming intoxicated was, after being shamefully abused, thrown out of the back door where she was picked up the next morning in an unconscious state, and now lies in a very critical condition.

The new transfer boat for the Canada Southern Railway was successfully launched at Wyandotte on Saturday. Her dimensions are:—Length of keel, 245 feet; length over all, 265 feet; breadth of beam, 45 feet; breadth over all, 75 feet; depth of hold, 13 feet 6 inches. Her displacement will be about 2,000 tons, and her Custom House measurement will be about 1,800 tons. Her hull is entirely of iron, and is divided into four watertight compartments by three fire proof bulkheads. She has three tracks, and will carry twenty-four cars.

Last Friday evening, while Mr. Wm. Moore, chambermaid at the Hutchinson House stables, was on his usual round of inspection, one of the dray horses kicked at him in passing, knocking the lamp from his hand and causing the oil to become ignited. But Mr. Moore was equal to the occasion, and with commendable presence of mind doffed his overcoat and smothered the blaze, thus averting what might have proved a serious calamity—perhaps a second Chicago fire, for it was "Mrs. O'Leary's cow that kicked over the lamp that set fire to Chicago."

An efficient and well regulated police force is an important adjunct to the welfare of any progressive town or city, and our police commissioners are evidently determined to use their utmost endeavors to effect an improvement in the force of St. Thomas. At their meeting a few days ago, when Mr. W. Coyne was appointed chairman, they decided that any officer who should be guilty of frequenting taverns or disreputable houses except in the discharge of his duty, shall be discharged, and also instructed the force to raid all houses of ill-repute in town. They also decided to recommend the appointment of another man for day duty, and that the men be furnished with new uniforms at once.

Science is making rapid strides, and the climax was reached on Sunday last when a resident of St. George street administered a pill to a valuable game cock with astonishing results. Some few weeks ago a travelling vendor left at almost every house in town a box of Dr. Roll's great pills, and having these in the house, when the bird was seized with a mysterious disease, the worthy citizen promptly gave one of these invaluable pellets to the suffering bird, which in a short time entirely recovered. The citizen deserves to be immortalized for his great discovery, and no doubt Dr. Roll's pills will now become the standard remedy and a sovereign cure-all for game cocks. The achievement of a headless rooster pales before this wonderful triumph of genius.

NEWS ITEMS.

The Baldwin (U. S.) Locomotive Works are now employing 2,371 hand, an increase of over 1,000 more than they had last year at this time. They have turned out during the past year 398 locomotives, a greater number than were built in any previous year except 1873.

Delhi, Ont., Jan. 29.—About 12 o'clock last evening the Methodist Church in this village was discovered to be on fire, and in a very short time the church, residence, tinshop and stable of Wm. J. Ward and the stable of the American Hotel were totally destroyed. Loss on the church, \$3,000; insured in the Union for \$1,000. Ward's loss is about \$1,200; insured in the Waterloo Mutual for \$300. Bryant's stable insured.

New York, Jan. 20.—A remarkable scene occurred in the Stock Exchange this morning, when 50,000 shares Central Pacific stock were sold. Five brokers had been employed by the syndicate to make the sale. When the offering began the crowd which surged around the sellers was so thick that the pressure was really dangerous. The clothing of several brokers was badly torn. The wild confusion which prevailed has rarely been equalled. The stock opened at 81½, and within fifteen minutes rose to 87½. Just twenty minutes after the first offering the whole 50,000 shares had been disposed of, the closing price being 85. The average price was 84 and a fraction.

Odessa, Jan. 29.—It is rumored here that a Russian transport, having on board 2,000 troops, recently embarked at Astrakhan, and bound for Tokhiklar, was caught in a heavy gale and completely wrecked in the Caspian Sea. The majority of the troops, if not the entire force, are known to have perished. It is understood they were on their way to reinforce Kaufman's expedition, which is to march upon Mero en route to Herat in the spring. Inquiries concerning the disaster, directed to the War Office of St. Petersburg thus far have failed to elicit further particulars.

Ottawa, Jan. 29.—Yesterday afternoon a man had a narrow escape from being buried alive. He was a small-pox patient in one of the hospitals, and had apparently died of the disease. To all appearances the man was dead, and he was duly placed in a coffin and taken to the cemetery, where a grave had been opened. The sexton and others who were conducting the burial were startled at hearing a groan emanating from the coffin, and on the lid being raised it was found that the patient had revived apparantly back to life. It was a clear case of suspended animation. The man was taken back to the hospital and to-day was much improved, being now in a fair way of recovery. His narrow escape from being buried alive will be an episode in his life.

SLIPS OF THE PEN.

An Ypsilanti brother and sister desire to marry, and their parents have joined in asking for a license; but the law of the State forbids such a union.

Mrs. Williams, aged sixteen, has applied for a divorce, at Kansas City, from a man whom she married when she was twelve. She intends to go into wedlock again as soon as she gets free.

The ignorance of the Chinese of Toronto on religious subjects is lamentable; the other day a well-intentioned individual asked Wo Kee if he was acquainted with the doings of a prominent Scriptural character. "No," replied Wo Kee, "he no gettee his shirtee washee here."

Will L. Maple, a St. Louis artist, has applied for a divorce from his wife. One of his grievances is that she sent a broken frying pan to an art show, where some of his pictures were on exhibition, with a request that the hanging committee would give it a position, as "an example of the way in which the talented Mr. Maple provided for his family's necessities."

New Year's night there was married in Detroit a damsel who had been several years in a large manufacturing establishment. Her marriage had been for some days a subject of pleasant congratulations by her employers and fellow employees. One day one of the proprietors, who always wears a "bed-tick" apron in the factory, said to her, "—, if you will wear this apron on your wedding-dress when you are married I will make you a present of \$50." "Yes," added the foroman, "and I'll give you \$10." The girl accepted the challenge, wore the apron, and pocketed her \$60.