Grand Trunk Railway.

CHANGE OF TIME.

ON AND AFTER

Monday 29th Jan. 1877

TRAINS WILL LEAVE GODERICH,

Mixed, at 8.00 a. m., for Toronto.

Mail and Express, 11.45 a. m., for Buffalo at Stratford at 2.45 p. m., Buffalo at 9.00 p. m.

Mixed, 3.10 arriving at Stratford at 8.30 p. m.

TRAINS WILL ARRIVE AS FOLLOWS:

Mixed, 11.30 a. m., from Stratford.

Mail and Express, 3.10 p. m., from Toronto and Buffalo.

Express, 10.00 p. m., from Buffalo and Toronto.

J. HICKSON,
General Manager.

1563-d

Huron Signal.

GODERICH. JAN. 31, 1877.

Grand Trunk Railway.

By reference to the time table it will be seen that the managers of the Grand Trunk Railway have lent their cars to the plaints of the people of this section, and granted their wishes, by adopting a time table slightly different from that of last fall. The mail and express trains are again running, instead of the freight trains upon which we were wont to place our trust during the past few weeks.

Our business men will once more receive their mail matter, though a few minutes later than last year, at a reasonable time, whilst the travelling accommodation is arranged with a regard for public convenience. The change will be received with much satisfaction.

Recapitulatory.

From week to week, beginning with 15th April, 1876, we have been in the habit of giving reports of the business in salt, fish and lumber, giving as correct statistics as it was possible, with the means at our disposal, to do. In order to give a better idea of the business done in these branches, we have compiled from these weekly reports, the following figures. Of course these cannot be accepted as showing the actual business done, for there are many local sales which we have not had the opportunity of recording, and some outside transactions which may have escaped our notice. A considerable addition might be made, therefore to the aggregate of figures here presented, and be within the truth.

LUMBER.

In this line Messrs. Sproat, Connens & Co., and Williams & Murray have done a great portion of the business, some few cargoes being brought through this port for Stratford and London firms. The facilities for unloading were not the best, until late in the season, which had its effects upon the receipts; but next year, with the increased harbor accommodation, a decided improvement will be noticeable. We are credibly informed that the Guelph Lumber Company will establish itself here next summer, and in such case our port will be very busy, as the company will need to stock its yard besides laying in enough for its general business. Our figures show the receipts, between the opening of navigation and the latter part of November, to have been 13,850,000 feet of lumber, 127,000 staves, 342,000 lath and 239,000 shingles, besides a considerable quantity of lath and shingles which came in small quantities with the different cargoes, of which we could get no record. The shipments by rail, roughly estimated, were 8,696,000 feet lumber, 900,000 shingles, 1,840,000 lath and 32,000 feet timber. Mr. Williams shipped 120,000 feet of lumber by water, the only shipment made by water during the season. This is a very good showing.

SALT.

In this line the gathering of statistics has been difficult, but we are enabled to present the following figures up to the end of 1876. Salt shipped in bulk to American ports, 11,375 tons; to points in Canada, 798 tons. Shipped in barrels to various points of Canada, 36,893 bbls. Freights by lake during the season were low, prices higher than usual and gold low, which made the business much more profitable than in previous years. Chicago and Milwaukee were the principal consumers of our salt, cash prices ranged from $6 to $7 in American currency. The salt sold in bulk in Canada was almost altogether for agricultural purposes, and was sold only cash. All that sold in barrels found a market about Windsor, Owen Sound, Bruce Mines, Manitoba, and small quantities were taken to Belleville, Ottawa and other eastern points. The price per barrel ruled from 70c to 80c, the latter being paid during the best part of the season.

FISH.

This feature of our business turned out very good, and during the season, the shipments of fresh fish were 411,844 lbs., two-thirds of which amount was disposed of in Buffalo. The local trade, which is pretty large, cannot be rightly estimated. Up to Jan. 1st, 1877, the shipments of cured fish were 202,710 lbs. The discovery made last summer, of good fishing grounds at Gargan Twa, Lake Superior, will probably induce others to enter into the business, and as this is a good distributing point, the quantities of fish shipped from here next will doubtless be in excess of last year.

Mr. Pat Kelly, Reeve of Blyth, recently acted as agent for the Toronto *Tribune*, a Catholic organ, but the following note which he addressed to the *Irish Canadian*, a paper of the same ilk but the opposite in politics, being Conservative, shows a change of feeling on his part: "I have been agent for the *Tribune* since it first started; but after *careful perusal of that paper since it changed hands*, I have discontinued my connection with it." A short time ago this paper went into the hands of gentlemen of Reform principles, and Brother Boyle having, after a long season of hesitation, having pronounced himself a Tory, the rivalry has created considerable warm controversy. And the Government is accused of having purchased the *Tribune*, says Brother Boyle, and like Ajax he is single and defying the lightnings of that august body. That gentleman does not appreciate having such a magnificent foe, from the very fact that it is a production of his own extravagant imagination. His cry is uttered with the object of securing unmerited sympathy, but it isn't altogether sympathy he gets from Mr. Kelly. That gentleman could not tolerate the Irish principles of the one organ, for he wanted something which, if it was to be political at all, could do some "rib-stabbing."

The vacancy in the Senate and in the portfolio of Agriculture, caused by the appointment of Hon. Letellier de St. Just to the Lieutenant-Governorship of Quebec, has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Pelletier, M. P. of Kamouraska, to the vacancies.

The County Council of Ontario last week unanimously consented to submit the Dunkin Bill to the people, and voting will take place on 27th February.

In our County Council on Thursday, Mr. Thos. Simpson, Reeve of Stanley, made an effort at grazing which proved a miserable fiasco. He introduced a motion, or at least what was intended as one, setting forth thanks "to the recent municipal election act of the Public School Inspectors had apparently too much time on his hands and devoted the same to working for certain candidates, his salary be reduced." The object of the resolution was evidently to place an expression of opinion upon the records of the County as would effectually close the mouths of all persons in any way employed by the County, but the idea was nipped in the bud. Messrs. Garrow, Leckie and Black severely chided Mr. Simpson, and defended Mr. J. B. Miller, against whom the motion was directed. The Warden ruled the motion out of order, on the ground of its being prefaced by a preamble. It was stated that Mr. Miller had visited Stanley and canvassed in opposition to Mr. Simpson, and that the motion was presented by way of a rebuke; but, we believe that it was because of Mr. Miller's warm support of the Dunkin Act that he was thus rebuked. However, Mr. Miller did not visit Stanley on any electioneering tour, in fact he was in Goderich during the contest, and his conduct in regard thereto was altogether without reproach. Mr. Simpson made a sufficient apology on the following day.

Rumor has it that a change is to be made in the Ontario Cabinet, consequent upon Mr. Crooks having found the labor of attending to the dual office of Minister of Education and Treasurer much too heavy. Mr. Crooks undertook these offices with a desire to prevent the creation of a sixth portfolio, but although the duties connected therewith were performed admirably it was evident the labor was "too herculean to be performed with due regard for efficiency." It has been proposed to combine the offices of Secretary and Treasurer, but this opinion meets with disfavor, and although it is contended the making of a new portfolio would conflict with the British North American Act, if the change is carried out, it will be effected by the latter means. In anticipation of the change, and upon the supposition that Mr. Crooks will devote his entire attention to the office of Minister of Education and Mr. Secretary Wood will assume the Treasurership, the names of Messrs. Hodgins and Hardy are mentioned for the position of Secretary.

Mr. Bethune's bill to make taxation the basis of representation, by giving freeholders votes in accordance with their property possessions, is very different from the manhood suffrage bill recently defeated. This measure proposes to give to every freeholder entitled under the present Act to vote, "one additional vote if he be assessed for $1,000 worth of property; two votes if he be assessed for $2,000; three votes for $3,000; four votes for $4,000; five votes for $5,000; six votes for $10,000, and seven for $20,000 and upwards." It is not to be expected that a measure like this would be adopted in Canada, where the majority of the electors, and not wealth, rules. At least it would not be adopted in the general elections, although in cases of voting on corporation by-laws for granting bonuses or making appropriations it might be adopted with justice.

Guelph Reformers have taken an important step in the formation of a Juvenile Reform Association. Such an organization has been often mooted, and the step taken in this progressive town will prove an incentive to other places. We doubt not that, with judicious management, by endeavoring to instil in the minds of the young men the principles of Reform and Liberalism, freed from any particles of partizanship, or bigotry, the rising generation will acquire a more healthful interest in political matters as well as a deeper reverence for their country and the privileges of the franchise.

Ontario Legislature.

Toronto, Jan., 22.

By Mr. Gibson.—From Lucknow, for the abolition of the Book Depository.

The House was adjourned at an early hour out of respect to the late member for South Waterloo, Mr. Fleming.

Toronto, Jan., 23.

Hon. Mr. Crooks introduced a bill to amend the Education Acts. He proposed not to alter the principle of the present laws, but to extend their operation. In order to promote efficiency of teachers, the Government proposed to establish County Model Schools, where candidates for 2nd and 3rd class certificates might learn the art of teaching, and also to pay travelling expenses and small sums per week for two months to candidates for 2nd class certificates who would attend the Normal schools. The numbers of teachers showed a great discrepancy in the proportion of classes. The number of Public Schools in Ontario in 1876 was 4,834, and these schools were in charge of 6,019 teachers, more than one-half of whom held third-class certificates. There had been a larger influx of teachers holding that class of certificates in 1876 than in 1875. Out of 1,801 candidates who were successful at the July examination, 1,568 were for third class, only 11 for first-class, and 122 for second class certificates. He proposed to provide new machinery for the formation of Township Boards, leaving it, however, permissive; to simplify the formation of Union sections, and to provide simple machinery by which supporters of Public and Separate schools would be distinguished from one another.

The bill was read a first time.

In voting supplies, on the question of $76,000 for agricultural purposes and in the discussion of grants to electoral societies.

Mr. Gibson said he had previously advocated the principle that the amount of the grant to these societies should be proportioned to the work they peformed, and he was decidedly of that opinion still. (Hear, hear. Such a method of distributing the grant was at least worthy of the consideration of the Government. His opinion was that as the revenues of the Province might almost be said to be fixed, the Government were acting wisely in not increasing the grant unless they saw the clearest necessity for doing so. (Hear, hear) It was a question, in his mind, and in the minds of others, were they were not already too many of these societies to secure the greatest possible amount of benefit from the money expended upon them, and especially whether the Provincial Society might not be dispensed with altogether. London, Guelph, Hamilton, Toronto, Kingston, and other places, had societies just about as good as the Provincial, and it might be that the $10,000 now granted to the Provincial Society could be more beneficially expended amongst those other societies. The present Provincial Society might be changed into an organization extending over the entire Dominion. As to giving another paltry fifty cents or so to each member of the Electoral Division Societies, he didn't think it would make very much difference. If farmers didn't interest themselves in the objects of the Societies Government aid would not help them much. (Hear, hear.)

Toronto, Jan., 24.

In reply to Mr. Lauder, Hon. Mr. Mowat said that the Government intended to continue the appointments of License Commissioners and Inspectors in the counties which had adopted the Dunkin Act.

Mr. Miller's bill to amend the Free Grants Act and Hon. Mr. Curries bill to prevent betting on elections, received such opposition that they were withdrawn.

Mr. Clarke, of Norfolk, moved the second reading of a Bill to extend the municipal franchise to women. The motion was strongly opposed and finally voted down on a division of 57 to 12.

Mr. Springer moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Act respecting the Municipal Institutions of Ontario. The object was to extend the bridges which villages would have to construct from 100 to 200 feet in width over a stream.

Mr. Bishop, after referring to the difficulties which occasionally arose under the present act, said that some amendment of the law was imperatively demanded.

Mr. Gibson said that if the Bill was left to a special committee the proper limit might be determined, especially as they were about to have the law consolidated.

The motion was carried.

Toronto, Jan., 25.

Mr. Fraser presented the fifth report of the Standing Committee on Private Bills, which reported against the Bill for the incorporation of the Orange Association.

Mr. Rodgins moved the second reading of the Bill to Amend the Voters' List Act, its principal object being to make the voters' lists final after a certain date. Mr. Mowat and members on the government side opposed the bill, but it was carried by a vote of 31 to 23. Mr. Hodgins then stated, having been satisfied with this expression upon the measure, he would withdraw it for the present.

On Friday the majority of the members, at the invitation of the Guelph Town Council, visited the Agricultural College at that place. Messrs. Gibson and Bishop were among the guests.

Literary Notes.

Phonographic Instructor—a complete system in five lessons. By Prof. A. J. Pernin.

Mr. Pernin visited Goderich last summer and formed a class for the study of Duployé's system of phonography. The book before us is the text book adapted to the English language, the system being French in it origin. It is certainly the easiest acquired system of phonography extant, and has been awarded gold medals against all other systems at the great exhibitions in Paris, Vienna and Lyons. A numerous reading and writing exercises are given in this work, which will prove useful to the student as keys to the most expeditious mode of combining the characters. To those who have learned the system the publication is indispensable. Price, $1.50. Address Prof. A. J. Pernin, 59 Adams Ave., Detroit, Mich.

Belford's Monthly Magazine—Belford Bros., Toronto.

The February number is to hand, and fully sustains the sanguine anticipations of the friends of the new publication. The contents are highly interesting, and we have a continuation of the excellent tales "What he cost Her" and "Nicholas Minturn." The first instalment of Tennyson's new dramatic poem "Harold," an article on "Temperance by Act of Parliament," by Hon. Wm. McDougall, "Literary men and their manners," and comments on current topics, literature, education, &c., and also a choice piece of music. The publishers desire to secure agents in every town and village.

Scottish American Journal—A. M. Stewart, New York.

This excellent paper maintains its high reputation creditably. A new serial tale "Shall I win her," by the author of "One of the Six Hundred" appears in last week's number, and is of absorbing interest. Much of the plot is laid on the Scottish border, and the story is essentially Scotch. Every Scotchman should have this paper.

West Riding Agricultural Society.

The following is the annual report and financial statement for the year 1876:

The officers and Directors of the West Riding of Huron Agricultural Society take much pleasure in submitting the following favorable report of the progress of the Society and of their labors during the past year. The Board has met seven times during the year, each meeting being well attended by the officers and Directors.

Your Board of Directors have held two shows for the Society during the year, the first on April 13th, for entire stock, which was well attended. The entries in each class of horses were large, and the animals were all of a very superior style; but the display of thoroughbred bulls was not so good as usual, owing probably to bad state of the roads and very bad weather. We offered $88 in prizes for horses and $30 for thoroughbred bulls, nearly all of which was competed for and awarded.

The fall fair took place at Smith's Hill on Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 27th and 28th, which on the whole was good and fully up to the mark. There were about five hundred more entries made this year than at Dungannon last year. The display of horses and cattle was not so good as last year in proportion to the increased number of entries. This was owing principally to the drought which caused a scarcity of pasture, and consequently stock was in rather poor condition.

The display of sheep and pigs was very good, and the number of entries large. The show of poultry was poor. The different breeds were not correctly named, nor were many of them up to the standard.

The show of implements and machinery was good, and the number of entries large. In the indoor departments in every class the number of entries was large, especially in grain, fruit, dairy produce and ladies' work, and the quality was good.

The show of field crops was not good, owing to the extreme dryness of the past summer, and the number of entries was very small.

Your Board of Directors wish to return their sincere thanks to Mr. A. M. Ross, M. P. P., for his liberality in placing in their hands the sum of $50 as a present to this Society to be given out in especial prizes at the past fall fair.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

JOHN VARCOE, Sec'y.

Financial statement for the year ending 31st Dec. 1876:

RECEIPTS.

Balance from previous year	$21 41
Members' subscriptions	255 00
Admission fees	65 78
Legislative Grant	700 00
County "	100 00
Canada Co. "	29 88
A. M. Ross, Esq., M. P. P., donation	50 00
Colborne Branch Society	45 28
Total	$1267 35

EXPENDITURES.

Prizes awarded and paid	$612 50
Prizes for previous year	24 75
Portions of Legislative Grant to Township Societies	426 00
Fitting up grounds	79 25
For Agricultural publications	13 60
For printing	37 50
Working expenses	108 38
Amount withdrawn by Ashfield and Wawanosh Branch	44 00
Total	$1339 38
Bal. due Treasurer	$72 03

SEAFORTH.

The Good Templars held an oyster supper in the Town Hall on Thursday evening last.

There was an attempt made to get up a Burns' anniversary celebration on the evening of the 25th, but on account of so many meetings taking place last week it fell through.

The Town debentures issued for the purpose of raising the sum of $3,000 to be granted to Mr. Whitelaw as a bonus, have been disposed of to him at par. The debentures only bear 7 per cent. interest, payable at the end of each year.

County Council:

Goderich, Tuesday, 23d Jan.

The January session of the County Council opened on Tuesday, the Clerk in the chair. The several members handed in their certificates of office.

ELECTION OF WARDEN.

Mr. Hunter, of Usborne, moved, seconded by Mr. Henning, of Turnberry, that Mr. Edwin Cresswell, of Tuckersmith, be appointed Warden.

Mr. Girvin, of West Wawanosh, moved, seconded by Mr. Wm. Young, of Colborne, that John Leckie, of Brussels, be Warden.

A vote was taken, when the following voted for Mr. Leckie:—Messrs. Wilson, (Howick) Brown, McLean, Miller, Geiger, Gibson, Young, Currie, Girvin, Gaunt, Black, Hogarth, Garrow, Taylor, Cresswell, Kerr, Stemman, Stephen, Millar and McMillan—20.

For Mr. Cresswell:—Messrs. Castle, Kaine, Weir, Elliott, Whitely, Yearly, Hamilton, Leckie, Keys, Hunter, Jewell, Henning, Simpson, Webster, Johnston, Martin, Wilson, Hays, Walker, Chidley, Hardy, Johnston, Kelly and Mason—24.

Mr. Cresswell thanked the Council for the honor conferred upon him.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

TREASURER'S LETTER.

Mr. A. M. Ross, County Treasurer, presented in detail the financial statement for the year 1876, and a review thereof as follows:—"The comparative statement of estimated and actual expenditure for the year shows that the expenditure has been slightly under the estimates in the items of administration of justice, inquests, gaol, contingencies, stationery, school management, repairs, county buildings and crown witnesses. A reference to this statement alone would perhaps convey the impression that the expenditure under first three heads had been less than in former years, but such is not the fact, as the payments in 1875 and 1876 were as follows:—

	1875.	1876.
Administration of justice	$3,602	$4,002
Inquests	201	208
Gaol	2,380	2,070

The nett expenditure, however, appears less than estimated in consequence of the proportion chargeable to Government under this head for the September quarter of 1875 not having been received until 1876, and thereby swelling the receipts of the latter year by an amount that should properly have appeared in the receipts of 1875. It will be interesting to note that the payment of Crown witnesses under that act, which went into operation last year has not been as onerous as was anticipated, the nett charge upon the County in 1876 being but $369.11, and the amount estimated being $500. The following accounts have exceeded the estimates, viz: Jail's account, $79; Salaries and Council fees, $194; Gravel Road debentures interest, $621; Road and Bridges, $311. The increase in interest on gravel road debentures is caused by the extra months interest paid on the new issue, in consequence of the change of date when the interest is payable from January and July in the old issue, to February and August in the new. The total expenditure, under all the heads, has exceeded the estimates by $1539. The total amount borrowed from the Bank to meet demands of the year has been $13,000, of which $6,000 was under discount at the close of the year, but has since been all paid. The letter concluded by stating that $2500 debentures were offered at 7% interest by the Township of Colchester, County Essex, which was considered a good investment. The collection from Non-Resident taxes from may 1st to Dec. 20th, amounted to $1,189.29.

Mr. Kelly moved, seconded by Mr. Gaunt, that the Treasurer be authorized to purchase the debentures of Colchester referred to in his letter—Carried.

SCHOOL MATTERS.

Petitions from School Sections 1 and 10, of the Township of Usborne, praying to have the office of School Inspector abolished were read and referred to the School Committee.

Mr. Gibson moved, seconded by Mr. Girvin, that as there at present considerable dissatisfaction with the working of the School Act, that the Warden and Clerk be authorized to petition Parliament at its present session to have it amended as follows:—

1st. That the summer vacation be reduced to one month. The Easter vacation be abolished and the Christmas vacation be reduced to two days, viz:—Christmas and New Year's Day.

2nd. That the power of disposing of and arranging all matters connected with school property be taken from the Inspector and be left in the hands of the ratepayers as expressed through trustees.

3rd. That the curriculum of studies be reduced and the power of indicating within the limit of the curriculum what the pupils shall study, be left in the hands of the parents and guardians.

4th. That the power to decide when an assistant or second teacher is necessary be left with the trustees.

Mr. McLean moved, seconded by Mr. Wilson, that Mr. Gibson's motion be referred to the School Committee.

AUDITORS.

Mr. Brown moved, seconded by Mr. Gibson, that Wm. P. Watson, Esq., be appointed auditor for the current year.

Mr. Simpson moved, seconded by Mr. Elliott, in amendment, that Jas. Patton, Esq., be appointed auditor for the coming year. Lost on a division by a majority of 7.

The Warden appointed Archibald Dickson, Esq., as the other auditor.

Mr. Wilson, of Howick, moved, seconded by Mr. Weir, that the Public School Inspectors report at the next June meeting of Council, showing the amount paid by each municipality for school purposes, stating how much for salaries and other expenses.—Carried.

COUNTY PRINTING.

Mr. Castle moved, seconded by Mr. Elliott, that the Clerk be instructed to receive sealed tenders for the County Printing for the current year up to Friday evening, and that he send a schedule to each of the proprietors in the County to fill up, so that the tenders may be uniform, and that each tender be accompanied by an affidavit, showing the circulation of said newspaper so tendering—Carried.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Messrs. Brown, Hogarth, Gibson Kaine and Girvin were appointed to draft standing committees.

Mr. Slemmon moved, seconded by Mr. Walker, that the Clerk be instructed to furnish certificates for the election of Reeves and Deputy Reeves to the clerks of the respective towns, townships and villages in the County, so that the certificates may be uniform and in correct form—Carried.

Mr. Wilson moved, seconded by Mr. Garrow, that the engineer examine a bridge across the north branch of the river Maitland, in the village of Wingham, and report as to the liability of the County to maintain it and as to condition. Referred to the Road and Bridge Committee.

Mr. Hays moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, that By-Law No. 3, 1876, imposing a tax of one dollar upon dogs and two on each bitch be repealed. The motion was lost by a majority of three.

Mr. Simpson moved, seconded by Mr. Webster, that F. W. Johnston and Peter Adamson, Esquires, be appointed on the Board of Audit in the terms of the Act on this behalf—Carried.

Mr. Castle moved, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Council do now adjourn to meet again at four o'clock—Carried.

The Council resumed at four o'clock.

The report of the Select Committee was read and adopted.

The following is a list of the Standing Committees:—Equalization—Messrs. Hays, Taylor, Elliott, Kaine, Girvin, Gibson, Garrow, Black, Brown and Hogarth. Finance—Messrs. Leckie, McLean, Young, Hennings, Chidley, F. W. Johnston, Hardy, Simpson, Strachan, Geiger, Kaine, Gibson, Gaunt, Webster, McMillan, Hunter, W. J. Johnston, Whitely and Keys. School and Printing—Messrs. Martin, T. Wilson, Yearly, Weir, Currie, Gaunt, Geiger, J. R. Miller, D. Miller, Walker, McMillan, Jewell, Hamilton, Kelly, Chidley, Garrow, Kerr, Stemmon, Castle and Hunter. Roads and Bridges—Messrs. Hardy, Brown, Walker, Gaunt, Hamilton, Mason, Gibson, Kaine, F. Wilson, Taylor, Hogarth, D. Miller, J. R. Miller, Girvin, Elliott and Black. Jail and Court House—Messrs. Castle, Hamilton, Stephen, Brown, Kerr, Walker, W. J. Johnston, Keys, Weir, Jewell, Weir, Whitely, Webster, Black and Hayes. Sheep—Messrs. Hogarth, McLean, Stemmon, Garrow, Girvin, Hennings, Young, Leckie, Kelly, Black and B. Wilson.—Special—Messrs. Gibson, Leckie, McMillan, B. Wilson, Girvin, D. Millar, Brown, Stemmon and Yearly. Warden's Committee—Messrs. Girvin, Brown, Stemmon, Leckie, Hayes, Kaine and Garrow.

POOR HOUSE.

Mr. Chidley moved, seconded by Mr. Garrow, that in view of the increase of the burdens caused by applications for relief it is high time that this Council should take steps to build a proper poor house in the County, but that a committee be appointed to consider the matter, report as to suitable locations, price, cost of construction and the probable saving, or otherwise to the County by means of such poor house.

COUNTY PRINTING.

Mr. Kelly moved, seconded by Mr. Weir, that this Council instruct the Clerk to notify the several newspaper proprietors in this County that sealed tenders will be received by the Council not later than the 24 day of the first meeting in 1878 for the County Printing, and that a form of tender be sent at least one week before the Council meets in 1878, to each of the publishers—Carried.

CENTENNIAL MEDALISTS.

Mr. Young moved, seconded by Mr. McLean, that the County Treasurer be instructed to furnish on application each of the exhibitors from this County at the Centennial Exhibition, who received prizes, with a free ticket to Ottawa and back to attend the banquet there to be given in honor of those prize takers, said ticket to be furnished at the expense of the County. The motion was lost by a majority of 27.

THURSDAY MORNING.

Moved by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Elliott, that the sum of $3000 be raised by the County for improving the boundary lines of the respective municipalities, the said sum to be expended on the same principle as heretofore—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Garrow, seconded by Mr. Martin, that Peter Adamson, Esq., be re-appointed High School trustee for the town of Goderich and Robert Callander, Esq., High School trustee for the town of Clinton—Carried.

Petition of John McLennan and 235 others praying for a grant of $1000 to improve the County boundary line between Ashfield and Huron was referred to the Road and Bridge Committee.

Mr. Bay, County Engineer, reported recommending the rebuilding of the bridge at Zetland and at Bell's mill on the boundary between Hay and Tuckersmith. The Bayfield bridge cannot stand much longer and it was advised that it be rebuilt before the end of the summer. Some repairs were recommended on the bridge at Wingham on the gravel road, crossing the main branch of the river. As the north and south ends of the bridge crossing the Maitland on Goderich base line were sinking, it was recommended that after the spring freshet the height of the abutment be increased or a substantial bent be built in front of it. It was doubtful if stone abutments would be sufficiently strong to bear the lateral pressure. Referred to the Road and Bridge Committee.

Moved by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Miller, that Mr. Halls and Mr. Strang, of Goderich, and Mr. Turnbull, of Clinton, be re appointed on the board of County examiners for the examination of school teachers for the current year—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Black, seconded by Mr. Hennings, that Mr. John Gemmel receive compensation for damage done to his farm, being lot 16 con. C., Turnberry by water from a culvert that crosses the gravel road between Howick and Turnberry. Referred to Road and Bridge Committee.

REPORTS.

The Road and Bridge Committee reported in substance as follows: In compliance with the Engineer's report it was recommended that the bridges at Zetland and Bell's mill be rebuilt, the latter with stone abutments and stone arch; and that the bridges on Goderich Base Line, Black Creek, Bayfield and Wingham be repaired in the meantime. The prayer of the petition of ratepayers of Ashfield for $1000 to assist in gravelling the boundary line was recommended not to be granted. The approaches to Bayfield and Egmondville bridges were recommended to be repaired by Engineer, according to standing instructions. It was also recommended that the tender of T. J. Wilson for supplying timber for building Craig's bridge, on Bayfield River, be accepted, being the lowest. No action was recommended in the case of Mr. Black's motion for compensation to John Gemmill for damages done his land by an overflow of water from a culvert on Belmore gravel road. With regard to the Mr. Springer's bill at present before the Legislature for throwing all bridges over 300 ft. on the County, it was recommended that Sec. 17 of Municipal Act be not amended, as the Bill proposed.

Moved in amendment by Mr. Webster, seconded by Mr. Hamilton, that the petition of John McLennan and others be granted—Lost by a majority of 17.

The Special Committee, reported with regard to Mr. Chidley's motion for a poor house for the County, that no action be taken in the matter; and also that Mr. Ireland, confined in jail, be comfortably clothed and discharged at once. Adopted.

ROAD APPROPRIATIONS.

Moved by Mr. Currie, seconded by Mr Gaunt, that $1000 be granted to improve the boundary line between Huron and Bruce from Wingham to Lucknow, providing the County of Bruce grant the same amount and the townships of East and West Wawanosh, Turnberry and Kinloss also grant $1000, making a total of $3000. Lost on a division by a majority of 20.

Moved by Mr. Weir, seconded by Mr. Wilson, that Council grant $500 to be laid out on the boundary line between Minto and Howick, provided the County of Bruce grant the same. Lost on a division.

Moved by Mr. Keys, seconded by Mr. Castle, that the County Engineer be instructed to have the slide at the south end of the Bayfield bridge removed in accordance with resolution of June last Referred to the Road and Bridge Committee.

FRIDAY MORNING.

Moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Hays, that three valuators be appointed, one from the north, one from the south and one from the centre to make an assessment of the whole county. Such valuation to stand for five years, for the purpose of giving a better basis for equalization. That 100 acres in every 1000 on each concession line of each township be assessed; this assessment to be made in September, October and November next, on a true cash basis, and that a proportionate amount of the villages and towns be similarly assessed. Lost by a majority of three.

Moved by Mr. Black, seconded by Mr. Gaunt, that the Warden and Clerk petition the Local Legislature to amend the assessment act so that persons not assessed on the roll have but one day's statute labor to perform—Carried.

Report of the Gaol and Court House Committee in effect that they found the gaol in clean condition, and 17 prisoners therein, and that certain repairs ordered by the Inspector of Prisons had not yet been made which it was recommended be attended to at once, was read and adopted.

Moved by Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Slemmon, that Mr. Bay be instructed to have the approaches to the Egmondville bridge completed as early in the spring as possible. Referred to Road and Bridge Committee.

SCHOOL REPORTS.

Report of Mr. Dewar, Inspector of Schools was referred to the School Committee.

Mr. J. B. Miller, Inspector of Public Schools made a verbal report, accompanied by elaborate statistics, from which we condense as follows: Owing to sickness only one visit of inspection was made since last report, but a number of very successful competitive examinations were held in Ashfield, Colborne, Hay, Usborne and Stephen. These examinations prove very beneficial. The schools were found in a satisfactory condition. Inexperienced teachers proved a great drawback to many schools. Many good schools were ruined by placing them in charge of boys and girls in the profession. A change is necessary in the examination of teachers, in order to give a fairer test. Catch questions were introduced into the examination, and frequently experienced and capable teachers were thrown from the profession to give place to others of no experience. The school accommodation in some sections was not sufficient to meet the requirements of the law. Leniency had been exercised in this particular, and where the law had been enforced it was necessary for the accommodation of those who attended. With regard to compulsory attendance, the law was indifferently carried out as the following approximate statement of children between the ages of 5 and 12 years not attending school, during the necessary fourmonths, shows: Ashfield 237, Colborne 96, Goderich Tp. 124, Hay 163, Stanley 109; Stephen 194, Usborne 92, W. Wawanosh 65. The rate of mills in the $ for school purposes in the different townships was: Ashfield 4 1-5, Colborne 3¼, Goderich 2 1-5, Hay 2 1-10, Stanley 2 4-5, Stephen 3 2-3, Usborne 2½, W. Wawanosh 4½. The causes of grumbling were: 1st Classification on first visit, the inspector often being compelled to put back some scholars who were being promoted too rapidly. 2d The necessity of school accommodation as required by decision of Attorney General. 3d Assistant teachers. The law requires a teacher for every 50 scholars on the roll, but assistants had not been demanded in the sections until the roll numbered over 100. Mr. Miller recommended to the Educational Department, in order to lessen the burden on the people, that the trustees be permitted to engage monitors in some cases in place of assistant teachers. 4th The ignorance that prevailed with regard to the School Law and the powers of Inspectors which defect it was very desirable to have remedied. Mr. Miller suggested, as to the studies in the school, that reading, writing, spelling, grammar, geography and arithmetic be made compulsory subjects, and all others be made optional. Drawing, music and object lessons could be taken up in all classes as at present. There were too many lessons prescribed. Instead of having a second teacher in one building, it was suggested that a second school house be erected in the section. Mr. Miller suggested of Township Boards would be a means of remedying many of the defects which are now found to exist. Mr. Miller spoke very emphatically upon the matter of assistant teachers, and he would like to see them employed only in towns and villages. The whole machinery should be simplified. By making a lower grade than the present third class certificate, the position of monitor could be generally established and thus the candidate would secure a useful amount of experience before undertaking the management of a school with a third-class certificate. Mr. Miller found his position somewhat awkward, being the servant of both the Government and the Council. He thought that Inspectors should be Government officials, since they had to answer to that body for so much. He asked the assistance of the members of the Council, and stated that he would always be pleased to furnish any information on school matters. In conclusion he referred to the petition presented from West Wawanosh and the decision thereon.

The petition called for Mr. Miller's dismissal, but at a public meeting subsequently held and on hearing explanations, a resolution was adopted which exonerated him from all blame.

Moved by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Elliott, that the thanks of the Council be tendered to Mr. Miller for his very able address on the several questions affecting education in his division—Carried.

FINANCE REPORT.

Report of the Finance Committee was adopted.

This report made certain recommendations upon the accounts presented to them, and concluded by advising that the report and figures presented by the Treasurer be printed in the minutes, and that the Treasurer invest the sinking fund raised last year for the redemption of the Gravel Road Debentures in satisfactory bonds, debentures or other security, at the most profitable rate at which they can be purchased.

Moved by Mr. Keys, seconded by Mr. Garrow, that $89 be granted for completing the grading at Granger's bridge in Bayfield, said bridge formerly being about 115 feet long and 23 feet high but having decayed it fell down about the time said village became incorporated, thus necessitating the construction of a new crossing at a considerable expense. Lost.

Moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. McLean, that the repairs and alterations necessary in the Court House be left with the Warden and Clerk, who shall have full power to act in the matter—Carried.

SATURDAY MORNING.

The School and Printing Committee reported as follows: With reference to the motion of Mr. Gibson we recommend that the summer vacation be not longer than one month, that the Christmas vacation commence on Dec. 25th and end on 2nd Jan., that every alternate Saturday only be a holiday, and that the Easter holidays be abolished, and that the power of the Chief Superintendent, or of the Department, to interfere with such vacations or to create others be abolished, leaving the power in the hands of the Trustees to authorize special vacations or holidays under special circumstances. That the power of disposing of and arranging all matters connected with school property be taken from the Inspector and left in the hands of the ratepayers, as expressed through the Trustees. That the curriculum be reduced and the attention of pupils be confined to what are known as common branches; that if the higher branches as now taught are required, that their introduction be left to the Trustees and that no pupil be deterred from advancing in one branch because not similarly advanced in other branches or classes. That, with the consent of Trustees, monitors or assistant teachers without certificates may be employed. No action was recommended with regard to the petitions from School Sections 1 and 10 Usborne. The county printing was recommended to be given to the *Star* office. Adopted.

The committee on Salaries reported, recommending that the County Engineer be retained at his present salary; that in view of the faithful and efficient manner in which Mr. Adamson, County Clerk, had performed his duties, his salary be increased to $750; and that previous to the June Session, a new caretaker for the Court House be advertised for.

Council then adjourned.

On a panel in a church wall in Valparaiso, Chili, is a painting representing the Emperor of Germany and Prince Bismarck squirming in the flames of hell, while the devil is poking the Imperial Chancellor in the back with a red-hot fork.

A man named Patrick McDermott, who resides on the 4th con. of North Oxford, near Spearman's Corners, took a quantity of blue stone on Friday last with the intention of poisoning himself. Notwithstanding the efforts of his medical attendant, the unfortunate man died from its effects on Saturday at noon.

—Officers of Turnberry Ag. Society for 1877: President, Chas. Henderson; Secretary, W. J. McCutcheon; Treasurer, A. Fisher.

Local News.

ABOUT TOWN.

LUMBER.—The shipments of lumber for last week were: Sproat, Connens & Co., 6 cars pine lumber and 1 car hemlock; Williams & Murray, 6 cars.

PERSONAL.—Rev. J. Shewright preached in Mitchell and Rev. E. Ure conducted service in Hullett on Sabbath last. Rev. Mr. Mitchell, of Mitchell, and Rev. D. Allan, Goderich, officiated in Knox Church in their absence.

SKATING.—A beautiful sheet of ice on the lake, about a mile from shore, has been a source of great attraction during a few days past. A large crowd was out skating upon it on Sunday—no one was drowned—as well as on Saturday and Monday.

GUARD FISH.—During last week the following shipments of fish were made: Jas. Mitchell, 11,250 lbs; John Clark, 1,500 lbs; W. Stitt, 4,050 lbs; Wm. Lee, 5,250 lbs; Chas. Howland, 45,000 lbs; Henry Horton, 21,000 lbs. Total, 88,050 lbs.

DEATH IN JAIL.—On Wednesday last Thos. Healey, an old dependant on County charity, died in the jail. The old man had once been in good circumstances, but adversity reduced him to pauperism. He was an intelligent person, and although about 82 years old was quite active until within a few days of his death. On Thursday Dr. McLean, coroner, held an inquest, Mr. G. M. Trueman acting as foreman of the jury. After examining the jail surgeon Dr. Shannon, the turnkey and one of the prisoners, the jury rendered a verdict of death from natural causes.

FOR THE POOR.—The churches of the town this year are looking after the poor of their own congregations, and much destitution is found to prevail. Some time ago a collection was taken up in Knox church, nesting $40, which is being expended in provisions for the benefit of needy ones, by the elders. The Sabbath School has also raised $28.87 to be expended in making clothing for poor children. This afternoon a meeting of the ladies of the congregation will be held, to make