

GODERICH.—Lightning and thunder, with hail, 3rd, 6th, 8th, 25th. Wind storms, 11th. Rain, 1st, 3rd—11th, 15th—17th, 23rd, 25th, 26th.

STRATFORD.—Lightning, 9th. Lightning and thunder, with rain, 3rd, 5th, 7th (2), 8th, 9th, 25th. Fogs, 11th, 27th. Rain, 3rd, 5th—9th, 11th, 12th, 14th—17th, 23rd, 25th, 26th. Excess over average of mean monthly temperature 13 years + 0°32.

HAMILTON.—Lightning, 14th. Lightning and thunder, with rain, 21st, 26th. Rain, 9th, 11th, 15th, 16th, 21st, 26th.

SIMCOE.—Rain, 5th, 11th, 17th. Comet became visible to naked eye 22nd, forming towards the horizon an equilateral triangle with the outside pointer of the Dipper and the North Polar Star. Very hot month.

WINDSOR.—Lightning, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 8th, 11th, 23rd. Thunder, 20th. Lightning, with thunder, 8th (from 9 to 11 p.m.), 10th, 28th. Lightning, with rain, 15th. Lightning and thunder, with rain, 5th, 7th, 9th. Meteors 12th, W towards H, 14th; N from E, towards W, 26th, through *Ursa Major* towards H. Solar halo, 13th. Lunar halo, 22nd. Wind storms, 7th, 11th, 12th. Rain, 5th—9th, 11th, 15th, 16th, 25th.

V. Miscellaneous.

A PLEA FOR LITTLE ONES.

Gather them close to your loving heart—
Cradle them on your breast,
They will soon enough leave your brooding care—
Soon enough mount youth's topmost stair—
Little ones in the nest.

Fret not that the children's hearts are gay,
That the restless feet will run;
There may come a time in the by-and-by,
When you'll sit in your lonely room and sigh
For a sound of childish fun,

When you'll long for the repetition sweet,
That sounded through each room,
Of "mother," "mother," the dear love calls
That will echo long in the silent halls,
And add to their stately gloom.

There may come a time when you'll long to hear
The eager boyish tread,
The tuneless whistle, the clear shrill shout,
The boy bustling in and out,
And the pattering overhead.

When the boys and girls are all grown up,
And scattered far and wide,
Or gone to that beautiful golden shore
Were sickening and death comes never more,
You'll miss them from your side.

Then gather them close to your loving heart—
Cradle them on your breast,
They will soon enough leave your brooding care—
Soon enough mount youth's topmost stair—
Little ones in the nest.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF THE BEAVER DAMS.

Some persons are more indifferent than others to the preservation of their mortal remains when the spirit is gone. Some endorse the poet's lines—

"It matters not, I have oft been told,
Where the body may rest when the heart is cold."

while others would fain have the perishable tegument preserved for ever if possible. From this diversity of sentiment has arisen the cremation controversy of late years, as well as the varied sepulchral rites of the almost forgotten past. But the commemoration of important events is another matter, and, in this sense the re-interment of the long decayed bones of persons who have perished on some particular occasion has a significance which entitles it to great consideration, and produces lasting and good impressions. Such a ceremony was enacted yesterday in Thorold. The 24th of June is the anniversary of the battle of "Beech Woods," or, as it is otherwise named, the "Beaver Dams," which occurred in 1813, on which occasion Col. Boerstler surrendered an American force of between 600 and 700 men to about 60 regulars and 200 loyal Indians. Some

16 of the Americans fell in this action, and a few days since the excavations required for the new canal disclosed the bones of 8. It was at once determined by the Canadian Historical Society that these relics should be publicly re-interred with every mark of respect on the anniversary of the battle. The spot was chosen on the high ground about a quarter of a mile to the eastward of the W. R. station, and only a few hundred yards from the place where the bones were uncovered. Here Mr. John Brown had erected at his own expense a substantial stone vault, covered with green sods and topped by a massive stone of grey. The remains were enclosed in a neat walnut casket ornamented with plated silver, and an outer box of larger dimensions was provided. The casket was the work of Mr. W. Waud, and was very handsome. Mr. J. P. Merritt, president of the Canadian Historical Society, had promptly called a meeting when the necessary committees were organized. It is to be regretted that some of the gentlemen requested to speak on the occasion found it impossible to be present. However, at a little after 2 o'clock p.m., a large number had gathered on the ground. Mr. Merritt regretted that Col. L. Clement, president of the entombment committee, had not arrived, but rejoiced that the Rev. Bishop Richardson, a veteran of 1812, was present, and invited him to open the proceedings with prayer. This request was complied with in a most appropriate and impressive manner, Jas. Lamb, Esq., of St. Catharines, then gave the opening address. He said we were here to-day to give respectful interment to the relics of men who had fallen in battle 61 years ago to-day in the capacity of enemies. This was a most graceful and humane action, and it was a just cause for rejoicing that the sentiments of christian charity and humanity were daily obtaining greater sway. Such principles would eventually do more to assuage the horrors of war, and ultimately to extinguish it, than any other agencies that had ever yet been put in motion by man. He was pleased to see still upon the ground Rev. Mr. Richardson, who showed by his empty sleeve that he had done his duty in defending his country. There were also present Mr. Geo. Keefer, Mr. Jonathan Merrithrew, and Mr. Thomas Ellison, all of whom had witnessed the first burial of the remains, and were now looking upon the second 61 years afterward. These gentlemen in turn addressed the assemblage. Mr. Keefer had seen one of the bodies of the slain just after it had been hacked by an Indian tomahawk. He himself had seen a 12lb. cannon ball strike a tree, and had afterwards secured it and kept it ever since. It was produced on the occasion, duly stamped with the name and date of the fight.—Messrs. Merrithrew and Ellison each had a distinct recollection of the occurrence. The latter was the one who in his boyhood had carried to Lieut. FitzGibbon the despatch from Col. Woodruff stating that the Americans had ceased their advance, while Mrs. Secord had heroically gone on the first intimation to apprise the Lieut. of his danger. Mr. Merritt called attention to the abnormal appearance of some chronicled accounts of the battle, and Mr. George Baxter replied, ably justifying the historians and eulogizing the veracity of British officers. The Rev. Bishop Richardson then gave a most interesting sketch of some of the thrilling events of the war. He had lost his arm at the taking of Fort Oswego. He had been since for many years engaged in clerical labours, but still recognized the duty of a man to defend his country, and at the same time, when peace was offered, to extend the right hand of fellowship. Col. Lewis Clement spoke only a few words. He said that his memory had begun to fail, and that deafness troubled him a good deal. A warm shaking of hands took place between the veterans. The order was then given for the burial of the remains which had been exhibited for a few minutes. This was decorously done, and the proceedings closed by the pronouncement of the benediction by the Rev. Bishop Richardson.—*St. Catharines Journal of June 25th.*

RURAL SCHOOLS—TOWNSHIP BOARDS.

Reference was made in a former issue to rural schools, and the unsatisfactory state of efficiency shown by the Chief Superintendent's Report. The evil was shown to consist in the present system of school government, namely, by Section Trustees. In 1871 a new law was introduced, altering and modifying the existing school law. The standard of qualification was elevated; compulsory attendance was enacted, and a better system of school government proposed. The whole scheme was modelled after the most advanced ideas collected by Dr. Ryerson from his own experience, and from the prominent educationalists in Europe and the United States. Years of observation had fully demonstrated to the Chief Superintendent and the Council of Public Instruction, that the schools in rural districts were not giving value for the amount of money annually expended upon them. Superintendents, in a great many cases, were illiterate and incompetent, giving no test of qualification to the various townships appointing them. The most glaring favouritism and partiality was shown to candidates for examination. Men who