

The Guelph Mercury

DAILY AND WEEKLY. OFFICE: EAST MACDONNELL STREET.

McLAGAN AND INNES, PUBLISHERS AND PROPRIETORS.

The Evening Mercury

CONTAINING THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH UP TO THE HOUR OF GOING TO PRESS, IS PUBLISHED AT 6 O'CLOCK EVERY AFTERNOON (SUNDAY EXCEPTED), AND MAILED TO ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY BY THE EVENING MAILS ON THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

Single copy, one year, \$4. Single copy, 3 months, 6 months, 2. Single day, 1 week, 10c.

Copies may also be had of the News boys on the streets, price one penny. Town subscribers are supplied at their residences by our own carriers.

In addition to the Telegraphic News given in the Evening Mercury will be found a vast amount of LOCAL NEWS, interesting articles on all the leading topics of the day. Special care will be taken to give CONSPICUOUS PROMINENCE to every Business Man should read it.

"The Weekly Mercury"

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY. IS THE LARGEST COUNTRY NEWSPAPER IN THE DOMINION, CONTAINING 40 COLUMNS OF READING MATTER.

Letters containing money, properly registered, will be at our risk.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Business men will find THE EVENING and WEEKLY MERCURY to be invaluable advertising mediums, as they reach five circulations are in advance of any others in North Western Canada, and is the only weekly by which extensive advertisements can be reached by the judicious advertiser.

Book and Job Printing,

Executed on short notice, at reasonable rates, and in the best style of the Art. Having every facility at our command, in this department, we defy competition as to style, quality and price.

FURS, FURS.

WE have opened our stock of FURS, of our own manufacture, which we will sell at LOW PRICES, viz:

Extra Dark Mink, Royal Ermine, Siberian Squirrel, River Mink, Ladies' Hoods, and a full assortment of CHILDREN'S FURS, GENTS' MUFFLERS and GLOVES, SLEIGH ROBES, &c.

Excelsent Farm

For sale that valuable farm, on a point of the West-half of Lot No. 25, and Concession, Eramosa.

Two Storey Stone House

The building is nearly new. There is also a large FRUIT GARDEN nearly new, and a thriving young orchard of the best grafted fruit. This property will be sold cheap. For terms and particulars apply to HENRY HATCH, Guelph.

AUCTION SALE OF LAND IN ERIN.

FOR sale that farm, being composed of part of Lot number 24, in the 9th Concession of Erin, containing by measurement 20 acres, of the same more or less, being the south corner, butting on the 8th Line; also, 12 acres of the east corner of Lot 24, in the 8th Concession of Erin, all of which will be sold by public auction, on Thursday, 2nd January, 1868, at 3 o'clock p. m., in Hillsburg, opposite Samuel Leeson's hotel. Title indisputable. Terms cash. Hillsburg, 4th Dec, 1867.

HAY IN TRUSSES

Constantly on hand. Also Straw for beds. TERMS CASH. JOHN WEST, Guelph, July 22.

To the Public.

WE, the undersigned, agree to close our respective places of business on and after MONDAY, 16th INSTANT, until the 1st March next, at 6 o'clock p. m., and on Saturday evenings at 9 p. m.

STAR SHUTTLE SEWING MACHINE.

Patented May, 1867. THE Star Shuttle Sewing Machine makes a stitch alike on both sides of material sewed, which will not rip or ravel. Does all kinds of work equally as well as Singer's high-priced machine. Combines simplicity with durability, and is warranted for five years.

J. E. SPAFFORD, Reference—Rev. E. A. Healy, Stratford P. O., or Box 450, Toronto

CHRISTMAS HO!

Wholesale, Wholesale! CONFECTIONERY. DEALERS buy your confectionery from the undersigned, who has reduced his prices as low as any house in the Dominion. Call and see before purchasing elsewhere, as the Goods cannot be beat, and by buying here you save freights, packing cases, breakage, &c.

FANCY GOODS!

A large lot of Fancy Goods on hand, and a lot daily expected direct from Paris. Wholesale Agent for Putney's celebrated Corn Candy. H. BERRY, Guelph, 6th December, 1867.

REMOVAL. Military Tailor

J. JONES, Late Master Tailor in the 17th Regiment, DESires to inform his customers and the public that he has removed from North Wellington, to Upper Wyndham-st, next door to Hazlett's Furniture Store, where he will be happy to receive orders for making all kinds of

Military and Civilian's Clothing,

in the latest and most fashionable styles. Having long experience, he guarantees to give satisfaction to all who may favor him with their patronage. Guelph, 24th Nov, 1867.

CORDWOOD for SALE IN GUELPH.

GOOD, cheap Cordwood for sale at BROWN'S WOOD YARD, Woolwich Street, nearly opposite the Court House.

Quantities from half a cord and upwards delivered in any part of the town by leaving the order at the wood yard. ALEX. BROWN, Guelph, 25th November, 1867.

Pocket Diaries FOR 1868.

A Large Assortment of Pocket Dairies for 1868 AT DAY'S BOOKSTORE, Opposite the Market, Guelph, dw

MRS. ROBINSON

HAS the largest, best and cheapest assortment of FANCY GOODS for Christmas & New Year to be found in Guelph. On hand, a large supply of Pea Nuts, Almonds, Brazil Fibrets, Fruits, Raisins, Currants, Figs, Dates, &c. MRS. ROBINSON, Guelph, Dec. 11th, 1867.

XXX OYSTERS!

ARRIVING daily at WALKER'S, Yarmouth Bloaters, Kipped Salmon Trout, Smoked Salmon, Pickled Salmon, Fresh Salmon, in cans. HUGH WALKER, Wyndham Street, Guelph. Guelph, 29th Nov, 1867.

New Livery Stable.

HORSES FOR HIRE. PARTIES wishing to hire Saddle-horses, or Horses and Buggies, can do so at moderate rates, by applying to the undersigned, at the Wellington Hotel. JOSEPH STRAHAN, Guelph, Oct. 7, 1867.

Valuable Building Lots for Sale IN EVERTON.

THE undersigned offers for sale, cheap for cash, two valuable building lots in the Village of Everton, being No. 122 and No. 123, as laid out on the map made by Wm Haskins, Esq., P. L. S.—There are two-fifths of an acre of land in the two lots, and being close to the Discipline Meeting House, and in a central part of the Village, form excellent sites for building on. For terms apply to the Manager's Office, or (by letter post-paid) to DUNCAN ROBERTSON Everton P. O. Guelph, Nov. 13th, 1867.

NEW LAW OFFICE. FREEMAN & FREEMAN

BARRISTERS AND ATTORNEYS, SOLICITORS IN CHANCERY, CONVEYANCERS, &c. S. B. FREEMAN, Q. C. G. O. FREEMAN. Office over Berry's Confectionery Store, Wyndham Street, Guelph. Guelph, 4th December, 1867.

Evening Mercury.

OFFICE: MACDONNELL STREET. MONDAY EV'NG, DECEMBER 16.

Local News.

FREE MARKETS.—A public meeting is to be held at Ingersoll, on Monday night, to take into consideration the Free Market Question, which is being agitated there.

NO CRIME.—We find the following in the Huron Signal: His Honor the Judge is likely to receive a pair of immaculate gloves to-day, if a man accused of the horrible crime of stealing rails is not caught. The officials complain that since Bruce was cut off their vocation is as good as gone.

ACCIDENT.—Mr Roger Leggett, of the township of Mornington, was found about six miles out of Stratford on the Northern branch road, on the morning of the 6th inst., in a state of insensibility, having been apparently thrown from his wagon. He still suffers from concussion of the brain in a modified form, but there is a prospect of his recovery.

Horse thieves are said to be practicing their nefarious business in the township of Normanby. Mr F. Cassidy had a span of horses stolen on Thursday last. On missing them, he immediately started in search, and the rascals finding themselves closely pursued, let the horses go in the vicinity of Aytou, where they were found by Mr Cassidy.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH.—On Saturday last, Mr Duncan Stuart, of Woodstock, came to his death suddenly, and rather strangely. He had been killing hogs, and carried a butcher knife in his coat pocket, with the handle down. On passing a corner, he fell and the point of the knife entered his body. After the occurrence he lived only a few hours.

CHANCERY APPOINTMENT.—The Brampton Times says:—We are happy to state the Judges of the Court of Chancery have granted to Mr. Cummins the appointment of Master, Deputy Registrar, and Special Examiner in Chancery at Brampton, which will certainly be of great benefit to Chancery suitors, as they will henceforth be enabled to have their Chancery business looked after and attended to at Brampton.

MORE FOOLING WITH FIREARMS.—The Stratford Beacon says one day last week, a young man who had just returned from the States, named William Smale, was on a visit to his sister in Hilbert Mrs. Hammond, and was exhibiting a revolver that he had brought from the West. Mrs Hammond desired to handle the weapon, and he handed the revolver with the trigger raised to her, when placing her finger on the trigger it went off, carrying away the point of a finger of one of her brothers, and lacerating two more. The ball likewise cut his pants, and then dropped to the floor.

TEMPERANCE REUNION.—We would direct our readers attention to the Reunion to be held in the Town Hall, on Tuesday (tomorrow) evening, given by the Temperance Society, in order to raise funds to enable them to pay off the indebtedness incurred in furnishing their Hall, and to aid in carrying on the good work of the Society, in an efficient manner. The Reunions previously held by the Temperance Society, have been excellent entertainments, and the coming one promises to be of a particularly brilliant description. The magnificent choir of the Congregational church, assisted by members of the Temperance Choir, under the able leadership of Mr. Lawrence, will render the grand choruses in their usual splendid style, and this will be a foretaste of what may be expected at the Sacred Concert, to be given by them at the opening of their new church. Some of our ablest local amateurs will likewise take part in solos and duets, while Mrs. Budd will play the accompaniments on the piano, and preside at the organ. The addresses by Rev. Mr. Griffin, and Mr. McLean of Galt, will add greatly to the interest of the occasion. All those who wish well to the Temperance cause, and those also who desire merely to enjoy a fine entertainment, should not fail to be present at the Reunion to-morrow evening.

The Best White Coal Oil Can now be had at MR. HORSMAN'S for 15 cents per gallon. Cans of any size are also supplied. November 29th, 1867.

Disastrous Conflagration in Guelph.

The Alma Block, and Smith & Metcalf's Harness Shop laid in Ashes. LOSS OVER \$150,000!

About four o'clock last Saturday afternoon the Town Bell rang the alarm of fire, and excitement spread with the rapidity usual on such occasions. Men ran with all the speed which they were capable of exerting and looked anxiously round for indications of the fire. These very soon became easily discoverable, for a huge volume of smoke quickly made itself apparent rolling up against the lowering, leaden sky. It rose in the direction of the Alma Block, and the fear that these fine buildings, with their immense stocks, might be in danger, intensified the excitement and added to the speed with which people sought the scene of destruction. A sad spectacle awaited those who had heeded the alarm. In the rear part of Mr Mulholland's hardware store a huge pillar of smoke, black as night, curled upward, and it was evident that in a few minutes a flame would break out which human energy would be powerless to subdue. On first reaching the buildings which Fate had devoted to destruction, a person would have supposed that it was Smith & Metcalf's harness shop that was most immediately in danger, for already men, youth and boys were engaged as assiduously as if each had a personal interest in its safety in removing the stock from the establishment and conveying it to the other side of the street, where it was beyond the reach of danger. In a few minutes there was nothing left, but the house itself stood an offering to appease the fury of the flames, which were now leaping and roaring, and threatening to sweep (for a breeze from the north was blowing strong) as far as at least as the Wellington Hotel. We shall say by-and-bye, why it did not, and why in consequence half a dozen or more houses are standing this morning which it was feared, and not without reason, would soon be reduced to a heap of charred ruins. As we have observed the fire was now visible, glass crashed, and fell broken into fragments by the heat, and the flames "rolled their pointed spires" through the closed doors and window shutters of Mr. Mulholland's store. His fate had been sealed long ago; no attempt was made to save it or anything it contained, every person knew that such an effort would have been useless for no person could have entered it and lived. Every thought was centered on Mr. Massie's wholesale establishment, under the same roof as the burning building with its immense stock valued at \$75,000.—The bell still sent forth its ominous peals on the keen frosty air, the crowd kept increasing, men still running forward and pulling off their coats as they ran. With an activity, and a spirit of emulation which only such fearful scenes can arouse, all hands plied the work, and a large part of the stock on the ground floor was soon safely outside. But the building was filled with goods from cellar to roof, and even when the shop had been cleared, but a small portion of the work of removal had been accomplished. There was a large lock of liquors in the cellar, and a very large quantity of tea and tobacco in the bonded warehouse on the floor above. An effort was made to remove the liquors, but after a small portion had been saved it became absolutely necessary to desist. A more successful attempt was made to clear out the warehouse. The partitions were broken in, the signboard converted into a slide for the nonce, and before labor was completely interrupted a large portion of the tea had been removed. All this time the fire in Mr. Mulholland's store had been raging furiously, but as there was a stone partition between it and Mr. Massie's, it was hoped that by cutting away the verandah which was common to both that its means of communication might be effectually interrupted. The axe sounded against the posts, the verandah fell, but all to no purpose the fire had gained a headway which was entirely irresistible, and very rapidly comparatively short spaces of time the whole block was wrapped in one devouring sheet of flame, which as the shades of night settled down lighted up the sky above it with a lurid glare, and was reflected in ghastly radiance over the town and far around in its vicinity. Outside this circle of light the sky was more than usually sombre and lowering—rendered so by the unnatural contrast, and strongly favoring the belief that a heavy snow storm was impending.

But while men were yet making prodigious exertions to save still more of the goods, the fire caught the liquor, it is presumed, for an explosion was heard in the rear, near the elevator, and almost instantly afterwards the north end wall went down with a crash, but fortunately no one was injured. This precluded any further attempts to remove anything, and the only remaining thought was, how the fire could be prevented from extending. To this end the Hook & Ladder Company, who had been early on the ground, worked with unwearied diligence. The harness shop was torn down, and this created quite a large gap between the fire and the next house (Mr Parker's shoe shop), and this together with the shielding aid of the south end wall, which stood after the others had fallen, and the shifting of the wind, prevented any further destruction. But the turning of the wind to blow from an easterly point was very nearly proving detrimental to property on the opposite side of the street. The fence of Messrs. Gowdy & Stewart's lumber yard was on fire several times, the heat brought the resin boiling out of the window shutters of their store, the roof of one of their buildings was also on fire, and it was only by the people forming lines to neighborly cisterns, and to the river, and passing from hand to hand pails of water which was applied unsparingly that Messrs. Gowdy & Stewart's property, and Col. Hewat's house escaped. It was at first feared that on account of the quantity of combustible matter contained in the stores, there might be some terrible explosions, but although there were several reports indicating that powder, and cartridges and liquors had been ignited, still these did not occur until the destructive work had made such progress as to have driven the most of the goods which rendered so much assistance out of the buildings. We may here remark that the

members of the Fire Brigade—a Fire Brigade now no more—displayed their wonted activity, though not in their former capacity. Some boys brought out the inviolated "Victoria," just as if she had renewed her youth, and been capable of doing miracles in the way of work. Of course she was allowed to stand there without any further notice. But the zeal with which all ranks, classes and conditions of the townsmen applied themselves to the work of removing the articles out of reach of harm cannot be too highly commended. Each worked as if he was working for himself, and as if he felt that he had a moral duty to perform, which it would be the greatest iniquity for him to ignore. About seven o'clock all apprehensions of further damage had subsided; the walls, with the exception of the one we have mentioned had fallen, and the materials had gone far towards smothering the flame.

The fire originated in the lamp room of Mr. Mulholland's store; whether from a match having been thrown on the floor, rendered peculiarly inflammable by being impregnated with coal oil, or by the bursting of a lamp is not known, but its progress was so terribly rapid, that two of the clerks who were up stairs at the time were obliged to make their exit by a window in the rear; and another one or two having run across the street for some water to quench the fire were unable to enter when they returned in a few minutes. Both Mr. Mulholland and Mr. Massie saved their books. Much less bodily injury was sustained than an observer would have imagined there would be, considering the flurry and the recklessness of an uncommon excitement. A Mr. McKenzie had his face scorched, and several others suffered a like mishap, though not to such an extent, but there is none of the cases serious.

An approximation to the entire loss may be made from the following facts. Mr. Massie's entire stock is estimated at \$75,000, and he was insured as follows: Western of England \$8,000, Western of Canada \$5,000, Provincial \$4,000, Wellington Mutual \$4,000, Gore Mutual \$4,000, Royal \$9,000, Lancashire \$6,000; total insurance \$40,000. Mr. Mulholland's stock is estimated to have been worth from \$35,000 to \$40,000, insured as follows: North British Mercantile \$8,000, London, Liverpool & Globe \$4,000, Phoenix \$7,000, Royal \$4,000; total insurance \$23,000. Mr. Mulholland had also an insurance on his heavy stock of coal, but that fortunately was altogether untouched. Messrs. Smith & Metcalf had an insurance of \$1,000 on their stock and building. As we said before, the former suffered no further damage than what might be done by a hasty removal. The Alma Block was the property of Mr. W. J. Brown, formerly of Guelph, now of New York, and was insured in the total sum of \$13,000, namely, in the Western \$4,000, in the North British \$4,000, and in the London, Liverpool & Globe for \$5,000.

The part of Mr. Massie's stock which was saved was drawn to Messrs. Todd & Son's old store, and to Messrs. Robins & Tolton's grain storehouse. Detachments of the Guelph Artillery and Rifle Companies were called out and gave very effective aid in guarding the goods from the action of deprecators, until the last of them had been taken away. The crowd gradually dispersed, with the exception of a few who remained long to gaze on the fast expiring embers of one of the most destructive fires that ever took place in Guelph.

DICKENS'S CHRISTMAS STORY.—We have received a copy of Charles Dickens's Christmas story from the publishers Ticknor & Fields, Boston, and from Mr. R. Cuthbert, and Mr. J. T. Day who have it for sale at their bookstores.

VOLUNTEER DISMISSED.—Robert McComb, a volunteer belonging to the Listowel Company was dismissed from the ranks on the 5th inst., for insubordination and improper conduct.

THE LATE FIRE.—It will be seen by advertisement, Messrs. Jas. Massie & Co. have taken proper means for carrying on their extensive business. The retail trade will be carried on at his other store in Day's Block, and customers who deal at the upper store will find that all possible arrangements have been made to accommodate them as before, the staff of salesmen which were at the other store having been transferred to this place so as to manage the increased business. The wholesale trade for the present will be carried on in the old Advertiser office, East Market Square and, it is expected that in a few days matters will be in such a state as to allow the business in that department to be resumed. We are happy to learn that Mr. Mulholland has also taken prompt measures for resuming business. Mr. Bond has rented for the present, the store formerly occupied by Todd & Son, and will open there as soon as a stock can be procured, which will be before many days.

BUSINESS STAGNATION IN THE STATES.—The N. Y. World says that there are upwards of 50,000 men out of employment in the city of New York, and adds that poverty and general destitution prevail among the labouring classes. The destitution among the clerks is said to be indescribable. The World says: "In a commercial panic—if we may so call it—almost impossible to obtain employment. During the last month a large number have been discharged, and those now idle are estimated at over five thousand. Some of them are supported by their relatives and friends; others have mortgaged their future labors; and others still keep themselves by expending the little amounts which their close economy enabled them to lay up for a rainy day. Their wages as every body knows, range from \$500 to \$1,500 a year in good times."

AMERICAN WATCHES.—Recommended by Railroad Engineers, Railroad Conductors, Express men and others requiring the use of an accurate, durable and reliable timepiece. See advertisement.

BY TELEGRAPH

Despatches to the Evening Mercury.

Important Fenian News.

During Attempt to Release a Prisoner. PART OF CLERKENWELL GAOL BLOWN UP. SEVERAL OTHER BUILDINGS DESTROYED. MANY PERSONS KILLED.

The Abyssian Expedition.

BY ATLANTIC CABLE. London, Dec. 13, evening.—A daring attempt was made to-day to release the recently arrested Fenian Col. Burke, who is confined in Clerkenwell prison. Powder was exploded, it is supposed by Burke's confederates. The whole side of the wall was blown into the air. Three adjoining buildings were destroyed, many persons were injured and it is feared some lives were lost. Much confusion prevails in the vicinity and it is difficult to ascertain details.

New York, Dec. 14.—The Herald's London special has the following particulars of the explosion at Clerkenwell prison. None of the prisoners escaped. The street opposite is narrow, and built with houses three stories high. Twenty houses were almost entirely demolished, and rendered untenable. The city firemen were immediately summoned, and are now employed in digging in the ruins for dead bodies. Forty persons were wounded and four have already died. A house opposite to where the breach has been blown in the wall, has been suspected for some time as a Fenian headquarters. The wounded have been removed to hospitals. Ruins are guarded by a strong force of police. The street highway has been ripped up to a considerable distance by the explosion and the walls of the Gaol have fallen to some extent into the breach, revealing the interior of the prison yard. No damage has been done to the prison building. The whole city is terribly excited. Every body feels alarmed, for the serious reason that no one can fortell where the next blow may fall. The government is becoming exceedingly active.

All the Fenian funeral processions projected in Ireland have been strictly prohibited, and measures still more stringent are looked for. It is feared, or, at least, deemed very probable, that some trouble will ensue from the Fenian movement in Liverpool. The police force in Liverpool, or perhaps even in London, is utterly inadequate to deal with such a crisis. Colonel Burke, confined in the Clerkenwell prison is not the man lately sentenced to death in Ireland and transferred to England after commutation of sentence. He is more than suspected of being a very active Fenian, and is at present charged with having taken a part both in organizing and directing the Manchester riot movement during which policeman Brett was shot. It is alleged that Burke had charge of the arms and served them out to Allen, Larkin, Gould, and others, just before the tumult commenced.

Belfast, Ireland, Nov. 13 (evening).—Extensive preparations had been made by the friends of Allen, Gould and Larkin, to hold a public funeral to-day in their honour, but the Government officers interfered, under the authority of the Lord Lieutenant's proclamation, and put a stop to the demonstration.

Glasgow, Dec. 13.—An attempt was made in this city to get up a funeral to-day for the Manchester Fenians, but it was checked by the authorities.

London, Dec. 14.—The police authorities this morning report three killed and 40 badly injured by the Clerkenwell explosion yesterday. The entire process seems to be of opinion that the time for Fenianism has passed. The Fenians have missed. The Times is particularly decided in its remarks, and closes a lengthy article with the following words:—"Let there be no more clemency for Fenianism, which is a mixture of treason and assassination." Rumours are current that Col. Kelly, the Fenian prisoner who was rescued at Manchester, is in England, notwithstanding the stories to the contrary, and that he is still directing the movements of the Fenian brotherhood, and that the explosion was one of his schemes.

London, Dec. 14, evening.—Messrs. Burke and Casey, two of the Fenians who are confined in Clerkenwell prison, were brought to Bow street to-day for examination. Nothing was elicited, and the prisoners were remanded. During the examination Mr. Burke took occasion to deny all knowledge of the cause of the recent explosion in the prison yard. An inquest on the bodies of those killed by the explosion will be held on Tuesday next. Timothy Desmond, Jerry Allen and Anne Justice, who were arrested yesterday near the scene of the explosion, were brought to Bow street to-day for examination. The only proof of the guilt of the prisoners was the fact of their being near the spot, and flying just after the explosion occurred. The prisoners were subjected to a long and sharp examination, in the presence of a large crowd of people. Nothing definite was proved against them, and they were remanded to prison.

London, Dec. 14.—Despatches have been received to-day which go to show that the English captives in the hands of the Abyssinian King, are alive and well. In the meantime, measures are progressing for their rescue. A large force of Egyptians, consisting of four thousand fighting men, have joined the English expedition at Massowah.

Liverpool, Dec. 15.—Special precautions have been taken by government to check any demonstrations or disturbances on the part of Fenians or Orangemen in this city, as this was the day appointed for holding the obsequies of the Fenians executed at Manchester. All the drinking places in the city have been closed by order of the magistrates. The whole police force is on duty; soldiers are held in readiness at their barracks. The vessels of war are all guarded, and volunteers of every class are guarding the docks. As respects