Gravelling Work.

Tenders are in for gravelling in Wellesley, where contract which is 1300 lbs.

The by-law to guard $600,000 to the Credit Valley R'y was carried in Toronto last week.

The price of coffee which is to contain per wine gallon by the proposed, at London.

Voting on the repeal of the Dunkin Act takes place in Raleigh Township on the 19th.

The Amprior Review office and three adjoining buildings were burned last week. Loss, $4,000.

Nearly 3,000 men are now employed on the Belleville and North Hastings Railway.

Smallpox prevails in Toronto to an alarming extent in the great rush some two dozen persons have died with it.

A effort is being made by the East Huron Agricultural Society to establish an annual trial of reapers and mowers.

Tenders have been let for the construction of the Stratford and Huron Railway, and the work is to be commenced at once.

Sir Edward Thornton, British Minister at Washington, arrived at Ottawa, on Saturday, and will be a guest at Rideau Hall during his stay.

The Sarnia branch of the "Red Ribbon movement" is flourishing wonderfully. Over three hundred members have taken the ribbon.

William Bowman, of Harmony, in the County of Ontario, said to be worth $100,000, has been committed for trial for the theft of a horse blanket.

In the vote last week to repeal the Dunkin Bill by-law in Pelham Township, the bill was sutained by a vote of 204 to 35.

In a row at Belleville, the other day, between two drunken men named Marrigan and Sarsfield, the latter was thrown violently and one of his legs broken near the ankle.

The steamer Norfolk, lying at Napanee, was discovered on fire on Thursday morning at two o'clock, and before anything could be done, was burned to the water's edge. Loss, $7,000.

The Minister of Justice, among many other useful measures, has introduced a Bill to provide for the employment of prisoners in County Jails outside the walls.

The Montreal council has decided to reduce no salaries of officials under $1,000, but all over that amount will be reduced 20, 15 and 12½ per cent. according to amount.

Rev. Wm. Forrest has resigned the pastoral charge of the Presbyterian congregation in Tilbury East. He will likely receive a call to the new charge being formed in Goderich Township.

John Magee, of Woodstock, who was tried at Brantford last week for shooting and wounding a man named Reid while taking him into custody, was fined $100 by the court.

On Thursday night last a young man named Ebner Cook, residing in Drummondville, took an overdose of laudanum from the effects of which he died. He leaves a wife but no children. Domestic trouble supposed to be the cause.

Militiamen who served in the war of 1812-15 and have not sent in their claims, are notified to forward them to the Militia department by the 10th of May, or they will be too late to participate in the grant.

A man named Wm. Moton was seriously injured in Sarnia, on Friday, by a quantity of earth falling upon him as he was making an excavation for a drain in the South Ward. He is not expected to recover.

At the York Assizes on Thursday, James Long, of Woodbridge, was indicted on three charges—one wounding with intent to kill J. Haskett; another with shooting with intent to kill James Paul; and a third with placing a rail across the track of the Toronto, Grey & Bruce Railway with intent to wreck a train.

Mr. McKenzie's lawyers have entered actions for libel against the *Mail* of Toronto on nine different counts, covering the publication of as many different malicious and injurious slanders against the Premier. Other papers that have published the libels against Hon. Mr. MacKenzie will also be prosecuted.

The revenue returns published in the last number of the *Gazette* show a small deficiency on the operations thus far of the financial year. The total revenue from the first of July, 1876 to the 31st of March, 1877, was $15,774,158.52. The total expenditure for the same period was $15,990,712.32; leaving a deficit of $216,553.80.

Mr. George McKenzie, merchant, of Fingal, has in his possession a piece of the veritable tartan worn by Bonnie Prince Charlie, at the (to him) disastrous battle of Culloden, on April 16, 1746. Mr. McKenzie found it while examining some family papers belonging to his father, the late Murdoch McKenzie, Esq., of St. Thomas.

A boy named Harris who was accidentally shot in the head the other day, at Toronto, is still alive, though very weak. The bullet has not yet been extracted. Another lad, who refused to give his name, applied at a doctor's office on Wednesday to have the bullet removed, stating that he was shot accidentally.

On Friday night two burglars entered the house of Rev. A. McCall, Chatham, tied and gagged Richard, his son, who had not gone to sleep, taking seventy-five dollars from his bureau. They next went into Mr. McColl's own room and took from his pants pocket forty-five dollars. They also took some jewellery and escaped.

Between three and four o'clock Sunday morning a gang of about two hundred Canada Southern men and two trains arrived in Brantford and proceeded to pull up the track of the Brantford & Port Burwell Railway. The Mayor of the town and the officials of the latter road were notified and ordered the men to desist which they refused to do. About a mile of the track was destroyed the ties being carried off and the rails being left by the road side. The Brantford & Pt. Burwell Railroad was handed over on Saturday to the Great Western Railway Company, and the Southern men took away only what really belonged to them.

The respondent during last week's trial of the Lincoln election case attacked 32 Reform votes without success. Not a Reform vote has been struck off. The Reform majority stands unimpaired and a disgraceful disclosure came to light in Court. The Clerk of the Peace proved that the Sessional book containing the records of the naturalization of blacks between 1860 and 1870, the absence of which caused so much difficulty in sustaining the Reform votes of naturalized subjects last fall, was quietly left in the County Judge's Chambers on the 5th March last. He also proved that since the election trial began some important naturalization papers had been abstracted from his office, one relating to a case tried last Tuesday, one to a case tried Friday, and others, all Reform votes. In some cases all the papers were taken away. In one case the important affidavit was torn off. In Tuesday's case the voter was offered a bribe from the respondent side to destroy his certificate of naturalization.

A schooner arrived at Boston, brings a sailor named Maguire, whom she rescued from the wreck of the brig Roanoke, which was lost during a dreadful gale, sight of her crew and three passengers all being swept overboard. The rescued sailor had been nine days on the wreck and suffered dreadfully.

Two giraffes recently escaped from the Jardin d'Acclimation, Paris, and trotted gayly along the avenue of the Bis de Boulogne. Their liberty was, however, of short duration, for two men on horse back were sent after them and having soon captured them led them back to their quarters with halters around their necks.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, APRIL 11, 1877.

Railway Travel.

Many are the complaints which travelers make of hardships imposed upon them in their journeys "by rail." More particularly do we hear of disputes about tickets, and the number of suits growing out of railway companies refusing to accept past date tickets is not limited. A bill has been introduced in the Commons for the purpose of removing some of these causes of complaint, and securing greater security and convenience to the traveling public. The provisions are in substance as follows:—

1. All tickets, except excursion tickets, shall be good until used, and the holder may stop at any intermediate station without forfeiting the right to be afterward carried to the destination which the ticket specifies. Any one attempting to use a ticket a second time shall be liable to a fine of $50.

2. No passenger will be obliged to show his ticket or pay his fare if the company fails to find him a seat, and he shall only be required to pay for the distance travelled after being provided with a seat. In case all the seats are taken up by the regular coaches, the passenger shall have the liberty to take a seat in any other carriage which may be attached to the train, whether it belongs to the company or not.

3. No extra charge shall be exacted from passengers failing to purchase tickets before getting on the train. Any person refusing to pay fare shall be liable to a fine of not more than $20 or ten days imprisonment.

4. Passenger trains must stop three minutes at each station.

5. The cushion shall be connected by a platform extending from door to door, and the roof shall so extend as to shelter the platform from snow and rain.

6. An engineer shall be appointed to inspect bridges, embankments, tracks, &c., belonging to the railways, with power to order any repairs which he may deem necessary for the public safety.

To some of these clauses objection may be taken with reason. The first section of clause No. 2, if permitted to come in force, would be a source of loss to railway companies, for "deal beats" would be ever on the look-out for a loaded passenger train on which he might travel free by being compelled to stand throughout the journey. By prearrangement a large crowd might board a regular train at a way station, where no extra coaches could be had, and so fill the cars that some of their number would be enabled to evade paying their fare. There are many circumstances which might transpire to make it impossible for the company to provide sitting accommodation for passengers—circumstances totally unexpected, and which ordinary precaution could with difficulty avoid. During the Provincial and other show weeks, the amount of travel is enormous. The railway companies press into service all available cars, but the crowd is not patient, and will persist in filling up the longest trains until every bit of standing and sitting room is occupied. It would be as unreasonable to expect the ordinary comforts of travel at such a time, as to expect the immediate execution of a piece of work when the mechanic was overcrowded with work. In this case the railway companies have to do a certain amount of business in a given space of time, and in this necessity it would be an exceeding great hardship if all who failed to find a seat on one of these overcrowded trains should ride at the expense of the company. The struggle between the passengers, in such case, would be for standing room, and a wonderful degree of politeness would possess the public.

It might be said with regard to No. 4 that, as a matter of convenience to the company it is desirable to make it to the travelers interest to purchase his ticket before getting on the train. It is the individual's fault if he does not arrive at the station in time to procure his ticket, for the train never leaves before its advertised time. For the extra trouble and expense in receiving fares through the conductor, the traveler should never grumble at being assessed for the trouble caused by his dilatoriness. It is necessary for the good management of the railway that its time table and rules be adhered to, and individuals should guide themselves accordingly.

The other provisions of the bill are good, but in the two instances mentioned we think that the rights of railway companies are infringed. We believe that in some cases the public accommodation is not sufficiently regarded by railway companies, but the clause above which deals with this matter, in our opinion, gives to the unscrupulous and otherwise public an undue advantage over these coporations.

MR. CUMBERLAND'S examination by the Northern Railway Committee has divulged some extraordinary conduct on the part of the managers of that road which makes the exposures already made seem diminutive. Some $40,000 was expended on the Couchiching Hotel; $110 was given towards the Hincks' dinner in recognition of his services to the road; Mr. Belford of the *Mail* received $100 for reporting each semi-annual meeting, and also $100 for some unexplained purpose, which item was charged that inexplicable account, "Parliamentary Expenses;" sums of $250 and $270 were given to the *Mail* for favorable editorials; the engineer was also awarded a $20,000 contract, a bonus of $5,000, and when he left the company his account was overdrawn by $1,943 which was covered by a further bonus of $2,000; and thousands of dollars were paid, for champagne, cigars, &c., which witness explained was in extending the hospitalities to distinguished individuals, companies, &c. The company constituted itself a political engine manipulated by blue-blooded Tories, but it lavished its funds (or rather the country's funds) to freely upon it friends.

MR. BLAKE'S amendments to the Insolvency Act, last week adopted by Parliament, will prove salutary and effective in dealing with the evils of insolvency. The measures previous to 1875 were found to encourage roguery, and the present act is too lenient with debtors. Insolvency has grown to a great evil in the country. During last year the failures in Ontario and Quebec alone were 1473 and the total of liabilities was $23,166,668. Only 22½ per cent of this amount was realized by the creditors, and the consequent loss is enormous, even when we consider that the debtors were only released, in accordance with the act, on paying 33⅓ per cent. The increase of this item to 50 per cent. cannot but be a gain to the country, inasmuch as it will further protect from loss the moneyed commercial men of the country and tend to exclude from commercial ranks experimental and incapable businessmen, as well place an effectual check upon unscrupulous men. The right or interest of debtors have not yet been infringed by legislation as yet, and the sympathy expressed for the poor debtor is altogether uncalled for.

The Deputation at Ottawa.

Messrs. Finlay and Squier, the delegation appointed by the town to confer with Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, Premier, regarding the plea made in the interest of Mr. Attrill's salt mining scheme, returned on Tuesday. Their first interview with the Premier took place on Thursday, when they were accompanied by Hon. Senator Macdonald and Messrs. Greenway and Horton. Mr. Mackenzie received them courteously, and listened to the remarks of the delegates very attentively. The importance of the scheme to the country generally, the extent to which it might be developed in the way of manufacturing, and the desirability of securing at least a portion of the beach was fully presented by the delegation. Mr. Mackenzie acknowledged the importance of the project, but there were important objections to be offered to a proposal to grant a lease of the beach to an individual or company in the terms asked. He said the principal objection to the granting of such a privilege was that the harbor accommodation at Goderich was limited, and if a portion of the beach was given up for this purpose, it might conflict with the future requirements of the harbor. The works proposed would also possibly obstruct the lights erected at the harbour. He pointed out how a number of years ago the Government had granted a similar privilege to the Grand Trunk Railway Company, at Montreal, for a terminus, where the Government had subsequently been obliged by the growing requirements of the harbor to buy out the Company's privilege at a heavy expenditure. The harbor here having been constructed by Government was for the public use, and all its accommodations should be devoted to the general public, consequently the giving to an individual or company the possession of any portion of the harbor was a very important matter. There were a good many applications for portions of the beach, and two requests were now before him for sections of one hundred feet square. He expressed a desire to do everything consistent with the public interest to promote the development of the project.

By arrangement Messrs. Finlay and Squier again met the Premier on Friday, when that gentleman stated that he would allow the beach for twenty-five years could be given, but on no consideration would the privilege be given to sink a shaft on the beach. The execution of such a work, it was contended, would be a source of great trouble in case the Government should wish to resume possession of the beach. Mr. Finlay at once telegraphed to Mr Attrill the result of the conference, but no answer has yet been received. We hope that he will be encouraged to resume the prosecution of the scheme, and anxiously await his reply.

BY THE report, published last week, of the Goderich Township Council proceedings on the 2nd inst.; our readers will have noted that Hilliard's dam was in terms pronounced a nuisance. A number of ratepayers prayed for the removal of the dam as it prevented fish from going up the river. Had these petitioners made enquiry before going to the trouble they did, this ridiculous request would not have been made. In compliance with a notice from Fishery Inspector McKinnon, Mr. Hilliard last year provided the necessary fishway by opening the gates of the flume, and the law has been duly complied with. We have heard of a petition to procure screens to hang in front of a town clock, in order to prevent it from being injured by exposure to the weather, being largely signed, but we never had much faith it it until we read of the petition last week presented to the Goderich Township Council. The body was misled by it, and in good faith communicated with the Colborne Council to secure their co-operation in providing a legal fish-way, but the latter body knowing the facts will take no action on the communication.

A NOISY delegation of unemployed workmen assailed the precincts of the Parliament buildings, Ottawa, on Thursday, with the purpose of laying their complaints before the Premier. The latter was engaged, and no intimation having been given him that the delegation wished to confer with him, until they assailed the door of his office, he refused to hear them, but granted an interview on Friday, when their complaints were heard. At first the mob was indignant, and expressed its political character by cheering for Sir John Macdonald and giving groans for the Premier, but they subsequently expressed regret for their conduct. What reason these men had to thus conduct themselves, except that they were incited to the act by some designing Conservatives, it is difficult to see, for the Premier has no power to assist them any more than he has to assist unemployed workmen here. Appeals for work should be made to local authorities. If these men of Ottawa have any claim on the Government for support, the Premier will receive no end of delegations from all parts of the Dominion.

THE Secret Service investigation committee has completed its task, and its report concludes with the following propositions:—1. That the course pursued hereinbefore specified with regard to the Secret Service moneys was highly irregular and a breach of the duty of those concerned therein. 2. That steps should be taken for the recovery into the public chest of the said sum of $6,600. 3. That no accounts having been kept, and the cheques and papers having been destroyed, a satisfactory audit of the Secret Service expenditure has been rendered impossible. 4. That it was the duty of the Auditor-General to have informed the new Ministry that there was a balance of Secret Service money to the credit of the sub-Committee of the Privy Council, and he should have obtained the authority for the payment of any sum. 5. That in case Secret Service moneys should at any time hereafter be voted Parliament, it would be proper to provide for statutory safeguards against abuses in the application thereof.

GRIP's last cartoon deals with the Northern Railway exposures in a witty manner. Canada has impounded a miserable looking cow, the Northern Railway, and a number of boys (Sir John, John B. Robinson, Patteson of the *Mail*, Angus Morrison, D. L. McPherson and Cumberland) are surprised by a policeman in the person of the Premier, in the act of milking the animal. The chivalric and blue-blooded John B. Robinson will doubtless feel tempted by this cartoon to partly carry out his threat of treating the five hundred editors as he did him of the *Telegram*, a short time ago, by giving *Grip* a "tip for his nob."

THE Mitchell *Advocate* calls J. J. Hawkins, of Brantford, a "sound Conservative," and quotes him approvingly. We won't question the statement, seeing that Mr. Hawkins has recently been "mabe over" again, so to speak, for the second time. His fickleness, politically, of course (?) does not affect his Tory soundness.

Six hundred million pounds sterling are invested in railways in the United Kingdom, and railway stock yields an annual income of £53,000,000. Some 280,000 persons are employed in connection with the British railways.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Ottawa, April 3.

Mr. Farrow stated that he had been requested by letter to move Dr. Shultz's motion on prohibition.

Mr. Blake preferred that the member who accepted the responsibility should move it, and it accordingly dropped for the time being.

Mr. Rochester, in moving for returns respecting malitskam cut of pond between July, 1876, and February, 1877, referred several reports that the Government had informed some of its friends in the business of its intention of increasing the tariffs. This indiscreet act on his part was crushingly responded to by Mr. Mackenzie, who told the hon. member that he should be careful about repeating such rumors unless prepared to prove the statements. The motion was granted.

Mr. Cook reported that some reckless Tories in his section were circulating the story that the Pacific Railway as many of the emigrants for the Northwest by way of Sarnia as possible, thus to benefit his friends. Mr. Mackenzie replied that the instructions given were to send one half by way of Collingwood and the other half by way of Sarnia. He had had not heard of this report before.

Ottawa, April 3.

Mr. Blake's new Insolvent Bill was discussed at great length, the clause providing that debtors shall pay 50 cts. on the dollar being the point of dispute. While others defended the clause, some of the members contended that the "poor debtor" should be protected as well as the rich creditor. A suggestion was made that, in winding up the affairs of a bankrupt estate, the majority of value of creditors not majority of numbers should rule. Mr. Blake promised to consider the same. Amendments in favor of abolishing the 50 cent provision were voted down by large majorities, and a motion to continue the present Act in force until end of next session was lost on a division of 25 to 141.

Ottawa, April 4.

The Manitoba members opened a discussion, in which it was intimated that the Pacific Railway westward from Red River be run south of Lake Manitoba, as the land was richer than on the route now recommended. Mr. Mackenzie pointed out that the route was laid with an eye to economy and shortness of route. The right of way would cost more by the route suggested. However, the matter would be fully enquired into.

Mr. Schultz moved his resolution declaring a prohibitory liquor law the only effectual remedy for intemperance, and that it is the duty of the Government to submit such a measure for the approval of Parliament.

Mr. Farrow also spoke in favor of submitting the resolution.

Mr. Rees (Middlesex), who had been accused by the previous speaker with want of fidelity to the cause, replied that until the question of legislative jurisdiction had been determined by the Supreme Court, to which a case was to be submitted, he deemed it inadvisable to again bring the matter before the House; and he moved an amendment to the effect that it was inexpedient to reaffirm the principle already affirmed.

Mr. Dymond contended that the House was prepared to legislate in that direction at the demand of the people. He had not finished his speech when the speaker left the chair.

The insolvent bill was read a third time and passed, after an effort to have it returned to committee for certain amendments had been voted down on a division of 101 to 56.

Ottawa, April 5.

The Inland Revenue Bill was discussed, objection being offered to the clause imposing a tax of $30 on each rectifying tun manufactured or imported. It was contended on the other hand that the imposition of this tax would better secure the collection of the revenue, and the penalties attaching to the use of untaxed stills would have good effects. The bill was adopted.

The remaining resolution of the committee on Ways and Means, the discussion of which was postponed from 20th Feb., was considered, the debate being confined to the single resolution, the Opposition crying loudly for an opportunity to again go over the whole tedious ground of the tariff question. The resolution proposed a tax on tea, &c., for the purpose of replenishing the treasury. Sir John proposed that it be returned to the committee with instructions to substitute some other article, but this was defeated by a vote of 67 to 119. An amendment was also proposed to substitute an *ad valorem* duty instead of a specific duty, which was also defeated by a vote of 65 to 114. Mr. Cartwright in defending the tea tax made an able speech, pointing out that the late Government had itself imposed a 15 per cent. *ad valorem* tax and a 7 cent specific tax on tea, and the British Government had at the present time a tax of 12 cents per pound. The tariff on tubing was concurred in, it being explained that when it was actually entered for use in constructing boilers and machinery, the duty would be remitted to the importer.

Ottawa, April 6.

The insurance bill came up for the third reading, and two amendments to it were voted down by large majorities. These amendments were (1) That reserves held by all foreign insurance companies under this Act shall be solely for the benefit of Canadian policy-holders; (2) Unless said company is incorporated elsewhere than in Canada, it shall establish to the satisfaction of the Finance Minister that it is possessed of well-invested assets sufficient to reinsure all its outstanding policies everywhere; and, in addition to that, to pay all its liabilities, and with assets sufficient to reinsure its liabilities in Canada. As these were deemed unnecessary alterations to the bill, the support they received was slight.

Ottawa, April 7.

Mr. Bowell introduced the Anglin Printing affair by moving to the effect that it is inexpedient and improper for the Government to enter into any agreement or contract whereby money is paid to members of Parliament.

Mr. Mackenzie admitted that the contract had been transferred from the office of friends of the late Government to the friends of the present Government, as was customary, but that practice they had since discontinued. When the fact became known, of which the previous speaker had made mention, the order had been at once given that no further printing should be given out, and that order had been obeyed, excepting in so far the acceptance of some printing that had been already done and which could not be devoted to any other use. As this was an attack on the validity of the Speaker's seat in the house, he held that it should be referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

Sir John, Mr. Blake, Dr. Tupper, Mr. Huntington and others continued the discussion, which was adjourned at a late hour.

CLINTON.

ORDERS.—Mr. Jos. Whitehead has given a contract for team harness to Mr. Twitchell of this place, and one to Rumball & Leslie for four waggons and a carriage, to be used on Section 15, C. P. R.

TOWN ASSESSMENT.—The town assessors have finished their labors, and find that the town contains 2,538 inhabitants, and property to the amount of $529,470, an increase over last year of over $30,000.

GOOD CATTLE.—On Monday of last week Mr. W. Cudmore shipped for Toronto 14 head of cattle which weighed an average of 1400 lbs. each. Among the lot was one yearling steer that weighed 1170 lbs., and another which he did not ship weighed 1280 lbs.

WHILE riding a horse on Monday a person was pitched head foremost into the mud. His feet remaining in the stirrups, he was in an askward position, but his horse standing, and assistance being rendered, he was unhurt beyond getting a liberal coating of mud.—*News Era.*

Local News.

ABOUT TOWN.

LUMBER.—The schooners of lumber last week were: Williams & Murray, 8 cords; Chas. Cameron & Co., 12 cords.

STEAMBOAT WORK.—The shipments of cattle were: Wm. Cantelon, 470 lbs and 10 lots, the most of them cheese; Gibbons & Hodgins, 10 lots cattle.

THE SALE in Cantin's Auction Mart on Saturday next will be a genuine slaughter sale, as consignors are bound to realize.

SOCIAL.—On Friday evening next a social will be held in Knox church, when an interesting programme of vocal and instrumental music, &c., will be rendered. Refreshments will be provided by the ladies of the congregation during the evening. Tickets, 15 cents.

BEWARE.—Detective Wm. Smith is in town, and besides looking after unlicensed doctors and chemists, he is hunting all those who fail to register births or deaths in their families. Any who have failed in this duty should take warning.

GREAT BARGAINS.—Messrs McLean & Collins, desiring to wind up their business, are selling off their stock of dry goods, groceries, hats and caps at a very low reduction. Call and secure some of the bargains.

EXCURSION.—The Silver Cornet Band intends chartering one of the Beatty Line boats, to give an excursion to Kincardine on Queen's Birthday. We give this timely notice so that the ladies may be able to get their pic-nic dresses in order.

VESTRY MEETING.—At the regular vestry meeting in St. George's church, Mayor Finlay and Mr. G. H. Parsons were elected church wardens. The finance statement was read showing the receipts for the past year to have been $2,223, and expenditure $2,213. The liabilities amount to $267.

BIBLE READINGS.—On Sunday evening next bible readings will be given in the Temperance Hall, under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A., commencing at 8 p. m. All are invited to be present, and are requested to come prepared with passages of scripture bearing on the following topics: "The way of eternal death—its reward," "The way of eternal life—its reward."

GENERAL SHIPMENTS.—The business at the station last week was smaller than usual. Among the general shipments were the following: Kirkpatrick Bro. & Co., 26 rolls leather; W. G. Smith 5 rolls leather; Harbor Mills, 630 bags flour; H. Beam & Co., 3 bbls potash; P Reeve, 2300 lbs rags; Chas. Rowland, 300 lbs do; Rishd. A. Spring entire horse to travel near Belleville for the season.

GOT SHOT.—On Saturday last a man named John Smith got shot in Kerr & McKenzie's hardware store. He had been in the store making some purchases and was just about leaving when he passed the case containing revolvers, &c., and turning suddenly ordered 20 cents worth of pigeon shot. Of course he got what he wanted, and that is how he came to get shot. [Our "Gerrit" is responsible for this item.—ED.]

PERSONAL.—At the close of the examination in the Ontario Veterinary College, Toronto, last week, the graduates presented their photographs in a group, handsomely framed, to Dr. J. T. Duncan, V. S., as a small token of esteem for him as one of the lecturers. As our readers are aware Mr. Duncan has been absent from town during the winter filling an official capacity at the college, and we are pleased to record this evidence of his success, and manifestation of appreciation of his services.

—Captain James Parsons left town last week for Collingwood to prepare his vessel, the Cumberland, for the opening of navigation.

—The Ontario Veterinary College having closed its Winter Session, Mr. J. T. Duncan V. S. has returned to his practice in the town.

—Messrs Wm. Hood and Wm. Martin have arrived safely in Manitoba, we see by the *Free Press*.

—Rev. Dr. Ure and Rev. J. Seiveright left for Woodstock, on Tuesday, to attend a meeting of the London and Hamilton district synod. Rev. T. Goldsmith, Seaforth, will conduct the services in Knox Church next Sabbath.

J. C. CURRIE says that he is determined to clear out the present stock on hand to make room for one of the largest stocks ever placed in an auction room in this town—and he means it.

THE ICE JAM.—On Wednesday last the ice in the river above Hilliard's dam broke up, and kept moving for about two hours. The sight at the dam was grand, the water having risen very high carrying great blocks of ice, driftwood and rubbish over the falls and through the gorge with immense force. Several large hemlock trees from a foot to two feet in diameter were snapped, in passing over the falls, as though they were pipe stems. Shortly after the ice had stopped running the water fell about four feet. The jam at the mouth of the river was slight, and the ice worked its way gradually out into the lake. The river is clear of ice above Benmiller by our last reports.

MANCHESTER HOUSE.—Messrs. Crotts & Johnston are making a magnificent display of spring goods, which is well worthy of inspection. In variety, as well as quality, the stock is a superior one, and our readers would be well repaid on visiting this establishment. The enterprising firm has secured the services of Mrs. Newcombe to manage their dress-making department. This lady is possessed of skill and experience acquired in a prominent Toronto establishment. Messrs. Crofts & Johnston have also been making some extensive improvements to their store which have given them additional room and greatly enhanced the beauty of the interior. Do not fail to read adv. on first page.

A SELL.—Quite a number of people in this vicinity have been gulled by another Yankee trick. Not long ago circulars were received here in large numbers, setting forth that the town of Oxford, Texas, was extending its bounds, lots were being laid out and a deed for one of them could be purchased for $1. Furthermore, any one holding a deed would receive an excursion ticket free from any of the leading cities of the United States and return, so that he might go and see his purchase. The Mayor of Cincinnatti announces that his chief of police has made enquiries and found the whole thing to be a fraud. The people of Goderich and the county who have been bitten, may give up all hopes of a free ride to Texas for the present.

CENTENNIAL MEDALS.—The medals and diplomas awarded to the different successful exhibitors at the Centennial were distributed last week, although those coming to Goderich and vicinity have not all arrived. The American medals are very handsome. On one side are the words, "Awarded by the United States Centennial Commissioners," encircled by a laurel wreath, and around the edge of the medal the words, "International Exhibition, Philadelphia, 1876." The obverse bears an ideal picture of industry in relief and surrounded by stars. The diploma which accompanies each medal is in itself a wonderful specimen of lithographic engraving and a worthy memento of the great Exhibition. Without attempting to describe it at length one of its most attractive features may be mentioned in the shape of a beautifully engraved border made up of the coats of arms of all the nations of the earth which contributed their share to the exhibition. Canada, the only British colony represented in this group, has her place alongside the motherland, near the upper left corner. The name of the person to whom the diploma is awarded is not written but nicely printed in the centre in appropriate letters. The Canadian medals are also very creditable. On one side of each are the coats of arms of the several Provinces of the Dominion, with the name of the person to whom it is awarded engraved in the centre, and on the other an allegorical picture of Fame, surrounded by the words, "Dominion of Canada." [Since the above was in type all the medals have been received.]

JEWELRY and spectacles at "hard times" prices, at O. G. MARTIN'S.

THEATRE.—The ladies of St. George's Aid Society beg to thank the members of the Goderich Silver Cornet Band for their kind donation to the furnace fund of St. George's Church.

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Legal Notes.

FOR THE CENTRAL.—Henry E. Rose, larcenist, was removed to the Central Prison, on Friday to put in his term of seven months.

HEAVY DOSE.—A few days ago Geo. Cochrane was fined by the Mayor of Clinton, $10 and costs for riotous conduct.

ILLICIT STILL.—Collector Caven, of Goderich, on Thursday night of last week, seized an illicit still in operation in the house of Samuel Garrett, of Wingham. Garrett was fined $100 by the magistrate.

CASES TO BE HEARD.—The charges against Wm. Reed of Goderich for permitting gambling on his premises and one Barnaby of St. Helens for selling liquor without license, will be heard before C. Crabbe, Esq., to day. Inspector Yates is the complainant in both cases.

LARCENY.—Last week the lad John Ellerby, of Clinton, who a short time ago was punished for stealing money from Mr. P. Cavan's till in that town, was committed to jail last week for the same offence perpetrated upon Mr. C. Crawford, grocer. He appeared before the Judge on Saturday, pleaded guilty, and sentenced was reserved until the 19th inst.

UNLICENSED PRACTITIONERS.—T. W. Pomeroy, a clairvoyant doctor was brought before C. Crabbe, Esq., on Wednesday, charged with practicing medicine without a license. He was fined $50 and $12.70 costs. The charge was laid by Wm. Smith, detective for the Ontario Medical Association. At his instance also a dentist named Ellis was fined by Squire Gidley of Exeter, for the same offence, $20 and costs.

Weather Report.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATORY.
Goderich, April 1st, 1877.

Rain fell on 5 days during the month of March, amount 22.5 cubic inches. Rain fell on the 1st, 2d, 26th, 27th, and 31st.

Snow fell on 15 days during the month, amount 35 inches. Greatest fall on the 9th, 14 inches on the level.

Coldest night during the month, on the 18th, 8° above zero.

Greatest velocity of wind on the 28th during 24 hours, 696.2, or 24.20 miles per hour. Least velocity on the 30th during 24 hours, 25.0 miles.

Coronae Luna on the 22nd, and lightning on the 20th.

Wind on the 21st at noon, S. W. It is a common belief that the wind of this day will be the prevailing wind for the year.

Prevailing wind during the month N.

G. N. MACDONALD,
Observer.

Off the coast of Virginia, about five miles from the mainland, is an island upon which roam numbers of ponies as wild as the mustang. How or when they settled there is not known.

Wade Hampton, Democrat, has been recognized as Governor of South Carolina, by President Hayes, and the dispute between the political parties there is at an end.

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