In speaking of the late annual gather ing for prize shooting at Wimbledon, the clever London correspondent of the New York Tribune says: Rifle shooting has now become such a national pastime here, and so much attention is paid to it all over the country, since the institution of volunteer corps, that every year the standard of good shooting grows higher. Men begin now to understand that a rifle is someting more than a thing to shoot with, and hence the encouragement to the perfection of the mechanism of the rifle and its component parts, has resulted in the production of many weapons. The best rifle shot of his town or village is now looked upon with as much reverence as the best cricket player formerly was, and we are fast becoming a nation of sharpshooters. Strange that the dictum of Napoleon I., that we were a nation of shop-keepers, should be so strangely paraphrased by the people of Napoleon III. Those French colonels, who by their vainglorious letter to the Emperor, brought about the formation of volunteer corps for the defense of this kingdom little thought what the result of their epistle would be. There are now in England and Scotland 156,000 volunteers, every one of whom is certified by a Government Inspector to be an efficient soldier, and the majority of them well-skilled in the use of the rifle, many probably, never having handled a gun in their lives before they joined the volunteers. They are all armed with the Enfield muzzle-loading rifles which are to be replaced as shon as the Government has converted the old weapons, by Snider-breech loaders, but this will not take place for some time as the army has to be served with the breech-loaders. The difference in accuracy of aim will of course be very great, and those men who now make such excellent shooting with the old muzzle-loader will become double refined good shots. The second stage of the Queen's prize has been won this year with 65 marks out of a possible 84; the second stage being 21 shots, seven at each range of 800, 900, and 1000 yards, competed for with the Whitworth (small-bore) rifle. For the first time since the establishment of these annual meetings, the right of the person who headed the scores, at the conclusion of the competition, to take the prize was challenged, and the matter, being brough

No doubt the superior stamina of the countrymen make them formidable antagonists to those men who live in towns.

The Duke of Cambridge presents a prize competition with military breech loading rifles, which has the good effect of bringing forward some inventions which, without this incentive, might never see light. The Henry rifle, has carried off the principal prizes, and it therefore is hailed as the most perfect breech-loader of the day. It combines in an eminent degree the three great attributes of a military breach-loader—absolute safety, rapidity of firing, and accuracy. Any ammunition is allowed in this contest; three minutes are allowed to each competitor at each range of 200 and 500 yards in the first stage. At the 200 yards, 109 points carried off the first prize; at 500 yards 96 points. The winners of prizes in the first stage then compete for fifty pounds at the 800 yards range—seven shots, any ammunition, and any position. The Henry rifle was again successful, heading the score with 22 points. One of the most interesting competitions has been that of the Swiss Carton targets. The targets are of the same size and appearance as the others, but are made of canvas, the bullets perforating the target and thus more effectually marking the part hit. In the centre of the bullseye is a movable carton, or circular plate of lead, which, when hit, is removed and registered, prizes being given for the most central shots, as well as for the greatest number of cartons made during the meeting. The entrance fee is six pence per shot, and the competitors may shoot as many times as they please. For the Enfield rifle the ranges were 200, 500, and 600, yards, separate prizes being given at each range. Other prizes were offered for any rifle at 200, 500, 600 and 800 yards. Ordinarily these competitions are very full, but the heat of the weather, and the difficulty of seeing the bullseye in the giare of the sun, has somewhat restricted the number of competitions have been fired at these targets.

COMMERCIAL.

Guelph Markets. MERCURY OFFICE, GUELPH. August 8, 1868.

Flour, ¥ 100 ths
Fall Wheat, ¥ bush
Spring Wheat ¥ bush
Oats ¥ bush
Peas do
Barley do
Hay'¥ ton
Straw August 9, 1868.

\$ 3 55 \$ 3 75 \$ 140 \$ 145 \$ 140 \$ 145 \$ 140 \$ 145 \$ 14 Wool
Eggs, ₩ dozen
Butter, (store packed) ₩ ħ
do (dairy packed) ₩ ħ
Geese, each
Turkeys each
Chickens, ₩ pair
Ducks, do

Money Market.

Jackson's Exchange Office.
Guelph, August 8, 1868.

Guelph, August 8, 1868.)
Gold, 147\$.
Greenbacks bo't at 67 to 68; Sold at 67\$ to 69\$
Large Silver bought at 6 dis.; sold at 6.
Small silver bought at 12 dis.; soldat 10.
Upper Canada Bank Bills bought at 60c. to 60c.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Kirkwood, Livingstone & Co's, report by Speci Telegraph to 'Evening Mercury.'

Morrae.I. August 8, 1866.
Flour-Faney, 86 60 to 87 60; Superfine No.;
77 5 to 88 90; Welland Canal, 86 70. Bag flom 83 40 to 83 55. Oats 45: to 45c. Barley \$1 05t \$1 15 Butter-dairy 17c to 20c. store packed 1 to 17c. Ashes—Pots \$5 85 to \$5 90. pearls \$5 5 5 524

Guelph April 1st 1868

New Advertisemnts.

WYNDHAM STREET, GUELPH.

GREAT CLEARING SALE

FOR THIRTY DAYS,

Commencing on Wednesday, 5th of August.

THE GOODS WILL POSITIVELY BE SOLD AT AND

FOR CASH ONLY.

The Stock consists of a very Superior Assortment of Canadian Goods,

Tweeds, Bloadcloths, Satinettes, Blankets, Yarns, Underclothing, Millinery, Mantles, Dress Goods Muslins, Prints, Grey and White Cottons, Ready-made Clothing, &c., &c.

Parties desirous of laying in a choice assortment for Fall and Winter wear will do well by calling carly, as the most desirable Goods well soon be picked up when reduced to our cost price. This is no blow, but a spox ripus clearing sale actor.

Any Goods booked during Sale will be charged at regular prices.

HEFFERNAN BROTHERS

OF THE SEASON.

Peaches,

Tomatoes,

Pears,

Apples,

FRUIT DEPOT.

Wholesale and Retail Establishment, Wyndham-St., Guelpl

Suelph, 5th August, 1868

A. R. McMASTER & BRO.,

BRITISH AND FOREIGN

0000

Manufacturers & Bealers in Canada Fabrics

TORONTO

32 Yonge Street,

102 Cross-St., Albert Square, MANCHESTER.

Alexandra Building, James-St, LIVERPOOL.

To R. Cuthbert

Watchmaker, &c.,

Wyndham-St., Guelph

We are determined to buy our Watches from "ou, 'and none but RUSSEL WATCHES will suit

THE PUBLIC.

Commercial Union Assurance Company,

CAPITAL . . . £2,500,000.

THE success which has attended the Company's operations has been such as fully to realize the most sanguine expectations of the Directors, who have resolved to extend the business mor widely, and now offer to the Canadian Public PERFECT SECURITY guaranteed by large *ubscril ed capital and Invested Funds.

PROMPT SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS.—The Directors and General Agents, being gentleme largely engaged in commerce, will take a liberal and business like view of all questions coming befor

Life Department.l

Life Department.

Life Volunteers assured in this Company, are permitted, without extra charge, to do duty on the rontier, and to engage in repelling marauding attacks.

Eighty per cent of the Profits of the Whole Life and Annuity business are divided among participating Policy Holders.

Claims are paid one month after Proof of Death,

By a recent Act of Parliament a Wife can now hold a Policy on the life of her Husband free from II other claims. MORLAND, WATSON & Co., General Agents for Canad

es-T. C. LIVINGSTON, P.L.S., Upper Canad

TROTTER & CRAHAM

DOMINION

LIVERY STABLE

ERED

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BEEN S

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can supply
Saddle Horses,
Horses and Buggles,
Commercial Waggons

At the shortest notice. Also, a large PLEASURE WAGGON!

CHEAP Photographs

BURGESS

Christmas Presents.

he will through the HOLIDAYS furnish al kinds of Photographs at greatly

REDUCED PRICES.

Parties wishing to make presents of Photographs to their friends should ca at once.

PICTURES of al kindsfurnished in the first style of the art

Gallery above John A. Wood's Grocery W. BURCESS.
Guelph 18th December, 1867.

DYE-STUFFS

Medical Dispensary

MADDER LOGWOOD, Chip and Extract.

INDIGO FUSTIC COCHINEAL, &c.

FOR SALE CHEAP

E. HARVEY

CLEAR OUT DAUBERS. SHOW ME THE

DOUGLAS GOUCK,

House, Sign and Decorative Painter, And Paper Hanger,

No. 1, Douglas-St.,

GUELPH GRAMMAR' SCHOOL

J. MURISON DUNN, B. A., L. L. B., GEORGE H. PORTER, 2nd Master.

THE above Institution will re-open on MON-DAY, 10th August. There are

CLASICAL & ENGLISH

Pupils will be specially prepared for the pur-uits in-life for which they are intended.

Circulars, with full particulars, on applica-ion to Head Master. HENRY W. PETERSON,

an U. B. of G. and C. S. Truste Guelph, 28th July, 1868.

R. GALBRAITH TAILOR.

ST. GEORGE'S SQUARE, GUELPH, In rear of the English Church,
BEGS to inform the inhabitants of Gu
vicinity that he has rented the prem
ly occupied by Mr. Jeanneret, Watchmak Parties Furnishing their Own

Will always find him on hand ready to attend their orders. All work carefully executed and or reasonable terms.

Garments Altered, Repaired and Cut with Neatness and Despatch. Guelph, April 8, 1868. dtf w1m

Cunard Ocean Steamers.



L EAVING New York every Thursday for Que

First Cabin, - - 887, gold value Steerage - - 29, "Berths not secured until paid for. For further s not secured until paid ulars apply CHARLES T. JONES & CO., Evchange Brokers, Hamilt

Exchange Brokers, Hamilto:
Agents for the Erie and New York Railway.
Are from Hamilton to New York \$7, gold value Hamilton, 1st June, 1868.

Second Hand Clothes

S ECOND-HAND CLOTHING bot and sold. Clothes made to order Farmers' work made up cheap and st

MARTIN CILL, Upper Wyndham Street, nearly opposite the Wellington Hotel. Guelph, 14th May, 1868 dw-3m

Four New Phelan Standard American tables. Guelph, June 24. W. O'CONNOR, Proprietor.

JAS. MASSIE

BANKRUP

BANKRUP

IMPORTERS.

OFFER FOR SALE THE FOLLOWING GOODS:

TEAS-Hif Chests Young Hyson, Gunpowder, Twankay and Japan. Chests and Hif Chests Souchong and Congou. Caddies Orange Pekoe.

COFFEES—Bags Green and Roasted Java, Jamaica, Maraicaba, Laguayra and Rio.

SUGARS--Bbls. Crushed A., Dry Crushed, Ground, Yellow Refined No. 2, 2½ and 3. Hhds and Barrels Demerara and Porto Rico.

TOBACCO—Caddies and Boxes of all the standard brands in 10's, 4's and 8's, with a large as-sortment of Virginia Twists.

RICE-Bags Arracan and Patna.

FRUIT—Boxes Layer, Bunch and Valentia Raisins.

Barrels Choice and New Currants.

Bags Filberts, Walnuts, Almonds & Brazils.

Boxes and Barrels new French and German Prunes.

Cartoons new Choice French Prunes.

SPICES—Cases finest Nutmegs and Cloves.

Bags and Bbls Black and White Pepper.

Jamaica Ginger, Allspice and Cinnamon.

SYRUPS-Bbls Amber, Golden and Standard.

PICKLES & SAUCES—A full assortment of Cross and Blackwell's, Morton's, Flett's, &c.

We would call particular attention to our Stock of the following, which for Purity and Genuineness cannot be surpassed.

WINES — Graham's, Sandemann's and Offley,
Cramp & Co's Old Ports.
Domecq's, Pemartin's, Gordon's, Cozen's
and Miza's Old and Pale Sherries.
Claret in Wood and Bottle, from \$3 per
case and upwards.

BRANDIES-Hennessey, Martell, Otard's and Jules Robin & Co., in Wood and Bottle.

CHIN—De Kuyper and Dunlop, in Hhds, Red and Green Cases.

RUM-Old Jamaica, Demerara and Cuba.

WHISKIES — Old Rye, Malt, Monongahela,
Magnolia, Hespeler's Plain and Toddy.

ALE—Bass', Jeffrey's Pale. Molson's in Wood and Bottle, very fine and highly recommended. PORTER — Guiness' XX and XXX, bottled by Burke, and Blood, Wolfe & Co.

TO CASHAND PROMPT PAYING BUYERS, we offer special inducements, as we are desirous to clear out the whole of our present Stock before our New Premises are completed, to save the cost of removing.

JAS. MASSIE & CO.

BILLIARD HALL!

Adjoining Coulson's Hotel,

GUELPH, ONT.

Guelph, July 7th, 1868.

SODA ASH-"Gamble's.

CAUSTIC SODA-'Gamble's,' 'Widnes',

FOR SALE.

Alkali Comp.,
SAL. SODA.
CHLORIDE OF LIME.
PALM OIL.
W. T. BENSON,
Dator Street, Montre