

Guelph Evening Mercury

VOL. II. NO. 189.

GUELPH ONT., CANADA, THURSDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 25, 1869.

PRICE ONE PENNY

NEW AUCTION ROOMS.

GEO. LESLIE,

Auctioneer and Commission Merchant,
No. 3 Day's Block, - Guelph,
(Next door to Carroll's Grocery Store).

Every attention paid to Sales of Merchandise, Household Furniture and Farm Stock.

Prompt and careful returns made of all sales.

REFERENCES:—Jas. Massey, Esq., Guelph; Messrs. C. & J. Sproul, Acton; Jas. Barclay, Esq., of Barclay & McLeod, Georgetown; R. A. Leslie, Esq., Bank of N. S. A., London; David Arnott, Esq., Toronto.

HAMILTON DYE WORKS,

Two doors from the Royal Hotel. Established 1856.

Silks, Satins, Merinos, Damasks, Moreen Table Covers, &c., &c., dyed and finished. British and Foreign Shawls cleaned and pressed. Kid Gloves cleaned, feathers cleaned, dyed and curled.

JAMES CONNER, Hamilton.

Orders left at J. HUNTER'S Berlin Wool and Fancy Goods Store, Weymouth-st., will receive prompt attention. For price list and further information apply to

J. HUNTER, Guelph, 5th Feb. dw Agent for Guelph

Undertakers!

MITCHELL & TOVELL

Having bought out Mr. Nathan Tovell's business, we hope by strict attention to business to gain a share of public patronage. We will have

A full assortment of COFFINS always on hand.

Funerals furnished if required. Carpenter work done as usual. Premises, a few doors north of Post Office, and next D. Guthrie's Law Office, Douglas Street, Guelph.

JOHN MITCHELL. NATHAN TOVELL, Jr. Guelph, December 17th. dw

R. J. JEANNERET,

FROM ENGLAND. Established in London, Oct. 1812 and in Guelph 1863.

WORKING WATCHMAKER AND JEWELER

DAYS BLOCK, Opposite the Market Guelph.

Just received a large variety of Cheap Goods suitable for Christmas and New Year's gifts. Particular attention paid to repairing of Watches, Clocks and Jewelry.

Guelph, December 17th. dw

INSOLVENT ACT OF 1864

ISAAC BUCHANAN, PETER T. BUCHANAN and ANDREW BINNEY, PLAINTIFFS.

R. H. HUDGIN, DEFENDANT.

A WRIT OF ATTACHMENT is issued in this cause.

GEO. J. GRANGE, Sheriff, Wellington. Guelph, Feb. 12, 1869. dw

THE OLD ESTABLISHED SADDLER SHOP.

The subscriber in returning thanks to the public for the patronage bestowed on the late firm of Guelph & Leitch, would beg to say that he is now carrying on the business in all its branches at the old stand, West Market Square, Guelph, and hopes by strict attention to business, and moderate charges, to merit a share of public support. As he intends using only the best of stock, and employing none but first-class workmen, the public may depend on getting a good article. He will always keep on hand, and make to order, the newest and best styles of

Harness, Saddles, Bridles, Martingales, and a large assortment of Trunks, Valises, WHIPS, HORSE BLANKETS, CURRY COMBS, MANE COMBS, CARDS, SEWERS, WHIP Lashes—all kinds

OIL AND VARNISH For Charming Harness, and all other articles connected with his business.

A liberal discount made for cash. All kinds of repairing done with neatness and speed.

GEORGE BEATTIE, West Market Square. Guelph, 19th Feb. dw

GREAT WESTERN HOTEL.

JOHN HEWER, Proprietor.

The subscriber having lately leased the above Hotel, would respectfully inform his friends and the travelling public generally that he has thoroughly renovated and refurnished the premises throughout, and is also making other improvements which will well merit its accommodation for guests second to none in town. The table will always be supplied with the choicest market articles, and the bar with pure liquors and the best brands of cigars. Nothing will be left unattempted to ensure the comfort of all who may favor him with their patronage. Extensive stabling attached, capable of accommodating 200 horses. An attentive hostler always in attendance. Stages to all parts of the country call at this hotel daily.

Guelph, 19th Feb. dw

MONTREAL STEAM SHIP COMPANY.

QUELPH AGENCY. CANADIAN LINE—Portland to Liverpool every Saturday. GLASGOW LINE—Portland to Glasgow every week.

SABIN—Guelph to Liverpool \$525 and \$500. RAYE—do do \$425 and \$400. ARIN—Guelph to Glasgow \$750. INTERMEDIATE—do do \$475. TERRACE—do do \$410.

Return Tickets at reduced rates. Prepaid Passage Certificates issued to bring friends out at the very information apply to

GEO. A. OSNARD, Agent G. T. R. Co., Guelph. Guelph, April 1, 1868. dw

EDUCATIONAL.

MRS. WM. BUDD, Organist of the Congregational Church. Begs to inform her Pupils and friends that her school will re-open MONDAY 1st JANUARY 1869. She will also be prepared to give Private Lessons on the Organ, Piano and Melodion. Residence: 2 Norfolk Street, Guelph. dw

ALL THE ENGLISH MAGAZINES

FOR FEBRUARY.

HARPER'S GODEY'S MRS. DEMOREST'S FRANK LESLIE

FOR MARCH, at

DAY'S BOOKSTORE,

Opposite the Market, Guelph, Feb. 23. dw

JUST IN.

A first-class stock of

GUZMAN'S CELEBRATED Hoop Skirts

In all the latest and most Approved Styles.

Including the

New PANNIER Skirt

Which has no equal.

THIS IS BEYOND ALL COMPARISON

THE CHEAPEST LOT OF SKIRTS EVER SHOWN IN GUELPH.

The attention of every lady is respectfully called to

A. O. BUCHANAN, Guelph, Jan. 17. dw

FURS.

W. H. BUCHANAN, Guelph, Jan. 17. dw

MORCAN'S DOMINION HAIR-DRESSING PARLOR

HAVING had large experience in Cutting and Dressing Hair in the Old Country and in the British Army, where a great deal of good taste had to be displayed to meet the requirements of aspiring young officers, and having carried on the business for half a year, and prospered well in Guelph, I will only add that being now assisted by Mr. JOHN THORN, long and favorably known in Guelph, I am better able to give satisfaction than any in the profession. Having observed a good deal of carelessness in many hair-dressers in regard to the hair-cups and hair-brushes, I am determined to keep them clean, as is well known I have done in the past. Ask Hair Dresser. A call is solicited where dyeing is needed. Come, gentlemen of Guelph, come all. Satisfaction guaranteed or nothing charged. Special attention paid to Ladies' and Children's Hair—the latter only charged for hair-cutting. Remember the shop—St. George's Square, behind the English Church, Guelph.

Guelph, January 21. dw E. MORGAN

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

The subscriber begs to inform his patrons and the public that during his absence in Scotland his business will be carried on as usual. Parties requiring work will please call at his shop, Market Square, where all orders will receive prompt attention.

Guelph, 6th Jan. 1869. JAS. BARCLAY.

HARTFORD Fire Insurance Company

OF Hartford, Conn. INCORPORATED IN 1810. CAPITAL, \$2,000,000

Special Rates for Dwellings and contents for terms of one to three years.

Guelph, Dec. 21. E. MORRIS, Agent. dw

PUBLIC NOTICE.

The subscriber has to intimate that during his absence in England all orders left at the shop will be promptly attended to as usual. Parties indebted to him will please call at his house and settle as early as possible.

Guelph, 6th Jan. W. H. JACOB. dw

Evening Mercury.

THURSDAY EV'NG, FEB. 25, 1869.

Job Printing of every description executed cheaply and promptly at the Machinery Steam Printing House, Macdonnell Street, Guelph. An immense assortment of the latest and most choice designs in plain and ornamental type has just been added to our previously large stock, rendering our establishment the most complete office in all its appointments to be found West of Toronto. Our charges are the lowest, and our work the best in the country.

County School Convention.

MEETING IN GUELPH.

The County School Convention, called by the Chief Superintendent of Education, to hear his explanations on the proposed changes in the Common and Grammar School Laws, was held in the Court House yesterday (Wednesday, the 24th). The meeting was called for one o'clock, but it was nearly two before the proceedings commenced. At that time there was scarcely a hundred people present, and very few came in after. Among those present we noticed several teachers from the town and country, and most of our town school trustees. There was but a mere handful of people from the country. Peter Gow, Esq., M.P.P., was called to the chair, and the Rev. Mr. Torrance appointed Secretary.

Mr. Gow, in introducing Dr. Ryerson, said he would like to have seen a larger meeting, but he believed it was not for want of interest that there were not more present, but because of the rough weather.

Dr. Ryerson, in opening his address said the meeting was purely of a business character, and held in order to elicit the opinions of those present in regard to the proposed alterations in the School Law. He believed he was the only one occupying a position as Head of a Department who afforded such an opportunity of ascertaining the mind of the people in regard to the changes of this kind affecting the public weal. He had made it a rule since he had been appointed Superintendent to make a tour every five years through the educating countries of Europe, and in the United States, and also to visit the counties in Canada every five years, and what he learned both at home and abroad he made use of in maturing our educational system. In making this his last tour which he felt his age and strength would permit, he was anxious to obtain to the fullest possible extent the opinions of the people in regard to the proposed changes in the School Laws. He referred to his previous visit in 1866, when he brought under their notice the changes then proposed of having Township Boards of Trustees, of a different method of appointing County Boards of examiners, and to test the feeling in regard to compulsory education.

Pending the establishment of a new political system it was deemed advisable to defer the educational improvements embodied in the Bill then framed by him until after confederation. Since then he had made a tour of foreign countries, and had prepared a special report on the subject, in which he had gone fully into the different systems prevailing in these countries. That report also contained suggestions of an important character affecting our school system, which were now embodied in the bill under consideration. A committee of twenty-four members of the Ontario Legislature was appointed, who were to make full enquiries into the working of the educational department, to make suggestions for the further improvement of the school system, and report the results in certain resolutions which were afterwards framed into this bill. The result of their enquiries therefore, and of his suggestions, was this bill, which was not a Government bill, but—the committee being composed of members from both sides of the house—one emanating from the Legislature. He then referred to the rapid progress of education in this County, which could be seen by looking over the following interesting statistics. The number of schools in this County in 1847 were 47; in 1857 the number had increased to 95, and in 1867 to 138. The number of pupils attending these schools in 1847 was 2,625, the number in 1857 had risen to 8,199, and in 1867 had still further increased to 13,913. The sum expended on education in this County in 1847 was \$5,988, in 1857 \$20,819, and in 1867 \$47,386. These statistics, he said, gave evidence of one of the most remarkable instances of progress which Upper Canada presents. During the first seven years from 1847, fifty schools were made free schools. In the next seven years they had increased to fifty-eight, and from 1857 to 1867 the free schools had increased to 130, so that out of the 138 schools all were free in the County except eight. In the Town of Guelph an equally marked progress was observable. In 1857 the number of pupils were 726, and in 1867 that number had increased to 1,349. The sum spent for common school education in the town was \$3,684 in 1857, and in 1867 it had risen to \$6,363, and all the eight schools

were free. (The Dr. was in error in this last statement, as afterwards pointed out by Mr. Torrance, the rate bill being in force in all the schools in town.) These statistics, he remarked, are very interesting, as showing the great advancement made in education in the County of Wellington and Town of Guelph. He then went on to explain the proposed changes in the School Act, passing over the clauses which did not call for discussion, and pointing out the intention and effect of all the important clauses. Since the bill had been sent to the printer, a clause had been added, making the summer vacations from the 15th July to the 15th of August. One of the most important changes was in the appointment of Superintendents. The plan of township superintendents, following other vocations, and with but a limited portion of their time devoted to the schools, had proved a failure. It was proposed to appoint instead of one County Superintendent (or in large and populous counties, two), who should make the inspection of the schools his business, and devote himself exclusively to the work. The man for this office should be skilled in teaching—should have practical knowledge of the work he was to oversee. Candidates for this office would not require to go to Toronto to be examined. Literary qualifications would not be the sole test, for a candidate might have these, and know nothing about teaching. Questions would be proposed by the Council of Public Instruction, and a time appointed for holding examinations, simultaneously in all the Counties. The papers thus filled would be examined by the Council of Public Instruction, and the certificates issued. In this way the different municipalities would have a guarantee that the Superintendents were qualified as well as the teachers. The provision made was that each County and Board of School Trustees shall nominate Superintendents, and prescribe their limits. They would be subject to dismissal on complaint to the Minister of Public Instruction by the Council or Board nominating them. County Councils nominate and the Governor in Council appoints or confirms the appointment. It was proposed that half the salaries of Superintendents be paid by the Government, and such being the case, it was thought right the government should be associated with County Councils in their appointment, still Councils have the power of nominating, and the government merely confirms. Dr. Ryerson was in support of the argument in support of this clause in the bill. In referring to the 7th clause, which provides that the salaries of Superintendents shall not be less than \$600 per annum, and not more than \$1200, he said that at first the Premier was strongly opposed to the half of the salaries being paid by the Government. The 8th clause gave the County Superintendent power to decide in regard to the suitability and adequacy of school accommodation, and if in any section the Trustees failed to follow out his suggestions for affording increased accommodation within twelve months, such section shall not be entitled to the school grant. A clause had been added giving to such section the right of appeal to the Minister of Public Instruction. The new Boards of Examiners in counties would, according to the new bill, consist of three persons each, and these Boards would, he argued, be more efficient and less costly than the present ones. The minimum salary of male teachers was \$300, and that of female teachers \$200. No teacher could obtain a first class certificate who had not taught four or five years. Such certificate to have a Provincial character, and would tend to raise the standing of teachers. Second class certificates would only be granted for a stated period, and would only be good in the county in which they were granted. Third class certificates were to be abolished. These changes would tend to give greater efficiency in teaching, and would make the teacher's position one of more security and permanence. The frequent changing of teachers was an evil. The late Mr. Shaw, M.P.P., had said that he had been a Common School teacher, a Grammar School teacher, and a Superintendent, and his experience of fifteen years had led him to believe that the average loss through changing teachers equalled a quarter's schooling. The latter part of the 10th clause, in regard to the dismissal of teachers, was withdrawn. He argued at length in support of the 11th clause, which empowers the Council of any Township to establish a Township Board of School Trustees at the request of a majority of the school sections of such township. Three years ago, when the matter was brought before the country, 35 out of the 35 Conventions expressed themselves in favor of the establishment of Township Boards. He contended that public opinion generally was in favor of free schools—the free schools in the Province were now 2,838 out of a total of 4,442. Thirty-seven conventions, out of the forty held three years ago, had thus decided. It was time, he thought, that a plan of compulsory education was adopted, and the Bill provided for this. The principle had long been acted upon in the United States, and was of such benefit that it would not now be abandoned on any account. He had endeavored to get the Committee to incorporate the establishment of Instruction Schools in the system, but this had not been acted upon. He concluded with the hope that there would be a free expression of opinion on the different clauses, whether that opinion was favourable or not.

The chairman said they all felt highly pleased with the lucid explanations made by the able Chief Superintendent. We had reason to be proud of our school system, and improvements in it as were felt desirable. The Bill was a credit to Dr. Ryerson, and he hoped they would discuss it on its merits.

In reply to a question from Mr. R. S. Brodie, Dr. Ryerson said that the expression of opinion given could only be held to be the expression merely of this meeting, and not of the whole county.

On motion of Mr. Geo. Elliott, the bill was then considered clause by clause. The first three clauses relating to Local Superintendents, providing for the appointment of County Superintendents, and for superintendents in cities and towns, who shall have the same power as County Superintendents, were adopted

on motion of Mr. Wm. Whitelaw, seconded by Rev. Mr. Ball. The fourth clause relating to the qualification and mode of examination of Superintendents was adopted on motion of Mr. Ball, seconded by Mr. Geo. Barron, of Elora. The mover, in a few words, expressed his hearty approval of the clause, and of how great importance it was to have Superintendents thoroughly qualified by experience, training and education.

The fifth clause which provides that each County Council or Board of School Trustees shall nominate Superintendents who shall afterwards be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor to hold office during pleasure, gave rise to considerable discussion. Mr. Elliott thought it would give more satisfaction if the word nominate was changed to appoint, thus giving the County Council or Boards of School Trustees power to make such appointments. He moved, seconded by Mr. Whitelaw, that the word be so changed.

Mr. Wm. Stevenson moved, seconded by Mr. Barron, that the word remain as it is in the bill. Dr. Ryerson explained that the power of appointing Superintendents was vested in County Councils exclusively; the Counties would have to pay their salaries in full, whereas, as proposed, the government is merely given the power to confirm the nominations made by the Councils, and for this power it was provided that half the salaries should be paid out of the public revenue.

Mr. Peterson said the only danger in adopting this clause was that it assumed something of a political complexion. Dr. Ryerson said if they looked at the clause that provided that County Councils shall nominate one person, and the government merely appoints such a person nominated. Mr. Sturton, M.P., said that this was to his mind the most objectionable feature in the bill. It was following out the centralizing system already initiated. If there was one feature more than another which gave success to our school system it was on account of the direct control the people had in the management of their schools. The appointment of Superintendents by the County Council in this County had worked well. Now it was proposed to place such power in the hands of the government. It was well known that governments sometimes were influenced in the appointing or removal of persons. He was astonished to hear what Dr. Ryerson had said about the government paying one half of the salaries. The Ontario Government had nothing to do with the collection of the revenue. That government would pay these salaries out of the school fund, which would make that fund just so much the less. The money after all therefore came out of the pockets of the people, though not in such a direct manner. He added other arguments against the proposed change.

Mr. Elliott concurred in what Mr. Sturton had said. So, also, did Mr. Whitelaw. Mr. Peterson said there could be no doubt if a County Council made complaints against any superintendent for misconduct, that the Government could not do anything to prevent his dismissal. No Government would stand for a day who would act otherwise. Mr. Culbert spoke in favour of the clause, and could not see how it would prejudice the interests of education to give the Government the power to ratify such nominations. Mr. Dunn as a teacher of twenty years' experience strongly approved of the clause. It would tend to the appointment of a better class of men generally as superintendents, and it would advance the true interests of education to remove them to a certain extent above popular control. Mr. Hatch expressed himself in favour of the Bill as it stands. It was very unfair to leave such appointments to County Councils, which were composed often of very illiterate men. Mr. Porter argued that even if the Government did not do right in this matter, it could only apply to perhaps one or two counties, and perhaps only once in ten years.

Dr. Ryerson said the government was not anxious in this matter, but the members of the Committee were in favor of it. The opinion of the English commissioners who visited this country was, that the present mode of appointing Superintendents was the weakest point in our system. He replied to Mr. Sturton, and argued that inasmuch as Ontario gets a yearly subsidy from the Dominion Government, that the half of the salaries to be paid by Government to Superintendents would be drawn from the general revenue, and that the school fund was insufficient to pay all the expenditure for school purposes. He also held that any Superintendent may be dismissed for misconduct or inefficiency on complaint of a County Council. After some further discussion the amendment to retain the clause as printed in the bill was carried. Sections 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10, were carried without any discussion. Section 11, relating to the establishment of Township Boards, was objected to by Mr. Sturton and several others from the country, on the ground that under the working of such a Board, some sections might be neglected, and others unduly fostered to the detriment of the rest. A motion to make the change by a two-third majority instead of a majority was voted down, though most of those present from the country voted for the motion. The clauses making all schools free, and providing for compulsory education, were carried, so also were all the remaining clauses. After votes of thanks to Dr. Ryerson and the chairman, the meeting adjourned at half-past six o'clock. The Grammar School Bill was not taken up for want of time.

An industrious Irishman, who received \$900 in Memphis, Tenn., on Friday, for half a dozen bales of cotton he had raised, was so exuberant at the result of his application that he jollified with his friends in an adjoining saloon, where he fell asleep finally, and awoke next morning without friends and the snug roll of greenbacks.

The most beautiful young lady in Madrid is Marshal Serrano's illegitimate daughter. She is nineteen years old, and was educated at one of the best Parisian schools. She lives now at her father's house, and it is believed that, at his death, he will leave her the bulk of his fortune.

The Military Concert. The third Military Concert in aid of the Band of the Wellington Battalion took place in the Drill Shed last night. On this occasion the Battalion had the valuable assistance, as they had last year, of the splendid Band of the 13th Hussars, who, by the kindness of Col. Jenyns and their officers, were allowed to go first to Elora, where a concert for the same object took place on Tuesday night, and then come to Guelph to assist at the concert last night. The Drill Shed was comfortably seated this year, but the attendance was such that quite a large number were obliged to stand. We should say that about 700 were present, and had the side roads in the country been in anything like a passable condition a great many more from the rural districts would have been present. The building was well lighted and heated, and the decorations about the platform were in good taste. Over the platform were the arms of the regiment with the words "Gallant Six Hundred," in honor of the Hussars who formed part of the Light Brigade, who made the immortal charge at Balaklava. Mr. S. Lindenberg, the talented Bandmaster, was conductor, and Mrs. Budd and Mr. E. Martin presided at the piano.

It is needless to criticise or say anything about the pieces played by the Band. The thorough training and musical ability of the performers are already well known, and they fully sustained their high reputation last night. Auber's overture to Masaniello was played in fine style and heartily applauded. So also were all the pieces, such as the Potpourri—"Evening about Town," "Dream of the Rose," the selection from "The Grand Duchess," the beautiful selection from "Lucretia Borgia," and a German Waltz. It is seldom that a Guelph audience hears such exquisite music, but when heard it is all the more appreciated. Every piece was enthusiastically applauded by the audience.

The vocal part of the concert was taken by Miss Jennie Fraser, Miss Rheumie, Mr. T. H. Taylor and Corporal Moon of the Hussars. Mr. Taylor sang "Meet me in the Lane" with great feeling and expression, though he was suffering from a severe cold. Miss Fraser sang with her old spirit "Maggie's Secret," and on being heartily encored, gave "Be watchful and Beware." Her strong yet most musical voice was heard to good advantage, and the people of Guelph gave their old favorite a hearty welcome. Miss Rheumie sang "How I love the Military," with excellent spirit, and in response to loud encore, gave "The White Cockade" with excellent vocal effect. In the second part Mr. Taylor recited "The Charge of the Light Brigade," the Trumpeter who actually sounded that charge on the battlefield doing it again last night as a prelude to the piece. Mr. Taylor recited it in admirable style—being far ahead in our opinion all the attempts of the professional readers whom we are accustomed to hear it from in Guelph. Miss Rheumie sang "Bonnie Wee Wife" very nicely, and Miss Fraser and Mr. Taylor followed in the duet "Voices of the Night," which was admirably sung. At the close of the concert a vote of thanks to Col. Jenyns and the officers, for so kindly giving the use of the Band, was passed on motion of Lieut-Col. Higginbotham, seconded by Dr. Herod, Mayor of the town, and the concert closed with "God Save the Queen."

Book Notices. THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY for March contains the following articles: Malbone, A Thrush in a Gilded Cage, The Small Arabs of New York, Co-operative House-keeping, Little Captain Trot, A New Chapter of Christian Evidences, Consumption in America, The Poe in the Household, Our Painters, The Fatal Arrow, Popularising Art, The New Education, Howard at Atlanta, The Sunbird, Reviews and Literary Notices. Published by Fields, Osgood & Co., Boston, Mass., and to be had at the Guelph bookstores.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS for March we would like all boys and girls to see—it is exactly the magazine they want. The Publishers, Messrs. Fields, Osgood & Co., of Boston, announce their willingness to send four numbers of their Magazine, from January to April of this year, as specimens, to any person who will send them their address. We trust this very liberal offer will bring this really valuable magazine to the notice of all our readers, and be the means of introducing it into all the families where it is now unknown.

THE ONTARIO FARMER for February has been received. It contains information which every farmer in this progressive age should be acquainted with if he wishes to keep pace with the march of improvement. Edited by the Rev. W. F. Clarke, of Guelph. One dollar per annum.

DIogenes.—The last number of this comic journal contains some excellent cartoons—one of which can be thoroughly appreciated by all who are acquainted with the extreme ritualistic services conducted in the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Montreal. You can order Diogenes through any of our booksellers. Single copies five cents.

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