

# THE BEE

R. S. PELTON, PUBLISHER.

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1891.

THE London Free Press says:—The length of the Parliamentary session is generally estimated to be about three months, while not a few think it will extend beyond that time. The sessions which open in the spring are generally short ones, but there is a large amount of private legislation to come before the present one which will necessarily prolong its length. Notice has already been given of over 130 private bills and the time for receiving more will likely extend to two or three weeks after the House begins sitting. Three times in all has Parliament met in April. In 1869 Parliament opened on April 15th and was prorogued on June 22nd. In 1872 the date of the opening was April 18 and prorogation was June 14th, and in 1888 the first session of the Sixth Parliament was opened on April 13th and prorogued on June 23rd. Parliament has only twice sat into the summer months, the first being the session of 1873, which closed August 13th, and the second that of the long session of 1885, when Parliament sat from January 29th to July 20th.

## LOCAL OPTION.

In his decision of a number of cases of the validity of the Local Option temperance law, Sir Thomas Galt said:—"Three or four cases are awaiting my decision, and everything that can be said for and against the local option law has been heard. Informally I have given an opinion, now I give it in a solidified manner, based upon full enquiry into all the merits and demerits of the Act. In the first place, I know and rule that the by-law is bad. In framing the Act of Parliament they took a clause from the Act of 1872 which was not intended at all to apply in the same way. But apart from all this I believe that it is entirely beyond the power of the Government of Ontario to grant to village, township or other councils the power to pass such prohibitory by-laws. If it could authorize a township or a village council to pass a prohibitory by-law, then they would have power to pass a general law to cover all Ontario. It is a recognized fact that all matters of trade and commerce are exclusively within the jurisdiction of the Dominion Government, and entirely out of the province and powers of the Ontario Legislature. So I quash all by-laws of this nature. I have not a written judgment, but will prepare one."

In reference to the above decision of Judge Galt the Montreal Star says:—"Mr. Mowat is not going to submit to Judge Galt's decision on the legality of the local option clause of the Ontario Licensing Act. The practical effect of that decision has been to deprive municipalities of the power to refuse liquor licenses. Mr. Mowat has a high reputation as a constitutional lawyer, based on his many notable successful appeals against federal exercises of authority. He holds that his local option law is not ultra vires of the Provincial Legislature and will carry the case to the Imperial Privy Council if necessary."

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

Premier Merceier and his companions have arrived at Rome.

There are nearly 1000 volumes of books in the Lucknow Mechanics' Institute.

The total population of Essex county according to the assessors, returns for 1890, was 51,218.

McKinley is likely to be nominated for Governor by the Ohio Republican Convention on June 16.

Jas. Craig, of Arran, is said to own the largest farm in the county of Bruce. It consists of 600 acres.

The Earl of Erne, imperial grand master of the Orange order, has been invited to pay a visit to Canada this summer.

The Michigan and Canada Tunnel Co. has been organized to construct a tunnel under the Detroit River at Detroit and Windsor.

Last Tuesday was the 70th anniversary of the death of Napoleon Bonaparte, who for some years made quite a stir on this planet.

The appointment of John Creaser, Q. C., to the Senior Judgeship of the County of Grey, is very popular with the legal fraternity.

The members of the Dominion Senate will not be altogether idle this session inasmuch as there will be seven divorce cases to occupy their attention.

There are now 122,585 Indians in Canada, of whom 1,000 live in Labrador, 13,599 in Quebec, 17,776 in Ontario, 25,743 in Manitoba and the Northwest, and 35,416 in British Columbia.

Hon. John Carling has been called to the Senate. Hon. Mr. Lacoste has been appointed Speaker of the Senate. Mr. White has been elected Speaker, and Mr. Grandbois, Deputy-Speaker, of the House of Commons.

The Parkhill Gazette, owned by J. W. Green, has been sold to Mr. White, of Windsor, formerly of the Blyth Standard. It is reported that Mr. Green will go to the Northwest and start a paper in the Temperance Colony.

The dry goods store of Wilson & Pye, of Harrison, was broken into by thieves about 3 o'clock Monday morning and goods consisting of kid gloves, silk gloves, cashmere, hosiery, ties, etc., were stolen to the amount of \$150 or \$200. No trace of the thieves. The residence of R. C. Scarr was also entered, but no loss sustained owing to the thieves being frightened off.

Census enumerator, Jas. B. Reid, of East Garafraxa, had a novel experience the other day and probably no other enumerator in the Dominion can record a similar event. He dropped into a certain house and asked the questions prescribed. In the house there lived two brothers and two sisters, and their combined ages are 306 years. The brothers' ages are 80 and 78 respectively, and the sisters' 76 and 42.

T. De Witt Talmage's new tabernacle at the corner of Greene and Clinton avenues, Brooklyn, was opened to his congregation and the public for the first time Sunday morning, April 26th. The tabernacle's dimensions are 200 feet long by 118 wide. The church will seat 5,500 persons. Up to date the total cost of the church is \$10,000, and it will require \$40,000 more to complete it. Dr. Talmage said that during the last 20 years over \$800,000 had been expended and \$305,000 had been subscribed for charitable purposes. The congregation had been called upon to build three churches. The total collection during the morning was about \$2,000. At the afternoon and evening services almost enough more was raised to make up the \$50,000 asked. There still remains a debt of \$200,000 on the church.

## Amending the Drainage Act.

While not prepared to give the provisions of the Municipal Act relating to draining the thorough revision experience has shown they require, the Attorney-General has consented to remove one of the principal grievances complained of so universally by municipal men who have to do with drainage matters. We refer to the system of arbitration for settling disputes between townships where it is necessary to levy part of the cost of a drain on an adjoining municipality. Under the present system three arbitrators are chosen—or, in most cases, an advocate for each party interested, and a referee. In a majority of instances professional men are chosen, who are entitled to \$20 per each day. Counsel get \$20 more, so that the cost per day is often \$100. Taking down the evidence and transcribing adds \$5 more, and with witness' fees, in a case lasting three or four days, the costs of arbitration run up to \$500 or \$600. There have been so many cases of this kind in Kent and Essex that the grievance became almost intolerable, and in the early part of the present session Mr. Ferguson, M. P., and a number of legal gentlemen from Chatham waited upon Mr. Mowat and discussed the matter with him at some length. As a result of the conference Mr. Mowat has introduced a bill which will doubtless become law this session. The proposed remedy is on much the same lines as have been suggested in these columns. The arbitration clauses of the Act are repealed, and provision is made for the appointment by the Government of an official referee, (who is to be a barrister of ten years' standing). The referee is to "have authority to determine the legality of all petitions, resolutions, reports and provisional by-laws, and to determine the utility or desirability of or any proposed drainage works contemplated thereby, whether the objections thereto are stated as grounds of appeal or not." This provision is somewhat radical, relieving the Councils of a good deal of the responsibility which now devolves upon them.

The next clause enacts that the referee shall perform the duties heretofore performed by the arbitrators. Where any local assessments are affected by the referee's decision, he will have full power to adjudicate on the assessment, and his decision will be final, subject only to appeal to the Court of Appeal. Another section provides that the Councils concerned must give effect to the referee's decision. Disputes arising in the construction of drainage works, or consequent thereon, may be referred to the referee for settlement; and any action for damages may be referred to him by the High Court or any justice thereof. The decision in either case may be appealed against within one month, as a decision of a High Court judge may be appealed from. No security for costs is to be required in any appeal from his decision. The last clause provides that the parties interested must pay a sum not exceeding \$10 a day to assist in making up the referee's salary.—Chatham Banner.

## Court of Revision.

### TOWNSHIP OF ELMA.

The first sitting of the Court of Revision for the Township of Elma will be held at

IOERGER'S HOTEL, ATWOOD.

—ON—

Saturday, May 30

1891, at 10 o'clock a.m. Appellants and all concerned will please take notice.

The Roll can be inspected at my office, Atwood, during office hours.

THOS. FULLARTON, Clerk

May 4th, 1891.

## W. J. Marshall PAINTER,

Atwood, - - Ontario.

Is prepared to do all kinds of House Painting, Graining, Glazing, Kalsomining, Paper Hanging, Carriage Trimming, etc., in the Latest Style.

Terms Reasonable.

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One Heavy Draught, 3 years old, by imported sire.

One 6 year old General Purpose horse.

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Shingles!

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HOSIERY, GLOVES AND EMBROIDERIES.

Eggs taken the same as Cash.

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## SEED FLAX

They require at any time after Monday, March 23rd, by applying at the mill.

WM. LOCHHEAD, Secretary.

—NEW—

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Wishes to intimate to the public that he has opened a New Tailor Shop in the premises lately occupied by Stark & Wherry, Atwood, where he is prepared to do all kinds of Merchant and Custom Tailoring in the Latest Styles. A perfect fit guaranteed or no sale.

Men's Suits from \$12 up to \$22.

Now is the time to Order your Summer Suits.

A Trial Solicited.

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## A. A. GRAY,

(FORMERLY OF LISTOWEL) OF THE FIRM OF

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## SAMPLE OF WORK

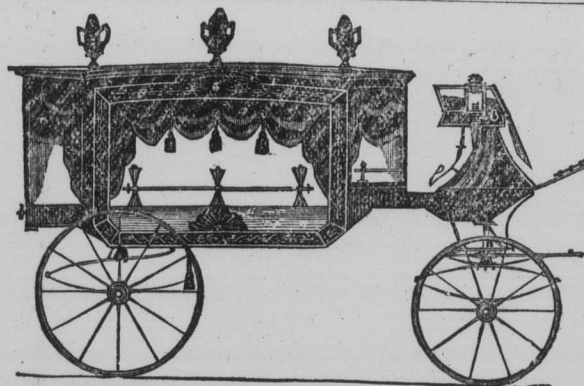
On Exhibition at THE BEE Publishing House, where Full Particulars may be had and Orders Taken.

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The 777 Store is Headquarter in Listowel for For Dry Goods, Groceries, Clothing, Dress Goods, &c.

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Has on hand a large assortment of all kinds of Furniture, plain and fancy Picture Frame Moulding, Cabinet Photo Frames, Boy's Wagons, Baby Carriages, different prices, different kinds. Parties purchasing \$10 and over worth may have goods delivered to any part of Elma township free of cost.

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Specialist, - Toronto,

—WILL BE AT—

Ioerger's Hotel, Atwood,

—ON—

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Mrs. Mary Furlong, Woodhouse, says:—"When all others failed, Dr. Sinclair cured me of fits."

W. McDonald, Lakefield, Ont., says:—"Dr. Sinclair cured me of catarrh."

Geo. Rowed, Blyth, says:—"Dr. Sinclair cured me of heart disease and dropsy, when all others failed."

Diseases of private nature brought on by folly Dr. Sinclair certainly cures.