[illegible] the mill seat to be [illegible] same [illegible] as [illegible] on a division by a majority of [illegible].

Mr. Hayes moved, seconded by Mr. Gibson, that the Warden and Clerk be a committee to compile with the Rules of order of Council during the ensuing session commencing the first Tuesday in June next, to be used in equalizing the assessment rolls of the current year, so that they may enter into the circumstances under which these rules have been adopted, and that the Clerk be requested to allow the Clerk to take a request of the same from the register for this purpose.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Young, that the Warden and Clerk be authorized on behalf of this Council to memorialize the Legislature to so amend the Assessment Act as to cause personal property to be assessed wherever it is found, without any exception whatever.

The Council went into committee of the whole, Mr. D. D. Wilson in the chair.

A great deal of discussion took place upon the motion, the feeling being strongly in favor of making no distinctions whatever in assessing. Merchants, it was held, should be assessed for the stock in their possession and no attention should be paid to the debts which were owing for their stock—all property was to be assessed at its proper value and without distinction.

On a division the motion was carried by a majority of 18 votes, and on the Council resuming, the vote was confirmed.

The Reeve, of Bayfield, Wellington Cramer, Esq., presented his certificate and took his seat.

GRAVEL ROADS.

Moved by Mr. D. D. Wilson, sec. by Mr. Hays, that, in order to keep the following roads in efficient state of repair, viz: London road; Clinton road, northwards to Bruce; Northern gravel road, Ashfield gravel road, Seaforth gravel road northwards to Belmore and westward to Kippen, Bayfield road in Stanley, Bayfield road in Goderich Tp., Hay and Stephen gravel road, and Huron road, the statute labor naturally appertaining to said roads shall be utilized, and for every dollar expended by each municipality in said roads in addition to the statute labor this Council will grant an equivalent to statute labor; they shall spend $20 per mile before receiving any equivalent from the County, the Reeve and Clerk of each municipality to certify that all of said amount has been expended upon the aforesaid roads situated within their respective municipalities. Referred.

Moved by Mr. Simpson, sec. by Mr. Castle, that the County assume the old line of toll gravel roads, with the understanding that the statute labor be expended on the said line of roads. Referred.

Council adjourned until Friday morning.

FRIDAY MORNING.

Report of Mr. Dewar, School Inspector for North Huron was presented in substance as follows:—

The report called attention to the bad effects of changing teachers and irregularity in attendance. During 1875 there were 45 changes, and the present year begins with nearly 40. Many of our young teachers deserve commendation for their pushing energy, but are too ready to leave their schools and go to another. To do this is a bad policy, for a lasting reputation is hardly to be earned by floating from school to school, and it is equally bad policy on the part of trustees to dismiss a teacher who is doing good work because he happens to ask a few dollars more than one who has never tried or perhaps one whom they know nothing of. A teacher who fails cannot be too speedily dispensed with. In the matter of providing accommodation considerable has been done during the past year. Additions have been made to union school house No. 5, Hullett and No. 7, Grey; new schools have been erected in school section No. 6, Hullett; No. 6, Morris; No. 10, Grey; U. No. 13, No. 3 and No. 18, Howick; a church has been converted into a school house in No. 11, Turnberry and an additional section has been formed in Morris. Tuckersmith has abandoned school sections and local trustees for a Township Board of Trustees. I have the most hopeful expectations of the success of the board system in Tuckersmith.

ARCH. DEWAR.

CHARITY.

Moved by Mr. D. D. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Hays, that Mr. McCleary be granted the sum of $100 as charity, as he has had his feet frozen some seven year ago, one of which has not yet healed or likely to heal and consequently he is unable to engage in any remunerative employment.—Referred to Finance committee.

LICENSE FEES.

Moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Yearly, that the Warden and Clerk, on behalf of this Council memorialize the Legislature to have three-fourths of the money resulting from the operation of the License Act now passing through Parliament refunded to the municipalities.—Carried.

Mr. W. W. Connor, Bayfield, was on motion, placed upon the Finance and Salaries, and School and Printing committees.

WEST HURON SCHOOLS.

Mr. J. R. Miller's report of the schools in West Huron was read in substance as follows:—

The report began by stating that educational affairs in this district was greatly improved, teachers taking more interest in their work and the demand for experienced teachers increasing. Every year I have to report several schools ruined by some thoughtless boy or girl accepting a charge that many an old and experienced teacher would shrink from entering upon. The teacher is not to be blamed for this so much as is the trustee, who is placed in a very responsible position which he should not accept unless he intends to fulfil the duties inseparable from the office. The standing of schools for 1875 is more satisfactory than last year being as follows:—

	Excellent.	Good	Middling.	Bad	Very bad.
Ashfield	2	9	1	0	1
Colborne	1	3	2	0	1
Goderich	0	7	2	0	1
Hay	3	5	1	1	0
Stanley	3	3	5	0	0
Stephen	1	8	1	2	0
Usborne	2	3	2	0	0
W. Waw'h	3	1	3	1	0
Exeter	1	—	—	—	—
Total	16	39	17	4	3

Excellent schools have been erected in sections No. 1 and 10, Stanley, both frame; a good brick in No. 12, Usborne; and a brick addition to No. 4 in same Township. Additional accommodation has been furnished in No. 13, Ashfield, and No. 4 W. Wawanosh.

On account of non-reception of several reports I cannot give a satisfactory statistical report; I shall only say that the attendance has been good. The number of second class teachers is considerably increased, and the institutes established in the several districts are doing excellent work, although many do not attend who should, or so irregularly that their interest in such associations eventually dies out. Competitive examinations were held in Ashfield, Colborne, Goderich, Hay, Stephen, Usborne and W. Wawanosh, on which occasions books to the value of $440 were distributed. The funds were supplied by the Township councils, and in the case of Usborne by the Council and Wm. Young, Esq. Reports from trustees show that there is a very large number of children who do not attend school, but the department is taking active measures to secure compliance with the laws of 1874 regarding compulsory education. The question of assistant teachers is the cause of more trouble now than ever. The rule is rigidly enforced from inspectors by the department. The report concluded with an expression of thanks to the members of the Council and the Inspector's many friends throughout the district for their hearty co-operation.

MANCHESTER BRIDGE.

Moved by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Taylor, that the engineer be instructed to have the approach to the Manchester bridge repaired, as it is at present unsafe and there is danger of the new bridge being swept away by the ice-freshet if it be not previously secured.—Referred to Road and Bridge committee.

[illegible] REPORT.

The report of the Road and Bridge committee was presented as follows:—

Your committee have examined thirty-three bridges, the construction of the Brussels bridge [illegible] Fox, and should he not furnish proper securities within one week that it be given to Wm. Wise. We also recommend that the repairs on the bridge on the McKillop gravel road, the bridges north of Brussels, the bridge between Howick and Turnberry, the bridges at Louisa and Wingham and Rodgerville be presented with. We would recommend that the Wroxeter bridge be not assumed by this county; that no action be taken at present in the question of iron bridges. Your committee cannot recommend the building of Graham's bridge, nor the assuming of the two bridges in Grey referred to in Mr. Strachan's motion. We would recommend that the engineer proceed with the erection of the Bennifler bridge, and that we do not exceed the sum of $3,000. With reference to the motion of D. D. Wilson granting aid to gravel roads, and that of Mr. Simpson to assume the old toll roads, we recommend that they be not adopted. We would recommend that the engineer attend to the repairs required in the abutment on the east side of Manchester bridge.

ROBT. BROWN, Chairman.

Moved in amendment to the report by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the contract for the Egmondville bridge be not awarded until some more investigations be made as to the cost of an iron superstructure for the same place be made. Lost on a division by a majority of 35.

Moved in amendment to the report by Mr. Gaunt, seconded by Mr. Brown, that part of the report referring to the Wroxeter bridge be not adopted, but that the said bridge be assumed as a county bridge.—Carried by a majority of 9.

Moved in amendment to the amendment, by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Taylor, that the Council do not assume the Wroxeter bridge, but that a grant of $60 be made towards defraying the expense of repairing said bridge, according to the engineer's estimate of the work done. Lost by a majority of 9. The report was amended in accordance with Mr. Gibson's motion.

Moved in amendment to that part of the report referring to Graham's bridge by Mr. Garrow, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that this Council do appoint a committee composed of Messrs. Davis, Strachan, Kelly, Proctor and Garrow to ascertain and report to this Council at the present session whether it would be most advisable to pass a by-law closing Graham's bridge according to law, or to rebuild and maintain the same.—Carried on a division of 27 to 15.

Moved by Mr. C. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Simpson, that that portion of the report recommending the building of the Bennifler bridge be not granted. Lost by a majority of 37.

Moved by Mr. D. D. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that that portion of the report recommending that the motion of D. D. Wilson in reference to the County roads, be amended in accordance with the motion. Lost by 21 votes.

The report was amended in accordance with Mr. Garrow's motion and finally passed.

TEMPERANCE.

Moved by Mr. Garrow, seconded by Mr. Girvin, that this Council do petition the Local Legislature to abolish all saloon licenses and to enact that no shop licenses to sell intoxicating liquors be granted to persons engaged in other businesses or callings, and that the maximum number of shop licenses be limited by the Legislature with power to each municipality to reduce such number as to refuse to grant any of such licenses.—Carried unanimously.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

The supplementary report of the Road and Bridge committee was discussed, resulting as mentioned in report of morning session.

DOG TAX.

Moved by Mr. Hodgson, seconded by Mr. Hunter, that a tax of $1 be levied on each dog and $2 on each bitch in the County of Huron; that the payment of sheep killed by dogs be dispensed with, and that the Clerk be instructed to draft a by-law in accordance with this motion.—Carried by a majority of 8.

The Jail and Court House committee reported as follows:—The jail was found in good condition. Fourteen prisoners were confined, 12 males and 2 females. We would recommend that a poor woman who has been confined in jail since June last as insane, be removed to an asylum, as well a young man 17 years of age, also insane. The cooking stove needs repairing.

A. GIBSON, Chairman.

FINANCE REPORT.

Your committee on Finance would recommend the payment of the several accounts presented to us. With reference to account of Gibson, Black & Co., repairs to Wroxeter bridge, we recommend it be paid, and also that the County Engineer in letting contracts shall wherever practicable, make written contracts specifying distinctly work to be done and amount to be paid. We would recommend that the sum of $100 be placed in the hands of the clerk for the benefit of Wm. McCleary; that the Treasurer's statement be printed in the minutes, and that the estimates in June be made so as to raise a sufficient sum to obviate the necessity of our Treasurer borrowing largely from the bank; that a by-law be passed authorizing the issue of debentures of the said County for the sum of $265,000, or such less sum as may be required to redeem certain debentures issued under by-law No. 2, passed on the 21st June, 1856, and also that they be made negotiable in England, as we think much better terms can be obtained in selling said debentures there than in Canada; that A. M. Ross, Treasurer of the County, be authorized to proceed to England to assist in negotiating the sale of said debentures; that a sinking fund of two per cent. be provided yearly for the redemption of said debentures as provided by special act, and also that the interest be made payable semi-annually on the 1st days of Feb. and August, if it can be accomplished legally.

D. D. WILSON, Chairman.

SATURDAY MORNING.

PRINTING REPORT.

The School and Printing Committee reported recommending that the reports of the school inspectors be printed in the minutes and that, to enable school trustees to make satisfactory returns, 200 blank forms of reports be printed for distribution by the inspectors as they think best. The lowest tender for County printing is that of the Exeter *Times*, on the assumption that they agreed to print the list of convictions for nothing as they mentioned no figure therefor. Should the proprietor of that paper not do so, then the printing is to be given to the Goderich *Star* office, being the next lowest tender.

J. T. GARROW, Chairman.

GRAHAM'S BRIDGE.

The Clerk read the following:—

Your committee appointed to report upon the Graham's bridge matter, beg leave to recommend that the bridge be legally closed by by-law, and that the clerk be instructed to prepare the necessary by-law for such purpose; that the sum of $600 be granted to the persons whose property will be prejudically affected by closing the bridge, by way of compensation, provided such persons execute to the County a proper release of all claims.

J. T. GARROW, Chairman.

Moved in amendment to report by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. C. Wilson, that the sum of $400 be granted.—Lost.

A motion not to adopt the report was lost by a majority of 27, and it was then submitted and adopted.

On motion the County Engineer's salary was fixed at $900.

By-laws Nos. 1 and 2 were read and passed. The by-law imposing a tax on dogs was read and passed, after a motion to the contrary had been put and lost by a majority of five.

Council adjourned to meet again on third 22nd day of February next, to pass the by-law for the issue of the new debentures.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

Mr. A. M. Ross, County Treasurer, submitted his statement of receipts and actual expenditure for the year ending the following details: Estimated expenditure, $48,346.35; actual expenditure, $47,063.05; surplus, $283.37. The statement of surplus of non-resident taxes, showed a total of $1,939.43. With reference to the item of administration of justice Mr. Ross stated that excess over estimate was due to the increase of crime resulting from the stagnation of business and the erection of lockups at Brussels and Exeter; and the expense for jury purposes, which exceeded the estimate by $703, is owing to the first mentioned cause partially, but mainly to the extra allowance made to jurors, who now receive $1.50 per day. The expenditure for roads and bridges has been less than the estimate by $1,174. Mr. Ross also announced that the bill he had introduced into the Legislature authorizing the County to issue new debentures to redeem the gravel road debentures maturing in July next, now only awaited the royal assent. A letter from Bosanquet, Salt & Co., of London, Eng., in reply to Mr. Ross, was also submitted, speaking favorably of the prospects of a good sale, and expressing the opinion that with money at a moderate rate and a quiet market our bonds should command a premium of say 3 to 4 per cent. Considering the circumstances, Mr. Ross recommended that the debentures be made payable in England.

ENGINEER'S REPORT.

To the Warden and Council—In accordance with instructions I have taken tenders for the construction of a new bridge at Egmondville, with stone piers and Howe truss superstructure. The first bridge on the McKillop gravel road needs repairing, the abutments beginning to fall to pieces, and the bridge on the same line about five miles from Brussels needs attention. Both bridges would be made secure by building cedar abutments. Wroxeter bridge, spanning the north branch of the Maitland, requires one pier and an abutment; the bridge at Londesboro needs a bent at each end; one of the bridges at Wingham crossing the main branch of the river will require a new pier and two abutments if the abutments are not strengthened so as to stand for another year, when it will be necessary to build another bridge. The under structure of the Rodgerville bridge is completely worn away. Some repairs were made in the fall, sufficient to keep it standing until spring. The upper portion of the bridge is still good, and with a new floor and some trifling repairs will enable to last for ten years. I could come to no satisfactory settlement with the parties by whom the work was done on Wroxeter bridge. There were six piles driven, three or four cross pieces and several planks put in, for which $130 is charged. I could have had the work done for $70, and in no case should it exceed $80. Moreover the by-law places the river at this particular place in the Township of Howick, not in Wroxeter.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. BAY, Co. Engineer.

Ontario Legislature.

Monday, Jan. 24.

Mr. Miller, of Muskoka, was introduced, and took his seat.

In answer to Mr. Meredith, Hon. Mr. Mowat said there had been claims made on the Government for rewards for bringing the murderers of Scott to justice. They had been referred to the Chief Justice of Manitoba, he had reported, and the amounts would be asked from the House to pay persons according to his awards.

A number of bills were advanced a stage.

Tuesday, Jan. 25.

Hon. Mr. Mowat moved the second reading of a bill to further amend the law respecting the election of members of the Legislative Assembly, and respecting the trial of such elections. The bill is less stringent than before, but not so as to be less efficient. After some discussion it passed the second reading.

The Education Bill was discussed on the second reading, when Mr. McDougall proposed an amendment to prevent the bill from becoming law until ample time had been given to consider it. The bill was supported on a division of 25 to 45.

Wednesday, Jan. 26.

After recess Hon. Mr. Currie moved the second reading of the bill to abolish Grand Juries, contending that they were useless and expensive, and limited the panel of petit juries, which was lost. The same gentleman's bill to give electors votes in proportion to taxes paid was refused a second reading.

Mr. Creighton moved the second reading of the bill to enable women to vote at municipal elections, and on by-laws requiring the assent of the electors, which was lost on a division by 34 to 31

Thursday, Jan. 27.

Mr. McLeod moved to refer back to the Private Bills Committee their sixth report, with instructions to report the preamble to the Bill respecting the Methodist Church of Canada as proven. Lost on a division of 24 to 39.

The debate on Mr. Deacon's motion, and Messrs. Boulter's and Lauder's amendments thereto, in favor of removing all free-grant lands from the operation of timber licenses, was continued after recess. The motion and amendments were all lost by large majorities.

Friday, Jan. 28.

The Premier's resolution to hold two separate sittings of the House daily, on and after Monday, was carried.

During the discussion of the Education Bill in committee, Hon. Mr. Crooks stated, in answer to Mr Cameron, that it was not the intention to make a new department at present. The duties of Minister of Education would be undertaken by himself in connection with his own department. Hon. Mr. Mowat said there might be a necessity for appointing another Minister, but the Government did not expect it. The Bill passed through committee.

Smith Fleming, aged nine years, was instantly killed near Orillia, on Sunday morning by the fall of a tree.

A young man named John Henderson, employed at an hotel in Kinmount, while attending the stable on Saturday, was kicked by a horse in the abdomen, and his injuries in a short time proved fatal.

Alexander Singleton, was accidentally killed while chopping near Lakefield, on Friday, by a lodged tree falling upon him.

Thomas Caswell, who fell into a cattle guard at Guelph, on Thursday night while walking on the track near the G. T. R. depot, died on Friday afternoon from his injuries.

James Buchanan, a young man boarding at Belmont Hotel, Belmont, had his trunk broken into and $200 extracted. He is a blacksmith carrying on extensive business there, and was proposing to pay a note due on Saturday.

Mr. John Kennedy, 11 concession London Township, tapped a few maple trees on his farm last week and from the sap made twenty-five pounds of extra fine sugar.

Middlesex County Council, on Saturday, adopted a petition to the Legislature recommending no saloon licenses be granted, and that shop licenses be limited to one for each township and incorporated villages one for each 1,000 of the population in towns, and one for each 2,000 of the population in cities; shop licenses to confine helders exclusively to the sale of liquors.

One McGinn was shot by his step-son in Kingston on Friday. The wounded man may recover. The son gave himself up, alleging that McGinn's ill treatment of his mother had driven him to the deed.

Grand Trunk Railway

TRAINS WILL LEAVE GODERICH AS FOLLOWS:

No. 1 Express, 7.00 a. m., for Toronto, London and Buffalo.
No. 7 Mixed, 9.15 a. m., for Stratford.
No. 3 Mail Express 12.20 p. m., for Toronto, Buffalo and Detroit.
No. 9 Mixed, 3.00 p. m.,

TRAINS WILL ARRIVE AS FOLLOWS:

No. 6 Mixed, 11.30 a. m., from Stratford.
No. 2 Mail Express 2.30 p. m., from Toronto, Detroit and Buffalo.
No. 10 Mixed, 7.00 p. m., from Stratford.
No. 4 Express, 10.15 p. m., from Buffalo.

We shall be glad at all times to receive items of local news, reports of meetings, accidents, or any incident of interest either in the locality where it occurs or to the county at large. Such matter may be sent at the rate of one cent per oz. if marked Printer's Copy and not sealed. To ensure publication in any particular issue it should reach the office not later than Monday evening.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

This year we have lowered the subscription price to

$1.00 PER ANNUM,

strictly in advance.

When credit is given, the following are the rates we will charge:—If paid within 3 months, $1.25; if paid within 9 months, $1.50; over that time, $2.00. Send on your subscriptions at once, and enclose cash.

CLUB RATES.

Having made special arrangements we are now enabled to offer the following very liberal club rates for cash strictly in advance:—The SIGNAL and WEEKLY GLOBE for $3.50 a year. SIGNAL and WESTERN ADVERTISER $2.40.—SIGNAL and MONTREAL WITNESS $3. SIGNAL and CANADA FARMER $2. SIGNAL and GRIP $2.50. Every subscriber to the SIGNAL and ADVERTISER gets a premium map of Ontario gratis.

Canvassers wanted.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, FEB. 2, 1876.

Incongruities of Assessments.

The question of assessment has been a fruitful subject of discussion recently in the session of administrative bodies, and during the recent session of County Council frequent reference was made thereto. Such a sweeping proposition as that made in the way of a memorial to the Ontario Legislature towards assessing personal property wherever found, is not expected to be at once adopted but will only tend to call forth further opinions and suggestions from other municipal bodies. The measures taken towards securing a better basis of assessment and more properly equalizing the assessment of the municipalities, are the more important, since we are seeking to make the machinery at present provided to do the work as efficiently as possible. The experience of last year shows the improvement it was possible to make, and with the precautions being taken this year in impressing the assessors more directly with the responsibility of their office the improvements which are still lacking will be secured in a considerable degree.

These remarks have little bearing, however, in connection with the subject of "incongruities in assessments." Assessors are always guided in their work by the rolls in their possession, using valuations of the previous year to give them the key to the valuation in the present. This, of course, is a very good plan; but it sometimes occurs that the valuation of property continues the same from year to year, regardless of the advance in price. This is true of property held by persons outside of towns, such as vacant lots. There are many of these in town, and for many years the assessment has remained the same, although the holders have greatly increased their valuation upon them. One party owns a goodly amount of property here, for which he is assessed at the rate of $100 per acre, and for lots of one-fifth or one-fourth of an acre he asks from $100 to $250. There is a mighty inconsistency here. We might refer to the Canada Company which possesses some valuable sites in the town. On these lots the assessment ranges from $200 to $500, which is generally much less than the price asked for them, some of them being held at $800. Several individuals, citizens of the town, are also assessed at very disproportionate figures, and for what reason it is difficult to tell.

Why reductions should be made to outside owners of property we cannot see. If they are in a position to possess it, they are equally capable of paying taxes in the same proportion as the man who pays taxes only on the property he occupies. Whilst they escape their just share of taxation, they are willing to hold on to the property until they can find a person to purchase from them at their (the proprietor's) own price, thus in a measure retarding the growth of the place. Were this property assessed at the value which is placed upon it by the proprietors, or at a figure arrived at by the assessor after making all reasonable deductions, the owner would be more anxious to sell out, and it would therefore come more speedily into the hands of those who would turn it to better uses than at present. One is inclined to think that influence has something to do in the matter, for the real value of this insufficiently assessed property is very well known and there is no reason why it should not be made to contribute to the finances of the town in the same proportion to its value as does other property. We hope to see this matter attended to, and the great principal of taxation, which is to satisfy the poor man that he is not assessed any higher in proportion to his means than is his wealthier neighbor, carried out.

OUR LUCKNOW cotemporary takes rather strong exception to the manner in which the election of officers of the West Riding Agricultural Society was conducted on the 19th ult. A sectional feeling has been aroused we are sorry to say, and we are grieved to see that the *Sentinel* enters into a public discussion of the subject, which action tends to aggravate the unpleasantness that has obtained. Controversy can effect no good, and we therefore refrain from expressing any opinion but the one, and that is that each and every member should consider it his duty, no matter how the majority may rule, to do everything to sustain harmony. As to the meeting being packed by the people of Colborne and Goderich, that is a question we will leave to the consciences of those interested to decide. It was natural that the southern delegates should have the ultimate object in view of having the show as near home as possible, and if they were present in such numbers as to carry the day, we are inclined to think that it showed where the weight of interest lay.

On Wednesday last, an unknown man stepped upon the railway track near Ottawa, only a few yards in front of an approaching train, and although the whistle sounded the alarm several times, the man appeared to be deaf to all warning. The whistle for "down brakes" was at once given, but it was too late. The pilot struck the man on the back, tossing him up on the engine, where the corpse remained until the train was stopped.

Local News.

ABOUT TOWN.

SUSANNAH EVANS.—This famous lecturer is expected to visit Goderich on the 17th and 18th inst.

FURNITURE.—Mr. Wm. Beaudryn, the Ashfield bard, is in town, and those wishing a copy of his game can purchase from himself.

TO D. FERGUSON'S STORE. He is a good seller for 75 cts. Good Homespun Sugar, 12 lbs for $1. Best Cut Loaf Sugar, 10 cts per pound. All other groceries proportionately cheap. 6

INDISPUTABLE SALE.—Mr. G. M. Truman, on behalf of the vendors' solicitors, Geary & Male of Hamilton, will sell at public auction on Tuesday next, 8th Feb., at 12 o'clock, the buildings and property of the Benickillen Salt Co. See adv. for particulars.

D. FERGUSON is selling Women and Children's Felt Boots and Shoes remarkably cheap. 6

NEW MUSIC.—A. S. Irving & Co., Toronto, have sent us four of the latest issues of their series of five cent music. They comprise the popular pieces "Gently down the stream of time," "Skidmore Guards," "The good old friends," and "Come back to Erin."

D. FERGUSON has a quantity of Frost and Mortarge skates left, selling at low prices. 6

BLESSINGS BRIGHTEN AS THEY TAKE THEIR FLIGHT.—If you have a good head of hair, take care of it; once gone and we realize its loss far more than we appreciate its presence. The BRAHMA is taking the place of all other hair dressings, because it is healthful to the hair and delightful to use. 1502

ARE YOU A BANKRUPT?—Reader, this is not an impertinence, we are not trying to pry into your private affairs, or the details of your business, but if you are bankrupt in health and a sufferer—use Wingate's Blood Purifier and Liver Corrector. 1507ly

D. FERGUSON has a large and well assorted stock of Hardware, which he is selling cheaper than the cheapest. 6

NEW STUDIO.—Mr. R. R. Thompson has removed to the new rooms which have been specially fitted up as a photograph studio in Blake's new block, on the corner of Montreal street and the Square. The rooms are pleasant and airy, well furnished and adapted to the business, and Mr. Thompson has already executed some very fine pictures with his new appliances. See adv. in another column.

AN INTERESTING WORK.—Many works of interest and value have been written upon the country traversed by the great Pacific Railway, but none is more interesting nor so appreciable by Canadians, as a work recently issued from the press of Campbell & Son, Toronto, and written by Rev. W. W. Ross. The title is "Ten Thousand miles by land and Sea," and apart from its neat and tasteful appearance it is a work worthy a place in the library of every Canadian. On the eve of Dominion Day, 1874 the author left Sarnia by boat, to make a pleasure trip to the Occident, and the scenery, incidents of the journey and human characteristics are portrayed with clearness, whilst interesting chapters are devoted to the commercial and agricultural features of the west. There are several prominent features of the "Far West" come to the mind of the public who have heard of the country by repute, such as the praries, the Mormon City, the Sierra Nevadas, the Yosemite valley, &c., all of which receive due attention. After reaching San Francisco the author continued his journey along the coast of the Pacific to the Isthmus of Panama, crossing which he was soon on his way homeward. This part of the journey is written in an equally interesting manner. It is very pleasing to Canadians to possess works of home production, and the volume before us is something to be proud of.

M. B. S. ENTERTAINMENT.—The annual entertainment under the auspices of the Mechanics' Benevolent Association took place on Friday evening, in the Victoria street dancing academy. In previous years it was the custom to have an oyster supper, but this year the lady friends of the members participated in the pleasures of the entertainment, and greatly to its success. A splendid repast was laid out, prepared by the Arthur Bros. in a style which did them credit, and ample justice was done thereto by the large number present. About 120 persons sat down to supper, and during the progress of this part of the programme the night was a very agreeable one. The room was tastefully decorated with evergreens, flags, banners bearing the monogram of the society and other ornaments. After the tables had been cleared away, C. Crabb, Esq., was called to the chair and a few minutes were devoted to hearing remarks from that gentleman and Mr. Kirkbride, as well as a well rendered song from Mr. A. K. Black. The former gentlemen spoke encouragingly of the progress of the Society, and expressed the hope that many more such pleasant gatherings would take place. The pleasantest part of the programme was then introduced, the string band, under the leadership of Mr. Duckham, striking up the music for a Sicilian Circle. Until an early hour in the morning the festivities were kept up with great vigor, one gentleman who had not danced for several years and who has since expressed great penitence, being so carried away by the pleasures of the hour as to dance holes through the soles of his pumps. The affair passed off very pleasantly, and we hope that the annual gatherings of the future will be of the same nature as the one of Friday night, or at least as successful.

WARDEN'S SUPPER.—In accordance with the usual custom, John Leckie, Esq., the newly elected Warden of Huron, entertained the members of the County Council and several invited guests at supper in the dining hall of the British Exchange hotel. The bill of fare was replete with many and elegant delicacies, which were prepared in excellent style by the caterers. Mr. Leckie occupied the head of the table and near to him were seated Horace Horton, M. P., Thos. Greenway, M. P., M. C. Cameron, ex M. P., A. M. Ross, M. P. P., Dr. Thompson, American Consul; Mayor Finlay, Wm. Young, Esq., the County officials and others. The usual patriotic toasts were proposed, followed by a compliment to our neighbors across the lines, on behalf of whom Dr. Thompson neatly responded. In response to the toast of the "Dominion Parliament," Messrs. Horton and Greenway spoke of the efficiency of the present government, the latter gentleman stating that he thought the country was perfectly safe under its present management, and he was satisfied that the wisdom of our statesmen would fully develop the vast resources of the country. Mr. Ross responded on behalf of the Local Legislature, speaking in high terms of the ability of the councillors. Mr. McDermott proposed the health of the "late Warden," and Mr. Young responded by thanking the councillors for the attention he had received during his incumbency, and paying a high compliment to his successor in office. Mr. Ira Lewis in a neat speech proposed "The Warden and Council," to which Messrs. Leckie, Cromwell, Black, Girvin, J. T. Garrow, P. Kelly, Davis, Watson and Hodgson responded in short speeches and Messrs. Strachan and Geiger sang Gaelic and German songs respectively. Mr Cresswell proposed "The Mayor and Council of Goderich," Messrs. Finlay, Hutchison, S. Andrews and J. T. Garrow responding. "The legal profession was proposed by Mr. Strachan, Messrs. McDermott, McDonald, Lewis and Garrow replying. The "County Officials" was next proposed by Mr. Greenway in a few complimentary remarks, and was responded to by Messrs. J. R. Miller, Inspector of Public Schools; Peter Adamson, County Clerk, and A. Dickson, Auditor. Mr. Gibson proposed the health of "the press," Messrs, M, Y. McLean, Seaforth *Expositor*; A. C. Simmons, *Star*, and Jas. F. Dickson, SIGNAL, responding. During the evening excellent songs were sung by Messrs. Geo. Gibson, G. N. Davis, Hays, Gerrie, Gibson and Castle. The party broke up at a late hour, after having spent an exceedingly pleasant evening.

JOHN S. GORDON.—Don't forget that this famous orator will lecture upon "Blunders and Mistakes" in North St. church on Tuesday evening next. None should fail to take advantage of this opportunity.

PAREGORIC.—On Wednesday evening last, at the close of the prayer meeting in Knox church, Miss McKay, who for the past eighteen years has been one of the singers in the choir, was made the recipient of a handsome testimonial consisting of a splendid gold watch and chain costing $60. Rev. Mr. Ure in a few brief remarks recapitulating the valuable services of Miss McKay in the choir of Knox Church, made the presentation. No one has better earned such a token of regard on the part of the congregation than Miss McKay. The watch was purchased from Mr. W. T. Welsh, and is a handsome one.

Y. M. C. A.—The member's social held in the rooms on Thursday evening last, was largely attended, and a very pleasant and interesting time was spent. Mr. Howell gave many beautiful scenes on canvass with the aid of his magic lantern, giving an illustration of the Pilgrim's Progress from the time he makes a start for the promised lands until he is seen fording the river Jordan to enter the gates of the celestial city. He also gave many fine stereoscopical views of the planets, besides a number of comic scenes that excited no small amount of amusement. After the refreshments were served, the sale of papers commenced, good bidding being indulged. During the evening good music was discoursed, and all seemed well pleased with the entertainment.

STILL IN BUSINESS.—The impression has obtained amongst Mr. Wm. Hilliard's customers and the public generally that he had ceased business in the stand on Eastvstreet, but we are glad to see that he still continues to attend to the wants of those needing flour, grain, mill feed, &c. Mr. Hilliard is a man of such experience that any who patronize him may be sure of receiving satisfaction, and we heartily recommend him to the public. We are pleased to learn that there is a prospect of Mr. Hilliard's flour mill being re-erected during the coming summer, and should this be done the best wishes of success will be tendered him from the entire community.

CURLIANA.—On Saturday evening last a meeting took place in the Colborne Hotel of the members of the Goderich Curling Club, when it was resolved that the club play for the Sedgewick Medal against Lucknow, at Dungannon about the second week in February, if the weather is favorable. The following rinks were named: No. 1—Henry Horton, skip, H. Cooke, T. Hood and J. H. Finlay. No. 2—M. Hutchison, skip, T. Dancey, A. M. Ross and P. Adamson. No. 3—C. A. Humber, skip, Capt. Thomson, E. Martin and T. J. Moorehouse. The club decided not to participate in the Hamilton bonspiel. It was also resolved that the Secretary notify the St. Marys and Sarnia clubs of the willingness of the Goderich club to play them a friendly game at the former place at any convenient time.

REDUCED OCEAN RATES.—The Allan line of steamships, in order to meet the requirements of the times, have made a reduction in their cabin fares. The forward cabin berths, which, in most of their vessels, are on the saloon deck and most desirably situated, can now be obtained at the reduced rate of $64 55, which includes first class railway fare from Goderich to Portland. Intermediate passengers are now carried by the mail steamers, as well as by their Glasgow line, at very low rates, which will be found to be a great boon to many, who will, no doubt, avail themselves of the new intermediate accommodation. Steerage passengers by the Allan line are well treated and cared for, and the rates of passage are the same as by any other line. Mr. A. Wily, station master, is agent for Goderich.

SUMMER HOTEL.—Stockholders will see by advertisement in another column that another call of 10 per cent has been made, payable on 15th inst. It is to be regretted that many stockholders take so little interest in the welfare of this scheme that they neglect paying the calls as they are made. It is highly important that these calls be paid promptly, and in view of this the board of directors decided, at a meeting on Monday evening to take legal proceedings against all delinquents. As required by law a list of all stockholders is posted up in the Secretary's office showing all particulars of the amount of stock they hold and if calls have been paid or not. There will be a public meeting of stockholders in the Council chamber on Monday evening next at eight o'clock for general business. It is desirable to have every stockholder present as an interesting report will be read and other matters brought before the meeting. The public generally will be welcomed.

MAITLANDVILLE.

A SLIGHT UNPLEASANTNESS.—For a number of years past the Union Sabbath School and temperance organization in Maitlandville have been accustomed to meet regularly in the school house, by permission of the trustees and without objection from any of the ratepayers, the greater majority of whom were interested in the good institutions mentioned. After the election of a school trustee, however, in which an old member of the board was defeated, a protest was entered against permitting the school to be used for other, than school purposes, and much against their will, we believe, the trustees had to refuse admission to the Sunday School scholars and the members of the temperance lodge. Much indignation is felt that, at the instigation of one offended individual, the harmony of the community has been disturbed, but the blame being with the party who protests—it only being in the power of the trustees to give the use of a school house on their own personal responsibility—the trustees have had to act accordingly. The citizens have, however, taken the matter vigorously in hand and have already collected a large amount towards the erection of a temperance hall, and we hope that the good object will receive the libe ral support it deserves.

CLINTON AND VICINITY.

PRESENTATION.—Miss Wade organist of the Bible Christian Church was recently presented with a purse of $25 by the congregation.

FAT HELPER.—Messrs. J. & J. Townley butchers, have a two-year-old heifer, of their own feeding, which weighs 1,250 lbs.

MINISTERIAL.—Rev. Dr. Wall, of St. Stephens, Huron Road (near Goderich) has accepted the Rectorship of the church vacated by the removal of Mr. Desbarres, to St. Thomas, and will soon enter upon his labors here.

FIRE.—On the morning of the 19th ult., a fire broke out in the barn of Mr. Martin, pedlar, which came near resulting seriously to him. Through the exertions of the crowd which collected, the fire was got under control. Mr. Martin's loss will be about $100.

ANNUAL DINNER.—The annual dinner in connection with the Hullett Branch Agricultural Society will be held on the evening of Feb. 10, at Knox's Hotel, Clinton. Mr. John Snell, of Edmonton, who is famous as a stock raiser, Mr. W. Weld, of the *Farmer's Advocate*, and others are expected to be present to deliver addresses.

SAD CASE OF DESTITUTION.—We give the following, as furnished us, but hope for the credit of the town that the picture may turn out not as bad as represented. A short time since (during the cold weather) the wife of a recently arrived English emigrant was confined. Some of the neighbors, hearing of it, went into render what assistance they could at such a time, and found the poor woman lying on some straw, without a particle of fire, and not a mouthful to eat in the house. With that sisterly kindness and sympathy which characterize the female sex, the wants of the woman were at once relieved and everything done for her comfort. We believe, the town Council have also given some assistance to the sufferers.—*New Era.*

LOCAL JOTTINGS.

—The weather is fickle.

—Monday, 14th inst., is St. Valentine's day.

—A McKillop ewe gave birth to a lamb on the 23rd ult.

—A ewe belonging to Mr. H. Buttery, Grey, gave birth to a large, sprightly lamb on the 24th Jan.

—A tea meeting will be held in the Presbyterian church, Fort Albert, on the evening of the 15th inst.

—A farmer's grange has been established in Morris. In Grey the body is increasing rapidly.

—Teachers' Institute meetings will take place at Seaforth on 5th Feb., and at Varna on the same day.

—Mr. Rich. Carter, of the east half of lot 13, Huron Road, Tuckersmith, has sold his farm to Mr. John Wise, for $3,100. The farm contains