CANADIAN NEWS.

A [illegible] has been carried in Chatham [illegible] license $300; shop, $100; and tavern, $150.

An Ottawa despatch says that ladies are to be eligible as copying clerks in the Departments at Ottawa henceforth.

A firm in Ottawa are shipping a large consignment of doors and sashes for the Australian market.

Patrick Murphy, of Ottawa, on Friday beat his wife in the neck cutting her throat. The woman will not recover.

[illegible], Jr., Opposition, and [illegible], Ministerial, were nominated to the Commons in North Renfrew on Friday.

A man named Smith fell through the ice on Black Creek, Belleville, last week, and was drowned before assistance could be obtained. The body was recovered.

J. R. Smith, an herb doctor, was fined before for practising medicine with out a license. He was fined $25 and costs. He gave notice of appeal.

A lunatic named David, of Leprairie, cut his throat with a razor in a lunatic asylum adjoining Montreal, and was found dead in his bed.

Mr. P. Morrison, a carpenter, was found in the road a few miles from Lakefield, frozen to death, on Wednesday night. It is supposed he was under the influence of liquor.

Mr. Robertson, a farmer, living near Adolphustown, was kicked by a horse on Wednesday evening, and had his skull badly fractured. He died next morning.

The family Mr. P. Byan, driver of the Lucan and London stage, owing to the breaking of an axle as the stage was near London, fell under the wheel and broke his leg.

In Orillia on Friday a thief stole $320 from an office, and being pursued attempted to escape by crossing the Narrows, connecting Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching, but the ice gave way and the man was drowned. The body and money were recovered.

A true bill has been found against Clements, the man who obtained the services of "Dr." Davis in procuring an abortion upon the person of Jane Gilmour. He is awaiting trial as an accessory before the fact and the murder.

A young man, twenty-two years of age, named John Smith son of the proprietor of St. James Hotel in Toronto, while skating on the bay on Thursday afternoon with five others, fell through the ice and was drowned.

The Ottawa *Free Press* says a Bill will be introduced at the next session of the Dominion Parliament providing that the interference of any priest or minister of any religious denomination whatever in an election of a member to the House of Commons will be sufficient to invalidate such election. This will be proposed by a private member.

Two Frenchmen one night last week attempted to commit an indecent assault upon a woman named Mills, in Ottawa. She defended herself with a butcher knife and drove them off. They afterwards attempted to outrage her daughter, aged 13 years. Both men have escaped.

The petition against the return of Mr. Kenneth Chisholm for Peel has been withdrawn. He took his seat in the Legislature last week for the first time. Application, however, is to be made before one of the judges for permission to renew the petition.

The end is coming, as the following letter by John Patterson, of Listowel, will testify:—"It has been revealed by the "Spirit of the Lord," to the Church of God, in Listowel; that, at midnight, on the first day of March, 1876, shall appear, "the Sign of the Son in the Heavens;" and, on the first day of April, at twenty minutes past four, in the morning. The Lord Himself shall descend from Heaven, to raise the dead and change the living!" All Fools Day will come no doubt.

A sheep had its pelt taken off recently by the shaft of a threshing machine on Mr. Wm. McBride's farm in East Garafraxa, County of Wellington. The sheep was stepping over the tumbling shaft, when the wool at one side got caught. In an instant the pelt split up the belly, and was wound around the shaft and taken off clean to the ears. The sheep would have made off without its pelt, but it was immediately caught and bled.

The fishermen in the vicinity of Col. Ingwood complain loudly against the present fishery act, which makes the close season for trout and white fish from the 13 of November to the first of December. It is asserted that by this law fishermen on the west shore of Georgian bay alone have lost over $24,000 during the past season. Americans are allowed by their Government to set pound nets and catch even the small or young whitefish at Long Point, on Lake Erie, and many of our best fish seines have already removed to the American side.

SEAFORTH AND VICINITY.

An Oddity.—Week before last Mrs. R. J. Hazlewood, of this town, plucked in her garden five large pansies in full bloom.

Sympathy.—The friends of Mr. Wm. Rehill entertained him a few evenings ago at a complimentary supper, on the eve of his desertion from the ranks of bachelorhood.

School Trustees.—Dr. Coleman and Mr. Mabee have been re-elected for the East and South Wards respectively, and Mr. R. Lumsden was elected for the North Ward.

District Lodge Meeting. The district Lodge, Independent Order of Good Templars, of the West Riding of Huron, will meet in Seaforth on Thursday next, the 20th inst. A public meeting will be held in the Town Hall in the evening to be addressed by Mr. Knowlton, P. G. W. C. T., and others. A good attendance is particularly requested, as matters of importance will be brought before the meeting.—*Expositor.*

CLINTON.

A Call Accepted.—We understand that Rev. Mr. Desbarres, of St. Paul's Church, has received and accepted a call from St. Thomas, to which place he will shortly remove.

Vital Statistics.—The following are the number of births, marriages and deaths registered in this town for the year 1875:—Births, 90; Marriages, 38; Deaths, 28.

School Trustees.—The election of four Trustees for the Common School, took place on Wednesday, and resulted in the return of Mr. Leslie, for St. John's Ward; Dr. Reeve, for St. Andrew's; R. Coats, for St. George's; and J. McGarva, for St. James.

Accident.—On Monday evening of last week, while Mr. J. Welsh, V. S., of this place, was coming along the Huron Road, towards town, accompanied by his wife, they met with a serious accident. When a short distance out of town, a dog frightened the horse, which jumped to one side of the road, crossed the ditch, and ran up against a fence, throwing them both out of the buggy on to the hard ground. Mr. Welsh was unhurt, but Mrs. Welsh received severe external injuries. Under medical treatment she is slowly recovering.

Oddfellows.—At a regular meeting of Clinton Lodge No. 83, I. O. O. F., held on Tuesday evening, the following officers were installed by W. Foster, P. G., for the ensuing term:

James A. Tuff	N. G.
James Ferguson	V. G.
A. Calhoun	R. S.
Thos. Mallett	P. S.
D. B. Morrison	Treas.
R. L. Walden	Con.
Thos. Lee	Warden.
Joseph Ridout	C. G.
Geo. Ward	I. G.
C. Cronsberry	R. S. N. G.
Thos Salt	L. S. N. G.
R. Haywood	R. S. S.
S. H. Hecox	L. S. S.
W. J. Hemphill	R. S. V. G.
R. Wasmuth	L. S. V. G.

New Era.

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. Correct publication in any particular case is it should reach the office not later than Monday evening.

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 12.30 p. m., for Toronto, Buffalo and Detroit.
No. 9 Mixed, 3.00 p. m.,

TRAINS WILL ARRIVE AS FOLLOWS:

No. 8 Mixed, 11.30 a. m., from Stratford.
No. 2 Mail Express 2.50 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.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, JAN'Y. 19, 1876.

School Trustee Election.

The election on Wednesday last resulted in the return of all the old trustees, the contest being only carried on with rigor in St. David's Ward. The following are the figures:

St. David's Ward.—L. Elliott, 98; W. Kay, 96. Majority for Elliott, 2.

St. Patrick's.—J. Passmore, 50; E. F. Moore, 15. Majority for Passmore, 35.

St. George's.—M. Nicholson, 48; J. Masters, 28. Majority for Nicholson, 20.

St. Andrew's.—A. C. Simmons, 84; W. D. Allen, 28. Majority for Simmons, 56.

Our cotemporary takes us to task for having opposed the re-election of certain of the members, and gives us to understand that the result of election is a popular vote of censure upon us. We think we may survive, although we have not made up our mind to receive with open arms the entire number of the elect, good, bad and indifferent, after the abject manner of our cotem. It has not had the courage to call attention to the wrong doing that has been perpetrated, and quite naturally, since the proprietor of the paper has had his fingers soiled and does not wish to expose himself. It does not attempt to meet any charges, but strives to make out that because the public has chosen men to fill its offices they are not to have their public actions commented upon or questioned. A man's fitness for office is a vital point to be discussed, (the evident opinion of our cotem. to the contrary) and if a candidate is intellectually unfitted to fill a public office the statement of the truth cannot be characterized as wrong or improper. We have been accused of being personal, and, if such is the case, we feel satisfied that, while we are trying to fill our office faithfully, we shall have to be still more personal than we have been.

It is also stated that one of our staff spent a long time examining the secretary's books, which statement is perfectly untrue but is of no importance, since such an act would be our duty were we not acquainted with the proceedings of the Board through attending the meetings regularly. The general remarks contained in the editorial we refer to are absurd, that which would intimate that our editorial last week secured the election of the old members being particularly so. Until a week before the election there was no mention of opposition to the old members, and the members for St. Andrew's and St. David's Wards had been canvassing for some time. With so many votes promised the progress made by the opposition was slow in consequence, and in the former ward the feeling so changed that many who had promised the old member their votes, on finding who the opposing candidate was, rather than oppose him, kept away from the polls, and 117 votes, or a few over one-half of the votes in the ward, were not recorded. In St. Davids, Mr. Kay, without canvassing was defeated only by two. Had the election been conducted upon the ballot system, a different story would now be told; but we are pleased to see that the opinions we expressed upon this subject are embodied in an act at present being passed through the House by Mr. Ross, of West Huron.

Our cotem. did not indulge in personalities in speaking of the candidates—in fact, it felt ashamed of the candidates it opposed, and it had sense enough left not to find fault with those we advocated; but it makes a broad insinuation, in view of the triumph of men of the intellectual calibre of the members from St. Andrew's and St. David's wards over their opponents, when it says that it is the duty of those who opposed the re-election of the old members "to help them as far as possible in advancing the cause of education."

The question is settled, however, and the course left us is to watch more closely the conduct of the Board, and to call upon the public to do the same also. We have been assured by several members of the Board that the matters of which we complain will receive their close attention, and we believe that the present year will be more free from jobbery than heretofore. We shall take every opportunity of exposing any cases in future, in accordance with our duty as journalists, but we hope we shall not have occasion to do so.

Ontario Legislature.

Tuesday, Jan. 11th.

The Legislature resumed business at 3:15 p. m.

Mr. Bethune introduced a Bill to make voting compulsory.

The House went into committee on Hon. Mr. Mowat's bill to apply the ballot to voting on by-laws requiring the assent of the electors. Mr. Ross said the ballot proved successful in his county. Opposition was offered to the bill, and Mr. Creighton thought that female property holders should be permitted to vote on money by-laws. The bill was reported with a provision added that the bill come into force on the 1st of March, 1876.

Wednesday, Jan. 12.

Hon. Mr. Mowat introduced a Bill to equalize the labor of County Court Judges by forming two or more adjoining counties into one district, and giving the judges power to arrange and to take duty in rotation.

In reply to Hon. M. Currie, Hon. Mr. Mowat said the Government had taken steps to obtain from the Dominion the transference of property at Queenstown, where Brock's monument stands.

Thursday, Jan. 13.

Mr. Ross introduced a Bill to provide for the election of School Trustees by ballot, which was read a first time.

The Election Act has been amended in such a way as to relieve those persons from the stringency of the law who have been disqualified or deprived of the freedom of the franchise, where extenuating circumstances exist. This amendment was sadly needed, for the old act was exceedingly harsh, making too severe the penalties attending a very slight offence.

OPENING OF THE L. H. & B. R.

A GRAND AFFAIR.

EIGHT HUNDRED DELEGATES PRESENT.

Tuesday of last week was a red letter day in the history of London, witnessing the consummation of the London, Huron & Bruce Railway scheme and the formal opening of the road for business. After passing through many vicissitudes in its early career, the company which first inaugurated the scheme, transferred their responsibility to the Great Western Company and the work of construction was begun in April of last year and the road was opened for freight traffic on the 28th Dec. last. No great obstacles were met in its construction, the route passing through a level country, and there are but six truss bridges in the whole extent of seventy-four miles. The road has been pronounced by competent judges as being very well built, and the line being laid with steel rails the cars run very smoothly. The aggregate cost of the road was $1,300,000, about $600,000 of which is furnished by Government and municipal aid. The stations along the line, with the distances from London, are as follows: Hyde Park Junction 4 miles, Ilderton 11, Brecon 15, Centralia 21, Exeter 31, Hensall 37, Kippen 39, Brussefield 43, Clinton 50, Londesborough 57, Blyth 61, Belgrave 67, Wingham Junction 73, Wingham 74.

The right of way secured is wider than usual and this fact coupled with the absence of heavy cuttings promises that the road will escape many a snow blockade. "Cattle creeps,"—a kind of passage way under the track,—are built at convenient distance, which furnish a passage way for cattle to go from one side of the track to the other by passing under the rails.

THE TRIP.

At 7 a. m. a train started from Wingham with a large number of the delegates, and the guests invited from Goderich, by leaving on the morning train made connection at Clinton. Our party consisted of the following gentlemen:—Wm. Young, Esq., Warden of Huron; Mr. P. Adamson, County Clerk; Capt. Shepard, Goderich T'p, Mr. C. Girvin, Jr., Wawanosh; Messrs. T. J. Moorehouse, H. Cooke, S. Pollock, Geo. McKenzie, Capt. Thomson, Geo. Acheson, D. Gordon, W. J. Gordon, Wm. Acheson, F. Jordan, J. H. Colborne, D. Kerr, T. Detlor, Geo. N. Macdonald, A. McPolley, Geo. N. Davis, John Knox, Robt. Rhynas and Jas. S. Dickson (Scotsmen), of Goderich. On the arrival of the excursion train at the Clinton station, those in waiting set up a lusty cheer. A second train was made up at this station, and both arrived in London about midday, the first one about an hour before being expected. On the first train, Mr. Jos. Atkinson, of Chicago, of the Winchell Ventilator Car Co., had one of his handsome cars attached, for the accommodation of the members of the press and the reception committee who thoroughly appreciated the courtesy. This car is constructed in such a way as to provide perfect ventilation and keep out the dust and cinders which so annoy summer travellers. They are handsomely furnished and very comfortable, and are being placed upon all the principal railways.

THE ARRIVAL.

Each excursionist was furnished with a white badge to mark him as a guest, and on the arrival at London none lacked friends to direct them to hotels or desired parts of the city. A large number made their way to Strong's Hotel, on Dundas street, where "mine host" Mr. Hawthorn received them with assuring hospitality and treated them royally. From our own experience, we would advise any of our friends who are going to London to stop at this hotel. Dinner over, the excursionists formed themselves into parties and visited the business places, public institutions, &c., in the city, such as Carling's brewery, Moorehead's furniture factory, McCormick's confectionery establishment, the wholesale houses, Oddfellow's Hall, the car works, oil refineries, insane asylum, post office, &c., &c., and were treated with great courtesy by all and sundry. All admired the compact, neatly laid out city, which appeared to greater advantage decorated as it was with streamers, flags and mottos. In the afternoon the fire department turned out with two steam fire engines, on the sounding of the alarm, with great promptitude, and started three fine streams of water. At the same hour Major Peters' Field Battery fired a salute on Victoria Park, whilst the bells rang out merry peals at intervals during the stay of the visitors. A large crowd visited Carling's brewery, following one of the fire engines to witness a contest between the brewery engine and the city one. The 7th Battalion band was in attendance, and the brewery being thrown open to the visitors and a sumptuous lunch provided, the visit was greatly enjoyed by all. All who chose were kindly piloted through the mammoth building, and the process of manufacturing explained by the chaperones. Before returning to the city, Mr. P. Kelly, Reeve of Morris, in a short speech called for three cheers for Hon. John Carling, which were heartily given and elicited an eloquent response from that gentleman.

THE BANQUET.

At 6 o'clock p. m. sharp, the delegates repaired in large numbers to the City Hall, and in a short time the vast room was completely filled, between 700 and 800 being seated at the tables. The room was beautifully decorated with evergreens, flags, mottos, scrolls bearing the names of the stations on the new line, and in conspicuous positions the portraits of Mr. Pat. Kelly, Reeve of Morris, and the aboriginal namesake of the Township of Wawanosh. The refreshments were very good, and were provided by Messrs. Conklin & Moore in fine style. The scene, as viewed from the gallery, was a magnificent one—the broad spreading sea of faces, the glitter of the chandeliers, and the brilliant reflection from the glassware and ornaments on the table forming a scene of great brilliancy. The band of the 7th Battalion was in attendance, and played beautifully during the evening.

Mayor Cronyn, of London, occupied the chair, and was assisted by six vice-chairmen, Hon. John Carling filling the first vice-chair and Col. Walker—better known as "Majaw"—filling the second. One gentleman remarked in our hearing that, now he had seen and heard these latter gentlemen speak he was ready to depart this life in comfort.

The banquet was concluded at about one o'clock in the morning, and the flow of eloquence, wit, song and champagne was continuous and exhilarating up to that time. Speeches were made by Thos. Greenway, M. P.; Thos. Farrow, M. P.; Thos. Gibson, A. Bishop, M. P. Pa., of Huron; Mr. Callander, Mayor of Clinton, and Mr. Pat. Kelly, Reeve of Morris, amongst others.

THE DEPARTURE.

At two o'clock on the following afternoon, the wearers of the white badge made their way to the Great Western depot and got aboard the train in waiting. A large number of citizens were present, together with the 7th Batt. band to bid the guests farewell. Before the first train started, Mr. R. Baird, Warden of Bruce, and Mr. Wm. Young, Warden of Huron, moved and seconded a hearty vote of thanks to the citizens of London for the hospitable manner in which they had entertained their "friends from the North." Rousing cheers were given on both sides, and as the train left the depot the band played "Auld Lang Syne" whilst cheer after cheer of farewell rent the air. The visitors from Goderich arrived home at between 7 and 8 p. m., much pleased with the trip they had made and with many a story of amusing adventure to relate.

REFLECTIONS.

London is now a commercial centre of no little importance, and its convenient situation to the Counties of Bruce and Huron puts it in the position of a source from whence our merchants and others may draw their supplies. Our merchants throughout the county can now visit the wholesale houses, transact business and return the same day. The people of Goderich will find a drawback, however, unless the Grand Trunk Railway Company is willing to grant running powers over their line to the L. H. & B. Company. We hope that efforts will be made to secure such an arrangement as will give us the fullest benefit of the new road. The rivalry which exists between the Great Western and Grand Trunk is mentioned as indubitable assurance of the impossibility of securing such an arrangement; but the request should be pressed in such a way that the terms would have conceded in order to prevent direct competition. We are informed that the people of London would vote a liberal amount towards building a branch to Goderich, should the Grand Trunk not be willing to come to terms, but we hardly think that it will be necessary to take such a step.

We can heartily wish the road success, and hope that the most sanguine anticipations of the directors may be realized.

MORE FIRES.

OUR DWELLING HOUSE DESTOYED.

HILLIARD'S MILL IN RUINS.

On Wednesday night, between 10 and 11 o'clock a fire broke out in Mr. J. V. Doctor's story and a half frame house, on Trafalgar street, occupied by Mr. Alfred Field. The alarm was quickly given, but the fire spread rapidly and the engine, which was soon on the spot, could not get water not having sufficient hose to reach a tank. Mr. Field managed to save a small portion of his furniture, but loses about $350 worth. The house was valued at $800, and was insured for $500. No insurance on furniture. The origin of the fire is supposed to be a spark falling from the dining room stove. We might here suggest the desirability of having a tank somewhere about the middle of North street; the drippings from the Central School might be conducted to a tank.

BURNING OF THE MILL.

It is a strange fact that woes never come singly, and the third night following the above mentioned incident the discordant tones of the fire bell again startled the citizens. At the same moment a bright light in the eastern horizon illumined the sky and the entire town, and the cry spread that Hilliard's mill was on fire. This was at at about 11 p. m., and soon a large crowd of people was hurrying to the scene, whilst the fire engine and hose reel were laboriously dragged around by the coad, arriving in time to see the work of the mill fall in. The scene was beautiful, as viewed from the top of the hill. Both banks of the river were lit up with the red glare, great columns of flame shot high in the air, clouds of sparks and cinders floated over the river, the river where it was not covered with ice was of a beautiful crimson color, and the ice and snow were tinged with pink, making a scene at once beautiful and appalling. Very little could be done by the crowd, except to to look on, the dwelling house being out of danger through the strenuous efforts of the millers and persons in the neighborhood who had to work hard to keep the roof wet. The windows on the mill side were all broken by the heat and water, and traces of scorching were left on the exposed woodwork. The fire engine was placed in position and Capt. Dancy and his men worked hard and nobly in the effort to save the bulkhead, which, had it given way, would have permitted the water to undermine the dam and do great damage. After working until nearly three o'clock on Sunday morning the fire was well subdued, and by close watching the flames were kept from breaking out in any dangerous part.

The fire is supposed to have originated from a heated journal in the grain elevator. The mill had not been running until Saturday, when a quantity of farmers' grain was elevated preparatory to being ground. It is supposed the oil had become gummed and the friction was thus increased, and the inflammable dust about the mill communicated the fire to the woodwork.—The fire had apparently smouldered for some time, as Mr. Hilliard and his head miller both looked at the mill a few minutes before the fire broke out, and the mill was inspected before being closed. Mr Hilliard was about retiring for the night when he noticed the reflection of the flames upon the river, and giving the alarm he hurried with all speed to the mill. The door was at once opened, no flames being found in the wooden building, but in the stone portion the woodwork was all on fire and Mr. Hilliard was able only to save the office clock and one of the men saved his rifle. It was impossible to save anything else so quickly did the fire spread, and the mill night, with the devouring element whilst all attention was directed to saving the house.

The loss is in the neighborhood of $19,000 on building and stock, to meet which there is an insurance of $4,000 on building and $3,000 on stock. The whole of the latter can not be realized, as the stuff which was mentioned as stock in the policy did not equal that amount, and the office furniture, barrels and other articles were not completely insured, not being insured. There was a considerable quantity of grain in store; a large lot of middlings was ready to be ground over; and there were 1000 new barrels waiting to be filled. This heavy loss cripples Mr. Hilliard sadly, and much sympathy is expressed on all sides for him in his misfortune. Our manufacturing interests will lose heavily by this disaster, and it will take a good while to replace the damage. We hope Mr. Hilliard will be enabled to rebuild, and should he do so we think the town might vote a bonus towards having the mill re-established.

Immigration is a subject upon which our town cotem expresses itself wildly. In referring to the class of emigrants brought to this country by the instrumentality of the immigration department, it expresses the opinion that, in the majority of cases of those who are styled agricultural laborers, they are "regular frauds, not worth a drink of whiskey per month." Now we know of a large number of cases in Colborne and other townships in the vicinity, where the emigrants have proved very efficient and industrious. Some have sole charge of farms, and do their work skilfully and satisfactorily. Such sweeping statements as our cotem uses are calculated to mislead the public. We believe that there are some—perhaps many—frauds who reach this country through the emigration department; but we know that many good men and families have been brought out. Our agents cannot secure the best workmen that there are in Europe; they are likely to be deceived in choosing from so many, but, on the whole, with the evidence of members of the Legislature brought out during a discussion on this subject recently to substantiate the opinion, we are satisfied that our agents have done very well.

GODERICH TOWNSHIP.

Farm Sold.—Mr. D. Patton has sold his farm of 80 acres, being lot 17, 7th con. Goderich Township, to Mr. Jas. Duncan, of South Ontario, for the sum of $3,500.

Protest.—A protest, it is stated, will be entered against Mr. James Patton's return for School Trustee, on the ground that there was no assessment roll at the polling booth during the election. Mr. Thos. Ginn, the defeated candidate, lost by a majority of six votes, and his friends are sanguine of securing his election.

Town Council.

The last meeting of the old Council took place on Friday evening last, the Mayor in the chair and the Deputy Reeve and Councillors Savage, Finlay, Seymour, Pasmore, Watson, Graham, Sloan, Smaill and Evans present.

Finance committee reported recommending payment of the following accounts: Shepard & Strachan, relief $15.65; R. Whitely, repairs on hose cart $7.50; Williams & Murray, lumber for public works, $19.29; John L. Sturdy, coal oil, &c., for Council chamber, $1.80; George Grant, relief, $1.25; Buchanan, Lawson & Robinson, lumber for public works, $8.76; F. Smeath, lumber for public works, $17.05; Geo. Old, lumber for public works, $43.05; James Thomson, registration of births, deaths and marriages, $14.50; John Story, relief $4.35; Gordon & McBrien, repairs on market house, &c., $17.56; Davison & Johnston drawing by-law in 1874, $20; Wm. Lee, lumber for relief to Mrs. C. Murray, $6.78; A. Dickson, postages, $6.12; also the accounts of George Cattle and James Mitchell mentioned in a former issue.—Adopted.

Petition of A. Smith asking for a reduction of assessment on his property on Kingston street, the buildings on which were burned last spring after the assessment was made—sent to Finance.

Report of Street Inspector that general expenditures on the streets for 1875, amount to $2514.11; on main drain, including ditches and making sections of boxes, $765, making a total of $3279.11. Received and filed.

Communication from Capt. T. N. Dancy offering to resign as Captain of hose company unless Council agree to pay members of said company sufficient salary.—Held over to allow new Council time to arrange.

Mr. Smaill reported on behalf of special committee as to petitions of Messrs. Wynn and Kerby recommending that prayer of petitioners be granted. Mr. Seymour moved, seconded, by Mr. Evans, that report be adopted.

On a division the motion carried, Messrs. D. Watson, Evans, Finlay, Seymour, Pasmore and Smaill voting Yea, and Messrs. Savage, A. Watson, Sloan and Graham voting Nay.

THE NEW COUNCIL.

The first meeting of the new Council took place on Monday forenoon. Present, the Mayor, J. H. Finlay, Esq., in the chair; also, J. T. Garrow, Reeve, Councillors Ball, Campbell, Mitchell, Thompson, Andrews, Detlor, Sloan, Smaill, H. H. Smith.

The clerk read the result of the nominations and elections, and announced that the new members had all taken the proper oath, with the exception of Mr. Hutchison.

The Mayor congratulated the members upon their election to their responsible offices, and hoped that they would do their utmost to give satisfaction to the public by their actions.

Messrs. J. V. Detlor and Ven. Archdeacon Elwood were appointed Grammar School Trustees. The Council by lot appointed Mr. E. F. Moore as Auditor and the Mayor appointed Mr. R. Radcliffe as the second Auditor.

Messrs. Garrow, Smaill, Campbell, Dixie Watson and Sloan were appointed a committee to select standing committees for the ensuing year.

The next meeting was appointed to be held on Friday evening next.

Local News.

ABOUT TOWN.

Our Age.—With this number the Signal enters upon its 29th year.

D. Ferguson has a quantity of Trout and Herrings which he is selling very cheap. 6t

Vital Statistics.—The following figures are gleaned from the town register for the year 1875:—Births, 67; deaths, 35; marriages, 43.

Reducing Fares.—We understand that the Grand Trunk Company is reducing fares between Clinton and London and places in that vicinity, as a result of the competition offered by the L. H. & B. road.

By-Law Passed.—The by-law granting a bonus of $5,000 to an extensive foundry and agricultural implement manufactory was voted on in Brussels, on Monday, and carried by a majority of twenty.

Errata.—Last week an error occurred in reporting the number of members of Huron Lodge of Oddfellows, making the number 716 instead of 116. The *Star*, as a consequence, made the same blunder, which it will please correct.

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

Accident.—On Thursday last Mr. Wm. Campbell had the misfortune to break one of the small bones of his right leg. He is able to move about on crutches, and the wound is healing slowly.

Gough.—The lecture by this famous orator will be delivered in North Street church, on the evening of the 8th Feb. Tickets, 50 cents. Arrangements are being made to run a train from Seaforth and Clinton to accommodate those wishing to hear him, and return the same night.

D. Ferguson is selling Women and Children's Felt Boots and Shoes remarkably cheap. 6t

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 heath and a sufferer—use Wingate's Blood Purifier and Liver Corrector. 1507ly

"The carriages forming the cortege measured three quarters of a mile in length.—*Star.*

We have often heard of the stupendous mechanical productions of English and Yankee ingenuity, but for "a big thing on wheels" the world must come to Goderich and view its vehicles through the *Star* man's eye-glass.

Try D. Ferguson's 50 cent. Tea; it is good value for 75 cts. Good Muscovado Sugar, 12 lbs. for $1. Best Golden Syrup, 75 cts. per gallon. All other groceries proportionably cheap. 6t

Runaway.—On Wednesday last a team of horses belonging to Mr. L. Manning of Colborne, took fright while at the mill at the harbor and ran away, but no harm was done beyond slight damage to the sleigh and some breakage to harness.

Auction Sale.—Mr. J. C. Currie, auctioneer, will conduct a sale of crockery, glassware, &c., on the same principle as at Cheap John's mart, on Thursday night, in the store of Mr. John Stewart, Kingston street. Come early and stay to the close of the sale, and secure some of the presents.

To Correspondents.—Letters from "A. K. B." and "R. D. C." have to be held over for another issue. The latter should "boil down" his letters, as long ones tend to make an editor's life miserable. A correspondent in Dungannon sends some poetry, which in a rash moment we consigned to the flames.

Seed Annual.—D. M. Ferry, & Co., of Detroit, have sent us their catalogue of garden, flower and agricultural seeds for 1876, beautifully illustrated and containing much valuable information. The work contains 252 pages, about 600 engravings and two finely coloured plates, and will be sent free on application. See adv.

Nursery Stock.—As will be seen in another column, Mr. John G. Tœpper offers to furnish fruit trees and other horticultural stock of reliable kinds. Mr. Tœpper has had large experience in horticulture and we feel sure that parties dealing with him will find him what he is represented, and his stock coming from Messrs. Geo. Leslie & Son, of the Toronto Nurseries is sufficient guarantee of being first class.

Church Anniversary.—Anniversary Sermons will be preached in the North St. Methodist Church, on Sabbath next, morning and evening, by the Rev. W. H. Poole, of Toronto. The annual tea will be held on the following Monday evening. The collections on Sabbath, and the proceeds of the Monday evening festival will go towards defraying expenses incurred in the recent church improvements.

Personal.—Rev. J. Hartly, of Dungannon, in the absence of Rev. Mr. Sieveright, conducted the services in Knox Church on Sunday evening last.

Ice Gorge.—There is likely to be a "big push" in the River Maitland soon. Large quantities of ice are accumulating, and the river has a threatening aspect at present.

Public Reading.—A public reading will be held in the Temperance Hall on North street, next Tuesday evening, under the auspices of the Independent Order of Good Templars. Admission, 10 cents.

Rock Salt.—We have been shown a specimen of rock salt taken from the mines of Petit Anse, Louisiana, sent to Mr. John Bond by Mr. John Hy. Harden, analytical chemist in Philadelphia, and in a letter to Mr. Bond he remarks this specimen to be similar to what will, before long be found under this town at a depth of about 1600 feet. The specimen is clean and clear and we trust before long to be able to compare it with specimens from our Goderich mines. Capitalists should take hold of this at once, and we have every confidence that the issue would be success.

Bells.—The advertisement of Messrs. J. S. Jones & Bro., of Markham, Ont., will be seen in another column, and we take pleasure in testifying to the reliability of this firm, which has a reputation beyond dispute. They manufacture the only warranted bells made in Canada from the same material, and their prices are lower than any we have seen or know of. Honorable dealing, low prices and the fact of supplying a superior article has ensured to them large patronage, their sales averaging over 500 bells per annum and still increasing. School trustees should take note of this, as well as others.

Educational.—Since the holidays the attendance at the schools has been very large, and much in increase of previous years. Three changes have been made in the staff of teachers, owing to the resignation of Miss Taylor, Miss Moore and Miss McKay. Miss Longworth assumes charge of the 1st division of St. Andrew's Ward school; Miss B. Williams the 2nd, and Miss E. Hardy has charge of the 2nd division of St. David's. We are pleased to see Miss Longworth again upon the educational staff of the town.

Bell Ringers.—Beedle's famous Swiss Bell Ringers will perform in Oddfellows' Hall, on Monday evening next. The troupe is highly spoken of, comprising some of the finest singers and musicians on the stage, among them being the famous humorist, Johnny Prindle, who is a host in himself. We need say nothing of the world "music of the bells" as this performance is already well known; but the musical glasses are new to many and well worth hearing. By all means see this performance. Tickets 25 cts; children, 20 cts; reserved seats, 50 cents.

Bigamy.—George Maw, of Goderich township, was arrested in Brussels on Wednesday evening, on a complaint charging him with bigamy, and was lodged in the lock-up. Information was laid by one Samuel Rumball, of Clinton. He was examined before the magistrate and, on Friday was lodged in jail to await trial. The prisoner is an innocent looking person, and gives a story to the effect that in 1872 he and his first wife separated by mutual consent, since which time he has heard nothing of her. He also states that he told Jane Rumball, his second wife, of his position before the second wedding took place.

Mechanics Benevolent Society.—At the annual meeting held on the evening of the 10th inst., the following officers for the present year were elected: President, Wm. Wright; Vice-President, S. Ward; Treasurer, C. Crabb, Esq.; Secretary, J. Nairn. The society has on hand, after paying off all liabilities, the handsome sum of $250, and they will soon have a new and comfortable assembly room in Crabb's block. We hope the society will go on and prosper in its good work. The Society will hold their annual entertainment in the Dancing Academy, on the evening of Friday, 28th Jan., and we have no doubt a very pleasant evening will be spent.

Toronto Eye and Ear Infirmary.—We have received the annual report of this Institute showing that during the past business year 634 patients have received treatment. The institution was opened in May, 1867, as a dispensary only, and for the three years previous to the opening of the hospital department in 1870 there were 411 patients under treatment, and from that date to the end of the past year there were 2217 patients, making a total of 2628 who received gratuitous treatment up to 30th September last. The Directors are making an endeavor to raise sufficient money by subscription and otherwise to enable them to purchase a site and erect a larger and better building, and they have memorialized the Government for assistance. The institution being thoroughly provincial and the object excellent, we feel satisfied the aid asked for will be granted both by the Government and charitably inclined individuals.

Knox Church S. S. Social.—The tea meeting in connection with Knox Church Sabbath School took place on Thursday evening last. Tea was served in the basement, where room was furnished for 250 persons to seat themselves. The tables were spread twice with an abundance and variety of excellent viands, and good tea and coffee were furnished lavishly by the attentive young ladies and gentlemen who acted as waiters. After the inner man had been satiated, the audience adjourned to the church proper, and Rev. J. Sieveright being called to the chair, the programme was opened. The addresses were delivered by Rev. T. Thomson, of McKillop, who discoursed eloquently and instructively upon Sabbath School work; and by Rev. T. Wardrope, of Guelph, who gave his address—condensed to suit the time at his disposal—upon "This Canada of ours." The address was eloquently and charmingly patriotic, calling forth frequent applause. At the close a vote of thanks to the ladies, the speakers and to the choir, in a few amusing and appropriate remarks, and the meeting was closed by Rev. W. C. Henderson pronouncing the benediction. The church choir furnished excellent music, singing a number of Moody and Sankey's hymns under the leadership of Mr. Henry Horton. Miss Frances Sieveright presided at the organ with skill. The proceeds of the social were somewhat over $70. On Friday evening the children were entertained with refreshments, and enjoyed themselves very much.

Horticultural Society.

On Thursday evening last the annual meeting of this society was held, when the Directors presented the following report:—

The Directors in presenting their annual report desire to thank the Council and the people of the town of Goderich, and of the adjoining townships, for the liberal support they have always extended to the Society since its organization. We are happy to be able to report that last season has been a successful one for the Society, as we never were in a better financial position.

The exhibition this season was a complete success. The large hall was filled with visitors in the afternoon and evening with gratifying results to the financial department of the society. The exhibition in many respects was the most successful yet held under the auspices of the society.

The show of apples was the largest we have yet had and the apples of excellent quality, entirely free from worms or other defects. The show of pears was also very good and of excellent quality.

The show of peaches was not large, but there were some splendid plates of them shown, principally of the late and early Crawford varieties.

The show of plums was pretty large, but the season being so far advanced, they were not in good condition for exhibiting.

The show of grapes was very good, especially those grown under glass. The grapes grown in the open air this season were not so good as in former years, on account of the late spring, and cold wet fall.

The show of flowers was not so large as at some former exhibitions, but there were some splendid green house plants on exhibition.

The show of garden vegetables was all that could be desired, the largest and the best quality yet exhibited in the society.

The show of ladies' work was not very large, but the articles shown were of excellent quality and very much admired by the visitors.

The Society continues to hold monthly meetings upon the first Tuesday in each month, when books on Horticulture are distributed amongst the members and occasional discussions take place on Horticulture.

The following officers were then elected for the current year. President, Mr. Richard Bonnamy; Vice-President, Mr. Archibald Dickson; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Peter Adamson; Directors, Messrs. A. Watson, T. Hood, J. H. Williams, E. Bingham, Alex. McD. Allan, C. A. Humber, A. Goodall, Geo. Stivin and J. G. Tœpper; Auditors, Messrs. James Thomson and Wm. Campbell. After the business of the evening was concluded, Mr. Bingham, the retiring President, invited the officers of the Society to his residence where a bountiful spread of good things was prepared and the evening spent in a social and entertaining manner.

Presbytery of Huron.

This Presbytery met in Clinton on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week. There was a good attendance of ministers and elders. Mr. Sieveright reported that the Gaelic mission station in Goderich was organized, as directed, by Presbytery. The report was received, and the session of Knox church, Goderich, was instructed to have the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper dispensed to the Gaelic congregation there, and to transmit a copy of the communion roll of that congregation to this Presbytery. A petition from 57 members