

The Educational Department.

The Toronto correspondent of the Hamilton Times says:—"There is likely to be difficulties between the Government and Dr. Ryerson, in relation to the financial affairs of the Educational Department. It appears that the Rev. Dr. thinks he occupies too elevated a position to be required to give in his demand for supplies, and desires the money to be voted in large sums, to be expended as he thinks proper, moreover, he seems to think that he can raise the salaries of his deputies and clerks at pleasure, and take the amount out of the contingent fund. All this has been in the habit of doing, but the Government desire to put a stop to it in future. The whole system with regard to expenditures in the Educational Department requires to be revised; but it is difficult to do anything so long as Dr. Ryerson remains in his present position, hence the sooner he resigns the better. The country would no doubt hail his resignation with delight, for there is no public man in the country who possesses so little of public confidence."

Arctic Explorations.

The gloomy regions of the North have ever presented a sort of fascination to the many adventurous spirits who have, from motives of curiosity or in endeavors to discover a North-West passage, penetrated far into the dreary expanse of ice and snow at the north of this continent. Evidence is not wanting to prove that the inhospitable shores of Greenland were visited frequently by the sea-rovers of Scandinavia during the period of that country's naval supremacy, in the ninth and tenth centuries. Coming down to later times, we have but to point to the names of Scoresby, Parry, Franklin, Kane, Hall, and various others, as an evidence of the great interest taken by the naval and scientific men of Britain and the States in the exploration of these hyperborean regions. Hitherto, England has taken the lead in sending forth expeditions of discovery to Greenland, but now other nations have displayed an anxiety to vie with her in this matter. Two expeditions have lately been sent from Sweden, but without great success. The highest latitude yet reached was attained by Sir Edward Parry, being 82 deg. 45 min. N. The German expedition which has just returned, only reached 81 deg. 5 min. N. The French are also about to undertake an expedition, which they hope will penetrate even further than Parry.

It is not unlikely that England will feel it incumbent on her to maintain her old prestige in Arctic discoveries, and that a new expedition will be fitted out, surpassing in strength and perfection of appointments any that have before left the shores of England. Experience has taught many how to make better provision against the peculiar dangers which encompass the bold navigator in the polar regions, so that the risk in exploring will be much lessened by the exercise of prudence and forethought.

THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE ACCOUNTS.—The state of the accounts of the Board of Agriculture, together with Mr. Dennison's deficiency, continues to elicit a great deal of discussion. The general opinion throughout the country is that a clean sweep should be made of all the officers. The business of the Board and the Agricultural Association has for many years been done in the most slovenly manner. The officers were either too proud or too lazy to do it: if complaints were made no satisfaction could be obtained, and in many instances, no answer would be vouchsafed to enquiries made by letter. Mr. Dennison's defalcation and the confessed state of his accounts have at last fairly roused the public, and a rigid investigation into its affairs is loudly demanded. Nor is the Board of Agriculture free from censure also. Its members ought to have looked better into its finances, and seen that its funds were properly secured. It seems difficult for people to convince themselves that the defalcation had not been known for a long time, to the officers of the Board, at least. The whole matter is to undergo a thorough investigation by a Governmental Commission. This is, no doubt, fully warranted by the peculiar circumstances of the case.

THE ROSS'S MEETINGS.—According to appointment, a meeting was held on Thursday, at John Fielding's, Ospringe, at 2 P.M., to hear Mr. James Ross give his views on political matters. The meeting was well attended by the most influential electors. Mr. George Martin was called to the chair, and Mr. Robt. Morton was appointed secretary. After a few remarks on the object of the meeting, the chairman called upon Mr. Ross to address the electors. Mr. Ross said that when he was nominated by the Convention which met at Fergus, he, in an address, showed the necessity of economy in the Government, and put the electors on their guard against corruption. Mr. Lazarus Parkinson was then called upon and addressed the meeting in a very able manner, giving Mr. Ross a very high character for integrity and ability. The following resolution, which was carried unanimously, was moved by Mr. Edw. Tolton and seconded by Mr. Duncan Robertson: "That having heard the address of James Ross, Esq., on the leading questions likely to come before the Dominion Parliament, this meeting expresses its confidence in his integrity and ability to represent this Riding in the House of Commons; and that we pledge ourselves to give him our hearty support in order to secure his election." After a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting dispersed.

A man named James Bazzard died suddenly at Streetsville on Saturday of colic from tremors.

Legislature of Ontario.

Toronto, Jan. 11.

The House was engaged in discussing several bills affecting insurance companies, such as amending the act, incorporating the Whitley & Port Perry Railway Company. Mr. Scott moved the second reading of the Bill to grant relief to Lady Smith, and to enable her to manage the estate of her late husband, Sir Henry Smith. Mr. Blake delivered a very able speech in opposition to the interference by the Legislature with the rights of private property, apart altogether from the merits of Mr. Scott's Bill, which was the subject matter of debate. Mr. Blake's speech was very valuable, as exhausting the whole argument against practices in which the present Attorney-General is too apt to indulge. The bill was read a second time.

Dreadful Accident in Rochester.

HEARTRENDING SCENES.—The telegram furnished on Wednesday night gives a brief account of a sad accident in Rochester by which several lives were lost and a large number of persons in various ways wounded by the fall of a school room floor. On the evening of the 6th inst., the pupils and teachers of German Catholic School of St. Peter and St. Paul on East Maple street, assembled in their large school room, on the second floor of the building with their parents and friends to enjoy an entertainment in the celebration of the festival of the Epiphany. The number present was quite large, completely filling the front school room on the second floor. At about nine o'clock, without a moment's warning, the flooring gave way in the centre, and the whole mass of humanity was plunged into a vortex in which men, women and children, broken, maimed and crushed, mingled with the wreck of matter. The work of destruction and death was caused by the fall of the second floor, where old and young were thrown together, with the broken timbers, plastering and iron pillars thrown upon them. The crash and cries of agony alarmed the whole neighbourhood, and were heard at a long distance. It was found that the large iron pillars supporting the flooring above had crushed to death a young German, Bernard Dormer, and his wife, who were clasped in a mutual and final embrace. Near by were some twenty or more others, some broken and mangled, some dead. As soon as possible the dead and wounded were removed, in a house of a priest near by, the scenes were cruelly touching. On one table, ghastly and rigid lay the forms of two dead women, Mrs. Rinek and Katie Lawrence, the one nearly three score, the other only fifteen, with heads crushed and bloody, and faces clothed with their own gore—awful visions of sudden and instantaneous death. These bodies were perfectly limp, and not a bone in the body remains uncrushed. In the next room lay Mr. David C. Way, who can hardly recover, cared for carefully by two city doctors. On the floor a little creature lay groaning and sobbing with a broken arm. Every attention was being paid to these unhappy sufferers.

In still another room, an old man, Geo. Poppo, lay on the floor, no relatives to mourn or care for him; but over him sat a sad and tearful woman, rocking mournfully over the stranger, who was her lodger. His face was peaceful, and save the bandage which upheld his jaw, one would have imagined him sleeping. Beyond him on the floor was the most pathetic of all the night's bloody work. A little girl, with bloody swollen feet, lay in the painful attitude of one who had struggled for life. Black purple streaks disfigured the face, and the mouth was compressed in the most unutterable agony. Her head, covered with flaxen curls, was dabbled with her own life blood, and her hands still retained a clotted mat of hair, pulled from the poor head in the struggle with death. This was the girl, Maggie Weiss. She lay desolately in one corner, unmourned and unnoticed save by the curious. In the church, which was thrown open, an agitated mass swayed, some to see with awful forebodings, others to see with melancholy curiosity. Laying in one seat, closely beside each other, as in the crush of destruction lay the shattered forms of Bernard Donno and wife. The bodies were mangled frightfully, deep gashes were plowed in bloody furrows across their faces, rendering recognition next to impossible. Immediately opposite the school, at Mr. Tanney's, lay the bodies of Miss Emma Beers and Mrs. Catharine Spairl. The former, a Miss of thirteen, the adopted daughter of Chas. G. Beers, was taken to the festival by a servant, who was badly wounded also. Miss Beers lay stark and rigid, her face black and rigid with scars, as though lashed by pitiless thongs. Mr. Beers was from town, and no one seemed to have sent for the mother of the unfortunate child. In a room adjoining lay the last of the victims, Mrs. Spairl, whose husband, curious to say, was barely saved from a similar accident by the falling of a building in town. The grey hair of the woman fell in thin bloody clots about her forehead and peacefully closed eyes, with a tearful canvas and pathos trying for the strongest to see without tears. Besides many more or less seriously injured, seven people were found quite dead. Several of the wounded will never recover from the effects of their injuries.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE.—The following are the resolutions passed at the meeting of the Synod of the Church of Scotland, at Kingston, on Friday last, in reference to the maintenance of Queen's College:—"That this Synod having taken under its serious deliberation the emergency which has arisen in the financial position of Queen's College, unanimously resolve, 1st.—That it is of the greatest importance to the interests of the Church and superior education generally, that this institution be efficiently maintained. 2nd.—That under these circumstances, it is the paramount duty of the Synod to appeal to the Church and the community to supply the funds needed for this object. 3rd.—That the members of the Synod, of the Board of Trustees and of the Corporation of the College, now present, pledge their utmost aid and influence to accomplish the endowment of the institution to the amount of at least \$100,000. 4th.—That for the carrying out of these resolutions, a committee composed of members taken from the Synod, the Board of Trustees and the Corporation, be and are hereby appointed; and not to tam alone shall be entrusted the method of securing the end in view, but they are to confer with the Board of Trustees on the best mode for increasing the efficiency of the institution."

The Rochester "Chronicle" tells this appalling story.—During Robert Lincoln's recent journey from Chicago to Boston, he got out of his car, and while walking along the railroad track slipped and fell before an advancing engine. A gentleman passing at the time saved his life by dragging him from the track, and getting up and looking for his preserver, he recognised Edwin Booth. No words were spoken, Mr. Booth walking rapidly away. We give this story as it is told to us.

18,000,000 DOLLARS.

The Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company has accumulated a capital of over EIGHTEEN MILLION DOLLARS, and has arrived at the extraordinary condition where the income from Annual Interest alone is more than sufficient to pay all its losses. Who would not insure in such a company? GEORGE ROBBINS, Agent for Guelph. do 2t

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

COULSON HOUSE, GUELPH, Jan. 12th, 1869. Edward Gordon, Port Elgin; Wm Wilson, Kincaidine; Joseph Herald, Hamilton; D. McAlpin, Port Hill; Joseph Moss, Montreal; E. J. McMahon, Toronto; G. D. Ferguson, Fergus; A. Valentine, Fergus; Dr. Pastore, Paisley; M. Dow, Detroit; J. Nay, Toronto; J. J. Marshall, Ingersoll; Mrs. Rowes, Neustadt; John Cook, Peel; James Fairbairn, Walkerton; Wm Hazard, Harrison; Lewis Shomaker, Greenock; C. Sauer and daughter, Grand Rapids, Michigan; James Pettiman, Tilsonburg.

New Advertisements.

HOUSE WANTED. Having six or seven rooms. Address, F. Mercer Office, Guelph. Guelph, Jan. 5 1869. do 1f

SPEED LODGE. THE regular monthly meeting of Speed Lodge will be held in the Masonic Hall, over the Bank of Commerce, on Tuesday evening, January 12, at half-past 7 o'clock. ROBERT CUTHBERT, Secretary. Guelph, Jan. 8, 1869. do 1t

PUBLIC NOTICE. The subscriber has to intimate that during his absence in England all orders left at the shop will be promptly attended to as usual. Parties indebted to him will please call at his house and settle as early as possible. W. H. JACOMB. Guelph, 6th Jan. do 2t

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC. The subscriber begs to inform his patrons and the public that during his absence in Scotland his business will be carried on as usual. Parties requiring work will please call at his shop, Market Square, where all orders will receive prompt attention. Guelph, 6th Jan. do 2t JAS. BARCLAY.

INSOLVENT ACT of 1864.

ROBERT HILL, PLAINTIFF, THOMAS McDONALD, DEFENDANT. A WRIT OF ATTACHMENT has issued in this cause. GEO. J. GRANGE, Sheriff. Guelph, Jan. 12, 1869. do 1f

AUCTION SALE IN ERAMOSA.

HORSES, CATTLE, HOGS, IMPLEMENTS, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c. W. S. G. KNOWLES will offer for sale by public Auction, by order of Mr. John W. Armstrong, On Friday, January 29, 1869, And following days, until the whole is disposed of, the following valuable property, viz: 7 good farm horses various ages; 4 head of feeding cattle, 2 cows in calf, 7 yearling heifers, 1 thorough bred Durham bull with pedigree, 3 heifer calves, 8 pigs, 1 good bear. Implements comprising a Combined Reaper and Mower, a single Reaper, 1 drag saw, 1 circular saw, 2 wagons, 1 carriage, 1 cow buggy, 2 cutters, 2 wheat cultivators, 3 iron ploughs, 2 wooden do, 1 set of harness, seed drill, turnip drill, horse-power fanning mill, 4 sugar kettles, 100 sap buckets, roller, and a variety of other useful articles. Also a quantity of Household Furniture, comprising chairs, tables and sofas, bedsteads and bedding, delph, an excellent meal-sieve, sewing machine, electric battery, kitchen furniture, &c. Sale to commence at 11 o'clock, sharp. Terms, \$10, and under cash, over that amount 12 months' credit on approved joint notes. The farm, if not previously sold, will be offered for sale the same day. Terms single known at the time of sale. The whole of the above will be sold without reserve, as the proprietor is leaving the country. Guelph, Jan. 12, 1869. do 1f Weekly Advertiser copy twice.

ANNIVERSARY SERMONS & TEA MEETING.

SERMONS to commemorate the opening of the new Congregational Church, In this Town, will (D. V.) be preached on LORD'S DAY, JANUARY 17, 1869. In the morning at 11 o'clock, and in the evening at 6.30, by REV. E. T. BROMFIELD, Late Minister of Holloway Congregational Church, London, England. In the afternoon at 3 o'clock, by REV. W. CAVAN, Professor of Theology in Knox's College, Toronto &c. Collections on behalf of the Church Building Fund, will be made at each service.

TEA MEETING

The Annual Tea Meeting will be held On Monday Evening, Jan. 18, Commencing at 6 o'clock. After tea addresses by several speakers, and appropriate music by the Church Choir may be expected. Tickets, 25 Cents. May be had at the stores of Messrs. A. Thompson & Co., J. McNeil, and at the door. Guelph, Jan. 12. do 1f

THE BOUND VOLUME FOR 1868

British Workman Children's Friend Band of Hope Sunday at Home Leisure Hour

AT DAY'S BOOKSTORE

Opposite the Market. Guelph, 25th December. do

THREE SHEEP STRAYED.

Strayed from the premises of the subscriber, Elton Road, about five weeks ago, three Ewes, two White and one Black. If he thought they went into the neighborhood of Paisley Block. Any one returning them to the owner, or giving information as to their whereabouts, will be rewarded. GEORGE SMITH, Butcher. 11, 2a Road, Jan 9. do 1f

THE GREAT BLANKET SALE AT A. O. BUCHAM'S WILL BE CONTINUED THIS WEEK. Guelph, Jan. 12, 1869. do 1f

COPIES SOLD OF THE JEHEIAH, and 125,000 of the HARK OF JUDAH, two admirable books of Sacred Music for Choirs, Singing Schools, Musical Conventions, &c., by L. O. EMERSON. Every Choir and Singing School should have them, for they will be sure of giving satisfaction. Price of each, \$1.38. Sent post-paid. A liberal discount made on quantities. O. DITSON & CO., Publishers, 277 Washington Street, Boston. C. H. DITSON & CO., 711 Broadway, New York.

BALTIMORE OYSTER DEPOT! WYNDHAM STREET, GUELPH. PLATT & CO'S BALTIMORE OYSTERS! IMPORTED DIRECT. GEORGE WILKINSON Sole Agent. Guelph, 4th January. do

VALUABLE and DESIRABLE DWELLING HOUSE FOR SALE.

That eligible and commodious Stone Dwelling House and Lot, containing nearly half an acre of ground, with large Stables and out-houses complete, the residence of the late Dr. Parker, situated on the corner of Market and Dublin Streets.—This property is but a short distance from the Market and business part of the Town, and is an admirable location as a dwelling for a professional or business man. The above property will be sold on easy terms, which may be known by applying to GEORGE ELLIOTT, or N. HIGGINBOTHAM, do 1m Executives. Guelph, Jan. 2. do 1f

NOTICE TO DEBTORS.

ESTATE LATE DR. PARKER. The Executors of the late Dr. Parker have placed the Medical Accounts of the said Estate in the hands of Mr. B. MEREDITH for collection, who is authorized to grant receipts for the same. He will be found at the store of Messrs. C. & T. Meredith, west side of Wyndham Street, a few doors below the Old Post Office. All accounts not paid by 1st February next will be put in suit in the Division Court. GEORGE ELLIOTT, N. HIGGINBOTHAM, EDWARD BLAKE, do 1m Executives. Guelph, Jan. do 1f

BOARDING.

Parties requiring board can be accommodated with good bedrooms in a first-class Boarding House, situated near the Post Office. Address A. B. Guelph-Post Office, or apply at his Office. an. 2.

HOUSE AND LOT FOR SALE.

For sale, a house and lot. Terms, easy. Apply personally, or by letter. W. S. BALL. Guelph, Jan. 7. do 1f

APPRENTICE WANTED.

Wanted at THE MERCURY OFFICE an apprentice to the Printing business. A stout, active lad, possessing a good English education, 16 or 17 years of age, from the country preferred. Application to Guelph, 3rd December.

MONEY TO LEND.

The undersigned are requested to obtain FARM Securities for several thousand dollars, to be lent at moderate interest. LEMON & PETERSON, Barristers, Solicitors, &c. Guelph Dec. 29th, 1868. do 1f

BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES.

CHURCH-ST. GUELPH. MISS WIGHTMAN begs to announce that her school will re-open (D. V.) on the 4th of January, 1869. Guelph, 24th December. do

New Advertisement. 1869 FEARFUL PANIC. 1869 \$15,000 WORTH OF CANADIAN GOODS To be rushed off before the 1st March, at the BRITANNIA HOUSE. IN ORDER to make room for Spring Goods HEFFERNAN BROS. are determined to clear out their Immense Stock of Canadian Goods AT PANIC PRICES! Consisting in part of TWEEDS, FULL CLOTHS, SATINETTS, FLANNELS, BLANKET, coats, SHIRTS, DRAWERS, &c. Call at once, and call early. THIS IS ONE OF THE FEW CHANCES THAT RETAIL PURCHASERS have of Buying Goods at LESS than Wholesale Prices. HEFFERNAN BROTHERS. Britannia House, Wyndham-St., Guelph. Jan 9. do

Retiring from the Retail Trade. ENTIRE STOCK OF DRY GOODS TO BE SOLD OUT. WM. STEWART, In returning thanks to his friends and the public for the liberal patronage bestowed on him for the last thirteen years, respectfully intimates his intention of retiring from the Retail Business. In order to facilitate the entire clearance of Stock, he will on WEDNESDAY, 6th JANUARY, commence the GREAT SALE, when Goods will be offered at Cost, and in many cases under. The public should take advantage of this rare opportunity of securing first-class Goods at the Lowest Prices ever offered in Guelph. The reputation of the Stock being so well known for extra quality, and being composed of New and Fashionable Goods, all may rely on extraordinary Bargains. On and after the 2nd of January the Books will be closed, and during the sale Goods will be sold only FOR CASH. N. B.—This is no clap-trap sale, as the subscriber is positively retiring. WILLIAM STEWART. Wyndham Street, Guelph } Dec. 30th, 1868. do

LANGDON. MY STOCK OF GROCERIES, TEAS, WINES AND LIQUORS Is now complete, and I am prepared to sell Goods as low as any House West of Montreal, no matter what their pretensions may be. Give me a call and prove it. In stock, Very fine Black, Young Hyson and Japan Teas Coffees, Tobaccos, Sugars Pickles, Sauces, Lobsters, Sardines, Bottled Ales and Porter. Wines and Liquors--Best Brands Martell Brandy, Jules Robit Brandy, Pinet Castillon & Co's Brandy, Seignette Brandy, Holland & Old Tom Gin, Rum, very fine Old Port Wine, Pale and Brown Sherry, Hay's Scotch Whisky, Canliche Scotch Whisky, Stewart's Scotch Whisky, Dunville's Irish Whiskey, Windsor Pure Rye and Malt Whiskey, Bourbon Whiskey. Labrador HERRING, Lake Huron Herring, White Fish, Salt, &c., very low. J. J. LANGDON. Guelph, 5th January. do

Christmas and New Year's Gifts For Christmas and New Year's Presents go to JOHN R. PORTE'S JEWELLERY and FANCY STORE. Nextdoor to Mr. Berry's Confectionery Store, Wyndham Street. The following choice articles will be found in Stock. Ladies' Companion Ladies' Work Boxes Ladies' & Gents' Writing Desks Chessmen, Chess, Draught and Cribbage Boards, Inkstands, Book Slides, Vases, Parian Figures, &c. WATCHES, CLOCKS & JEWELLERY Of every description, and at all prices, to suit purchasers. A LIBERAL DISCOUNT ALLOWED DURING THE HOLIDAYS. Guelph, 17th December. do JOHN R. PORTE.