

Business Cards.

LIVER & MACDONALD, Barristers and Attorneys-at-Law, Solicitors, Notaries Public, &c. Office—Corner of Wyndham and Quebec Streets, up stairs, Guelph, Ont.

D. B. BROCK, OFFICE AND RESIDENCE Directly opposite Chalmers' Church, QUEBEC STREET.

FREDERICK BISCOE, Barrister and Attorney at Law, Solicitor in Chancery, Conveyancer, &c. Guelph, corner of Wyndham and Quebec Streets.

STEPHEN BOLT, Architect, Contractor and Builder. Planning Mill, and every kind of Joiner's Work prepared for the trade and the public.

CHARVER & HATHERLY, Contractors, Well Sinks and General Jobbers, Excavations of all kinds undertaken by the day or job. Residence, Liverpool St., near Ryan's ashery.

WILLIAM J. PATERSON, Official Assignee for the County of Wellington.

IRON CASTINGS, Of all kinds, made to order at GROWER'S IRON WORKS, Norfolk Street, Guelph.

JOHN CROWE, Proprietor. NEW BUTCHER SHOP. The public are respectfully informed that the undersigned has opened a Meat Shop, in Hatch's Block, and will supply the market with meat of the best quality, at the lowest rates.

CHAS. FENNELLS, Guelph, Dec. 20, 1872.

F. STURDY, House, Sign, & Ornamental Painter.

GRAINER AND PAPER-HANGER. Shop next to the Wellington Hotel, Wyndham Street, Guelph.

LEMON & PETERSON, Barristers and Attorneys at Law, Solicitors in Chancery, Conveyancers and Notaries Public.

A. LEMON, H. W. PETERSON, CHAS. LEMON, J. CROWN ATTORNEY Office, over the Bank of Commerce, Guelph.

GUTHRIE, WATT & CUTTEN, Barristers, Attorneys-at-Law, Solicitors in Chancery, GUELPH, ONTARIO.

GUTHRIE, J. WATT, W. H. CUTTEN, Guelph, March 1, 1871.

STORE AND DWELLING FOR SALE OR TO RENT. The subscriber offers for sale on reasonable terms, or will rent for a period, the store and dwelling at British Maclean, Postmaster's residence. The store is situated in a good locality, on the gravel road between Guelph and Erin.

For particulars apply to JAMES MASSEY, Guelph, Nov. 5th, 1872.

NEW COAL YARD. The undersigned having opened a Coal Yard in Guelph is prepared to furnish all kinds of Hard and Soft Coal.

At moderate prices. Orders left at the store of John A. Wood, Upper Wyndham Street, will be promptly attended to. GEO. MURTON, Guelph, Nov. 1, 1872.

PRIZE DENTISTRY. DR. ROBERT CAMPBELL, Licentiate of Dental Surgery. Established 1864. Office next door to the "Advertiser" Office, Wyndham-st., Guelph.

Office over E. Harvey & Co's Drug Store, Corner of Wyndham and Macdonell-sts. Guelph. Dr. Campbell's Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas) administered for the extraction of teeth without pain, which is perfectly safe and reliable.

References kindly permitted to Drs. Herod, Clarke, Tuck, McGuire, Kesting, Cowan and McGregor, Guelph; W. R. Graham, Dentist, Brampton.

W. M. FOSTER, L. D. S., SURGEON DENTIST, GUELPH.

Office over E. Harvey & Co's Drug Store, Corner of Wyndham and Macdonell-sts. Guelph. Dr. Foster's Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas) administered for the extraction of teeth without pain, which is perfectly safe and reliable.

References kindly permitted to Drs. Herod, Clarke, Tuck, McGuire, Kesting, Cowan and McGregor, Guelph; W. R. Graham, Dentist, Brampton.

WANTED, and must be had by the 1st of January, Fifty Tons of Waste Paper, old Newspapers, old Pamphlets, or Waste Paper of any kind—for which the highest price in cash in the Dominion will be paid. At the Rag and Waste Paper Depot, corner of King and Queen streets, Address "RAGS or WASTE PAPER," 25 and 27 King Street West. Will receive from 11 to 10:30 p.m. D. MURPHY, Hamilton Dec. 14, 1872.

HART & SPEIRS, Conveyancers, Land, Loan, Insurance and General Agents, 4 Day's Block, Guelph.

In reference to the above, Wm. Hart has to inform his friends and the public that he has entered into partnership with Mr. Jos. S. Speirs in the above business, and while expressing his grateful acknowledgments for the liberal share of patronage bestowed upon him for the past three years, would respectfully solicit a continuance of the same to the new firm.

All business entrusted to us will receive prompt and strict attention. Deeds, Mortgages, Wills, Leases, &c., &c. neatly and correctly prepared.

MONEY always on hand in sums to suit borrowers, on mortgages or good personal security. No delay or extravagant charges. Our Line of Town and Farm Property is large and varied, as parties in want of real estate of any kind should call on us before purchasing elsewhere.

Agents for the Commercial Union Assurance Company of London, England. HART & SPEIRS, 4 Day's Block, Guelph, Ont.

New Advertisements.

TWO GENTLEMEN WANTED—As Boarders in a private family. Apply at this office. 10-11

SERVANT WANTED—Wanted immediately, a Good Servant Girl. Protestant preferred. Apply at this office. 10-11

SALESMAN WANTED—Wanted, a first-class Salesman. One accustomed to the Fancy Trade preferred. Apply personally to Geo. Jeffrey, Bradford House, Guelph, Jan. 20, 1873. dtf

SEWING MACHINES FOR SALE.—For sale, the Wauver, Leckman and Howe Sewing Machines, all first class and cheap for cash. Enquire at the Mercury Office. -184w

THORP'S HOTEL, GUELPH, remodelled and newly furnished. Good accommodation for commercial travellers. Free omnibus to and from all trains. First-class Livery in connection. May 14th JAS. A. THORP, Proprietor

FOR SALE—Lot 71, on Wyndham Street, Clear title and immediate possession given. Also, a first-class stone house to rent. Apply to Denis Coffey, Guelph, December 27th, 1872. dtf

NOTICE.—All parties indebted to the undersigned by Note or Book Account are respectfully requested to make settlement of the same before the 15th of February. Any remaining unsettled after that date will be handed into Court for collection. GEO. SLEEMAN, Guelph, Jan. 17, 1873. dtf

PARKERS HOTEL, -DIRECTLY- OPPOSITE THE MARKET, GUELPH

First-class accommodation for travellers. Commodious stabling and an attentive hostler. The best Liquors and Cigars at the bar. He has just fitted up a room where Oysters will be served up at all hours, in the favorite styles. dw

TAKE NOTICE.—The accounts of the late firm of WALKER & Co., of the Guelph "Advertiser," are placed in my hands for collection. All parties indebted to the same are requested to call and settle forthwith, and save costs. RICHARD AINLEY, Nelson Crescent.

AS the above notice has created some misunderstanding, I wish to add that the accounts due to the late firm of Walker & Co. are for Job Printing and Advertising only, up to the 1st of July, 1872. All subscriptions due for the Advertiser are payable to me. JOS. H. HACKING, Proprietor Advertiser, Guelph, Jan. 10, 1873. dtw

HOTEL CARD. The Right Man in the Right Place.

THOMAS WARD, late of the Crown Hotel, begs to inform the travelling public that he has acquired possession of the Victoria Hotel, next door to the Post Office, where he hopes by courtesy, attention, and good accommodation, to merit a fair share of public patronage, both from old and new friends. The best of Liquors, Wines, Cigars, &c., constantly on hand. A good hostler always in attendance. Remember the spot—next door to the Post Office. THOMAS WARD, (Late of Crown Hotel), Proprietor, Guelph, Dec. 19th, 1872. dawly

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES! KNOX CHURCH! Will be held on Sunday, the 26th day of Jan'y.

The Rev. Donald Fletcher, of Hamilton, will preach in the morning at 11 o'clock, and at half past 6 o'clock p. m.

The Annual Soiree! Will be held on the following Monday, January the 27th, on which occasion the Revs. D. Fletcher, Hamilton, J. McColl, do, A. D. McDonald, Elora, Rev. W. S. Griffin, of Toronto, and the Ministers of the Town will be present. Knox's Church Choir will also be present and sing appropriate pieces during the evening. Doors open at six o'clock, p. m. Tea served at half past six. Everything is being done to make the entertainment a success. 2w-6td.

TOWN HALL. RETURN OF HERNDON Opera House Company, Brass Band and Orchestra. FOR A FEW NIGHTS COMMENCING MONDAY, JAN. 27th.

When will be presented Maggie Mitchell's Great Five Act play, entitled "Panchon, the Cricket."

Admission, 35 cents; Reserved Seats, 50c. Children 25 cents. Doors open at 7:15 to commence at 8.

AUCTION SALE. Homestead, in Guelph, Thursday, 27th of Feb'y, 1873, AT TWO P.M., AT THE PREMISES.

Mrs. R. CORBET will offer for sale her residence, corner of Norfolk and Oxford-sts., Town of Guelph, comprising one quarter acre of land, Stone Dwelling of two stories, having Drawing Room, Dining Room, Parlor, Library, and seven upstairs Bed Room (gas in 10 rooms); also kitchen, wood shed, &c. A stable for two horses, also a never failing well of pure water, and large cistern with pump.

The Garden is stocked with choice Fruit Trees. These premises are in excellent condition, sufficient for a large family, and situated in the most pleasant part of the Town, within five minutes walk of all the Churches and Market. Guelph being widely known for its healthy situation, enterprise, and excellent market, an opportunity rarely equalled—is now presented to persons desirous of procuring a property not only of increasing value but one which will prove a most agreeable homestead.

Terms—One-third cash, and the balance in five years at 7 per cent. interest half yearly, secured by mortgage and fee-policy. Possession given by the 1st May next, or sooner. Title good.

Intending purchasers are referred to LEMON & PETERSON, Solicitors, or W. S. G. KNOWLES, Auctioneer.

N.B.—The premises may be inspected every Wednesday afternoon. dw

RAILWAY TIME TABLE—Winter Arrangement—On after Monday, 18th November: Grand Trunk Railway

Trains leave Guelph as follows: WEST 2:17 a.m.; 9:45 a.m.; 1:50 p.m.; 6:00 p.m.; 8:35 p.m. To London, Guelph, and Detroit. To Berlin, EAST 8:05 a.m.; 7:30 a.m.; 11:00 a.m.; 4:12 p.m. and 8:33 p.m.

Great Western—Guelph Branch. Going South—6:30 a.m., 12:35 p.m. 1:05 p.m. for Hamilton; 4:55 p.m. Going North—11:45 a.m. for Clifford; mixed 1:15 p.m. for Clifford; 4:55 p.m. for Fergus; 9:05 p.m. for Fergus.

GUELPH ACADEMY. Re-opens Thursday, Jan. 9th, 1873.

REFERENCES KINDLY PERMITTED TO J. J. TEBBEL, Dr. C. W. Col. Hall, Capt. Gordon, N. Higginbotham, M.P., John Morrison, Esq., John Mickle, Esq., H. J. Vincent, Esq., Thomas W. Saunders, Esq., P.M., Hugh Walker, Esq. 12-11m

Guelph Evening Mercury SATURDAY EVEN'G, JAN. 25, 1873

Town and County News.

THE Masonic festival, given in the drill shed, Elora, on Wednesday evening, passed off pleasantly.

THE use of the Drill Shed has been granted to Knox's Congregation, Elora, while their new church is in course of erection.

ON Wednesday a child of Mr. John Wisler, Elora, fell down stairs and fractured her leg. The little sufferer is progressing favorably.

Three rinks of our curlers go to Acton on Monday, to play the Miltonians for the possession of the Royal Canadian Medal. May they come home victorious.

THE annual Missionary Meeting in connection with the Wesleyan Methodist Church, at Olivet, 5th con., Peel, was held on Tuesday evening, the 14th inst. The meeting was well-attended.

Mr. Jas. Downey, of Alms, has been appointed Township Clerk of Peel, in place of Mr. R. Anderson, who, we understand, has accepted the appointment of Station Agent at Clifford.

THE Maryborough Council met at Mr. Beldon's Tavern, Huston, on Monday last. W. W. Moore, of Huston was appointed as Clerk, at a salary of \$145 for the year.

IT is rumored that the Municipal election in Luther is to be protected on the ground that liquor was sold or given away at the polls, and that one of the polls was closed a while during the day of the election.

THE stage between Guelph and Hamilton was snowed up on Friday, and we had no mail from that direction. The driver informs us that the snow was drifted on the road, in some places, to a depth of ten feet. Oh! the beautiful snow.

ON Wednesday week, as a son of Mr. B. Naughton was forking straw at a threshing at Mr. Wm. Clayton's, 9th con. Peel, he fell from the mow, and striking, in his descent, the shaft of the fanning mill, his face became lacerated. A deep cut was made on the centre of the forehead near the bridge of the nose.

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.—We would again remind our readers of the anniversary services to be held in Knox's Church to-morrow, Sunday. Rev. Donald Fletcher will preach in the morning at 11 o'clock, and again at half-past six. The annual soiree will be held on Monday evening, and the committee are doing their best to make it a success.

GONE HOME.—After having undergone the trials and troubles of 72 years—28 of which were spent on his farm in Paisley Block—William Reid, on Monday last, surrounded by his numerous friends, departed this life. Deceased was a native of Kincardineshire, Scotland, where his wife died last fall, and where his three children still reside.

GRAND CONCERT.—A grand Concert will be given in the drill shed, Fergus, on Wednesday evening, 12th of February, in aid of the Catholic Church at Elora. The parties who have the affair on hand are determined to make the concert a crowning success, and we have no doubt that it will be attended by a very large number.

ON Friday last, while a young man named Townsend, of Garafaxa, was driving a load of wood towards Eramosa, his sleigh upset in a hole of water, a considerable portion of the load falling on top of him and about him, which, together with the water, made the situation dangerous as well as uncomfortable. He managed to scramble out, and as soon as he got free he set to work with genuine John Bull courage and determination and reloading his sleigh.

PUT OFF THE CARB.—The editor of a Mount Forest paper was put off the cars at Weston on Saturday last because he refused to pay his fare twice. He returned to Toronto and laid the case before Mr. Weatherston, the manager of the Narrow Gauge. That gentleman said that Collector Sprokel was right, but sooner than defend an action at law he would make the ticket good for another day. This satisfied the member of the fourth estate and he returned to the bosom of his family on Sabbath.

NECK THE SOCIALS.—Speaking of these happy gatherings an exchange says:—Imagine the disappointment of a young man in search of the object of his affections—perambulating the spacious hall with palpitating heart—imagine, we say, his chagrin on beholding the head of that fair India piled on the shoulder of an old dame and bitter rival; or the discomfiture of a happy husband who congratulated himself on his domestic relations, finding his dearly beloved spouse, with all her former airs and bewitching graces, coquetting with a handsome young man, while he is left to content himself in the vain attempt to amuse a pretty fair one yet in her teens, and humming to himself in a low but melancholy voice.

"Do they ever think of me?"

The Late Collision in the English Channel.

PORTION OF THE WRECK COMING ASHORE. NO BODIES DISCOVERED. Sufferings of the Rescued Passengers.

London, Jan. 24.—Information has been received here that the steamship which ran into and sunk the emigrant ship Northfleet off Dungeness light-house, on Wednesday night, was a Spanish vessel bound for Cadiz. She is reported to have put into the harbor of Havre with her bows damaged. A large quantity of wrecked stuff from the Northfleet has come ashore on the Kentish coast, but no bodies have yet been recovered.

A committee, headed by the Lord Mayor of London, is being formed to receive subscription for the rescued passengers, who are in a destitute condition.

London, Jan. 24.—The Belgian Consul at Dover, has informed the authorities that the steamer which ran down the Northfleet was the Pelago, bound from Antwerp for Havana. He is so sure of it that he lays claim to the reward offered for the discovery of her name. Public indignation at the heartless conduct of the captain of the steamer is unbounded.

Accident on the Grand Trunk.

The Canadian Mail Saved. A serious disaster took place on Friday morning, on the Grand Trunk Railway. The combined mail and baggage car of express train, leaving Toronto about six a. m., and carrying the mail, took fire and was burned completely, when within two miles of Grafton station. The outward English mail consisted of 42 bags, and with the exception of a few burned letters, which were brought back to Toronto, was completely destroyed. The baggage was also almost entirely rendered useless, and passengers by the Grand Trunk who have arrived in this city from the east, and saw the ruins in passing say that all that would burn of the car had disappeared, nothing remaining but the framework. The track for yards around the burned car was strewn with charred letters, newspapers, and general mixtures of smoking mail and baggage stuff. One poor fellow said he had \$300 among the debris of the burning baggage. The fire is said to have originated from a stove in the car. Happily no one received any injury.

The English Mail Burned.

On Friday evening, the annual social was held in School Sec. No. 41, Paisley Block. The evening was slightly stormy, but not so disagreeable as it might have been. The Misses Stevenson, of Guelph, commenced the programme by singing sweetly and correctly a very pretty duet. The representatives of the press were then called upon to make a few remarks, which Mr. Shaw did on behalf of the Mercury. Mr. Allechin then gave a recitation—the "Gin Palace"—in a style peculiarly impressive. Mr. John McWharther, during the evening, sang several choice Scotch songs in good style. Mr. Chisholm, Mr. Risk, Mr. Burnace, Mr. Hood, Miss Bryden, Mr. Allechin, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Davidson, and others, contributed to the evening's entertainment in a style varied and interesting—from the soul inspiring song of the "March of the Cameron Men" to the pathetic delivery of a "Dutch Speech," by Mr. Davidson.

Excellent tea, and an abundant supply of sandwiches, cakes, &c., were served during the evening, and partaken of with much relish. So happily did the evening pass away that the wee sma' hours were upon the company before the chairman, much against his inclination, closed the entertainment.

By David McCrae, master of the school, did everything in his power towards the evening's amusement, and made all as comfortable as circumstances would permit. He is a good singer, and his readings delighted the appreciative audience.

The organ used on the occasion was lent by our fellow-townsmen, Mr. John Jackson.

The usual votes of thanks were given, and the company separated happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again.

POLICE COURT.

Before T. W. Saunders, Esq., P. M. Saturday, Jan. 25. There was one case before His Worship this morning. A difference of opinion, on a topic of minor importance, on Wednesday last, between George S. Smith and Patrick Ryan, caused the latter to strike the former with such force that complaint was at once made. Although a legal gentleman appeared for the defendant, he was fined \$2 and costs.

ABOUT two weeks ago a son of Mr. Jas. Mills, of Garafaxa, got his thigh bone broken by a kick from a horse.

CONESTOGO EASTER FAIR.—The usual semi-annual or Easter Fair Cattle Market at Conestogo will be held on Monday, the 1st of February next.

CROWN LANDS IN WELLESLEY.—We understand that John Meyer, Esq., the land valuator for the Township of Wellesley, has handed in his report to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, and from what we can learn considerable reductions will be made on the Crown Lands in that Township.

The North Dumfries Council has resolved, in answer to the prayer of a petition signed by sixty ratepayers, to grant shop or saloon licenses in that Township during the present year. That body has also determined to enforce the law with regard to closing taverns on Saturday night.

RAILWAY SURVEY.—On Thursday night a party of nine engineers and surveyors arrived in Owen Sound, having completed a preliminary survey, from Paisley to Owen Sound, in the interests of the Wellington Grey and Bruce Railway Company. They report favourably upon the route.

THIS MORNING'S DESPATCHES

How to Check Emigration. Indemnification of Slave-holders. The Expedition to Khiva. Rinderpest at Shanghai.

Shah of Persia to Visit England. Discussion of the African Slave Trade. The Madoc War—Squaws Taking Part in the Battle.

Berlin, Jan. 24.—In the House of Deputies to-day, a question was taken up, touching emigration and the measure the Government had taken to prevent it. The Minister of the Interior replied that it was impossible to restrict emigration after granting the right of change of domicile. What was wanted was enlightened and judicious legislation, which would make those who now thought of emigrating value their country above all others. Emigration could best be counter-acted by elevating and improving the condition of the people at home. This was what the Government was coming at, and by this means it hoped to check the tide of emigration.

Madrid, Jan. 24.—The Committee on Abolition of Slavery in Porto Rico has declared in favour of granting the owners an average indemnity of \$250 per slave.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 24.—The official Gazette, in an article on the Khivan question, expresses surprise at the attitude assumed by the English press with regard to the Russian movement in Central Asia. The Gazette says:—The negotiations between Russia and Great Britain on this question have all along been conducted in a friendly spirit on both sides. The object which Russia now has in view is to render peace in Central Asia more secure. It is difficult to settle the boundaries of unknown countries; but no encroachment on the territory of Afghanistan is meditated by Russia. It is probable there will be an understanding between the two Governments at an early day.

A London despatch says the rinderpest has broken out at Shanghai.

London, Jan. 25th, 5:30 a. m.—Prince Louis Napoleon will return to Woolwich on Monday.

Buckingham Palace has been placed at the disposal of Shah of Persia, for residence during his visit to England.

General of Lord Lytton takes place at noon to-day. Remains will be deposited in St. Edmund's Chapel.

A meeting was held last night at the town residence of Baroness Courts, at which the African slave trade was discussed.

A Paris special to Times says, if Greece refuse to put at the question of the Laurium miners' arbitration, France and Italy will withdraw their representatives from Athens.

San Francisco, Jan. 24th.—Men from the scene of the fight with Madocs say that squaws took part in the battle—one soldier was killed by the squaws. Col. Kerry was shot while rolling down a hill, at the top of which he was surrounded by Indians.

Gen. Wheaton announces his purpose of building rafts for howitzers, and light Capt. Jack from Tulle Lake instead of by land.

Local and Other Items.

MASONIC BALL.—Grand River Lodge, No. 151, A. F. and A. M., have decided upon holding a grand ball, at the St. Nicholas Hall, Berlin, on Friday evening, Feb. 7th.

THE wheat buyers of Walkerton, as well as those at Clifford and Drayton, we notice by our exchanges complain bitterly of the W. G. & B. R. in furnishing them wheat cars. The Tribune says that a little competition from a rival line would ease this.

THE small-pox epidemic is creating grave apprehensions in Boston. Three thousand cases are now reported to exist in the city, and the percentage of deaths is much larger than by all other causes combined. Nearly all burials are made at night. The epidemic has had a serious effect upon commercial interests.

CAPTAIN OF A BERLIN.—On Thursday night a grocery store, owned by a widow on Bay-street, was entered by a burglar named Thomas Ryan. Fortunately two detectives happened to be in the time of the occurrence, and his arrest took place on the spot. He was up before His Worship the day after next morning and remanded for further evidence.

FINES £100.—Two members of the Imperial Parliament, Messrs. Whalley and Onslow, have been taught that there is a limit even to the liberal latitude allowed orators in England. Both gentlemen have been fined £100 for publicly accusing the Attorney General of conspiracy to deprive the Tichborne claimant of his estates.

ACCIDENT AT GOBERICH.—We regret to learn, from our own correspondent, that on Tuesday morning one of the teams engaged in hauling stones for the new pier backed over a platform, twelve or fourteen feet in height, breaking through the ice and disappearing. The team was owned by Mr. Ross, of the contractors, and was a valuable one.

DISPOSSESSES FEN.—The Markham Economist says that one day last week Mr. Hunter, of Ringwood, retired from the hotel business, and was succeeded by Mr. White, and both parties determined to celebrate the occasion. The village cannon was loaded to the muzzle, a fuse lighted, and the shooting next morning commenced. Finally it was decided to remove it off the street, and when in the act of doing so—whizz! bang! and if ever a cannon went off that one did, for not a piece of it remained on the spot where it had been placed. Two or three heavy pieces went crashing and smashing into a store, knocking the scales, hardware and groceries in every direction. Another large piece was sent tearing through the end of the hotel driving shed, cutting a brace in two on its way, and then into the stable, breaking the boards as if they were so much paper; another piece passed through a building opposite the hotel, while the balance went in different directions without doing any damage. The gun had "hung fire." In another half minute the boys would have been removing it. They certainly had a narrow escape, and the only wounded man was one who was killed and another who was injured.

Ontario Legislature.

Mr. Rykert moved for an address for copies of all Orders-in-Council relating to the Law of Equity Commission; also, copies of all instructions to said Commission, and a memorandum of the costs and expenses attending said Commission. A Commission was appointed by the Sandfield Macdonald Government, and confirmed by the Blake-Scott Government, for the purpose of devising the best means of bringing about the fusion of the Courts. That Commission had been disbanded, and the Government appeared, to have receded from Mr. Blake's policy, contenting themselves with abolishing some of the many anomalies which existed in the present system.

Hon. Mr. Mowat stated that the Law Commission had misapprehended the intention of the Government, and instead of attempting to devise means tending toward the partial fusion of the two Courts, had ventured on measures for their complete fusion. It was found also that the members of the Commission were unable to attend to the enormous task they had set out for themselves; and under the circumstances the Government had thought it advisable to relieve them of their labors. Measures would be brought down during the session, by which many anomalies would be swept away.

The motion was carried.

The motion for the returns relative to the Government aid to the Wellington, Grey and Bruce Railway, moved by Mr. Rykert on Wednesday, was carried.

Mr. Clarke (Wellington) moved the second reading of a Bill to provide for the protection, in Ontario, of Insectivorous and other birds beneficial to Agriculture. Carried and referred to a select committee.

Mr. Prince withdrew his bill respecting rank and precedence of counsel in the law in Ontario.

Mr. Rykert's bill to amend the Assessment Act was thrown on a division.

Mr. Bethune moved the second reading of the bill respecting the partition of real estate. He explained that the object of the bill was to simplify and cheapen real estate proceedings. Carried.

Mr. McLeod moved for an address for copies of all reports from the inspections of Division Courts, touching the working and general condition of the offices of said courts, with a return for the year 1872, of the number of suits entered, the aggregate amount such suits and costs incurred on same, in each office of said court in the Province of Ontario. Carried.

Among the petitions presented was one by Mr. Gow for an Act to incorporate the Guelph and Collingwood Railway Company.

After a number of bills were introduced, Hon. Mr. McKellar moved that the House will, on a future day, go into Committee to consider the following resolutions:—That the Treasurer of the Province may, with the authority of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, advance out of the public moneys of the Province any sum of money not exceeding in the whole the sum of \$100,000, to be expended in the drainage works proposed to be carried out under the provisions of the Act respecting the public works of Ontario and of this Act." He proposed in this measure, while enabling the Government to do the work, to place a very large amount of control in the hands of the municipalities, which was not the purpose of the late Administration. There were several features in his bill which he thought would commend themselves to the House when the Bill was introduced. He found that a number of municipalities desired that the Government should do the work; and what the Government proposed to do was to appropriate \$200,000, to be expended under the direction of the Government where municipalities prefer that the work should be done in that way. They also proposed to appropriate \$200,000 for the purchase of the debentures of municipalities issued for drainage purposes. The Bill of last session was passed late in the session, and some municipalities had not observed the distinction between that Bill and the clauses of the Municipal Act. The present Bill was a re-enactment of the Act of last session, with the provision that the Government might purchase \$30,000 or \$35,000 of debentures issued by mistake under the clauses of the Municipal Act, and not under the Bill of last session.

The motion was carried.

In answer to some remarks from Mr. Cameron, Attorney General Mowat said that the orders in Council given in relation to railways and the measure for adjusting the Municipal Loan Fund indebtedness and the division of the surplus would be brought down next week.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Crooks the House went into committee of the whole on the Bill introduced by Mr. Mowat in reference to the University of Toronto. After considering the various clauses the Bill was reported as amended.

Hon. Mr. Crooks moved the second reading of a Bill to consolidate and amend the laws having reference to Mutual Fire Insurance Companies in the Province of Ontario. He said this Bill was principally a consolidation of the Bill already existing relating to the subject, and the amendments that had been made suggested by the decisions which had been given in various courts in connection with Mutual Fire Insurance Co's. A difficulty had arisen from these companies rarely submitting full statements of their affairs, showing their liabilities, standing, &c. It was very material that these particulars should be easily accessible to the insurers. The hon. gentleman went on to show that several companies had incurred liabilities to the extent of many millions of dollars, whilst their assets would only have covered a few thousands. This Bill required that these companies should give these statements from time to time, so that any person would be able to understand the position of the companies. If the Bill were read a second time, he should move its reference to a Select Committee, and give the insurance companies every opportunity of stating their opinions upon the Bill.