XMAS

PRESENTS.

Novelties in Silver Ware,

Novelties in Fancy Goods,

Novelties in Bohemian Glass,

Novelties in Dressing Cases,

Novelties in Writing Desks,

Novelties in Work Boxes,

Novelties in Knicknacks,

Novelties in Books,

Novelties in Xmas Cards

NOVELTIES INNUMERABLE,

AT VERY LOWEST PRICES, AT

Moorhouse's.

Goderich, Dec. 11th, 1877.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, DEC. 12, 1877.

The Municipal Elections.

Though the time is near at hand for the next municipal campaign, there is nothing but questoning and uncertainty as to the probable candidates for office. This is too frequently the case in Goderich, this very important matter being left until almost the eleventh hour and then disposed of in a fashion that appears anything but deliberate or cautious. Last year, however, an unusual interest was excited by the feeling on the temperance question and a very considerable degree of interest was manifested by the public, and this induces us to note the fact that the ticket advocated by our town cotemporary last year was very successful. Now, whether through a revulsion of feeling or an earnest desire for the welfare of the town the people will judge, it raps the council over the knuckles for certain short comings. Some of the members may feel themselves friendless indeed for this reason, but we shall not stop to console them while our cotemporary has this time adopted its the motto, "The best interests of the town." We join issue with it there, for we have always aimed to encourage everything that 'could conduce to the town's welfare; and since an awakening spirit has taken possession of some of the people and that "town interests" is to be made the war cry the campaign promises to be a vigorous one as soon as the "coming men" assert themselves. Waterworks, encouragement to manufacturers and gas works are talked of, and it is proposed to elect men who will support these schemes. It is not likely, however, that the public will only support or encourage those who will pledge themselves fully to support any of these schemes. This would be injudicious. Candidates are wanted who are alive to the town's wants, are liberal and have a considerable stake in its fortunes. We would have more confidence in such men, uncommitted to any policy, than in men elected to support any given scheme. Their dealing with any of these proposed improvements would be more intelligent, and the people would be more honestly dealt by.

It is somewhat premature to discuss these schemes, as the first matter to be considered is the election of a council which will ably and liberally consider them. Their importance is conceded by all, and the voter cannot but be guided by his judgment thereon to some extent in his selection of candidates. Therefore we may offer a few remarks on these points. A complete system of waterworks would be a great boon to the town, for there is no questioning the fact that the water found in most of the wells is very frequently impure. Visitors invariably express a dislike for the water, and some medical testimony declares that it is the cause of so much typhoid fever in the place. Of course there are other causes for the existence of this disease such as overwork, bad food, bad ventilation, clothing, uncleanliness and poisonous evaporations from the soil, but the water, we cannot but believe, is the main cause of the disease here. Therefore a supply of pure water is desirable. It is for the "coming men" to weigh and consider the matter, and decide whether the scheme is advisable. Hamilton's system of waterworks, with seventeen miles of pipes cost $850,000; London proposes to lay down thirty miles of pipes and put works in order for $325,000—a very low and doubtful estimate by the way—and St. Marys is considering a proposal of Mr. Waterous' to lay down 9,220 feet of piping, fit up a house with two engines, place fifteen hydrants and supply 1,000 feet of hose, for $15,000. It would be expensive supplying Goderich with water, the place is so scattered, and even after a large outlay only a limited portion of the town would be reached.

As to gas, the matter belongs to private speculation rather than municipal enterprise, and we have frequently pointed out the favorable features of the place with regard to such an enterprise. Encouragement to manufacturers is a very important matter. Although schemes have been mooted and discussed for the establishment of manufactories, there has always been far less action than talk on the part of the majority of the councillors. A few solid, substantial men, with good sense instead of gas, would have a wonderful influence on reliable manufacturers much above large bonuses. Goderich affords excellent facilities for manufacturing purposes with its excellent harbor and unexcelled water privileges, besides being a supply point for the North-west, and if these facts are laid before manufacturers properly, with reasonable offers of assistance, we ought soon to possess the neucleus of a large manufacturing trade. Local enterprise could assist to this end. There is reason to believe that an agricultural implement factory to supply Manitoba could be successfully run here, and we think the Goderich Foundry and Manufacturing Co. would consult its own welfare if it reduced the cost of its shares from $500 to $100 or $20, increased its capital and extended its operations. A bonus to encourage such an enterprise might, with good reason, be voted. Here we might say that the Council has acted wisely in not accepting Mr. Cooke's proposal without more definite particulars, as to the cost of the buildings he proposes to erect and his proposed outlay here. Bonuses should be calculated as representing a premium offered for the outlay of a certain amount of money.

The fault has been in the past, as we have heard said of late, that councillors have been generally too much absorbed in the pursuit of a course of petty sectionalism, and every manner of trivial acts which will aid them in future elections. If we can secure men above these small traits, we shall have a council capable of dealing properly with the above questions. And they can rebuke those silly hypocrites who are ever prating about the want of energy and push in the people, and who when called on to show themselves are never to be found. There is a goodly number of this class in our midst, and unfortunately they never hesitate to impress visitors and outsiders with an idea that the town is a "sleepy hollow," and the people nobodies. They never recollect that it is to their interest, if they wish to "earn it," to do no on the side of justice to the town. Let these people forget their gossiping, and aid the election of active, substantial men to the council board.

Attention should be directed to the School Board, where some changes are needed. All the retiring members, we believe, intend offering themselves for re-election. In St. Andrew's Ward we hear of opposition, and would counsel the electors to withold their promises until all the candidates are announced.

Quarter Sessions.

JUDGE SQUIER ON THE BENCH.

THE MEMBERS OF THE HURON BAR PRESENT HIM WITH AN ADDRESS.

The regular quarter sessions opened on Tuesday at noon before His Honor Judge Squier, who then appeared in his official capacity as Senior Judge of the county for the first time. In view of this fact, the County Bar was fully represented on the opening of the Court, awaiting to present their congratulations to their one-time associate. The county officials, Thos. Greenway, Esq., M. P., Alex. Bishop, Esq., M. P. P., and a large number of citizens were present. On the Judge taking his seat, accompanied by Sheriff Gibbons and S. Pollock, Esq., M. C. Cameron, Esq., Q. C., presented the following address:

To His Honor W. R. Squier, Esquire, Judge of the County Court of the County of Huron.

The members of the Bar of the County of Huron respectfully avail themselves of this your first appearance on the Bench as Judge of the County Court of the County of Huron to offer you their cordial and hearty congratulations at your elevation to that diginified position.

The office of a County Court Judge is an honorable and distinguished one; the man who fills the position worthily and well requires a broad and comprehensive grasp of legal and equitable principles, a thorough knowledge of human nature and an extensive acquaintance with the business and affairs of every day life. From an intimate knowledge of your professional course at the Goderich Bar, from your early and efficient training, and from your varied legal and other attainments we feel justified in cherishing and expressing the conviction that you will discharge the important duties of your office with credit to yourself and satisfaction alike to lawyers and litigants.

Elevated to the honorable position you now occupy, while still in the morning of life, with mental powers fresh and unimpared, and with physical energies active and vigorous, we confidently anticipate that you will wear your judicial honors for many years to come.

We therefore congratulate you on the position you have attained, we congratulate the people of this County on their good fortune in your appointment, and we hope that the cordial relations and pleasant associations that have marked our former intercourse at the Bar may long continue. May you, sir, be comforted in your hours of ease, and cheered in your times of difficulty by the recollection that your brethren of the Bar, at the outset of your judicial career, earnestly and heartily bid you "God Speed."

M. C. CAMERON.
On behalf of the Huron Bar.

Judge Squier replied as follows: "I thank you sincerely for the kind manner in which you have been pleased to receive my appointment, for the complimentary terms in which you have spoken of myself and for the expression of your confidence in my ability to discharge the varied duties imposed upon me. I am free to acknowledge that, being as I am but a novice in judicial life, your expressions might properly have been much more moderate than they have been. I feel, and you will believe me when I say this, that I am conscious that I fall very far short of the standard which, out of your wide experience, you indicate as that which I should endeavour to attain. I am aware—and under your reminder I am more distinctly, and let me say, pain fully so—that a County Court Judge should be possessed of wide and varied legal attainments, and of a full knowledge of human nature. My limited experience as County Court Judge has taught me that not only are these qualities in the abstract necessary to every judge, whether in the County Court or Superior Court, but that in my view the difficulties to be overcome by a County Court judge are much greater than those which beset a judge of higher jurisdiction. Superior Court Judges come in contact mostly with counsel who have not been in personal contact with clients, and who have not naturally the same strong interest in the result of suits and interlocutory applications as those who, both as attorneys and counsel, have in hand the disposition of causes before the County Court Judge. Moreover most of the determinations of the latter are not subject to appeal or re-hearing. Both of these circumstances seem, in my view, to render it necessary that the County Court Judge should exercise more than ordinary care in the determination of those matters which in common course are brought before him, but to demand also that the attorneys and counsel who may from time to time appear before him, should receive his decisions with great forbearance and without very great grumbling. You will permit me to say that I shall endeavor, while the administration of justice in this county shall remain in my hands, to deal with all impartially, and discharge aright the varied duties which are imposed upon me; but you will allow me at the same time to express the earnest hope that I shall be sustained and encouraged in this endeavor by the whole Bar and every individual member of it, as otherwise every effort on my part would be rendered vain and futile. I am pleased to realize by your own expressions that the friendly feelings which I entertained towards every member of the Bar, whether senior or junior, without I think any exception, have been and are reciprocated, and I trust that in our changed relations I shall have no reason to alter my opinion of those with whom I have come in contact in practice. It so happens that it is just ten years to day since I first came to Goderich as a settler, and you will believe me when I say that during that period I have met with nothing but kindness from the members of the profession who have been kind enough to congratulate me upon my preferment. I sincerely trust that in my present capacity I may be able to win your esteem, and to draw still closer the ties which have hitherto bound us together. Gentlemen, let me again thank you for your kind expressions, and to ask from you that assistance and forbearance without which I shall be ill able to discharge the duties of Judge of your county."

The Grand Jury was then empannelled as follows: Wm H Moss, Brussels, foreman; Richd Brayley, Bayfield; John Butler, Goderich; Saml Burgess, Grey; David Cowan, Ashfield; Jas Clark, Clinton; George Cardiff, Morris; Saml Essary, Usborne; Thos Finlay, Ashfield; George Gibson, Wroxeter; Robt Hamilton, Ashfield; H. McCann, Bayfield; Peter McDonald, Grey; Peter Porterfield, E Wawanosh; Thos Robertson, Colborne; Jas Sheppard, Goderich; Jos Whitely, Goderich.

Judge Squier addressed the jury at considerable length and very ably. Our space will not permit us to reproduce the remarks this week.

There is only one criminal case on the docket, one of horse stealing, and seven civil cases. Mr. H. Meyers presented the first case before the new judge.

A report of the business will be given next week.

Madame Cauchon died at Government House, Winnipeg, on Wednesday night.

County Council.

TUESDAY.

Council met pursuant to adjournment, all the member present, except Mr. Keys, of Bayfield.

The Warden addressed the members, referring to the repairs which had been made in the Court House as very satisfactory, and expressing regret at the failure of the contractor engaged in the building of Kippen bridge. He called attention to the removal of the unfortunate indigent, Mrs. Ireland, to the Waterloo county poor house and to the fact that the Township of Colborne was sustaining a similar unfortunate at London institution, and recommended that the Government be requested to establish a Provincial institute for the accommodation of incurables.

A circular was received from Ald. Hallam, of Toronto, requesting this council to co-operate with that city in petitioning the Legislature to abolish all exemptions from taxation. The communication was referred to a special committee.

A communication from the Toronto Eye and Ear Infirmary was presented, asking for aid towards the erection of a new building to enable it to increase and extend its operations. A statement accompanied the letter, showing the number attending the infirmary from this county as follows: From Town of Goderich, Wm. Gordon and Hugh Stewart; Grey, Elizabeth Hearne and Duncan Campbell; Morris, Alex. Bryan; Seaforth, Dennis Wesley; Stephen, David Baird; Wawanosh, Thomas Finleon; Wingham, Francis Gallagher and Jas. Brownlee; Howick, John Andrews. In all these persons have spent 588 days in the institution.

WEDNESDAY.

A communication was received from Mr. J. R. Miller, I. P. S., asking on behalf of the County Board of Examiners and the Goderich School Board that the Council supplement the Government grant to the Model Schools by similar amounts, namely, $100 to each school. Referred to Finance committee.

It was moved by Mr. Charles Girvin, seconded by Mr. R. Webster, that the Warden and Clerk, on behalf of this Council be authorized to memorialize the Government of Ontario to set aside the sum of $100,000 for drainage purposes, to be expended under the provisions of the Drainage Act, and its amendments, and a further sum of two dollars per head of the population of Ontario, to be paid the municipalities in the manner as was done in 1872, out of the supplies in the treasury of the Province, and that the clerk be instructed to request the co-operation of other counties in the matter.—Carried.

A motion to instruct the County Engineer to repair Ryan's bridge on the boundary between Hullett and McKillop was referred to the proper committee.

At the afternoon session, a letter was presented from the Secretary of the Clinton School Board, asking for a grant to the model school of that place. Referred to Finance committee.

The County Engineer presented his report in substance as follows:—

During the past season a Howe Truss bridge of 126 feet span was erected at Jamestown; a wooden bridge on Hall's creek near Bayfield which cost something more than was expected owing to the difficulty in finding a foundation for the piers; a light truss bridge at Craig's on the Bayfield river near Clinton; one at Kirkton with stone abutments and iron superstructure, with a span of 56 feet; a small bridge on the boundary between Grey and Elma, costing $300; and a stone bridge on the London Road. This latter one cost more than the estimate, owing to the incapacity of the contractor and the expense of getting suitable stone. Repairs have been done to all the bridges requiring them. The Bayfield bridge was getting quite unsafe, and it was advised that a contract for its reconstruction be let at next meeting. Lambton Council has let a contract, subject to the sanction of this Council, for the erection of an iron bridge, at a cost of $4000 over the Grand Bend, and the the Engineer considered the price very low.

THURSDAY.

The morning session was short, the committees being occupied with the consideration of the business submitted to them. Two motions asking for repairs to bridges were referred to the Road and Bridge committee.

Moved by Mr. Wm. Young, seconded by Mr. R. Jewell, that this Council do grant the sum of $2.50 per week towards the support of L. Sharp, an indigent incurable invalid now in London Hospital, and supported by the Township of Colborne. Referred to Finance.

FRIDAY.

A motion was made by Mr. Garrow, seconded by Mr. Young, that 27 copies of H. Belden & Co's historical illustrated atlas, now in course of publication, if found satisfactory, be purchased for distribution among the different municipalities. The cost of the work is $12,00. Considerable discussion took place, the motion being finally defeated by a vote of 16 to 24.

A circular from Waterloo Council asking for co-operation in applying to the Government to make certain amendments to the Municipal Act, was referred to a special committee.

Three tenders were received for furnishing gaol supplies and were referred to the Gaol and Court House committee.

The first report of the Finance committee was presented, and in amendment to it Mr. Hamilton moved, seconded by Mr. Weir, that the application for $100 to each of the Model Schools be rejected. This was lost on a division by a majority of seven.

In the afternoon the Special committee presented their report, recommending that no action be taken in the matter of the circular from the city of Toronto referring to tax exemptions; also, that the Clerk and Warden be authorized to memorialize the Government in compliance with the request of the Waterloo Council relating to the building and maintaining of bridges in incorporated villages.—Adopted.

Moved by Mr. Black, seconded by Mr. Currie, that all property and salaries be assessed, except Government and Municipal property and salaries of $400 and under per annum and non sectarian schools and institutions of learning; and that the Clerk be instructed to memorialize the Government to this effect.

Moved in amendment, by Mr. Strachan, seconded by Mr. J. Johnston that all property and salaries by assessed except Government and Municipal property, churches, salaries of $400 and under, schools and institutions of learning and ministers' salaries—Carried by a majority of ten.

The final report of the Finance committee was presented in substance as follows:—

The payment of a large number of accounts was recommended, and among the important items of expense were the following:—$100 to each of the Model Schools; $100 to the Warden for his services; $100 to the Toronto Eye and Ear Infirmary, provided that the proposed scheme of securing a new building of their own be carried out.—Boundary appropriations were made as follows:—Ashfield $133.75, Colborne $127.54, Goderich Tp $194.23, Grey $183.32, Hay $165.76, Howick $199.23, Hullett $203.83, McKillop $.35, Morris $165.39, Stanley $173.59, Stephen $162.44, Tuckersmith $184.45, Turnberry $104.96, Usborne $180.50, E. Wawanosh $119.32, W. Wawanosh $140.62, Bayfield $9.58, Blyth $10.54, Brussels $21.55, Clinton $45.49, Exeter $29.69, Goderich town $102.96, Seaforth $42.14, Wingham $28.73, Wroxeter $12.45. An account from Township of Turnberry of $44.55 for removing David Gillies to London Asylum was ordered to paid less $11 for certain charges by physicians, and the committee recommended that in future the fee for medical certificates in such cases be $2.—With reference to the account of Mr. Willis [illegible] the sum of $25 was recommended to be paid the Township of Grey for removing flood wood south of the bridge on the boundary between Grey and Howick. It was also recommended, with reference to the motion of Mr. Young for a grant of $2.50 per week to maintain an invalid sent to the London Hospital by Township of Colborne, that the request be not granted.

After the report had been amended by striking out an item, the payment of which was recommended, the report was adopted.

Moved by Mr. [illegible], seconded by Mr. F. W. Johnston, seconded by Mr. E. Martin, that this Council do purchase a flag for its own use on public occasions, such flag to be in charge of the caretaker of the Court House.—Carried.

Report of the Road and Bridge committee was read and adopted as follows:

The motions for repairs to the bridge at Bluevale, the one on 2d con. between Hullett and McKillop and the one between Upper and Lower Wingham were recommended to be granted; also that the engineer be instructed to do with the boundary bridge between Hullett and McKillop as he sees fit. With reference to the Bayfield bridge it was recommended that it be rebuilt and that a new site be selected by the engineer, as the present one is too close to the harbor; also that the contractor for the London Road bridge be paid $122.07, balance due on the work, but as there is a dispute as to how a certain portion of the masonry is to be paid for it was recommended that a further sum of $100 be paid the contractor, provided he accepts it as full settlement.

SATURDAY.

Report of Gaol and Court House committee was adopted in substance as follows:

The Jail and Court House had been examined and everything found satisfactory. Certain supplies asked for by Mr. Dickson, Jailor, were recommended to be procured, amongst which were $5 worth of books for the use of the prisoners. The tender of McLean & Loutit for the supply of meat for the jail at 5½ cts. per lb., and that of Jas. Watson for the supply of bread at 2½ cts. per lb. were recommended to be accepted. No tenders were received for supply of oatmeal and potatoes, and the committee advised that these be furnished as heretofore.—Adopted.

After the reading of two by-laws to confirm certain township by laws, Mr. P. Adamson, Clerk, introduced G. J. Abbot, Esq., United States Commercial Agent, to the Council to the Warden and Council. Mr. Abbot addressed the members in a most speech, in which he said that he had been very much pleased with this section of the country.—He had travelled through England and many portions of Canada, and had never seen better roads or drives than were our gravel roads and avenues. The general appearance of the country was much in advance of what he had anticipated. It gave him great pleasure to meet so many representative men of this county, and to notice that the township system, which was the foundation of liberal forms of government, was so well established here. He hoped that the pleasant relations between his own country and Canada might long continue and increase. Their character, and institutions were very similar and they were all descended from the same stock. Mr. Abbot concluded his remarks amidst loud applause.

Moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Girvin, that the Warden be authorized to convey, on behalf of the Council, an expression of their sincere pleasure and satisfaction in meeting and forming an acquaintance with the representative of the United States in this country, and hope that their relations will continue to be in the future as agreeable and happy with the representative as they have been in the past with his predecessor.—Carried.

Mr. Cresswell, in presenting the resolution to Mr. Abbot, expressed his sincere pleasure in doing so and being enabled thus to reciprocate the friendly sentiments made by an official representative of a country for which Canadians generally had a friendly regard.

Mr. Abbot returned his thanks for the kind sentiments expressed in the resolution. He would see that a copy thereof was transmitted to the Secretary of State to indicate the feeling of the people of this section towards his country. Since his arrival in Goderich he had been shown every courtesy by its inhabitants, and his sojourn here had been very agreeable. He felt that the friendly relations between the two countries would long continue. In closing his remarks Mr. Abbot referred to the example which the two governments of the United States and Great Britain have given to the world on several different occasions, of settling important questions by arbitration and not by the sword, the conditions of which always have been and would be observed. (Loud applause.)

Council then adjourned.

[illegible] has fallen. On Sunday Osman Pasha made a desparate effort to break through the Russian investing force, but after a noble struggle he was compelled to surrender. Osman was badly wounded. The Russians are in possession of the city.

Local Notes.

[illegible] The prisoners Grasley, [illegible] were removed to [illegible] on Thursday last.

[illegible] Jas. E. Boyle, charged with a [illegible] from John Sullivan [illegible] brought before the Judge [illegible] the evidence failing [illegible] the case, prisoner was accordingly [illegible]

[illegible] A. Buckland, of Brussels, [illegible] committed for trial [illegible] stealing articles of clothing [illegible] Martin's hotels in [illegible] on Saturday he pleaded [illegible] the old story of the effects [illegible] was remanded until the [illegible] evidence.

GODERICH TOWNSHIP.

ELECTION.—A public school examination will be held in School Section No. 2, Goderich Tp., on Thursday, Dec. 20th, commencing at 12 o'clock noon. Parents and others interested are cordially invited to attend.

CLINTON.

[illegible] is now entitled to a Deputy-[illegible]

[illegible] Mr. and Mrs. A. Archibald left for Denver, Col., where they purpose spending the winter.

[illegible] named S. Beesley and Jas. [illegible] were fined $1 and costs each, for [illegible] in the school house.

[illegible] will vote, on 4th Jan., on a [illegible] $8,000 for the purchase [illegible] engine and to construct a [illegible] of water tanks.

[illegible] fall of a scaffold on Monday [illegible] Mr. A. R. King, while painting [illegible] new building, had a narrow escape. It was saved by alighting [illegible] a foot lower down.—[illegible]

WINGHAM.

[illegible] services at St. Paul's [illegible] Sunday.

[illegible] Council has bid 93 [illegible] school debentures [illegible] by our corporation. [illegible] accepted.

[illegible] last week swindled some of [illegible] selling them a mixture [illegible] and other ingredients for [illegible] at 25 cts. per pound.

Mr. Wm. Bones, conductor on the L. H. & B., was entertained at a complimentary supper last week, by his friends. He has been removed to an other section.

Messrs. Scott & Bell of this place, have the contract for seating Mr. Cardiff's hall, and the basement of the [illegible] church, Seaforth. The two [illegible] to about $700.

[illegible] Wingham, has been [illegible] and Surgeon to the [illegible] Company, and [illegible] Provident Society. [illegible] from Kincardine is [illegible]

Local News.

ABOUT TOWN.

OYSTERS.—Mrs. Ball has prime, fresh oysters by the quart, can or dish, and choice fruits, candies, &c., &c., at all times. Store next Snell's Hotel.

OIL SALT MINING.—A letter on this topic [illegible] interesting [illegible] from the pen of John [illegible] Garden, Esq., M. E., University of Philadelphia, will be found on the first page.

IMPORTANT SALE.—Mr. Trueman has received instructions to sell by public auction, on the 22d inst., the property belonging to Standly's steam saw mill, Goderich. For particulars see adv.

HOLIDAY GOODS.—For the better display of his immense stock of Xmas presents, Moorhouse has opened out in the store lately occupied by Whitely & Elliott. Inspection invited.

Mr. J. C. DETLOR, of the firm J. C. Detlor & Co., during last week, attended the great auction sale of Thos. Walls & Sons, and purchased largely and at prices far below wholesale cost. They are crowded daily. Cash customers will do well to examine their stock and prices.

BANQUET TO JUDGE SQUIER.—Last evening the members of the County Bar and others entertained Judge Squier at a banquet in the British Exchange, as a compliment to him on his accession to the County Judgeship. It proved a success. Particulars next week.

GAOL LIBRARY.—By order of the County Council last week, a cheap edition of Chambers's Miscellany and a few other books were purchased for the use of the prisoners in the gaol. They were much needed, as the library is almost emptied, not having been replenished for many years.

Y. M. L. A.—On Thursday evening next, at 7.30 o'clock, a meeting of the Young Men's Literary Association of Knox Church will be held in the basement of the church. Preparations are to be made for the lecture season, and some important business is to be transacted. A large attendance is desired.

CHRISTMAS FAIR.—The first show of fat stock under the auspices of the West Riding Agricultural Society will take place in Goderich, on Wednesday next, 19th inst. Prizes are offered for best fat ox or steer, cow or heifer, ewe or wether; turkey, goose ducks, chickens dressed hogs, ranging from $75 cents to $7. For particulars see posters.

PERSONAL.—G. E. Cresswell, Esq., Warden of the County, intends starting for England, about the first of January, on a business and pleasure trip. We understand it is his intention to retire, for a time, from participation in municipal affairs.

—Rev. Mr. Sutherland, of Ripley, conducted service in Knox Church on Sunday evening last.

—Mr. Goward, late U. S. Commercial Agent here, dined at Rideau Hall, Ottawa, with Lord Dufferin on Sunday evening last.

MASONIC.—The election of officers of Goderich Lodge No. 33, took place on Wednesday evening last, with the following result: H. Cooke, W. M.; H. Bolton, S. W.; Jas. McKay, J. W.; Jas. Watson, Chaplain; Wm. Dickson, Secretary; Samuel Sloan, Treasurer; H. H. Smith and John Bond, Trustees. The installation will take place on the 27th inst., at 7.30 p.m. It is proposed to hold the annual celebration, in conjunction with Maitland Lodge, in June next.

PROPERTY SOLD.—Mr. F. Seegmiller, on behalf of the estate, has sold the British Exchange Hotel to its present occupant, Capt. Cox, for $7500. He has also exchanged the stone stable on South St, with Mr. Polley for his livery stable, receiving $1500 to boot. Mr. Polley is going to very much enlarge and improve the building, to accommodate his very large business.

CLUB RATES.—Our patrons should read our newspaper and magazine club rates on the fourth page. Almost every newspaper reader can afford to subscribe for a local and a city paper, and we offer the lowest terms. Persons subscribing for magazines will find it to their advantage to call on us. A copy of our paper for one year will be given to every person subscribing to Scribner's Monthlyor St. Nicholas through us. The price of the former is $4, and of the latter $3.

RETURNED.—Capt. E. Robinson of the propeller Ontario returned to town for the winter several days ago. During the season of navigation he made seventeen very successful trips from Sarnia to Duluth and return, two more than last year. He was the first to enter the much talked-of Kaministiquia River. On Nov. 19th the citizens of Prince Arthur's Landing presented the popular captain with a highly complimentary address.

HURON PRESBYTERY.—A special meeting was held at Seaforth, on Wednesday last, Rev. Thos. Goldsmith, of Seaforth, accepted the call to St. John's Church, Hamilton. Rev. Joshua Frazer accepted a call to Belgrave, and the induction was appointed to take place on Thursday, 27th inst. Rev. Dr. Ure was appointed moderator of the Clinton Session in place of Mr. Goldsmith.

KNOX CHURCH.—On Sabbath next Rev. J. B. Mullan of Fergus will conduct morning service, and also preach a sermon to children at 2.30 p. m., at which latter service a collection will be taken up in aid of the Sabbath School. Rev. D. Mann of Granton will conduct the evening service. On Tuesday evening a tea meeting in aid of the school funds will be held, when addresses will be delivered by Rev. J. C. Smith of Guelph, Rev. J. B. Mullan and Rev. Joshua Frazer of Belgrave. Music will be furnished by the choir, under the leadership of Mr. J. Gordon Sheriff Tickets, 30 cents. Tea will be served in the basement at 7 o'clock.

DROWNED.—A sad accident occurred early on Friday morning last, by which James Cullerton, an employee of Mr. H. Y. Attrill's lost his life. He was sent to ferry some men across from the breakwater to Attrill's Point. A very heavy sea was running into the mouth of the river and the current at this point is quiet strong, which made the passage somewhat dangerous. When Cullerton was about midstream on his way to the breakwater he apparently lost control of the boat and leaped into the water to save himself, but he sank beneath the surface after a slight struggle. No effort could be made to save him. The body was found a few hours after. Deceased leaves a wife and five small children, in poor circumstances, to mourn his loss. Mr. Attrill has presented the widow with a handsome purse of money.

TAR SIGNAL SERVICE.—Last week the signal station here was closed for the season, by instructions from head quarters. The Signal Service Department has, since its beginning, grown to be an indispensable and valuable institution. By its intelligent forecasts of the weather and prompt warnings much valuable property and many lives have undoubtedly been saved, and vessel captains and owners are warm friends of the system. So complete has it become, that the courses of storms are followed accurately and by means of the telegraph and an elaborate plan of the physical and atmospherical features of the country, distant stations are warned of the approach of the storm and its probable force. Much of the success of the institution is due to the ability of G. T. Kingston, Esq., M. A., Superintendent of the Department.

WAITS.—The Mayoralty has gone aberging again.—Examinations are now going on in the public schools.—Deep mysteries now prevail in many households and solemn confidences are exchanged. Christmas approaches.—The great question at this season used to be, "Who are you going to vote for?" but now it is, "Where is the man?"—Only nine prisoners in jail.—Steam barge Mary Robertson left for Kincardine on Sunday where she will winter—Mr. Moorhouse is making a beautiful display of Christmas goods in Whitely & Elliott's old stand—The harbor lights were extinguished on Sunday night last, for the winter—Fifty-two candidates came forward on Tuesday to be examined for entrance to the High School. They are about equally divided between the town and country.

LAID OVER.—A letter from "Lay Student" is unavoidably crowded out of this issue.

Y. M. C. A. CONCERT.—Great preparations are being made for this entertainment, on 27th inst., which [illegible] to be very interesting. [illegible] promises [illegible]

[illegible] MAIL."—This journal has donned a new dress, and under new management has been improved in a manner which will be gratifying to its friends.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS, consisting of vases, cups and saucers, purses for ladies and gentlemen in endless variety, all of which have been bought very low and will be sold cheap at BUTLER'S.

GREAT SALE.—On Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, Mr. J. O. Currie will offer at auction $5,000 worth of clothing, tweeds, winceys, flannels, cottons, groceries, &c., consigned to W. T. Whitely & Co. This is an excellent opportunity to purchase. The goods are of excellent value.

PENNY READING.—The Good Templars intend holding another entertainment in their hall, on the evening of Christmas day. At the last meeting of the Sons of Temperance a vote of thanks was unanimously tendered to those who so kindly assisted in making the entertainment of Thanksgiving evening so great a success.

GAELIC CHURCH.—Sacramental services were held in the Gaelic church on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday last. Morning and evening services were held each day, conducted by Rev. Messrs. Sutherland and McQueen of Ripley, and the presiding pastor, Mr. A. McGillivray. The attendance was very large, numbers being present from Ashfield and the southern portion of Bruce county.

PROMOTION.—We learn that J. H. Finlay, Esq., has been promoted to the management of the branch of the Montreal Bank at Guelph. This intimation will be received with regret by Mr. Finlay's many friends here, although they will be ready to congratulate him on his advancement. Mr. C. R. Dunsford, lately in charge of the Fergus bank and son-in-law of H. MacDermott, Esq., Master in Chancery, succeeds to the management here, and is expected daily. Mr. Finlay is now in Guelph.

TELEPHONIC.—On Monday night a circuit was formed with Seaforth, for a telephonic test. The apparatus worked well, and songs by Mr. Carmichael and members of the Firemen's Band of Seaforth were heard here quite clearly. Excellent cornet solos were played by the above gentleman, and the sound could be distinctly heard by persons standing several feet from the telephone. A similar effect was produced in Seaforth, when Mr. Alex. McQuarrie played cornet solos here. Mr. J. G. Sheriff sang several songs which the Seaforth people duly appreciated.

DRAMATIC.—The return of the old favorites, the Star Dramatic Combination, was greeted by enthusiastic houses on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. On the first evening when "East Lynn" was performed, the house was fairly packed, and Miss Miles for the evening divided the favors of the audience with our late and generally admired citizen Mr. C. W. A. Dedrickson whose first appearance was greeted with a perfect ovation. Miss Miles was in her best vein, and won fresh encomiums from her many admirers. As the heroine in "Lady Audley's Secret," she was perfect in a character which demands a display of very varied emotions. In the closing or "mad scene", written especially for Miss Miles by the author of the tale, Miss Braddon, she held the audience spell-bound by the force and intensity of her acting. On Saturday night "Leah the Forsaken" was placed on the boards. This play is inseparably allied with the name of Miss Bateman, and judging by her standard it is to be said that Miss Miles' conception and presentation of the character is not behind that of her famed professional sister. The support in each case was strong, and gave general satisfaction. Mrs. Vernon in light comedy, and Miss Nevill was as graceful as ever. Messrs. Shorey, Sambrook, Vernon and Forsyth did themselves justice, and the second named, particularly, was deserving of the frequent applause which greeted his efforts. Mr. Dedrickson did not appear on the second night, but on the first and third nights acquitted himself very acceptably. As the priest in "Leah," his reading was careful and natural, and as Paul in the farce of "A Ghost in spite of himself" his make up and acting created roars of laughter. On Saturday evening Miss Mollie Finlay, daughter of Mayor Finlay, filled the part of the child Leah with much grace. The company started from town on Monday for Clinton, and will take in the towns on the way to Stratford.

WOMEN'S TEMPERANCE UNION.—The first open meeting of this association took place in the Temperance Hall on Thursday evening last, when, notwithstanding the inclement weather, the attendance was quite large. Rev. Jas. Preston occupied the chair, and upon the platform were seated the officers of the association. The meeting being opened in due form, the chairman made a short address. He said the association had been started last summer, mainly at the instigation of a Baptist lady of Cincinnatti, who spent a portion of the summer here, and since that time it had been fairly successful. Meetings were held in the hall every Thursday afternoon, when prayers were offered up and means discussed for the suppression of the liquor traffic. The ladies meant work; they were not going to confine themselves to prayer, but they would be heard from in active efforts. He suggested the wisdom of following the example of a similiar association in another town, where the ladies had been appealed to to refuse to offer liquor to callers on New Year's Day. He was glad to see the ladies taking their stand with temperance workers, and was pleased at the significant fact that ladies never banded themselves to advance the liquor interests. Their influence would greatly assist the cause, and the speedy attainment of prohibition. Mr. B. Armstrong was called upon and sang "The Drunkard's Wife" with good effect. Dr. Ure addressed the meeting. He thought that since the ladies began to take an active part in the temperance work, a very altered tone had been infused into the operations of this great moral movement. In the first place the language of reviling had been discarded generally, in referring to those engaged in the liquor traffic. He felt that the business was accursed, looked at side by side with its bitter fruits, and as full of perils to those engaged in it as to those misled by its temptations. We should consider that there were respectable men connected with it, and while we dealt hard blows at the traffic we should deal charitably with those connected with it. Society, public opinion and the law should be blamed for its existence, and the effort should be to so mould and influence these that the evil might be abolished. Secondly the tone and spirit of speakers is altered, and we seldom see the poor drunkard held up to ridicule and made a laughing stock. We should always bear in mind the tragic side of the drunkard's history, and think that in laughing at him we would be laughing at the sorrow of a family or a fellow being's disgrace. In the third place the public were beginning to make a distinction between the fault and weakness of drunkards. The person was to blame who put the liquor to his neighbor's lips and offered temptation to him, but the latter was much to blame also. By submitting to the temptation he sacrified his manhood, and placed himself morally in close comparison with violators of civil law. There should be no sentimentality in this matter, though we should ever remember the drunkard's weakness and consider how it is increased by his habits. He was pleased to notice what faith the ladies placed in the grace of God as a remedial agency, and he pointed out the desirability and efficacy in a thorough consecration to God in the endeavor to break from the bondage of intemperance. In conclusion he said that the temperance advocates should be sure of their ground before pressing legislation, and in the meantime urged a vigorous prosecution of the present work and wished the Ladies' Temperance Union abundant success. Messrs. Jas. Thomson and F. R. Mann sang an excellent duett, after which the former made a [illegible] touching the [illegible] meeting of I. O. G. T. Grand Lodge at London, at which he was present, and other matters. Dr. Ure having made a few further remarks and signed the pledge book, Mr. J. R. Miller, President of the Union Temperance Association came forward. After expressing his pleasure at the success of the meeting, he said that there was every indication that prohibition would soon be obtained. He felt that it was unwise to urge it unless the people were strongly at our backs. It was a bad thing to have a good law badly carried, and no measure should be enforced until the sentiment of the peoples favorable to it. He considered that the people of Canada were prepared for prohibition now, for since August, 1876, 15 counties besides several towns, villages and townships had carried the Dunkin Act, while only three counties had defeated it. The cities were opposed to it, but the rural districts were ripe for it, and the latter had the work before them of reforming and infusing a new sentiment into these cities and towns. The speaker quoted some statistics relative to the extent of the traffic in Britain and Canada, which were full of significance. Capt. Gibson and Mr. John Wynn each made a few appropriate remarks, after which those present were invited to sign the pledge book.—Nearly all present did so, and a great number of ladies signified their intention of becoming members of the association. During the evening a select choir, under the leadership of Major Thomson, furnished music, Miss Preston presiding at the organ with great taste. The organ used was a large and handsome one provided by Mr. Benjamin Armstrong. The entertainment was very satisfactory to its promoters, and they will provide another one shortly which will doubtless be well patronized.

DUNGANNON.

DIVISION COURTS.—The following are the dates of the Division Courts to be held at Dungannon for the remainder of 1877 and for 1878:—31st Dec., '77; 26th Feb., 30th April, 29th June, 24th Aug., 20th Oct., and 28th Dec., 1878.

BENMILLER.

DEBATE.—At last regular meeting of the Sons of Temperance, the following subject "Resolved that war has been more destructive than famine and pestilence," was debated. The speakers were: Affirmative, P. Cantelon; negative, A. Heddle. The chairman, Mr W. Robertson, decided in favor of affirmative.

EXAMINATION.—A public examination of the pupils of Benmiller School will take place on Saturday, 22d Dec., the exercises to commence at 9 o'clock a. m. In the ev