Guelph Evening Mercury.

VOL. V. NO. 244 GUELPH, ONT., CANADA, THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 16, 1872. PRICE ONE PENNY

Business Cards.

FREDERICK BISCOE, Barrister and Attorney at Law, Solicitor in Chancery, Conveyancer, &c. Guelph. Office, corner of Wyndham and Quebec Streets. dw

AUSTIN C. CHADWICK, Barrister at Law, Solicitor in Chancery, &c., Market Place, Guelph. Office entrance—next door to the Queen's Hotel. dw

STEPHEN BOULT, Architect, Contractor and Builder. Planing Mill, and every kind of Joiner's Work prepared for the trade and the public. The Factory is on Quebec street, Guelph. dw

GEORGE PALMER, Barrister and Attorney-at-Law, Solicitor in Chancery, Notary Public and Conveyancer. Office, over E. Harvey & Co's Drug Store. Entrance on Macdonnell street. dw

OLIVER & MACDONALD, Barristers and Attorneys-at-Law, Solicitors, Notaries Public, &c. Office—Corner of Wyndham and Quebec Streets, up stairs, Guelph, Ont.
B. OLIVER, JR. (dw) A. H. MACDONALD.

GUTHRIE, WATT & CUTTEN,
Barristers, Attorneys-at-Law,
Solicitors in Chancery,
GUELPH, ONTARIO
D GUTHRIE, J WATT, W H CUTTEN,
Guelph, March 1, 1871 dwy

F. STURDY,
House, Sign, & Ornamental Painter
GRAINER AND PAPERHANGER,
Shop next to the Wellington Hotel, Wyndham Street, Guelph. f27-dwly

JOHN KIRKHAM,
Silver Plater and Brass Finisher.
All orders promptly attended to.
Shop—opposite Chalmer's Church, Quebec Street, Guelph. dwy

CASH FOR WOOL, HIDES, SHEEPSKINS, CALF SKINS, and WOOL PICKINGS.
The highest market price paid for the above at No. 1, Gordon Street, Day's Old Block, Guelph.
Plasterers Hair constantly on hand for sale at MOULTON & BISH,
Guelph, April 19, 1872. dwy

F. H. PASS,
Painter, Glazier and Paper Hanger
All orders promptly attended to.
RESIDENCE—Two doors above St. Andrew's Church.
Guelph, Feb. 26, 1872 d3m

ROYAL HOTEL LIVERY STABLE.
The subscriber begs to notify the public that he has purchased the above livery from Mr Geo. W. Jessop, and will continue the business as heretofore. Having made considerable improvements, he will be able at all times to meet the wants of the travelling public. First-class Turnouts ready at the shortest notice.
Guelph, 6th Dec. dtf W. J. WILSON.

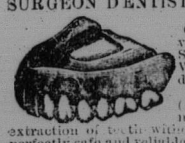
O'CONNOR'S BILLIARD HALL,
IN THE
QUEEN'S HOTEL, GUELPH, OPPOSITE THE MARKET.
Refitted in the latest fashion. Five latest styles Phelan Tables. do

THE BEST HOTEL IN TOWN.
CASEY ALWAYS SOLD.
The richest drinks, best table, most comfortable beds, merriest company, and jolliest house in town at Casey's.—The Harp of Erin Hotel, Macdonnell Street, Guelph. do

DOMINION SALOON.
Fresh Oysters in every Style
The table supplied with all the delicacies of the Season in a first-class manner.
☞ At the Bar will be found the Choicest Brands of Liquors and Cigars.
DENIS BUNYAN,
Guelph, Nov. 21, 1872. do

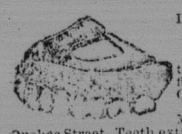
PARKERS HOTEL,
—DIRECTLY—
OPPOSITE the MARKET, GUELPH
First-class accommodation for travellers. Commodious stabling and an attentive hostler.
The best of Liquors and Cigars at the bar.
JAMES PARKER, Proprietor.
Guelph, Feb. 6, 1872 dwy

W. M. FOSTER, L. D. S.,
SURGEON DENTIST, GUELPH.



Office over E. Harvey & Co's Drug Store, Corner of Wyndham and Macdonell-sts. Guelph.
☞ Nitrous Oxide (laughing gas) administered for the extraction of teeth without pain, which is perfectly safe and reliable.
References kindly permitted to Drs. Herod, Clarke, Tuck, McGuire, Keating, Cowan and McGregor, Guelph; W. K. Graham, Dentist, Brampton. dw

PRIZE DENTISTRY.
DR. ROBERT CAMPBELL,



Licentiate of Dental Surgery.
Established 1864.
Office next door to the "Advertiser" Office, Wyndham-st., Guelph.
Residence opposite Mr. Boult's Factory, Quebec Street. Teeth extracted without pain.
References, Drs. Clarke, Tuck, McGuire, Herod, McGregor, and Cowan, Guelph. Drs. Buchanan and Phillips, Toronto Drs. Elliott & Mayers, Dentists, Toronto. dy

NEW BAKERY.
The Subscribers beg to notify the people of Guelph that they have started a new Bakery
On Essex Street, one door south of Dr. Keating's,
Where they will always have in stock a supply of bread of the first quality.
Having secured the services of Mr. George Watson as baker, they feel assured in giving satisfaction.
Bread and Flour promptly delivered in any part of the town.
They hope by strict attention to business, and making bread of the best quality, to merit a share of public patronage.
A. McPHAIL & Co.
Guelph, March 12 1872 3md

New Advertisements.

SERVANT WANTED.—Wanted immediately, a good active servant. Apply at this office. 16d

BOARD.—A few respectable gentlemen boarders can be accommodated at Mrs. Campbell's Waterloo Street, near the Gas Works. Tu6d

FAMILY CARRIAGE FOR SALE.—Apply to R. S. Brodie, MERCURY office, Guelph. dwtf

40 ACRES of GOOD PASTURE in TOWN TO RENT. RIVER upon one side of it. Apply at the Law Office of the undersigned.
May 8, 1872 dtf ROBT. MITCHELL.

BAND INSTRUMENTS FOR SALE.
One B Flat Cornet and B Flat Bass (Sikes), and one Brass Snare Drum (all new), formerly used in Lawrence's Cornet Band. Apply to
B. SAVAGE,
Guelph, May 1st, 1872. dtf Guelph

TO MASONS.—Tenders will be received by the undersigned for the erection of a Stone Barn 40 x 60, on his Farm, York Road. Tenders received until the 25th of May. Plans and specifications can be seen on the premises, or on application to Robt. Cochrane, York Road. m14dtd

MARE AND COLT ASTRAY—Came on my premises on Saturday last, the 11th inst. The owner is requested to prove property, pay expenses and remove them.
G. W. LOREE, Lot 4, Con. 4, Eramosa.
May 15th, 1872 w1-3d

SHEEP LOST—About three weeks ago; 12 in number; principally last year's lambs, and one ordinary ewe with black mark over left eye, with lamb at foot. Two finders will be rewarded on application to Robert Cochrane, York Road. m14dwtf

WOOLEN RAGS, CARD, OR YARN WASTE—Best cash price paid.
Apply to
SMITH & WILBY,
m10dwtm 116 Adelaide St. East, Toronto.

THORP'S HOTEL, GUELPH, remodelled and newly furnished. Good accommodation for commercial travellers. Free omnibus to and from all trains. First-class Livery in connection.
May 11 dwtf JAS. A. THORP, Proprietor.

BEDDING OUT PLANTS FOR SALE.
Asters, Stocks, Balsams, Pinks different varieties, Zinnias, &c. &c.
Orders left with Mr. Hugh Walker, or Sam. Calver, Union Cemetery, will be promptly attended to. 16-12d
Daily Advertiser copy two times.

FIRST-CLASS SAND FOR SALE.—The undersigned offers for sale, either at the Pit, or delivered, when required, First class Sand suitable for either Builders or Plasterers. Apply to John Ford, Paisley Block Road. m8dwsm

TO CONTRACTORS AND OTHERS.
The subscriber keeps on hand Fresh Lime, Stone, Sand, Posts, Lumber, &c., which he will sell at reasonable prices to all who may favor him with their patronage. He also keeps teams on hand, to be let by the day or otherwise, at his residence near the G. T. station, where he will see to this new business in person in the usual way, and hopes to be patronized hereafter as he has been in the past. Orders promptly attended to.
DENIS COFFEE,
Guelph, April 11th 1872. dw6m

INSOLVENT ACT OF 1869.
In the matter of EDWARD PARKS, of Eden Mills, an Insolvent.
The Insolvent has made an Assignment of his Estate to me, and the creditors are notified to meet at his place of business, in Eden Mills, on Wednesday, the 22nd day of May, at 10 o'clock, a.m., to receive statements of his affairs, and to appoint an Assignee.
W. J. PATERSON, Interim Assignee.
Guelph, May 16th, 1872 3td

GUELPH RIFLE ASSOCIATION.
A rifle match, open to members of the G. R. A., will be held
ON THE TWENTY-FOURTH INST.,
(THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY),
at which $25 will be distributed in ten prizes, 1st, $5; 2nd, $4; 3rd, $3; 4th, $2, and remaining 6 prizes $1 each. The match will commence at 9 o'clock a.m. sharp. Ranges 200 and 500 yards. Enfield or Snider Enfield Rifle, pull 6 lb., to sighting shot allowed on payment of ten cents each. Entrance fee 25 cents. Position firing. Rules of the Association to govern.
E. NEWTON,
Guelph, May 16-2td. Secretary.

TOWN OF GUELPH.
COURT OF REVISION.
The Court of Revision for the Town of Guelph, will be held
On Monday Evening, 27th of May,
—IN THE—
COUNCIL CHAMBER
Commencing at half-past seven o'clock.
JOHN HARVEY, Town Clerk.
Town Clerk's Office, May 16, 1872. dwd
Herald and Advertiser to copy.

TO CONTRACTORS.
North Wellington Registry Office.
Tenders are invited for the Mason, Bricklayer, Carpenter, Plastering and Iron Work for the erection of the New Registry Office in the Village of Arthur, according to the Government plans and specifications to be seen at the County Treasurer's Office, Guelph.
Tenders to be sent in to the undersigned on or before the 1st June.
The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.
JAMES MASSIE,
Chairman Co. Property Committee.
Guelph, May 13, 1872 dwd
Fergus 'News Record,' and Mount Forest 'Examiner' please copy.

AUCTION SALE
—OF—
Valuable Mill Property!
There will be offered for sale by Public Auction, at the Market House, in the Town of Guelph,
On Saturday, 18th May, 1872,
At the hour of one o'clock, p.m., that excellent steam saw and grist mill, and three acres land, situate on the front of Lot 6, in the 2nd concession of the Township of Maryborough, County of Wellington, now in possession of Michael Tromanhiser.
The saw-mill is capable of cutting from 1,000 to 1,500 feet per hour with the circular saw. It is fitted with the best machinery in the County of Wellington, including a new steam engine and boiler of 32 horse power. The mill has only been running about a year, so that the machinery is as good as new. The grist mill is in good working order, with new machinery. This is a good opening for business, being only a short distance from the W. G. and B. Railway, and in a direct line between Glenallan and Listowel. Title good. The above will be sold under mortgage. For further particulars apply to
OLIVER & MACDONALD,
April 25, 1872 dw Solicitors Guelph

Guelph Evening Mercury

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 16, 1872

Local and Other Items.

THERE is one case of small-pox in Sarnia.

THE new Grand Trunk depot buildings and hotel at Point Edward were formally opened for business on Saturday night.

MR. C. FERGUSON, the Blind Performer, will give one of his entertainments in the Town Hall on Wednesday evening the 29th inst.

A well-to-do farmer, residing on the second concession of Biddulph, about fifty years of age, named Adam Hodgins, was run over by a train on the G. T. R., and instantly killed. His body was horribly wangled. Drink was the cause.

RAILWAY BONUS.—The County Council of Peel met at Brampton on Wednesday and submitted a by-law allowing the electors of the Townships of Toronto, Chingacousy, and Caledonia, to grant a bonus of eighty thousand dollars in aid of the Credit Valley Railroad; the poling for the same to be held on the 10th of June.

THE STRIKING MANIA.—Strikes are becoming very numerous just now. In England, not only are the day labourers striking, but the domestic servants are beginning a similar movement. They ask for an increase of wages, half-holiday every week, and every other Sunday, their working hours to be from six until ten o'clock. The butlers and gentlemen's servants also threaten to strike.

BRITISH QUARTERLY REVIEW.—We have received the April number of this Review from the Leonard Scott Publishing Co. The contents are:—The Poetry of Matthew Arnold; the Modern Newspaper; the American Civil War; Pope and his Editors; the Licensing System; Sir Henry Holland's Recollections; Kidnapping in the South Seas; the Conference of Nonconformists; Contemporary Literature. For sale at the Bookstores in town.

MR. O'CALLAGHAN, of London, had a narrow escape the other day at Chatham. He attempted to jump on the express while the train was in motion, and from the force was swung under the cars, several of which passed over him. Mr. O'Callaghan had the presence of mind to lie flat on his back, and by this means saved himself from being cut to pieces. Beyond the sudden shock, a few bruises and considerably torn apparel, Mr. O'C. did not receive any material injury.

We read in the California newspapers of the death of one Alfred Martin, late of San Diego, who was remarkable for having, during a business life of 32 years, established not less than 18 newspapers in different places. We should rather say started than established, although in several instances the person to whom Mr. Martin sold out managed to make money. The gentleman is described as having been a person of extraordinary capacity and energy, but lacking in business tact and concentrativeness.

FATAL ACCIDENT IN ERAMOSA.—We regret to learn of the death of Mr. John Bathgate, of Eramosa, father of Mr. Peter Bathgate. Some weeks ago he had a slight shock of palsy but was recovering. Two or three days ago he went out to roll some land, his son being from home. Whether or not he was affected by the palsy while in the field is not known, but it seems he had fallen, and the roller went over him. He was taken home but did not long survive the shock, as he died on Wednesday morning. Deceased was about 70 years of age, and was much respected in the section.

PRICES OF WILD ANIMALS.—It is curious to note the prices paid for wild animals. Sales of this kind are rare, and there are so few persons who have any use for a lion or a tiger, that the amounts paid are seldom remunerative to the party disposing of this sort of stock. Woombell's menagerie, which has been in existence since 1805, was sold by auction at Edinburgh on the 9th ult. The performing elephant was purchased for the Manchester Zoological Gardens for about $3,000. Pelicans were knocked down at $35 each, a price which would hardly make their exportation from Louisiana remunerative. Wolves brought $5.50 each, a price at which our English cousins can have all the coyotes on the prairies. A lion was sold for $450, and a royal Bengal tigress for $775. A male dromedary brought $150. The sale realised about $15,000.

A GENERAL ASSEMBLY.—The annual meeting of the United Presbyterian Churches of the United States will commence on Thursday, the 16th inst., at 11 a. m., in the city of Detroit. It will be the largest ecclesiastical gathering in the world, comprising pastors and elders as delegates, amounting to several hundreds. A great variety of subjects, some of them very important and interesting, will be considered and adjudicated. A fine opportunity is thus afforded to ministers and others in Canada to be present at the Assembly, and listen to the discussions conducted by men of eminent abilities and large experience in church matters, connected with home work of the Gospel, with evangelistic enterprises in the remoter States and missions throughout the world. A daily journal for the purpose will be published in Detroit, giving ample reports of speeches and proceedings, and will be mailed every morning. The charge will be $1 American, in advance. Along with it there will be a large map of the Presbyterian churches spread over the States.

THE draft of the Bill respecting Trades Unions has been received. Its object is to make trade unions legally constituted bodies, and to protect the members from prosecution for conspiracy, &c., on account of belonging to such unions.

Proposed Piano Manufactory in Guelph

A meeting of citizens, hastily convened by circular from the Mayor, was held in the Council Chamber last (Thursday) evening. Those present were Messrs. Massie, Howard, Hogg, Bell, Allan, C. Davidson, Hatch, Raymond, Crowe, Wood, Chance, Harris, Heffernan, Hazleton, Cormack, Bond, Thompson, Stewart, Robertson, Jr., Jacomb, McLagan, A. Hadden. Richard Mitchell, Esq., Mayor, was called to the chair, and Mr. R. S. Brodie appointed Secretary. The Mayor having fully explained the object of their assembling together, Messrs Hatch, Hogg and Massie, respectively addressed the meeting, and from their remarks, as well as those of Mr. Bell who afterwards spoke, it was elicited that Mr. Rainer, of Whitby, had recently been in Guelph for the purpose of establishing an agency for the sale of his pianos, and whilst here the idea was mooted of establishing a Piano Factory in Guelph. Believing that it would be highly advantageous to the interests of the town that such an establishment should be located here, several of our citizens took hold of the idea and last evening put it in tangible shape before those of the citizens assembled. Mr. Rainer, it appears, has already a Piano Manufactory in full blast at Whitby, and the instruments he turns out have acquired a first-class Provincial reputation, having since 1869 gained 1 silver medal, 8 diplomas, 7 first prizes at the various Provincial Exhibitions in Ontario, and first prize, diploma, and silver medal at Quebec Provincial Association 1868. In proposing to transfer his establishment to Guelph, Mr. Rainer calculates his plant, stock on hand, &c., worth some $8,000 or $9,000, and would require further assistance to the extent of $6,000; this sum to be loaned to him for five years at the rate of 6 per cent per annum and to be secured by chattel mortgage or some other mode satisfactory alike to all parties.

An interesting discussion arose on this proposition; the feeling of the meeting being a unit as to the desirability of locating the enterprise in Guelph; in reference to the raising the necessary money, some gentleman favoured the loan proposal, whilst others favoured accomplishing the same purpose by means of a bond. Ultimately the following resolution was agreed to on the motion of Mr. Massie, seconded by Mr. Raymond, that this meeting, having heard the statements of various gentlemen, in reference to the establishment, in Guelph, of a Piano Manufactory by Mr. Joseph Rainer, of Whitby, deem it advisable to encourage the same by subscribing by way of loan the sum of $6,000 for 5 years at 6 per cent, to be secured by security satisfactory to the Committee who may be appointed by the subscribers to the loan, and that Messrs. Mitchell, Hogg, Hatch and Bell be a committee to obtain the amount, and complete the agreement between Mr. Rainer and the parties subscribing towards the loan. A vote of thanks was passed to the chairman and the meeting adjourned. A large portion of the $6,000 has already been subscribed. We may mention that action in this matter had to be hastened in consequence of Oshawa having held out inducements to Mr Rainer—$4000 and exemption from taxation for a period of years—and an answer from Guelph was required by to-day. If Mr. Rainer decides on Guelph the site looked at for the proposed factory is that whereon is erected the large stone building formerly occupied by Mr. Hockin as a cooperage, and at present by the Wellington Oil Company, who are also proprietors. Of course a considerable addition would be required to the present building to meet the wants of the new establishment.

Municipal Council of the Township of Minto.

Council met, May 6th, 1872, pursuant to adjournment—all the members present—the Reeve in the chair. Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Moved by Mr. Heard, seconded by Mr. Bateman, that the Council do form itself into a Court of Revision, with the Reeve in the chair. Carried. The Clerk produced the Assessment Roll, and the Appeal List, with 51 appeals thereon. In the matter of Alex. Wilson, confirmed. In the matter of Thomas D. Carscadden, P. P. struck off and R. E. confirmed. Malcolm McMaster, confirmed. In the matter of Nathan Williams, lot 11, con 3, reduced $100. In the matter of Wm. Ross, confirmed. In the matter of Geo. & Richard Wilkin, confirmed. Donald Sinclair, confirmed. In the matter of Angus Johnston R. E. reduced $50. John McLellan, confirmed. In the matter of Robt. Young, lot 36, con 7, reduced $100. In the matter of R. Martin, assessment corrected and confirmed. In the matter of John Craig, R. E. reduced $150. Geo. Redpath, reduced $200. J. P. Dunn, confirmed. Thomas Lemon, confirmed. Robert Richardson, confirmed. Wm. Robert, confirmed. Joseph G. Haight, lot 10, con. 10, reduced $100 and confirmed. John Hiffle, R. E. reduced to $700 and confirmed. M. Fitzgerald, confirmed as amended by assessor. Wm. Cardwell, confirmed. Peter Kean, confirmed. John F. Bradley, confirmed. Thomas Hart, confirmed. John Cox, confirmed. Thomas Rutherford, R. E. reduced $100. James Bacon, confirmed. Ben. Gray, lot 16 con. 8, reduced to $400 and confirmed. Wm. Ritchie reduced $100. James Appley, reduced $150. Moved by Mr. Bateman, seconded by Mr. Prain, that the Court of Revision now stand adjourned to next meeting of Council, on Tuesday, May 14th, and that the remaining appeals be then heard. Carried. Moved by Mr. Prain, seconded by Mr. Heard, that Angus McConnachie be granted $7 as charity. Carried. The Tavern Inspector recommended certificates for licenses to Wm. Oliphant, "Lorne Hotel," and John Colclough for "Commercial Hotel," Clifford.

BY TELEGRAPH
THIS MORNING'S DESPATCHES

THE WASHINGTON TREATY

The Carlists Driven Back.

Fast Trotting.

Daring Robbery in Brooklyn.

A New Proposal for Settling the Alabama Claims.

London, May 15.—The message of President Grant to the United States Senate, submitting the proposed additional article to the Washington Treaty, serves to re-assure the public that the difference between the two countries will be honorably settled. The market for American securities has become firmer in consequence.

Paris, May 15th.—Marshal Bazaine is allowed to remain at home under a strong guard, and no outside parties are permitted to communicate with him.

Madrid, May 15.—The force of Carlists which entered Spain from Portugal was met near the frontier by a body of Government troops and driven back into Portuguese territory.

London, May 15.—Betting on the approaching race between the *Atalantas* and London clubs is now two to one in favor of the latter.

New York, May 15.—The final deposit made to-day for the pair oared championship race between Coulter and Covett, of Pittsburg, and the Messrs. Biglew, of New York. John Morrisey is to be referee.

The celebrated five year old trotter, Startle, made half-a-mile on Fleetwood Track to-day in 1m. 4½ seconds.

Three burglars waylaid a gentleman named Day in one of the most central points in Brooklyn, while he was riding along in his carriage, and robbed him of nearly $1,000.

Scranton, Pa., May 15.—There is no truth whatever in the reports of an explosion of gas and the killing of men in the Bellene shaft. No accident at any of the mines in this region to-day.

New York, May 16.—The *Tribune's* Washington special says that a New York member has prepared a Bill which he intends to offer in the House, in case the treaty fails, for providing a way of recovering the Alabama claims. The Bill directs the payment by the United States Government in gold of all the legitimate claims for direct losses to the American merchants and shipowners growing out of the depredations of the Alabama and other Anglo-rebellious vessels, and provides that the Government shall indemnify the expenditure for such payment by collecting a tonnage tax of $3 a ton on all British shipping entering American ports until it is fully reimbursed. The member says that his Bill would not only accomplish a speedy payment of the Alabama claims, but would have the more important effect of driving the British ships from the American trade and restore to our commerce something of its former prosperity and prestige.

The Washington special to the *World* says that the draft of the supplemental article to the Washington Treaty was again discussed at great length by the Senate and Foreign Relations Committee to-day. The particular plan of surrender proposed for the United States by the Gladstone Ministry did not seem to strike a single member of the Committee favorably, but the whole discussion turned on the question as to whether the Treaty could be saved any other way. Other propositions were suggested and debated, but no conclusions were reached by the pending correspondence, and the question of the propriety of the Senate advising the President to submit the counter article, thereby reopening negotiations, put all other plans out of the question, so the Committee discussed the pending proposition, with certain modifications which in no wise altered the direct issue involved, but they did not decide after all to recommend it to the Senate.—Another meeting will be held to-morrow to continue the discussion, and it is anticipated that the Committee will finally recommend the Senate to consent and advise the President to engraft this supplemental article into the Treaty of Washington. If the surrender of the administration is made a party issue, the article will probably fail to be ratified by one or two of a majority against the required two-thirds.

THE TRADES' UNION PROCESSION IN HAMILTON.—The members of the various Trades' Unions in Hamilton had a great demonstration in Hamilton on Wednesday in honour of the nine hours movement. About nine o'clock the various bodies of workingmen began marching to the Crystal Palace grounds, where the procession was formed. Each union was preceded by a beautiful banner, and several bands of music were present.—Emblematic devices, models, &c., were also conspicuously displayed, attracting great attention. An immense number of mechanics took part in the procession, and a very large number of people witnessed it along the route. After marching through the principal streets, the processionists returned to the Crystal Palace grounds, where refreshments were partaken of, and sundry speeches made. The men were all neatly dressed, and throughout the day conducted themselves in a most orderly manner.

Prospective Emigration by Russian Mennonites.

The Mennonite colonies, which are situated in the south of Russia, near Berdiansk, numbering 40,000 souls at least, and estimated at more than twice that, propose removing in a body either to the United States or to Canada, in order to escape from the obligations of military service, which is contrary to their conscience and religious belief. It is said that they have already presented petitions to the American and British Governments, asking on what conditions they will be received. As the emigration of such a large body of people, all connected together by religion, friendship and blood, and who would virtually desire to settle in one place, is a matter of considerable importance, it will be well to tell who these Mennonites are, and what are their character and circumstances.

At the time when the Anabaptists and other mystical and protesting sects flourished most in the Low Countries, Menno Simonis, a Catholic priest, abandoned Catholicism and united many of these errant sectarians into "Communes of God," "poor and defenceless brotherhoods." Their teaching was very simple, and in many respects resembled that of the Quakers. One great doctrine was, that war was unlawful and military service sinful. The effort of these communities was to restore the Apostolic Church to its primitive simplicity. Menno died in 1561, and about this time there was a large emigration of his flock, who had taken the name "Mennonites," to East Prussia, in the regions of Dantzig, Marienburgh, and Elbing. Their Dutch neatness and Dutch industry soon made these desolate and swampy regions to flourish like a garden. In 1730 and 1732, the Mennonites were threatened with expatriation, on account of their refusal to serve in the army; but the storm passed by, and in 1740 King Frederick II. gave them new privileges, which resulted in a new immigration from Holland. Still, many arbitrary measures were taken from time to time, and in 1789 they were forbidden to purchase landed property.—Catharine the Second already in 1786 invited the Mennonites to Russia, along with other German colonies, and in 1789, 228 families arrived in Russia, and between 1793 and 1796 there was an immigration of 118 more families. These all settled on and near the Island of Khortitz on the lower Dnieper below Tekaterinoslav. The conditions on which they came to Russia were: Protection from all attacks, freedom of worship, a gift of lands to the amount of 190 acres for each family, exemption from all taxes and imports for 10 years, money for their journey, and money and wood with which to establish themselves, freedom of trade and manufactures, the administration of oaths in their own way, and exemption forever from military service. These privileges were confirmed by the Emperor Paul and extended to all Mennonites who should come thereafter. In spite, therefore, of the repeal and mitigation of the severe laws against them in Prussia, there was a continued and large immigration of Mennonites into Russia up to the year 1817. These colonists settled near their brethren in the Government of Taurid, in the regions between the rivers Molotchna, Dnieper, and Tokmak, not far from the town of Berdiansk.

The Mennonites settled in a waste steppe, where the land was rich enough, but suffered much from want of water. They began to irrigate, and have raised agriculture to a higher point than anywhere else in Russia. They had no wood, and they began to plant trees. The introduction of tree-culture on the steppes is entirely owing to them. They have not only large orchards of excellent fruit trees, but large and productive woods of forest trees, and also extensive plantations of mulberry trees, by means of which they produce a considerable quantity of silk. As they are not averse to improvements, their methods and implements are all good, and they use machinery largely in their agriculture. They are also large raisers of stock—horses, cattle, and sheep. Though the Mennonites were originally agriculturists, they have endeavoured to supply their own wants in manufactured articles, and, in 1854, they had in activity 350 mills and factories, including cloth-mills, water and grist mills, dyeing and printing-works, breweries, distilleries, silk-spinneries, brick and tile works, potteries, &c., and among their villages there were men exercising nearly every known trade.

The Destructive Agency.

Cannot the enormous calamities and devastations which day after day, and week after week, are being effected by the ravages of fire be prevented? It may be answered that to a great extent, if not altogether, they can. All that is required to effect their hinderance is the observance of more carefulness and precaution by those who are intrusted with, or who assume the management of the "fire-fiend." It is needless here to numerate the may disasters by fire, which during the last year or two have been inflicted upon various parts of our continent, since every reader is fully aware of them, but it may, without exaggeration, be asserted that in almost every instance in which the fire has not been the work of an incendiary, its origin is due to the negligence of some person or persons connected with the premises in which it occurred, viz.: negligence as regards defective chimneys, stovepipes, or flues; heedlessness by employees and others in the management of lanterns, oil-lamps, and other combustible substances; or perhaps by some devoted worshipper of the "weed," who, with the greatest indifference, allows the spark or half-extinguished match to fall from his pipe. The origin of the successive conflagrations which from time to time have laid waste and destroyed many of our beautiful forests may in several instance be attributed to similar causes. In dry seasons certain individuals have been known to set fire in places, and to objects, the doing of which, common sense and prudence would suggest to them was unsafe. Although it must be admitted that men in certain localities often fall under the necessity of putting fire in places, which owing to the drought and other circumstances render it hazardous, yet in these cases it would seem advisable for them to sacrifice a part of their interests rather than involve the whole of their property, and not theirs alone, but that of a whole community, under the risk of impending destruction. It may reasonably be conjectured that if the value of the property destroyed on this continent by disastrous conflagrations during the last two years, was judiciously distributed amongst, and appropriated by the paupers of the continent, it would raise them all to compa-