

West Ontario.

Ridgetown's Deep Interest in a Deep Hole.

Keen Contest for the Mayoralty of Blenheim.

Load of Debt Lifted from a Woodstock Church—Port Dover Needs \$50,000 for Harbor Improvements—Two Young Fellows Nearly Choked to Death by Fumes in a Bicycle Factory.

Correspondents should not forget to date their communications and write all names very plainly.

Jas. Childs, who has been carrying on a wood business at Ingersoll, has assigned to J. Brady.

Within a month or two the Wallaceburg Glass Works will have a box factory in connection with their plant. The annual exchange of pulpits between the churches of Port Huron and Sarnia ministerial union will take place on Sunday.

An Ayler correspondent says the charge of seduction against the boy Chute has been withdrawn by the girl's father, and the matter arranged out of court.

The vote upon changing the St. Mary's Mechanics Institute library into a free library resulted in a majority for the change of 173.

Albert McKerracker, a graduate of the Ridgetown Collegiate Institute, has received the appointment of headmaster of the Morpeth school.

The Alma College executive has secured for successor of the late Dr. Chute, Miss Eva H. Hill, B.A., Toronto University. Miss Hill brings very high testimonials.

The contest for the Blenheim mayoralty was the keenest for years, and Mr. Ferguson carried the polls by the small majority of 4 over his opponent, Mr. C. L. Von Guntel.

John Ingram, of Mitchell, lost his fine imported Clydesdale "champion" a few days ago through inflammation. This fine animal was imported by Chas. Brooks, and was 12 years old when he died.

The new Presbyterian Church, at Windsor, will be opened about April 1. The brick work is completed and the roof is now being put on. The Sunday school building will be finished in six weeks.

Mrs. Rowley, an employee at the Brantford woolen mills, was the other evening, caught by a revolving shaft and thrown to the floor unconscious. Examination showed that she had sustained a fracture of the shoulder and severe bruises.

The oldest son of Jacob Morley met with a serious accident while playing in the barn of Henry Bean, near the Huron railroad bridge, says the New Hamburg Independent. He fell off a beam and landed right on his head, and has been in a stupor ever since.

Mr. Robert Ferguson, one of Blenheim's oldest residents, passed away Sunday, at the residence of his niece, Mrs. Albert Ferguson, West avenue, aged 83 years. He was for a number of years a farmer on the 4th concession, Yarmouth. He was never married.

A quiet wedding took place at St. George's Church, Sarnia, on Jan. 2, when Mr. Henry Leveque, produce merchant, of Exeter, and Miss Isabelle Acheson, also of Exeter, were united in marriage. The ceremony was performed by Rev. T. R. Davis. Misses Maud and Mary MacAdams acted as witnesses to the ceremony.

The boy, Ubia Milord, who was up last week for trial at Wallaceburg for raising the amounts on checks received by him for work at the glass works, and getting them cashed, is at present behind a snap. His sentence was reserved, he is now in charge of the chief, and acts as office boy.

An accident occurred on the M. C. R. at Tilbury Sunday morning, as the result of which Mr. James Gars, M. C. R. spare brakeman, lost his life. The deceased, who belonged to Delmer, was a cheesemaker by trade, and was but 19 years of age. On Dec. 23 last he was appointed spare brakeman, and was on his fourth trip when he was killed.

Col. Tisdale, M.P., has been in consultation with Col. Dick, of the Comenau Ferry Company, on ways and means of raising \$50,000 which will be required to run the Port Dover harbor in proper shape for the ferry boats. At present, owing to the low water, the boats can carry only about a three-quarter load. The work of drilling and blasting is being pushed ahead, and it is said that the pier will also be extended several hundred feet.

The drillers who are working on the Citizens' gas well at Ridgetown report having gone through about ten feet of pure rock salt, and another thirty feet of salt and shale. This would appear to be rather discouraging, and a meeting of the company was held to decide what to do in view of the fact that Clinton street, where the well is located, is being pushed ahead, and it is said that the pier will also be extended several hundred feet.

At the Sunday morning service, in the Woodstock Congregational Church, it was announced that the entire floating debt had, through the generosity of Messrs. F. R. Ball, W. A. Reid and A. Watson, been wiped out. Mr. White then, on behalf of Mrs. White and himself, made the proposal that if the congregation would, in addition to the regular running expenses of the church, raise before May 1, 1907, \$600 (\$100 of which to increase the pastor's salary), they would pay to the treasurer \$500 so as to enable the church to pay \$1,000 in reduction of the mortgage debt.

S. Leask, and R. Schnag, employed at the Gould Bicycle Company's works at Brantford, had rather an unpleasant experience Tuesday morning. The lads are employed in the new tire department, and were suddenly overcome by the fumes arising from the cement used in the manufacture of the tires. One had to be carried from the building, while the other managed to stagger downstairs. They were marched up and down in the cold air, until the effect of the noxious gases dissipated, and the sufferers were able to go home.

Alexander Everett, a farmer from East Zorra, came before Judge Finkle on Saturday, charged with stealing hay from his neighbor, Benjamin Bickle, some few weeks ago. The charge was proven against the man, and the judge sentenced him to three months in the Central Prison. Monday morning Everett's wife and 14-year-old daughter appeared at the jail and had a tearful interview with Justice Cameron. She had no means of sustenance, she said, and with winter coming on she could see nothing but starvation before her. She was advised to sell a horse that she owned, and being an able-bodied woman, to work for anyone who would employ her.

OIL SPRINGS.

Oil Springs, Jan. 7.—On New Year's morning, Dr. Chalmers' pumping rig, situated on the Kelly road, was totally destroyed by fire. The origin is not known, but supposed to be from the boiler, in which fire was left after the engineer had closed down the night before. The loss is in the neighborhood of \$500. Owing to the bad condition of the roads it was impossible to get the fire engine on the scene in time to be of any use, so quickly was the building consumed.

Mr. Joseph Grant, a former reeve of this village, now a prominent real estate owner in the Northwest, is at present visiting relatives in the village.

The snow of last week has stimulated business in the village to a marked degree, and although the holidays the district are not in operation at present, considerable activity in wood is noted, and business men are now entertaining good hopes of an increasing trade during the winter months.

Mr. A. Askew, who left Oil Springs about six years ago to reside in England, returned to the village last week, and will in future make his home here. Since leaving Oil Springs his wife has died.

The Chronicle office was gutted by fire Thursday morning. The fire company was promptly on hand, and succeeded in extinguishing the flames before the building was destroyed. The damage to which will be about \$150, which is covered by insurance; damage to stock and plant about the same amount, but no insurance. Mr. Joseph Gadd and wife are visiting relatives here. Mr. Gadd was formerly editor of the Chronicle, but is now in Elmville, and editor of the paper in that place.

RIDGETOWN.

Ridgetown, Jan. 7.—The municipal elections here yesterday were the most exciting we have had for several years. The council is almost entirely a new body. The election of Mr. T. P. Watson as mayor was a surprise to many. Mr. Watson is a young man who has attained some prominence owing to his industry and success in business. Mr. John C. Wallace, his opponent, was mayor last year, and had expressed himself as indifferent whether he was elected or not. His views expressed were that the people should, of their own accord, and without coaxing, come to the polls and vote for the men they wanted. Mr. Wallace takes the correct view, but in every municipality there are electors who consider it a favor to be asked for their vote, and Mr. Watson was energetic in looking after the delinquent and indifferent voters. Mr. Wallace's friends regret his defeat, as he is looked upon as a man of strong common sense and capable as head of the council. Mr. Watson is a young man, and a councillor, having for two years been reeve, and he may do good work.

The other members of the council who were elected are as follows: Reeve, James Thacker (acclamation); deputy-reve, John Keycraft; councillors, James Gibson, R. R. Lovthian, John N. Kenny, John N. Campbell, W. A. Gossnell, Peter Bawden, John Young and J. H. Milton.

The following school trustees were elected: O. K. Watson, Wm. McMaster, H. B. Graham and J. A. Dart. The old council will be asked by the Citizens' Gas Company to consider a petition signed by several ratepayers for the grant of \$200 to enable the company to bore down through the Clinton rock, which is now two or three hundred feet below the bottom of the well as it now is. The council cannot legally make this grant, and may not undertake to do so at its last meeting. If they should undertake to make the grant it would likely be upon condition of the gas company signing its interest to the municipality, then the municipality, if gas were found, would control the well, and make it a prolific source of revenue for the town.

The town council, too, would be paid back by the town whatever money they had invested in it. This was done at Leamington, and greatly to the advantage of the town, notwithstanding it at first appeared like going in the face of the statute; but the people were certain gas would be found in paying quantities, and so the council set over by the statute, by granting a bonus, but entering into the undertaking themselves. In the well which is being bored here the indications are very similar to those which preceded the discovery of such an enormous flow of gas in the Essex county wells. Already arrangements for the introduction of new manufacturing are made, pending the successful result of the work of the gas company.

THAMESVILLE.

("Advertiser" Agent, P. R. Braddon.) All friends and relations will regret to hear that Mr. Elias Richard, age 70 years, is dead. The funeral will leave his late residence, River road, Howard, at 1 o'clock, p.m., on Thursday, Jan. 9, for the Presbyterian Church, Kent Bridge, where the funeral services will be conducted. The remains will afterwards be interred in St. John's cemetery.

Dr. Beckett has removed from his office on London street to a newly-furnished office on Victoria street opposite the postoffice. The annual meeting of the East Kent Agriculture Society will be held in the Town Hall, on Wednesday, Jan. 15, at 1 o'clock, p.m., for the purpose of receiving the financial statement, election of officers and other important business.

This is the week of prayer. Services will be held in the Presbyterian Church to-night and in the English Church tomorrow night.

Do not dally with rheumatism. Get rid of it at once by purifying the blood with Hood's Sarsaparilla. Be sure to get Hood's.

Transvaal Troubles.

Create a Bitter Anti-British Feeling in Berlin.

William Won't Recognize an English Suzerainty.

The Uitlanders Agree to Lay Down Their Arms.

Anti-German Sentiment Aroused in England—Shop Windows Smashed and Several German Clubs Closed—Strong British Naval Force To Be Sent To Delagoa Bay.

A PEREMPTORY ORDER.

London, Jan. 8.—Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of Cape Colony, has wired Mr. Chamberlain, Colonial Secretary from Pretoria, that an order has been issued in the name of the Queen, directing the officers of the British South Africa Company, in charge of ordnance and reserve ammunition at Bulawayo and Fort Salisbury, to hand the same over to an Imperial officer. Orders were also given on Jan. 2 to the civil administrator at Bulawayo calling upon all citizens to maintain law and order. This order was faithfully obeyed. The excitement will be allayed, Gov. Robinson says, when it is known that Dr. Jameson and his comrades have been released.

The Paris Pigeon expresses doubt that the cablegram sent by the Emperor of Germany to President Kruger, implies the absolute independence of Transvaal. More than a sovereign's will, Mr. Pigeon says, "will be required to cancel the order of 1884, whereby the Transvaal Government was bound not to conclude any international arrangements without the consent of the British Government." The situation is, however, not so simple.

The New York Herald's Paris special says: "The opinion in well-informed circles in Paris is that the exchange of telegrams between Chamberlain and President Kruger shows that neither side is prepared to make any concession whatever. Emperor William's allusion to friendly advisers which might allow the Transvaal Republic in case of necessity, is made the most of in President Kruger's reply to Mr. Chamberlain.

The situation now is this: The Boers claim their absolute independence, and the abrogation of the treaty of 1884, which prevents them from concluding engagements with foreign powers. The German Emperor upholds them in this attitude. The British Government, on the contrary, declares it will uphold the convention of 1884 at all hazards, even if doing so involves war with Germany.

ENGLAND ISOLATED. The New York Herald's correspondent at Berlin says a member of the Portuguese legation yesterday made the following statement:

"In the present juncture England is completely isolated. Even Italy and Austria refuse to accord her any support. The development of the present crisis, which may change completely the situation in Europe, is being followed with the greatest attention in Portugal. A Franco-Russia-German alliance seems to me to be extremely probable, but an understanding between them deeper and stormier waters than those who swing around it anticipated.

A LETTER OF THANKS. From a Young Lady Who Had to be Carried About Like a Child, but Who Has Once More Regained Health and Strength.

Some letters bear in themselves the evidence of such sound judgment, good sense and the nobility of a soul that a word added to them would be a blemish. Happy the man who gets such letters. They are the outcome of honest and discriminating good sense. The following is such a letter. It is dated at Elmsdale, P. E. I.:

Gentlemen,—I am pleased to be able to state to you the very large amount of recovery I have had since my recovery to the efficacy of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. I am now in my 20th year, and as far back as my memory carries me I have had rheumatic affection in both legs, from the knees to the ankles. I have also been much troubled with erysipelas. One doctor told me constantly for three years, but to no purpose, and another attended me for a short time with equally poor results. Besides this treatment I have used advertised medicines too numerous to mention, but none helped me. I became so bad that abscesses formed on both legs and the bone began to decay. For three years I could not put a foot under myself, and had to be carried about like a child. It is not possible for one who has not been in a similar condition to form any conception of what I suffered. My days and nights were alike filled with agony, and at times I felt that death would have been a welcome release. Friends urged me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I have found from their results that I never anticipated. My recovery was not rapid, but from the time that an improvement set in, I steadily progressed until now I am in good health, go about easily and can do a good day's work around the house. I unhesitatingly state that I owe my present health, if not my life, to the efficacy of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and that others may find benefit from my experience. All who live in this vicinity know of the truth of these statements, and know that my restoration to health is little less than a miracle.

Yours gratefully, LAURETTA J. HAYWOOD.

This is not an isolated letter. Every man brings from grateful people in all parts of the country who hasten to acknowledge the great benefit they have derived from the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, often after other medicines had utterly failed to give any help. Throughout the length and breadth of the land it is a recognized fact that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are one of the most useful of the age. They positively cure locomotor ataxia, paralysis, St. Vitus dance, sciatica, neuralgia, nervous headache, the after effects of a gripe, palpitation of the heart, pale and sallow complexions, all forms of weakness either in male or female. Pink Pills are sold by all dealers, or will be sent post paid on receipt of price (50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50)—they are never sold in bulk or by the 100 or ounce, by addressing Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont., or Schenectady, N. Y.

READY FOR THE PRAY. The Telegraph says that the Government has decided to send to Cape Town as soon as possible a force of reinforcements of cavalry and infantry. It adds that a second regiment, which is under orders to return home from India, will stop at Cape Town, while other regiments selected for the army corps in England will shortly leave for that place.

NAVAL MOVEMENTS. The Times says that orders have been sent to Portsmouth, Liverpool and Chatham for the immediate placing in commission of six ships to form a flying squadron. It is understood that the captains for the vessels have already been chosen. The object is obviously to have an additional squadron ready to go anywhere. The squadron will be composed of two first-class battleships, and two first-class and two second-class cruisers. The names of the vessels are yet unknown, but there is hardly a question that either the Royal Oak or the Revenge, now at Portsmouth, will hold a pennant. The Endymion and Thesus, now at Chatham, are likely to be two of the cruisers selected. The paper adds that it has been decided to dispatch a naval force to Delagoa Bay, which will be composed of vessels from the Cape or the East Indian squadron is unknown.

The Telegraph says that a first-class British cruiser was ordered to proceed to Delagoa Bay. THE UITLANDERS WILL SUBMIT. Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of Cape Colony, cables from Pretoria that he has received a message from the reform committee at Johannesburg stating that the Uitlanders have resolved to comply with the demand of the Transvaal Government that they relinquish arms. The people, the committee adds, are placing themselves unreservedly in his hands, being confident that he will see that justice is done them. Sir Hercules then quotes a message by Sir Jacobus De Wet, the British political agent in Pretoria, to President Kruger, containing the reform committee's formal resolution, declaring that the committee have instructed its followers to lay down their arms, relying on the Transvaal Government to maintain order and protect life. Sir Jacobus De Wet added that he was convinced that the foreigners would abandon their arms without further difficulty, and urged that the Republic co-operate with the committee in restoring the normal condition of affairs in Johannesburg. Sir Hercules hopes now to be able to confer with President Kruger and the executive council relative to the prisoners and the redressing of the grievances of the foreign residents of Johannesburg.

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There were disorders in the East End Monday night, growing out of the fact that the German and Dutch sailors about the docks were hissed and molested. The windows in the shops kept by German Jews were broken, and several German clubs were closed. The disorders were due to the anti-German feeling aroused throughout England by the Emperor's recent congratulatory message to President Kruger on his defeat of Dr. Jameson and his band of Englishmen.

ANTI-BRITISH FEELING IN BERLIN. The London Times publishes a dispatch from Berlin saying that the situation is still viewed by those competent to judge as being much graver than appears on the surface. Dr. Beecher, Van Bokkard, the Minister of the Transvaal to Germany, and Dr. Leyd, Secretary of State of the Transvaal, have daily conference with the Foreign Office officials. It may be assumed that whatever course the Transvaal desires to adopt will be largely shaped in accordance with their reports to Pretoria.

The decision to land German marines at Lorenzo Marquez and to march into the Transvaal was not a mere threat. The news of Dr. Jameson's defeat arrived just in time to avert the dispatch of final instructions to that effect. There is still in some quarters in Berlin a desire to avert irreparable estrangement with England, but the anti-English current is running so strong that it may carry the Government into deeper and stormier waters than those who swing around it anticipated.

THE SCHOOL BOARD. Large Number of Changes in the Kindergarten Staff. Mr. E. R. Cameron Reappointed Free Library Representative—Collegiate Institute Attendance Increasing.

The Board of Education of 1895 will hold another meeting in a week or so, and then it will step down and out. A short "finishing up" session was held in the council chamber last night, with Chairman D. W. Blackwell presiding and the following members present: Trustees Logan, Dr. Campbell, Hunt, Sanders, Greenlees, Wilkins, Buchner, Dr. Wilson, Anderson, Craig, Keenleyside, Murphy, Griffin, Stevenson and Turner, and Inspector Carson, Principal Merchant and Secretary McEltheran.

Mr. E. R. Cameron's term as representative of the School Board on the Free Library has expired, and the appointment of another representative or the reappointment of Mr. Cameron was asked by Librarian Blackwell. Trustee Craig moved that Mr. Cameron be re-appointed. "He has made a good representative during the years he has been on the board," said Mr. Craig, "and we should have no hesitation in sending him back." Trustee Griffin seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. S. S. Jones, chairman of the Collegiate Institute Literary Society, asked the board to defray the expenses incurred in fitting up the institute with electric lights for the recent conversation. The amount was \$50, and on motion of Dr. Campbell will be paid. The money was considered well spent. Principal Merchant reported an increase of 55 in the Collegiate Institute attendance for December, as compared with the same month of 1894. The number on the roll last month was 690, and the average attendance was 632.

Inspector Carson's report was adopted. It stated that the public schools opened on Monday, according to instructions, but owing to the low temperature at Waterloo street school, the principal was obliged to dismiss all the rooms at 10 o'clock. As Victoria and Queen's avenue kindergartens were no longer tentative for afternoon classes, Mr. Carson recommended that permanent directors be appointed and that the assistants be appointed as follows: Victoria kindergarten, afternoon, director, Miss Rudd; Victoria, morning, assistant, Miss Boake; Worcester road, morning, Miss Cooper, assistant; Sincce street, morning, Miss Tyrrell, assistant; Aberdeen, morning, Miss Shopland, assistant; Rectory street, morning, Miss Henderson, assistant; Queen's avenue, afternoon, Miss Cannon, director; Queen's avenue, afternoon, Miss Matthews, assistant; St. George's, morning, Miss Hicks, assistant; afternoon, Miss Boyd, director, and Miss Golding, assistant.

The changes in the staff had been carefully considered by the supervisor of the kindergartens, Miss Mackenzie, and Mr. Carson, and the recommendation of fees at the Collegiate Institute, the conveniences of the teachers and the interests of the schools had both been carefully looked into.

No. 2 committee's report was unanimously adopted.

No. 1 committee's report did not go through with a rush, although it contained only three clauses. The first gave notice that the several cases re payment of fees at the Collegiate Institute were still under consideration. Trustee Griffin, a member of the committee, brought Trustee Sanders to a halt as he read the clause. "I never heard of the matter before," said Mr. Griffin.

Mr. Sanders—But you are not on the committee. Mr. Griffin—But I am. "What do you say, you were never there when the question was brought up," replied Mr. Sanders.

"I beg your pardon," said Mr. Griffin, "but I have only missed one committee meeting during the year, and I defy any member to make a better showing than that."

"It then transpired that Mr. Griffin had misunderstood the question referred to in the clause, and the members of the committee were not kept as correctly as usual. The next report will contain information on the subject."

The audit committee's report recommended the payment of accounts to the amount of \$8,491 12.

Mr. Perry, who does a large amount of repairing around the schools, has drawn a considerable sum during the year, and as his accounts have been many times inquired into at the board, it was moved by Mr. Griffin that Secretary McEltheran furnish a report of the money paid Mr. Perry during 1895. It would enable the board to know whether or not Mr. Perry should be re-engaged for this year.

Mr. Stephenson seconded. Mr. Anderson expressed surprise at the second order taking such a step when he was a member of No. 2 committee. Mr. Perry only charged 25 cents an hour for his labor.

Mr. Greenlees thought Mr. Griffin was ever anxious to get "a fling" at No. 2 committee. He invited Mr. Griffin to attend the committee's meetings, and gave a guarantee that he would not be frozen out.

The motion carried. Mr. Logan moved that the trustees in each ward be empowered to engage carpenters to do the work in their districts. It would distribute the work. The motion was ruled out of order.

Such a scheme would result in ward grabbing," said Trustee Murphy. A number of repairs and some supplies were ordered for various schools. Mr. Griffin's notices of motion re commercial forms, etc., were laid over until the next meeting of the board.

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A LIFE SAVED.—Mr. James Bryson Cameron states: "I was confined to my bed with inflammation of the lungs, and was given up by physicians. A neighbor advised me to try Dr. Thompson's Electric Oil, stating that his wife had used it for a throat trouble with the best results. Acting on this advice, I procured the medicine, and less than a half-bottle cured me; I certainly believe it saved my life. It was with reluctance that I consented to a trial, as I was reduced to such a state that I doubted the power of any remedy to do me any good."

Steamers Arrived. From Southampton, New York, Teutonic, Glasgow, Boston.

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"ALBERTA"

"BRITISH COLUMBIA"