

CHRISTMAS.

All things terrestrial change, but Time knows no variation. With silent, steady pace its wheels move round, and day after day, year after year, becomes merged and lost in the dark unfathomable tide of eternity. The sun still true to the Omnipotent fiat which first spoke it into existence, shall rise to-morrow and shed its beams upon the world as it did after that night—of all nights the most important in the history of our race—when the Babe of Bethlehem was wrapped in swaddling clothes and cradled in a manger. The Sun of Righteousness had arisen with healing in his wings, in an obscure village, but his rays were unnoticed, and men pursued their staid and usual avocations. And now when nearly two centuries have winged their flight we pause in our pursuit of the phantoms "which lure from far, and as we follow flee," while our thoughts revert to the unostentatious advent of the Prince of Peace. How appropriate it is that the spirit which actuates men in the commemoration of this great event should be one of harmony and good-will. And this Christmas brings with it. We may not trace it directly to the remembrance that on that day He, in whose eyes all men are brethren, appeared on earth, in human form, yet it must be the attenuation of a feeling of brotherly love, which was stronger perhaps in those who lived at a period nearer the event which Christmas is designed to bring more forcibly to our remembrance. In whatever land to-morrow's sun may shine on the spotless banner of the Cross, the day will claim thoughts sacred to itself, and in every country that Christianity has even partially redeemed from the thralldom of Paganism, the hum of worldly industry will in a greater or less measure be hushed, and one day devoted to the enjoyment of the highest happiness accessible.

There is a time for everything, saith the preacher, and certainly he does not mean to exclude a season of innocent festivity and social in-gathering, which is pretty nearly a correct definition of Christmas. To-morrow those who have in younger days filled one house with glee, but who are now travelling through life by paths which, starting from one loved spot, diverge widely as they lengthen, may assemble—if not, as in childhood, "around one parent knee"—at least round the old family hearth, where they may gaze upon a parent's face, and take the same places at the table that they occupied in years that sped only too swiftly, when the world was to them a bed of roses, and life an enchanting, unrealized dream. We long for Christmas as we long for no other occasion. He who has most resolutely buckled on his armour to do battle with the host of perplexities which rise in stern array before every sinful son of Adam, he who is possessed of the most unwavering fortitude, and of the most persistent courage, is still only mortal, and must inevitably become weary; and it is with emotions of more than common delight that he anticipates the period, short though it be, when he may lay down his arms and afford relaxation to his energies both mental and physical. Hail then, Christmas! thou calmer of disturbed passions, thou giver of joy: thy name is a synonym for peace! The sick shall hear the chiming of the bells that welcome thy approach, and his pains shall be alleviated;—the sound shall be borne through the grated window of the felon's cell awakening, perchance, a moral sense that long has slumbered and diminishing the weight of his shackles. A common impulse bids us all be happy for a time, and leave care behind, which can be effected when there is a general relinquishment and when there is no cloud on one face to darken the sunshine on another.—Christmas has its lessons. Those who laugh should think of those who weep—those who feast should not forget that there are some who fast, and they should recollect that charity is a virtue of the highest degree; and finally those in sorrow should gather comfort and cheer from the joy that they see so generally expressed, and remember that morning will dawn on the darkest night. Readers of the Mercury, that sorrow or depression may not supplant your exultation of heart, not only on this, but on many, very many future Christmas days, is our humble and earnest prayer, and as the ministers will say to the worshippers, so say we—*Pax Domini sit semper vobiscum.*

If you want Wine, Brandy, Rum, Gin, Extra Old Rye, Ma's, Scotch Family Whiskies, go to Geo. Wilkinson's.

MR. HORSMAN has a Magnificent Stock of Articles suitable for Christmas Presents.

Go to the farmer, mechanic and laborer: Spend your hard earned money where you can get the most General Groceries for the holidays at the lowest prices. This is at Geo. Wilkinson's, Wyndham-st., Guelph.

A superior lot of Axes

The Mammoth Cheese in England.

The Liverpool Mercury says:—The largest cheese in the world, made in Canada, and brought over by the City of Antwerp from New York, was drawn in procession from the Hudson River, by four richly caparisoned greys, (perhaps the finest draught horses in the world), kindly lent by Messrs. Thomas Rigby and and Robert Bissard. It was accompanied by a band of music from H.M.S. Donagel, and followed by six carriages, with grey horses and postillions, containing the importers, Messrs. John Reynolds, Robt. Price, and Henry Thompson, and several of the friends, forming an imposing cavalcade. The route taken was along Sandhill Road, Stanley Road, Scotland Road, Byrom Street, to the corporation weighing machine in the Old Haymarket, where it was found to be 4 tons 1 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lbs. gross. It then proceeded along St. John's Lane, Lime Street, Elliot Street, Clayton Square, to the bottom of Mt. Pleasant, Renshaw Street, Bold Street, Church Street, Lord Street, to the Canton Hotel; thence it was taken up Cook Street, Castle Street, past the Town Hall, Dale Street, Manchester Street, White Chapel, to the shed erected purposely for its exhibition, at the corner of Church Street and Paradise Street. Along the whole of the route immense excitement was created to witness this great and unprecedented triumph of Canadian agricultural produce. We may say that this cheese was manufactured at the Ingersoll Cheese Company's establishment, one mile south of the town of Ingersoll, in the County of Oxford, Canada West, by James Harris & Co. It took 35 tons of milk, or one milking of 7000 cows! It is six feet ten inches in diameter, three feet in height, and about 81 feet in circumference. It is the largest cheese in the world.

Bass' Pale Ale and Guinness' Dublin Porter in pints and quarts at Geo. Wilkinson's.

A superior lot of Axe Handles, just in at John Horsman's.

Mr. Spurgeon, who is now once more sufficiently well to preach, has put forth a manifesto in his magazine, called the *Sword and Trowel*, in which he says:—"I have spent two months in ill-health, and much of the time in severe pain; but, by the good hand of God upon me, I am now much better, and hope to resume my work very speedily. I have resolved, for twelve months at least, to refuse almost all work away from home; and I now earnestly beg friends not to distress me with importunate requests to preach here, there, and everywhere. For years I have preached from eight to ten times a week, besides issuing the weekly sermon, editing the magazine, overseeing the church, superintending the college, directing the orphanage, founding new churches, attending committees, and a thousand other things; but many signs indicate that there must be a pause. I am not less willing, but I am far less able than I was, to benefit the church by preaching."

For Almonds, Walnuts, Brazil Nuts, Filberts and choice Turkey Figs, go to Geo. Wilkinson's.

Goderich Salt is only to be had at John A. Wood's.

Snow Storms.—The greatest snow storm recorded in Russia occurred on the steppes of Kirghes in Siberia, in 1867, destroying 285,000 horses, 30,400 cattle, 1,000,000 sheep, and 10,000 camels. The greatest recorded in England is that of 1814, in which, for forty-eight hours, the snow fell so furiously that drifts of sixteen, twenty and even twenty-four feet were recorded in various places. In the south of Scotland, in 1820, there were thirteen drifts, which killed nine-tenths of all the sheep. On Eskdale Moor, out of 20,000 only 45 were left alive, and the shepherds everywhere built up huge semicircular walls of the dead creatures to afford shelter to the living till the gale should end. An inch an hour's thought to be the average rate of deposit, though four inches are said to have fallen during the severe storm in Illinois on January 3rd, 1859.

New Advertisements.

STORE TO LET.
A STORE to let on Wyndham Street. Apply to MRS. CORBET.
Guelph, Dec. 24th, 1867. (d t f)

MEDICAL HALL,
GUELPH.

ESSENCE OF
RONDETITIA

AN ELEGANT PERFUME
for the Handkerchief and Toilet.

Prepared by Breidenbach,
Perfumer and Distiller of Flowers to Her Majesty.

N. HIGINBOTHAM.
Guelph, 24th Dec, 1867. dw

ATTENTION!
GUELPH ARTILLERY.

THE Quarterly Inspection of the above Company will take place on
Thursday, the 26th Instant,
instead of Friday the 27th, as given out.
JAMES BARCLAY, Captain.
Guelph, 24th Dec, 1867.

BERKSHIRE BOAR.
THE subscriber has newly purchased a first-class pure-bred Berkshire Boar, which will serve sows during the season. Apply to
ALEX. RIMPSON, Blacksmith.
Guelph, 24th Dec, 1867. dw

TO THE MEMBERS OF
St. George's Church.

THE Archdeacon desires it to be known by the congregation that the Office for Christmas Day is intended for the Church.

Four Corners' Hotel,
FRANKS ROAD.
JOHN ANDERSON, Proprietor. The best of accommodation for travellers. First-class

Private Boarding.
EXCELLENT accommodation and comfortable boarding can be had for five or six gentlemen. The house is only three minutes' walk from the Market House. Apply to
WM. DYRON'S, m., Waterloo-st.
Guelph, 27th Nov, 1867. dw

SHOOTING MATCH!
A SHOOTING MATCH will be held at the Wellington Hotel Range, on
ON NEW YEAR'S DAY,
for Turkeys, Geese, Pigeons, &c. For the Turkeys and Geese shooting will be done against a target at a range of about 300 yards, and the Pigeons will be shot after being let go from a trap. Every arrangement has been made for procuring a day's good sport. Refreshments served on the ground free.

DAY'S BOOKSTORE,
Opposite the Market.
Guelph, 20th December, 1867. dw

Washable Books
Washable Books
Washable Books
VERY CHEAP, at
Day's Bookstore,

New Advertisements.

GREAT SALE
BY AUCTION.

GREAT SALE BY AUCTION OF THE
GROCERIES!

Saved from the Fire at the Alma Block, on
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY,
The 27th and 28th Instant.

All to be sold in Lots to suit Purchasers, Without Reserve.

ON FRIDAY—THE UNBROKEN PACKAGES will be offered to the Trade, together with all the Goods bought at the time of the fire and in transit. TERMS LIBERAL.

ON SATURDAY—The balance will be PUT UP IN LOTS FOR FAMILY USE.

The Goods can be seen during the week at the Warehouse of Messrs. ROBINS & TOLTON, near the Grand Trunk Passenger Station.

J. MASSIE & CO.
Guelph 16th Dec. 1867.

CHRISTMAS.

THE subscriber, though unfortunately left to battle alone with the trade of Upper Wyndham Street, begs to assure the public that he is determined not to surrender, but will, as usual, keep a full supply of

GENERAL GROCERIES!

Wines and Liquors, Crockery, China and Glassware,
which he will sell as cheap as any house in the town.

Teas, Coffees, Sugars, Tobaccos.
Good Green and Black Teas from 50c. per lb., Green and Ground Coffees. SUGARS—Muscovada, Loaf, Ground and Crushed. First class Chewing and Smoking Tobaccos.

Fruits and Sauces for Christmas & New Year
ALL TO GO OFF CHEAP.

WINE AND LIQUORS
will be sold as low as the Tariff and Excise Laws of the Dominion will permit. Always good value for your money on Upper Wyndham Street.

JAMES MURPHY.
Guelph, 21st December, 1867.

No. 2,
Day's Block, . . Guelph.

12 lbs. PRIME VALENTIA
RAISINS
FOR ONE DOLLAR.

All other FRUITS equally low.
E. CARROLL & CO.,
Guelph, 23rd Dec, 1867. dw

Queen's Book
85 Cents.
NEW supply of the Queen's Book. Price 85c.
At DAY'S BOOKSTORE,
Opposite the Market.
Guelph, 21st Dec, 1867. dw

Insolvent Act of 1864
In the matter of GEO. ALEXANDER,
of Clifford,
AN INSOLVENT.

THE creditors of the Insolvent are notified that he has made an assignment of his estate and effects under the above Act to me, the undersigned, Official Assignee, and they are required to produce before me, within two months from this date, their claims upon the said estate, under oath, specifying the security they hold, if any, and the value of it; and if none, stating the fact, with vouchers in support of such claims.
THOMAS SAUNDERS, Official Assignee.
Guelph, 19th December, 1867. dw2

PHOTOGRAPHS!
W. MARSHALL
HAS not time to write an advertisement for Christmas, and will only say that he returns his sincere thanks to his numerous friends for their liberal patronage during the past year.—Everybody is particularly requested to call during the Holidays and leave their orders for Photographs. A large stock of everything required for every size, style and kind of Photograph constantly on hand, at prices to suit the times.
WM. MARSHALL, Artist, Day's Block.
Guelph, 21st Dec, 1867. dw

The Bound Vol.
OF THE
Sunday at Home,
Leisure Hour, for 1867,
NOW READY AT
DAY'S BOOKSTORE,
Opposite the Market.
Guelph, 20th December, 1867. dw

Toy Books
Toy Books
Toy Books
VERY CHEAP, at
Day's Bookstore,

Juvenile Books for Boys
Juvenile Books for Boys
Juvenile Books for Boys
Very Cheap, at
Day's Bookstore
Opposite the Market.

Juvenile Books for Girls
Juvenile Books for Girls
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Very Cheap,
At Day's Bookstore,
Opposite the Market.

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Church Service
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Pocket Bibles
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Illustrated Books
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Gift Books
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Ladies' Satchels,
Gents' Satchels,
Wax Dolls,
Fancy Goods, of every description.
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Opposite the Market.

DAY BOOKS
LEDGERS
CASH BOOKS
JOURNALS
AT DAY'S
BOOKSTORE,
Opposite the Market.
Guelph, 19th December, 1867. dw

HENRY MULHOLLAND!
THE OFFICE
of Henry Mulholland is removed temporarily to the
READING ROOM OF
ELLIS' HOTEL
Nearly Opposite the Old Stand.
Guelph, 17th December, 1867. dw

THE RED MILL.
THE subscriber having put a steam engine in his Mill, farmers bringing in their Grists can rely on having them ground the same day.
Chopping done every day.
FLOUR AND FEED
FOR SALE AT THE MILL.
GROUND PLASTER for sale at the Mill, and also at his Old Stand, near the Railway Crossing.
GEORGE BALKWILL.
Guelph 19th December, 1867. dw2m

NEW SHOP
SMITH & METCALF
BEG to inform their customers and the public that for the present they have opened a shop in the premises
Two doors North of the Post Office,
next door to Mr. Coffey's Hotel, where they will be prepared, as usual, to supply all articles in their line. The stock saved from the late fire will be sold at reduced prices.
SMITH & METCALF.
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Opposite the Market.

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OCEAN STEAMSHIP COY.
1867 1867

GUELPH AGENCY.
Steam to Liverpool, Londonderry and Glasgow.
Steamship MORAVIAN, Portland to Liverpool, 7th December, 1867.
Tickets to and from the Old Country, Passage Co tickets to bring friends out, Return Tickets if for six months, issued at reduced rates. State rooms secured, and every information given on application. Insurance Policies for the voyage issued at the low rate of \$1 per 1,000 up to 10,000.
Apply to
GEORGE A. OXNARD,
Agent, G. T. R., Guelph.
Guelph, Oct. 21 1867. da

BOUQUETS
OF
Everlasting Flowers,
SUITABLE FOR
Christmas Decorations!
At C. & A. SHARPE'S,
Market Square, Guelph.
Guelph, 23rd December, 1867. dw

WESLEYAN S. SCHOOL
Tea Meeting!
THE Wesleyan Methodist Sabbath School Tea Meeting will be held
On Thursday Evening Next,
in the Church. Tea at 6 o'clock. Tickets 25c.
A. O. BUCHAN, Secretary.
Guelph, 23rd Dec, 1867. dw

Farm for Sale or Rent.
FOR sale or to rent that farm, being Lot No. 14, in the 8th Concession, Township of Fushion, consisting of 100 acres, 80 acres of which are cleared and under cultivation. There are on the premises a good Stone House, Frame Barn, with stable under, a good leaning Orchard, excellent Spring Well, and plenty of water for cattle. For particulars apply on the premises or by letter (post-paid) to
THOMAS SAUNDERS.

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