

Proposed Amendments in the School Law.

The Common and Grammar School committee of the Ontario Legislature were in session on Friday, and discussed some of the suggestions in Dr. Ryerson's special report. In the first place the committee arrived at the conclusion that Local Superintendents could be dispensed with altogether, and that the work now done by that numerous class of school officials, should be done by a County Superintendent who would have the oversight of all the Common, and also of all the Grammar Schools. In counties too large to be thoroughly attended to by one County Superintendent, it was thought an assistant might be employed. The question was next discussed as to what class of persons should be employed as County Superintendents, in lieu of those who have generally acted as Local Superintendents. It was proposed, and probably it will be finally adopted, that all applicants for the situation of County Superintendent should undergo an examination before the Council of Public Instruction, or before a committee appointed by the Board, that all those who might be found duly qualified for the office should receive certificates to that effect. From the list of applicants holding such certificates the County are to nominate one person whom they deem proper to select and send the name to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, who makes the appointment, and the person thus appointed is to hold office during the pleasure of the Crown. It is quite apparent that some very material alterations in the present system will be recommended by the School Committee, but whether the House will adopt them is another question. Three weeks of the session have now passed, and but very little progress has been made by the Committee. In fact it commenced its labours only two or three days since, and we question very much whether it will get half through its labours before the House rises, in which case, like the work done last session by the Municipal Committee, the labor will be lost, and all have to be done over again next or some subsequent session.

THE ELECTION RIOTS.

Considering the momentous issues involved in the British elections it is rather surprising than otherwise that so few riots have taken place. No doubt every precaution that prudence could suggest was taken beforehand to prevent disturbance, but the history of the empire is not deficient in instances where the passions of the people blinded them to danger, and in which numbers of lives were not sacrificed only because of the forbearance of the authorities, and the humanity of the military. Englishmen are formidable only when they demand concessions to their privileges, yet when called upon to give expression to their opinion on a question, on which all may be supposed to feel interested one way or another, and when there were among them numbers still in the first flush of their pride over the possession of a privilege that was never theirs before, it would not have been a matter of great wonder had they for once transgressed traditional rule, and perpetrated mischief, even when not seeking extension of their prerogatives. But there is no mention of their having done so, and so far as England is concerned the elections appear to have passed without a brawl. In Ireland it is somewhat different, as it might have been anticipated it would be. In Belfast polling had to be suspended on account of a riot, and in Drogheda (historic ground) the troops were obliged to fire on the mob, when one of the rioters was killed and several wounded. These are all the disturbances we have yet heard of, and if the elections pass over in Ulster with no more serious or fatal results it will be indeed fortunate. To be sure there have been black eyes, bloody noses, and cracked skulls innumerable, of which no account has been taken; but that, in a place where the two parties who feel the most intensely on the Church question come into direct collision, there has not been something like wholesale murder is indicative of a very temperate state of affairs. In the south there are not the same elements to awaken contention, and consequently we hear of no unlawful doings except in the north, where a spirit of opposition, hereditary as physical lineaments or intellectual qualities, intensifies the feelings with which Roman Catholics and certain Protestants look on the Irish Church. But all things considered the electors have behaved themselves pretty well, and have been more sparing of their own and other's lives than might have been expected.

Since the above was written the Cable has brought the intelligence that one serious riot had occurred in Derbyshire, and another in Sligo, Ireland. It is said that the British Government has been driven to a settlement of the Alabama claims by those of its own subjects who have contrary claims against the United States for damages done their property during the war. The claims from Louisiana alone are reported large enough to balance the Alabama claims. If this be so, our good cousins will for once find themselves out of pocket in a barter.

Wellington, Grey & Bruce Railway.

We find the following in the Spectator of Saturday last: We notice that some of our contemporaries are commenting upon the fact that the suit of Carpenter against the city has been laid over until next Chancery term; and are assuming that this postponement will delay the commencement of the Wellington, Grey & Bruce Railway. That assumption is entirely incorrect, the postponement having taken place by mutual consent in order to facilitate the progress of the work. The circumstances are briefly these: The gentlemen who opposed the city By-laws and who afterwards took the proceeding to prevent the transfer of the G. W. R. stock, did so, not from any feeling of hostility to the Wellington, Grey and Bruce Railway, but because they feared that the road could not be built for the estimate, and that the city stock would be lost. So soon as the contracts were laid, and in view of the recognized ability of the parties to carry them out, an interview was had with these parties, and the position of the company frankly laid before them. The result was that they were satisfied that the Company was in a position to complete the road not only to Fergus, but to Harrison, and they agreed therefore to withdraw the suit. It was deemed better by counsel on both sides that it should simply be postponed in the meantime, and that an Act should be obtained from the Legislature to remove all doubts. The Bill will be introduced next week, and will undoubtedly pass, and the contractors will, in all probability, be at work on the line within a month, and have the trains running into Fergus, and the second section under contract within eight months from this date.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AMERICA.

The latest advices indicate that the Paraguayan cause is tottering towards its final fall. Lopez has been beaten backwards, and has taken a stand in Villaeta, where he is menaced, front and rear, by the allies. They seem determined to force the catastrophe, which it appears beyond his power to avert for any length of time. The new president of the Argentine Republic is animated with warlike ideas, and has declared his resolution not to desist, and the spirit of the confederated States which a short time since seemed to languish has revived under the stimulation of recent success. Lopez has lately proved himself a bloody and an unscrupulous tyrant, and the sympathy for his cause which his valour and that of his followers might have evoked, must give place to detestation of the man for his cruelties. His atrocities have left a stain on his character which his courage and contumacy cannot erase. There seems to be a prospect of a speedy termination of the war, and even if the Paraguayans be defeated humanity will rejoice.

TRADE MOVEMENT.—A general disposition is manifesting itself among wholesale houses to come west to Toronto. It is mentioned that the sum of \$2,400 was recently offered for rent for a medium-sized warehouse, on Front Street, by a Montreal firm desirous of coming up.

ADDING HIM UP.—That Munchausen gone mad, George Francis Train, has taken recently to signing his letters—"George Francis Train, Civis Americanus Sum." Well taking him at his own quotations, we don't think the sum amounts to much.

A protest has been entered against the last day's proceedings at the Diocesan Synod, Montreal. The Waterford village pedagogue got "slipped up" recently. He had obtained a promise of marriage from his assistant, who had some time previously plighted her troth to a young farmer, and preparations were made for the nuptials. But the farmer again gained her ear, and by the exercise of a persuasive tongue, herself. He took her before a minister, and the schoolmaster was left in the dumps.

A runaway couple were arrested at Chatham last week. The man had left a wife and five children, 14 lbs. of flour, and 2 lbs. of butter behind him; the woman, a husband and seven children, with an unknown amount of "prog." The constables kindly took them away, and put him in goal for having, in addition to his offenses of an amorous nature, obtained money under false pretences.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

COULSON HOUSE, GUELPH, Nov. 23. A Innes, New York; G M Conley, St. Catharines; N Morrison, Oshawa; J Smith, Arthur; J H Pearce, Montreal; J P Donaldson, Toronto; W W Petrie, Fergus; T Colman, Paris; C W Halewell, Montreal; W Dufour, Montreal; W K Ross, Hamilton; M Leshman, Montreal; G W Walter, Buffalo; G J Colquhoun, Berlin; J C Meradith, Berlin; J Guest, Montreal; J W Payne, New York; W P Short, Iowa; W T Jones, Montreal; L W Parter, Meadville, Pa.; E J Spence, Meadville, Pa.; T Allison, Toronto; Je Moss, Montreal; W J Manager, Montreal; W Hay, Bruce; W Murehead, Toronto.

New Advertisements.

TAILOR WANTED. Wanted, a tailor for a country store. Must be a good cutter, and be able to conduct the custom business. Apply on Wednesday the 23rd from 11 till 2 p. m., to Thomas Whitehead, at Hogg's Dry Goods store. Guelph, Nov. 23. dt

PORTER WANTED. Wanted, a good stout lad between 17 and 18 years of age, to act as porter. Apply personally at the store of E. CARROLL & CO. Guelph, November 23. dtf

CAUTION TO THE PUBLIC. Notice is hereby given that from and after this date the subscriber will not be responsible for any debts contracted in his name, without his written order and signature attached. STRICKLAND DUFFIELD. Guelph, Nov. 12. dt

HORSE STRAYED.

Strayed from the premises of the subscriber on Saturday the 14th instant, a small sorrel mare, white on the hind legs, and a white stripe down the face. Any one returning her to the undersigned, or giving such information as will lead to her recovery will be rewarded. JOHN AMOS. Lot 6, 4th Con, Div. B, Guelph Township. Guelph, Nov. 23. d2wt

PREPARE FOR THE

Auction Sale of Books

&c. &c. &c.

At M. Shewan's Old Stand,

WYNDHAM STREET. Guelph, Nov. 23. d

NEW FLOUR AND FEED STORE

East Market Square, Guelph.

A. GRAHAM & CO.

Have to intimate to the public of Guelph and vicinity that they have opened a new Flour and Feed Store in the premises lately occupied by Mr. Hugh Hogg, first door east of Bell's Melodion Factory.

EAST MARKET SQUARE,

where they will keep constantly on hand Flour and Feed of all kinds, of the very best quality. All orders promptly attended to, and goods delivered free of charge in any part of the town.

POTATOES.

On hand, a large consignment of capital potatoes, which we will sell at the lowest possible price. Give us a call.

A. GRAHAM & CO. Guelph, Nov. 23. dtm

BOYS, LOOK HERE!

WANTED at this office, a number of boys to sell

The Evening Mercury

Active lads can make good wages after school hours. Apply at the counting room at once. Guelph, 23rd November. dtw

JOB PRINTING.

Every description of Plain and Ornamental Job Printing—from the Mammoth Poster, to the finest Wedding Card—executed on the shortest possible notice, at very low rates, at the MERCURY PRINTING HOUSE, Macdonnell Street, Guelph.

CARDS, CARDS.

Cards for Business and Professional Gentlemen printed in first-class style at THE MERCURY OFFICE East Macdonnell Street, Guelph.

HOUSE TO RENT.

House to Rent, containing 5 rooms, back kitchen, pantries and cellar, with stabling, out-houses, well, &c. Apply to GEO. A. BRUCE, Guelph Carriage Works. Guelph, Nov. 23. dtw

SERVANT GIRL WANTED.

Wanted in a small family, a servant girl to do general housework. Apply at the Mercury Office, Macdonnell Street, Guelph. dtf

Executors' Notice.

All parties having claims against the estate of the late Dr. Thomas S. Parker, of Guelph, are required to present the same forthwith for adjustment; and all parties indebted to said estate to make payment to the undersigned, GEORGE ELLIOTT, NATHANIEL HIGHBOTHAM, EDWARD BLAKE, Executors. Guelph, Nov. 6. dtw

FACTORY FOR SALE OR LEASE.

A good Factory for sale or to let. Apply to S. BOULT, Quebec-St. Guelph, Nov. 19. dtw

SPEED LODGE, GUELPH.

An Emergency meeting of Speed Lodge, No. 180, A. F. and M. M., will be held in the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday evening, Nov. 23rd, at half-past seven o'clock. JOHN CRIDFORD, Secretary.

CLOTHES CLEANED.

Any person wishing their coats, pants or vests, or hats, &c., cleaned on short notice, would do well to give the subscriber a call. Washing also done. Can be found at Coulson's Hotel, Guelph. JOHN LEWIS BOWLDEN. Guelph, Nov. 18. dt

STRAW AND FELT HATS.

The subscriber begs to announce to the ladies of Guelph and surrounding country that in addition to the Straw Bonnet and Hat making she is prepared to do all kinds of felt work. MISS HARRISON, next to Mr. Rowan's. Guelph, 19th Nov. dt

SERVANTS WANTED.

A First-Class Cook and a Chamber Maid wanted to go to Detroit. Highest wages given. Expenses paid to Detroit. Satisfactory testimonials required. Apply at the MERCURY OFFICE, Guelph.

NOTICE.

SILVER CREEK BREWERY. Farmers and others having empty barrels in their possession belonging to the Silver Creek Brewery will please return them at once, as any kept an unnecessary time after being emptied will be charged. GEO. SLEEMAN. Guelph, Nov. 20. dtw

Great Western Railway.



CHANGE OF TIME TABLE

On and after MONDAY 23rd of NOVEMBER, Trains will be timed to leave Guelph as under:

LEAVE GUELPH. 6.25 a. m. | 4.40 p. m.

ARRIVE AT GUELPH. 11.45 a. m. | 9.25 p. m.

Connecting with trains on Main Line for all points East and West.

For particulars see Time Tables, to be had on application at any of the Company's Offices.

THOMAS SWINYARD, General Manager. General Offices, No. 20, 1866. dt

ENGLISH MAGAZINES

FOR NOVEMBER AT

CUTHBERT'S.

Guelph, 20th November. dtw

GRAND ASSORTMENT

FURNISHING GOODS!

BRITANNIA HOUSE.

CARPETS!

CARPETS!

In Wool, Tapestry, Brussels, Hemp, &c.

Lace and Muslin Curtains,

The Choicest Patterns.

Union and All-Wool Curtain Damasks,

Scarlet, Green, Crimson and Fancy Colours.

White and Coloured Marseilles Counterpanes,

Newest Designs.

The New Victoria & Alexandria Quilt,

Just Imported.

Irish Satin Finish Table Linen,

The Finest in Ontario.

Scotch Table Hollands

Very heavy and very cheap.

HUCKABACK AND DIAPER BED-ROOM TOWELS,

GLASS TOWELS, KITCHEN TOWELS, &c.

500 Prs Canadian Tw'd Blannels

HEFFERNAN BROS.

Britannia House, Guelph. Guelph, Nov. 19. dtw

PETRIE'S DRUG STORE,

OLD POST OFFICE BLOCK.

A Very Superior Article

COAL OIL!

NOW ON HAND,

AT PETRIE'S

Drug Store, Wyndham Street, Guelph. Nov. 19. dtw

BUSINESS STILL GOOD

AT THE

BRADFORD HOUSE

DRESS GOODS!

Another LARGE ARRIVAL at 12 1/2 Cents, worth DOUBL. the Money.

JACKETS! JACKETS!

Jackets at Panic Prices. Astrachan Jackets, Sealskin Jackets, Whitney,—Black and Coloured, Petersham,—Black and Coloured, and an immense variety of

FANCY JACKETS, COMMENCING AT \$1.00.

Table Linen and Sheetings.

The BRADFORD HOUSE is still a Household Word amongst Housekeepers, for cheap Furnishings of every description. CALL AND EXAMINE.

MILLINERY!

For stylish BONNETS go to the BRADFORD HOUSE. For CHEAP HATS go to the BRADFORD HOUSE. The best assortment of FEATHERS, FLOWERS, MILLINERY, TRIMMINGS, &c., is to be found at the BRADFORD HOUSE.

PHILIP BISH

Wyndham Street, Guelph, November 23. dtw

FISH, FISH.

Finnan Haddie, Smoked Salmon, Yarmouth Bloaters, Fresh Lobsters.

AT GEO. WILKINSON'S.

LABRADOR HERRINGS,

Lake Huron Herring, New Scaled Herrings, Codfish and Haddock

At GEO. WILKINSON'S.

PLATT & CO'S

Chesapeake Bay

BALTIMORE OYSTERS,

At Geo. Wilkinson's.

House and Lot for Sale.

SITUATED on Delhi Street, Mitchell's Hill, Guelph, being Lot 23 in Division A, containing one-fifth of an acre. House is built of stone, and contains four comfortable rooms, besides a kitchen; also, clothes press, and good cellar, all well finished and in good condition. Lot is well fenced and planted with choice fruit trees, &c.—There is a good well with pump on the premises; well adapted to a small family, being on a very healthy site, and affording an excellent aspect. Will be sold cheap. For further particulars apply to WM. JOHNS, McTague Street, or THOMAS BOLTON, Guelph Township, near Armstrong's Mills. October 31st. dtw

FRESH ARRIVALS.

500 dozen Turnip Baskets. 50 dozen Corn Brooms. 12 " Fancy Corn Whisks. 20 " Spruce Pails. 5 " Stable Pails. " Toy Pails. Cases Telegraph Matches. 5 Cases Parlor Matches. 12 dozen Butter Spoons, Cards, &c.

At JOHN A. WOOD'S, Wyndham Street. Guelph October 31st. dtw

IMPERIAL

Fire Insurance Company

OF LONDON. (Established 1803.)

HEAD OFFICES.—1 Old Broad Street, and 16 Pall Mall, London.

GENERAL AGENCY FOR CANADA—24 St. Sacramento Street, Montreal.

Subscribed and Invested Capital and Reserved Fund £1,965,000 STEELING. Funds invested in Canada—\$105,000.

INSURANCE against loss by fire effected on the most favorable terms, and losses paid without reference to the Board in London. No charge made for policies or endorsements.

RINTOUL Bros, General Agents, 24 St. Sacramento Street. JOHN DODSWORTH, Inspector.

JOHN M. BOND, Agent, Guelph. Guelph, 14th Nov. dtw

Wrapping Paper for Sale.

FOR SALE at the Evening Mercury Office, a large lot of old Newspapers, in good condition for wrapping paper. Apply at the office. Guelph, October 23. dtw

PORTRAIT PAINTING.

D. C. BELL,

Portrait and Landscape Painter,

Has taken rooms in DAY'S BLOCK, where he will be happy to execute Likenesses of all who may favor him with their commands.

PORTRAITS

In Oil Colours, painted from life. PHOTOGRAPHS, AMBROTYPES, DAGUERROTYPES and MINATURES of all kinds copied and enlarged to LIFE SIZE.

FLAGS & BANNERS PAINTED

Lessons given in DRAWING and PAINTING.

Inspection of Specimens respectfully invited. Guelph, Nov. 17, 1868. dtw

CLARK'S EXCELSION

Washing Composition!

The best and Rarest Discovery of the Age, for Washing 7 purposes.

Worth Twenty Dollars a Year

In a family of eight or ten persons.

It will wash in hard or soft water. Clothes require no rubbing. The dirt is boiled out in ten minutes, and the washing may be on the line before breakfast. It is warranted not to injure or discolor the clothes, and will also remove grease, or stains of all kinds. Give it a fair trial and you will never be without it. "Family Rights" containing full directions for making and using the Composition, \$1 each. Sold at the Patentee's Music Store, and at A. B. PETRIE'S Drug Store, W. WARNER CLARK, Patentee Guelph, Ont. July 16th

EUREKA!

Money Saved is Money Gained

SAVE YOUR MONEY by purchasing at the GREAT CLOSING SALE of

MISCELLANEOUS & SCHOOL BOOKS,

STATIONERY and FANCY GOODS,

WALL PAPERS

and Berlin Woods, now going on at

Shewan's Old Stand

Wyndham Street, Guelph.

Goods are being sold at wonderfully Low Prices. The subscriber has just returned to town with a large assortment of NEW BOOKS, purchased at Auction, and other cheap sources, which he will sell at low prices. Every person is respectfully requested to call and examine the stock. Trouble and attention never considered, as long as customers are accommodated and satisfied. These sales afford a good opportunity to purchase reading for Winter, at low prices.

J. B. THORNTON,

Guelph, Nov. 2, 1868. dtw

NEW GOODS.

D. SAVAGE

Is now opening his Fall Stock, which is unusually large and attractive.

CAKE BASKETS, CRUETS

BUTTER COOLERS, SUGAR BOWLS CREAM JUGS, CARD BASKETS, FLOWER VASES.

PURE SILVER SPOONS

ELECTRO-PLATED SPOONS.

Gold and Silver Watches

FINE GOLD SETS BROOCHES, EAR-RINGS, GUARDS, ALBERTS, NECKLIES, RINGS, LOCKETS, &c.

REAL JET SETS

SOMETHING NEW.

All of which will be offered at Montreal and Toronto prices.

D. SAVAGE. Guelph, 14th Nov. dt