Huron Signal.

GODERICH, DEC. 22, 1876.

The Death Blow-Law.

On Friday last the question of the purchase of the portion of the Hotel Company's ground for the purpose of a public park was voted upon and carried by a good majority. Very little attention was paid to the matter until two days before the day of polling, when A number of ratepayers began to work up some opposition. A circular was issued by them setting forth certain objections to the purchase, some posters were circulated making extravagant statements of the increase of taxation which would result from the passage of the by-law and an active canvass was made. However, precautions had been taken by the friends of the by-law, and canvassers were appointed in due season. His Worship the Mayor called a public public meeting at the Town Hall on Tuesday evening, whereat some warm discussion took place between Messrs. Ross and Jordan on the side of the by-law and Mr. Crabb on the other side, as well as a few others. The discussion turned mainly upon assisting the Summer Hotel Co., and Mr. Crabb's inconsistency in advocating the hotel when it was first mooted and then turning against it in such a strong spirit of opposition, was shown up with telling effect. There is a rumor that the dissatisfied ones will take steps to overthrow the by-law on the ground of certain flaws in the wording thereof. As the by-law was this time prepared with great care, we hardly think the legal opinion thereon from "Christopher Robinson, Q. C., with which I concur" will avail Mr. Crabb much.

As the matter now stands, the people may look forward to the possession of a nicely situated public park, where our summer visitors may be entertained in a manner most pleasurable to them. On the way to it they will pass through the town and when there they have the best possible view of that which they most desire to see—the lake and the canals. The Summer Hotel Co. will also be relieved of an incubus which has greatly hampered the completion of their building, and the removal of which we hope will place them in a position to rid themselves of their monetary difficulties.

The voting on the by-law was as follows:

	For.	Against.	Spoiled.
No. 1, St. David's	16	37	4
No. 2, "	35	40	4
No. 3, St. Patricks	27	20	1
No. 4, "	16	22	0
No. 5, St. George's	42	7	1
No. 6, St. Andrews	47	17	1
No. 7, "	27	19	1
	205	155	12

Majority for by-law. 50.

The Municipal Elections

Friday next is the day of nomination for the municipal elections, and the polling will take place on Monday, 1st January. Since our last issue a considerable interest has been manifested in the approaching contest, and although not a great number of contestants are in the field yet a great degree of excitement will be worked up during the coming week. The interest will centre in the contest for the two Deputy Reeveships, in which the Dunkinites will be pitted against the anti-Dunkinites. No opposition has been offered to Mr Garrow the present Reeve, and that gentleman will no doubt be elected by acclamation. Mr. Garrow has proven himself a capable officer—one in whom the confidence of the people is worthily reposed—and all seem satisfied to unanimously entrust to him the office of Reeve. In addition to the candidates for the Deputy Reeveship, Messrs Campbell and Smaill, mentioned last week, Messrs. Elijah Martin and B. W. Johnson have been brought out in the opposition. This step was taken at a caucus held in the Colborne Hotel on Monday evening, and it was decided to place Mr. Johnson in opposition to Mr. Campbell and Mr. Martin in opposition to Mr. Smaill. Messrs. Smaill and Campbell are the recognized temperance candidates, and being thoroughly experienced in municipal matters have the best claims upon the offices. Although last year we supported Mr. Martin's candidacy, the events which have lately transpired induce us to give our conscientious support to another — not simply because he holds views in accordance with those of the temperance party but also for the reason that he has long experience in municipal matters. As to Mr. Campbell's opponent we have little to say, further than that he stands but a poor chance of success, and the very fact of his assuming to oppose and old and tried public servant will be of assistance to Mr. Campbell.

For the Mayoralty no opposition has yet been offered to Mr. Finlay. He has proven himself quite capable for the position, and, apart from his views upon the Dunkin Act, we can commend him for re-election.

The candidates in the different wards, for the offices of councillors are as follows, so far as we can learn:

St. George's Ward—Messrs. M. Hutchison, John C. Detlor, H. H. Smith, W. M. Savage and W. H. McFadden.

St. Patrick's Ward—Messrs. Samuel Sloan, R. W. McKenzie, and Wm. Mitchell. Some candidates may appear on nomination day, to create a contest in this ward.

St. David's Ward—Messrs. W. R. Robertson, Capt. Dancy, H. Cleous and T. Bunberry.

St. Andrews Ward.—Messrs J. R. Miller, Alex. Watson, Wm Seymour and E. Bingham. We understand that Mr. Seymour will not consent to run, although named as a candidate.

The threat of the Dunkinites to make the submission and support of the by-law a test question in the municipal elections is a very foolish one, and if carried out will assuredly work to their disadvantage. There is only a very small minority of the people so thoroughly impressed with the benefits of the Act as to induce them to support, for a municipal office, an inferior candidate, simply because he would pledge himself to its support.—*Expositor.*

Does our cotemporary wish us to understand that there are no men of intelligence outside of the council or who are faverable to the Dunkin Act. It evidently imagines that inferior men will be put forward by the temperance party, but we can assure it that that party knows its duty better than to select such candidates. Temperance men are justly indignant at the treatment they have received, and by their greatest zeal are taking the best course to secure a final settlement of the question. The temperance men the Council will have to reckon with, are men who have built with money in their pocket, and cannot be induced to allow the work of years to be ruthlessly battered down by a few men who have neither sent nor stake in the town, and who are actuated by the most selfish motives. The present action is but natural, for the earnest supporters of the Act must feel very vexed at the treatment they have received at the hands of those who, in seeking for votes, promised to do all in their power to carry the Act into effect, and yet on coming into power, the action is looked upon by prominent persons as called for and the ordinary action of the council has not strengthened the hands of the Dunkin Act supporters. Our contemporary will find that "the small minority" has a powerful influence.

On next 20th inst., judgment will be given in the case of Hon. Geo. Brown for "contempt of court," which was tried last week before the Court of Queen's Bench, Judge Harrison presiding. Mr. Brown, although having two lawyers to advocate his case, undertook his own defence, and in a masterly and exhaustive speech occupying about six hours in its delivery against his accuser, Mr. Christopher Robinson, proved to effect that Mr. Brown's criticism of Judge Wilson was altogether unprovoked, and that, last to go unpunished, Mr. Brown had no reasonable provocation. As we have said before, we consider that the principle in this case both sacred, still these errors will be productive of general good in the final result. There is a possibility of the dignity and unimpeachable character of the position of Judge being maintained unimpaired by using it as a retreat from which to issue criticisms without fear of retaliation. While it is very desirable to preserve the "dignity of office," it is equally desirable that persons clad in such dignity should be prevented from taking liberties therewith. In order to make the present case salutary at once to the mouthpiece of public opinion and the representatives of governmental dignity, Judge Harrison will require to ponder the matter seriously and pronounce such a decision as will not give to the unscrupulous on either side the privilege to scoff at dignities or interfere with individual liberty. A dismissal of the case with a reprimand to both parties interested would suit many persons' ideas of justice; but a merely nominal sentence against the defendant, and a rebuke of Judge Wilson would soothe the feelings of "offended dignity," although we consider, on the merits of the case, that the former would be all-sufficient.

Mr. Garrow, in his speech before the County Council, said that the action of the Council in refusing to submit the Dunkin by-law proved abolished the cause of temperance. We put it to Mr. Garrow calmly, as an advocate, but as a man, whether this was not a fanatical statement.—*Star.*

We do not hold the same opinions relative to the Dunkin Act which our cotemporary does, therefore, we hold that the councillors who voted against submitting the by-law are opposed to temperance, as well as arbitrary. Our cotem. professes to be hurt by Mr. Garrow's statement, saying that it is, as it says, "alive to the evils of drunkenness and would be the first to aid any scheme that would lessen the abuse of intoxicants." Ridiculous—don't try to pull the wool over any one's eyes by such nonsense, friend. You have a scheme before you for that christian purpose, but because it calls upon you to make a sacrifice your theory is not put in practice. The passage of the Dunkin Act will lessen drunkenness to a great extent, and in regard to this we might quote the recent remarks of Rev. Mr. Carmichael, of Montreal:—"He had been living a month under the Dunkin Act at Knowlton, where he had resided at an hotel, and during the time he was there he never saw a drunken man or woman in or about the hotel.—Neither had he seen any transient person—and there were a good many passing through—under the influence of liquor. He never saw when driving about the 'Dunkin Country' any affected by liquor. But directly he had driven out of the 'Dunkin Country' into what he might call 'drunken country' he saw as nice a row as any tavern-keeper would desire." No man can be justly called a friend of temperance who preaches it a theory, but who opposes practical efforts to lessen drunkenness.

The Presidential election has been temporarily settled by giving the doubtful States to Hayes, the Republican representative, who is thus declared elected. In order to make this decision the votes of certain counties which gave Tilden undoubtful majorities were thrown out altogether, on the ground of alleged corrupt voting. This action, unjust as it is rightly considered, has created much indignation amongst the Democrats, and in South Carolina that party insists upon confirming Wade Hampton and his Democratic Legislature in the possession of the State House. An alarming circular has been issued by the Veteran Reform Association, an organization said to be 100,000 strong and including many old soldiers and well drilled men in its ranks, calling upon Gen. Sherman and the United States Army to secure the Republic from the machinations of corrupt and unscrupulous men by confirming Tilden as President. These men declare that they are prepared to fight for Tilden, and if he cannot be sworn in at Washington they will inaugurate him at New York, and a new revolution will be begun. So serious a matter this will prove it is hardly safe to say at present, for it may prove a bit of buncombe, but the action of the South Carolina Democrats in inaugurating Wade Hampton as Governor in face of the Federal Government's confirmation of the election of the Republican candidate, as well as the bitter language of the Democratic press, is far from assuring.

Last week Judge Mackenzie (better known as Kenneth Mackenzie, Q. C.), in addressing the Grand Jury at the county of York General Sessions, spoke strongly on the the temperance question. He argued that drunkenness was the principal cause of crime, as well as the originator of great misery, and advocated measures to restrain the evil to be enforced by the Government and the electoral people.

The Cardwell election on Thursday last, resulted in the election of Mr. Dalton McCarthy, Q. C., the Conservative candidate, by a majority of 292. This constituency has always gone Conservative, but the result was a greater defeat for Mr. Bolton than was expected.

Christmas Fruit.—J. C. Detlor & Co. have received a large lot of new raisins which they are selling at marvellously low prices by the box, for cash.

Skating Rink.—The new covered skating rink will be opened this evening. A pleasant evening may be anticipated, as the band will be in attendance, and the ice is in good condition.

Bazaar.—The ladies of North St. Methodist Church hold a bazaar in one of Horton and Jordan's new stores, to-day and to-morrow. A handsome collection of fancy articles will be offered for sale. Dinner will be served from 12 o'clock, and tea from 5.

Cold.—On Friday last the Government thermometer at the Lighthouse, which is exposed to the lake winds, indicated 10° below zero at day light. Up town, however, the cold was not so keen, the thermometers marking zero a little later in the day. On Monday the temperature moderated considerably, the lowest reading being 10° above zero.

Temperance Convention at Clinton.

(WE COPY CLINTON REVIEW.)

On Friday afternoon last, a meeting was held in the Town Hall, Clinton, for the purpose of considering the action of the County Council with reference to the Dunkin Bill. The attendance was very large, composed of the leading and most influential farmers and others in the county, old men who have at heart the best interest of the county, and who certainly cannot be the slightest of taking ill-advised action; they looked and looked like men who meant business.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Millican. The President of the Association, Mr. J. R. Miller, in the chair, explained the object of the meeting, which was to take action with respect to the decision of the County Council, lately, in refusing to submit the Dunkin Act. He thought that notwithstanding this action it might turn out to be for the best; he was sorry to see that the Council had been placed in a vote for the Act (and afterwards voted against it. He said considerable so the sixteen in Council who stood up for the measure, and for the canvassers who worked so hard to obtain signatures for the petitions.—This is a Christian work in which we must look for Almighty guidance. He then read the resolutions of a committee to frame resolutions, which he had been appointed to forward this cause, and he would suggest this matter to the committee. Arrangements are in hand to publish a pamphlet in reply to that issued by the Licensed Victuallers' Association, the referred to the post office. He hoped to be enabled by the executive committee so soon as the County Council has agreed to submit the by-law, but the ability of the executive to put paid lecturers into the field will be small, with the limited sum at their disposal, and we would recommend each Township organization to put forth what efforts they can in this direction.—Many, in fact all the ministers who have communicated with me, have expressed their willingness to take hold and do something in the lecture field and I am quite sure they only require to be asked, and some plan laid down for their guidance, to induce them to address meetings. But do not expect that your minister is to go to work and get up the meeting; arrange with him when he can give an address at such a point, then go to work and get an audience, utalise all your local talent, make your meetings amusing as well as instructive, press into the work the service of song, by doing this you interest another class of workers, and your meeting will be a success. But more especially are we called upon to exercise our rights as British freemen at the polls, on the first Monday of January. Never has the trust been so sacred as now; use it then on that day by sending men to the County Council who will submit the by-law. If we as temperance men, cannot succeed in doing this, it will be conclusive to my mind that the County is not ripe for prohibition, and will require further work. At your nomination, place men in the field upon whom you can rely, and in every instance pledge your man then before the meeting as to what course he will pursue in the Council on the question; let there be no misunderstanding; then go to work with a will and you can elect your man."

The Treasurer's report was read and received, showing the cash receipts to be $231.50, and disbursements, $62.04.

Rev. Mr. McLean, of Blyth, was present to show that he was a friend to the cause, and in favor of a prohibitory law; he felt intensely the arbitrary action of the Council, but he felt that that action would arouse temperance men to a true sense of duty, and that many who formerly were cool in this matter will now come forward warmly and work in earnest to forward the cause. Now we want to put men into the County Council who will pay proper respect to our petitions, and instead of acting in so arbitrary a manner, to act like men who have the good of the people at heart. He wanted temperance men to work with a will, and decidedly to look upon this matter as a plank in their platform. He blamed the Council for acting arbitrarily and against the desires of a majority of the people.

Rev. Mr. Jamieson, of Bayfield, said we are on the eve of a great moral battle. Bayfield was known to be rather opposed to temperance principles, but the lodge there was doing all they could; they are tenacious and will do their utmost. Was not sure if they could put a temperance Reeve in, but they would do their best; their motto is 'no surrender.' He thought the *Globe* criticism on the meeting of the Licensed Victuallers' Association should be printed and distributed through the country.

Mr. Wm. Keys, Stanley, had been working in obtaining signatures to the petitions, but as the people thought 30 names only were needed, they did not exert themselves, otherwise, they could have done much better; they are taking action with regard to municipal elections are trying to put in men that will do their duty honestly, but without special regard to their being temperance men; he knew men whose names were on several petitions on the opposite side.

A Committee was appointed to draft resolutions for the meeting, composed of Messrs. J. Wilkinson, H. McQuarrie, T. Pickard, and Revs. J. Broley and T. Brock, and reported as follows:

1st. That this Convention considers the action of the County Council of Huron, on the petition of 4,000 electors, as unprecedented and arbitrary.

2nd. That the thanks of this Convention be conveyed, and is hereby tendered to the sixteen that voted for the constitutional rights of the people.

3rd. That this Convention believes it to be the duty of all temperance men to rally at the polls and oppose all candidates for the offices of the people, that are unfavorable to temperance legislation.

4th. That this Convention repudiates all political feeling in this contest.

5th. That an earnest request be made to the christian women of this county, in every legitimate, practicable way, to assist their fathers, husbands and brothers, engaged in temperance work; and that ministers be requested to aid in the organization of Women's Christian Temperance Associations, in their churches or communities.

6th. That in view of the extent and importance of the work of this Association, the constitution be so amended as to admit of the election at this meeting, of a Vice-President, who shall have all executive powers of the President.

The report was then taken up clause by clause as follows:

Clause 1.—Rev. Mr. Broley said he was glad to see that the present assemblage was one composed of men who seriously mean business. The great point in this matter is to be honest; we are right; we feel we are, and therefore a defeat is not going to discourage us. He saw a resolution passed in the County Council the other day, to provide a pair of handcuffs for each municipality; he thought this was quite in accordance with their action on the Dunkin Act the previous day. The County Councillors are the servants of the people, and they have proved themselves unworthy of confidence; they have struck a blow at constitutional government; they have no foresight, they cannot see the signs of the times, and the pressure of public opinion. In olden times a man could have many wives, but not so now, also, in regard to slavery, opinions have changed and people should have regard to such. Certificates are beside of the past when they do not see the strong tide of public opinion.

Rev. Mr. Brock, of Clinton, also said in regard to this resolution, that the language was not two forcible in the connection used; the action of the County Council shows to temperance men that had these Councillors thought that the Act would not carry in the County, they would have acted differently, but they felt sure the Act would carry, and therefore they took upon themselves to decide the matter instead of obeying the people by allowing it to go to the polls for decision; their action is as unprecedented a piece of presumption as could be found any where at the present day; but he believed it would arouse the slothful temperance men, and out of this defeat we would work so that matters would be put right at the polls.

Rev. Mr. McLean, contended against using language in the least overdrawn or too strong, as he thought it best to be on the safe side in this matter, as our opponents are ready to take up any argument against us.

The chairman here read a resolution regarding the action to be taken in Clinton as follows:—

At a meeting of the friends of temperance, called by the Vice-President of the Association, on the evening of Wednesday last, R. Gallander in the chair and Dr. Worthington secretary the following preamble and resolutions were passed: Whereas, we the friends of temperance view with deepest regret the action of the County Council, in rejecting the prayer of the largest and most respectably signed petition ever circulated in the County of Huron, and presented to that body, and that the action of the Council can be regarded in no other light than as arbitrary and despotic, and manifestly subversive of the very best interests of the community; and, further, that it is to be deeply regretted that our Reeve should have thought proper to cast his vote in opposition to the prayer of the petition, therefore, it is resolved that we regret it a duty which we owe to ourselves and the best interests of the people of this County, that we use every lawful means to secure the services of a representative who is willing to concede to the people that well established principle in Constitutional Government, that the will of a majority of the people should be supreme.

Clause 3.—Mr. Wilkinson looked for discussion on this point; the resolution only asked candidates to pledge themselves favorable on this point, but they need not necessarily be out and out temperance men.

Mr. Wynn would be in favor of placing temperance men in the field in every municipality; he believed some of the County Councillors were pledged and then proved untrue to such pledge.

Clause 5.—Mr. Wilkinson, in all his experience, felt the want of the actual assistance of the women in this matter; we have had their presence and prayers and good will, but we want them to act with us and then we can fearlessly go forward; we have not hitherto given them the opportunity to come forward, but now we hope to see them in the field.

Mr. Thomson was in favor of the resolution; he wanted every minister in the county to call a meeting of the ladies of their churches, for the purpose of forming organizations.

Mr. Wanless said nothing could be done without the women, and he would like to see Mrs. Youmans among us for the purposes mentioned.

Mr. Knox, Wingham, saw a meeting got up professedly as a temperance meeting, but it turned out against prohibition; he knew a clergyman in Wingham who professed to assist the temperance cause and yet in the face of all this he preached against prohibition. He wanted the vice-presidents to have a voice in bringing forward the women.

Rev. Mr. McCuaig thought that the clergymen of the county were as a rule he thought sound on this question, although there were some black sheep; he looked on this meeting as a crisis in regard to the action of the County Council; but the County Council could not put a better weapon in this hands than their action in this matter; he wanted a fair honorable discussion, and if the Dunkin Act is not perfect, but a step in the right direction, he would like to see a series of meetings, such as the Licensed Victualler's Association, got up in Toronto. Such would help the temperance cause more than anything else. He was willing to go into this matter—to take the stump for six weeks if need be. He thought Associations should petition the Legislature to define the exact meaning of the Dunkin Act, in connection with other acts, as a great many opinions prevail on certain points in it.

Mr. T. Pickard found great difficulty generally, in defining laws and thought it could not be done but by trying the Act; we begin to know more about the Dunkin Act than we did. The present movement is a test of the sentiment of the County, and if we get a majority in favor of the Dunkin Act, we have such in favor of prohibition.

In answer to a question, the chairman explained that the Legislature would, at an early day, pass an Act that would ensure prohibition.

Rev. Mr. Brock wanted to see the Dunkin Act enforced; when asking for prohibition we have been told by the Premier that we a have statute in the books that we should take advantage of, and on that it can be judged by the result whether or not we are entitled to more.

Rev. Mr. McLean did not look for perfection in the Dunkin Act, but it is the best we have and we should put it to the test. Let us try the Act, and show the government whether or not it will hold water as it is intended to do.

Rev. Mr. Buggin, Seaforth, said, in regard to organizing associations among the women, he thought the officers of this association should be responsible for the organization; he considered the Dunkin Act a step in the right direction and he would work for it.

Mr. Knox wanted the clergymen to cooperate with the executive committee who should take it up first and not ask ministers to take the initiative in the matter.

Mr. Wm. Campbell, of Goderich, was appointed Vice President.

The matter of presenting additional or entirely new petitions, was, on suggestion of the President, left with the executive committee.

The President called on the meeting to rock at the resolutions and adjourn, and said that with the help of God they would succeed.

Rev. Mr. McLean closed with prayer, after which the meeting dispersed.

December Sessions.

Before His Honor Judge Toms.

CIVIL CASES.

Willson et al vs. McKee et al—Action on promissory note. H. W. C. Meyer for plff., B. L. Doyle for deft. Verdict for plaintiff for $159.55.

Smith vs. Cooper—Action on promissory note. H. W. C. Meyer for plff; defendant not represented by counsel. Verdict for plff. for $214.27. Immediate execution applied for and granted forthwith.

Crofts et al vs. Platt—Action on promissory note. J. E. Garrow for plff, W. R. Squier for deft. Verdict by consent for $164.27. Immediate execution applied for and granted forthwith.

Mackay et al vs. Watson—Action on promissory note. J. E. Garrow for plff, W. R. Squier for deft. Verdict by consent for $167.67. Immediate execution applied for and granted forthwith.

Grabb vs. Trueman—Action on account. M. C. Cameron, Q. C., for plff; J. T. Garrow for deft. Verdict for plff by consent for $190.

Shaw vs. Torrance—Action on promissary note. M. C. Cameron, Q. C., and J. H. Benson for plff. W. R. Squier for deft. Application by plff's counsel for leave to introduce intercourtesy judgment, was protested, and make a question of the same on the record, which was granted. The plea for the defence in this case was that the defendant was so intoxicated at the time the note was made, that he did not know what he was doing. Both counsels made eloquent addresses to the jury, which after being out half an hour returned a verdict for plaintiff for $105.60.

Parsons vs. Preston—Action on account. M. Cameron, Q. C., for plff; J. T. Garrow for deft. Verdict for plff by consent for $319.56, and costs as agreed to by counsels.

McCowan vs. Scott—Action on account. W. R. Squier for plff, J. H. Benson for deft. Verdict by consent for plff for $1 and certificate for full County Court costs.

Rowcliffe vs. Rowcliffe—Action on promissory note. M. C. Cameron, Q. C., for deft, J. H. Benson for plff.—Verdict for deft in accordance with a submission made by counsel and endorsed on record.

McKinnon vs. Braden—Action for trespass to goods. M. C. Cameron, Q. C., for plff, B. L. Doyle for deft.—Jury found by plaintiff and struck out by Judge. Reserved.

O'Rourke vs. Wallace.—Interpleader issue. Jury was dispensed with by parties to the case. B. L. Doyle for plff, M. C. Cameron, Q. C., and C. Seager for deft. Verdict for deft., as to the goods and chattels, saving any undivided interest which the plff may have therein.

CRIMINAL BUSINESS.

Queen vs. George Simpson, Exeter, larceny.

Queen vs. Daniel Shea, Ashfield, arson—Grand Jury found "no bill."

A "true bill" was found in the case Queen vs. Peter McDonald, Hullett, assault. S. Malcolmson for prisoner; Ira Lewis, Esq., for Crown. Found guilty of common assault upon the person of Dominick Reynolds, and fined $10. In this case the evidence was that the prisoner and the plaintiff were neighbors and had been on bad terms for some time, in consideration of which facts the Judge made the sentence light.

Donohoe appellant vs. Gillies respondent.—In so much cases convictions quashed without costs. M. C. Cameron, Q. C., for appellant and J. T. Garrow for respondent.

Renwick appellant against A. S. Fisher respondent (in his capacity as Mayor of Clinton). This was a case of appeal on a conviction for gambling in a barber shop in Clinton. Conviction quashed with costs. S. Malcolmson for appellant, J. T. Garrow for respondent.

Queen vs. Daniel Showers and Queen vs. Ellen Jane Showers—These were two separate cases of larceny, in stripping some clothes lines in Turnberry, traversed from the Spring Assizes. The witnesses for the Crown, Robt. Dundas and wife, being very old and infirm and unable to come to Court, and the prisoners having been in jail for some weeks, the Crown Prosecutor, Mr. Lewis, allowed a verdict of not guilty to be recorded.

The Court was in session as we went to press, and will continue to-day, when several appeal cases will be settled.

DIVISION COURTS.

The Judge having made an order that the question of the re-constructing of the Division Court boundaries be heard on Friday afternoon, some thirty or forty magistrates appeared. The petition of Mr. Farron, Clerk of the Court at Clinton, for the above purpose, was read by Clerk of the Peace Lewis; and also the petition from the inhabitants of Wroxeter and Howick for a new Division Court at Wroxeter. A committee was appointed to consider the matters in question, which reported in favor of re construction and the formation of a new Division Court consisting of the village of Wroxeter and township of Howick, to be known as the Ninth Division Court. There was considerable excitement over the question. A largely signed petition in favor of Mr. Geo. Gibson, brother of our worthy member for East Huron, as clerk of the new Division was presented and read.

GRAND JURY'S PRESENTMENT.

The Grand Jury made the following presentment:

The Jurors for our Lady the Queen, beg leave to present: That they have visited the gaol under the temporary charge of Mr. Dickson, and found everything in excellent order, the prisoners, seven in all, having no complaints to make regarding their treatment in any respect whatever. Of the seven prisoners, four were under sentences of short dates, two were awaiting sentence, the other, a female, afflicted with St. Vitus' Dance, was waiting to be sent back to her own municipality. The grand jury recommend that the latter individual be supplied with suitable clothing, of which she is nearly destitute, before being removed, and they are of opinion that it would be well to have her placed in some institution where means might be used to alleviate her distressing malady.

In connection with their visit to the gaol, the Grand Jury desire to record their deep regret at the sudden death of the late Edward Campaigne, for many years the keeper of the County Goal; and recognising the all-wise but mysterious hand of Divine Providence in thus suddenly cutting off one in the prime of life, long known for the kind and faithful discharge of his duty, the Grand Jury wish to express their kindest sympathy with the widow in her deep affliction.

In the appointment of his successor, the Grand Jury would commend to the consideration of the Sheriff the long and efficient services of Mr. Dickson, as in their opinion well entitling him to promotion.

In common with the judges and jurors of both Superior and Inferior Courts the Grand Jury are fully convinced that intemperance, if not the cause, is yet closely connected with crime in most of its phases, and they recommend that all legal steps be taken to suppress the same.

With the view of preventing the formation of idle habits, which almost invariably lead to crime on the part of the youth of this place and elsewhere, the Grand Jury would urge upon the proper authorities the more rigid enforcement of the School Act which empowers them to compel a regular attendance of those of the proper age during school hours as well as during the time prescribed by law.

The Grand Jury also express their acknowledgement to Mr. Lewis, the County Attorney, for his kind assistance.

WM. KAY, Foreman.

Grand Jury Room, Goderich, Dec. 15.'76.

Local News.

ABOUT TOWN.

Read the temperance communications on the first page.

Xmas Toys.—Mr. Warnock is showing at his store a very extensive and handsome collection of Christmas toys, fancy goods, millinery, &c. Call and see the display, whilst you are purchasing your Christmas presents.

Fine Specimens.—The shipments of cured fish last week were as follows: Wm. Lee, 10,000 lbs; Hugh Dale, 9700 lbs; Jas. Clark, 600 lbs; H. McPherson, 1,250 lbs.; Geo. McKee, 600 lbs; Jas. Mitchell, 700 lbs.

Good Offer.—Mr. John A. Ball offers as a premium, a 9x11 chromo to every purchaser of $3 worth of goods at his furniture shop. He has on hand a large lot of articles suitable for holiday presents. 1059b

Excursion Fares.—The Grand Trunk Co. announce that they will issue return tickets to all points at single fares, on Friday and Saturday next, good to return until Wednesday, Jan. 3. Excursion tickets to points between Belleville and Montreal, will be sold here at $8, good during the above dates.

Presentation.—On Monday evening the boarders at Mrs. Donagh's boarding house, West street, pleasantly surprised that lady by presenting her with two silver butter coolers, accompanied by an address couched in language expressive of the high esteem in which Mrs Donagh was held by those residing beneath her hospitable roof. Mr. Wm. McBride presented the address.

Personal.—Mr. James Strachan returned from the old country a few days ago, having settled the matter of securing his newly invented boat launch. A few weeks previous to his arrival application was made at Stationers' Hall, by a person from London, Eng., for a patent for an invention similar to Mr. Strachan's. An arrangement was established with this person, by which they both become joint possessors of the patent. The invention was highly spoken of by ship owners.

—Mr. D. A. Purvis, of Goderich Township, is one of those interested in the distribution of the estate of Admiral Purvis, who died in India some years ago. The estate is said to be worth $25,000,000.

Ball and Supper.—The ball and supper under the auspices of the Goderich Silver Cornet Band, took place on Friday evening, when some forty couples attended. The evening was very stormy and rough, preventing a better turn out, but nevertheless the affair was very enjoyable, and dancing was kept up until 5 o'clock in the morning. Excellent music was furnished by members of the band. Mrs. J. Vivian provided the refreshments, which were first-class, and were partaken of with great zest.

The Bible Eye View of the Holy Land.—This is something new for sunday school superintendents, teachers, scholars and bible readers. It is a beautiful chrome lithograph, printed in colors, 2 by 3 feet, mounted on rollers, and is a view taken at a sufficient hight above the Mediterranean, looking to the east, as to show an extent of country 175 miles long by 50 wide, showing over 122 places and with the elevations and depressions, and so locating them in the mind as never to be forgotten. It has the endorsement of such men as Principal Cavan, Knox College; Rev. Wm. Millard, Gen. Sec'y S. S. Association Canada; A. Macallum, B. A. Hamilton, of the Int. Lesson committee; James Hughes, Insp. Public Schools, Toronto; Rev. Hugh Johnson, and others whose original certificate we have seen. It sells at sight, and the general agent is about calling on the bible readers of Goderich.

Y. M. C. A. Entertainment.—The anniversary meeting of the Y. M. C. A. took place on Tuesday evening of last week, in North St. Methodist church, and was very largely attended, every available space being occupied. Mr. D. Gordon, President of the association, occupied the chair. The proceedings opened by the singing of the very appropriate hymn "One more year's work for Jesus," by the choir, which, under the leadership of Major Jas. Thomson, and composed of vocalists selected from several of the church choirs, gave great satisfaction to the audience. Mr. E. F. Moore then read a portion of Scripture, and offered up an impressive prayer, after which the chairman made a short address referring to the work done by the association, and concluded by saying that to keep the organization running money was needed, and they were now making their annual appeal for sympathy in their cause and for money, to which he hoped the people would respond liberally. After the singing of an anthem, Mr. Wm. Gordon read an abstract of the annual report for the year ending May, 1876, a portion of which has already appeared in these columns. In addition however, it referred to the changes caused by the removal of Messrs. Mair and Jamieson, whose places were ably filled by Messrs. D. Gordon and H. McMath. The work of the association was vigorously and successfully prosecuted, as the following summary will show: number of members, 183; new members added during the year, 67; number of regular services held in room, 140; aggregate attendance, 21,000; outside evangelistic and gaol meetings, 70; aggregate attendance, 2,000; number of workers engaged in services, about 22; number of tracts distributed, 13,000. In conclusion hearty thanks were tendered those who added the association by means of readings, singing, &c., and to the Messrs. MacKay for the free use of the rooms the association occupied. The hymn "What a friend we have in Jesus," arranged as a solo, quartette and chorus was then rendered, Miss MacKay rendering the solo with great taste and with a remarkably clear enunciation. Rev. C. Fletcher, in a fifteen minutes address, spoke eloquently of Christ's loving and forgiving Spirit. "Oh to be nothing," arranged as quartette was beautifully rendered by Misses Mackay and Barnes and Messrs. J. T. Duncan and M. Young, Mr. B. Armstrong playing the cornet accompaniment and and Miss Thomson presiding at the organ. The effect of the cornet was very fine, and the piece was rendered with excellent feeling, eliciting loud applause. Rev. F. H. Sanderson followed in an address upon "Christian humility, with its antagonistic principle pride," which he handled with good effect securing the closest attention of the audience throughout. Mr. M. Young rendered the solo of the pretty hymn "Ring the bells of heaven," with good effect, after which Rev. J. Sieveright was called upon and spoke most eloquently of the joy in heaven over repenting sinners. Miss Mellish next rendered "Saviour, more than life to me," with feeling, being assisted in the chorus by the choir. Rev. W. Peirce took his text from the hymn, and gave an interesting address, in the course of which he remarked that a Young Women's Association would prove an able auxiliary to the present organization and believed the time had arrived for the establishment of such a body. Major Thomson followed with the solo "Pass me not," and Rev. W. O. Henderson having excused himself from delivering an address on account of the lateness of the hour, a collection was taken up which realized the sum of $40.50. Mr. Sieveright thereafter stated that Dr. Ure was unavoidably detained at Clinton, and the choir having sung the hymn, "Blest be the tie that binds," a vote of thanks to the choir and the ministers was proposed by Mr. S. Frazer, seconded by Mr. J. Wilkinson and unanimously carried. The meeting was then brought to a close by Mr. Henderson pronouncing the benediction. Altogether the meeting was a great success, and all present seemed greatly pleased therewith. The arrangement of the singing and the addresses was excellent, each address being appropriate to the hymn which preceded it. Miss Barnes presided at the organ with her usual skill, and Messrs. Duckham and Armstrong acquitted themselves ably in their accompaniments on the cornet.

Lumber.—The shipments of lumber last week were: Secord, Gunsen & Co., 30 cars; Williams & Murray, 1 car.

Pork and Lumber.—Mr. Robt. McClain last week shipped from the station 100 dressed hogs, and 150 sheep and lambs.

Concert.—The Sunday School children of North St. Methodist Church will give a concert in the church on Thursday, Dec. 28th, commencing at 7.30 p. m. An interesting programme, of singing, recitations, &c., has been prepared for the occasion. Tickets, 25 cents.

A New Phase.—The popular phrase now is "Come and see the Parrot," and we believe it has called others. When you hear a party extend this invitation to a friend, you may understand that they are going to drink confusion to the Dunkin Act.

High School.—The intermediate examination commenced on Monday at the High School and will continue until Thursday. Seven applicants are up for examination. The entrance examination commenced at the Central School yesterday and will conclude to-day.

Public Examination.—The public examinations in the Common Schools will begin on Thursday at 1 p. m. Prizes will be distributed in the Ward schools on Friday forenoon and in the Central School in the afternoon. The public are cordially invited.

General Shipments.—Among the shipments from the station last week were the following: H. Beam & Co., 3 bbls potash; Chas. Blake, 1 bbl do.; D. McDonald, 2 bbls fish old; Jas. Whyard, 2 bbls sheepskins; S. Platt, 70 bbls salt; R. W. Stanley, 70 bbls salt; Dunlop Co., 1200 lbs. castings.

Bible Society.—On Monday evening Rev. W. W. Ross, Permanent Agent of the Bible Society, addressed a small gathering in St. Andrew's church. The chair was occupied by Mr. H. I. Strang, B. A. Mr. Ross' address was an exceedingly interesting one, giving a sketch of the formation of the first Bible society in 1804, the growth of its influence and the success of its work. During the last forty-six years 150,000,000 bibles were distributed, but there were large numbers yet who had not received the precious word, and we in the enlightened world should strive to share our blessings with the benighted world. Rev. W. C. Henderson in a few remarks, moved that a branch of the Bible Society be formed in Goderich, with Mr. H. I. Strang as President, and Mr. E. F. Moore as Secretary-Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Mr. J. R. Miller and unanimously carried. All the resident ministers were appointed Vice Presidents, and a committee was nominated as follows: Messrs. Wm. Kay, J. R. Miller, Daniel Gordon, S. Pollock, Jas. Williams, John A. Ball, and Jas. Martin. It was agreed that no collections be made this year, but that any who wished to become members paid their $1 to Mr. E. F. Moore. A vote of thanks was tendered to Knox church choir for furnishing the music, and after Mr. Henderson had pronounced the benediction the meeting broke up. The collection was very good, amounting to $10.50. The depository has been re established at Mr. D. Gordon's store, where a full supply of all kinds of bibles will be kept and sold at cost price.

Presentation.—On Friday last the High school closed for the Christmas holidays, and the fact that the assistant teacher, Mr. Wm. McBride, terminated his connection with the school on this day, was taken advantage of by the scholars, who presented him with eight handsomely bound books of history and poetry. The poetic works were the "Golden Book of English Song," and the complete works of Pope, Thomson, Beattie, Goldsmith and Wordsworth, and the histories were J. L. Motley's "United Netherlands," and the "Rise of the Dutch Republic." Accompanying the presentation was the following address;

To Mr. Wm. McBride.

Dear Teacher,—Knowing that we should meet you to-day for the last time in the relations of scholar to teacher, we have felt unwilling to disperse without expressing thus publicly and collectively our regret at being called on to part with you. We feel and acknowledge that we owe much to you, not only a highly qualified and painstaking teacher, but also a true friend. Desiring, therefore, to give some tangible expression to our grateful appreciation of the efforts that you have made for our intellectual advancement, and of the kindly interest that you have ever taken in our welfare and also to give you some slight memento which may serve in after years to recall to our Goderich pupils to mind, we beg your acceptance of these books and with them our best wishes for your future prosperity and happiness.

Signed on behalf of the pupils of Goderich High School.

Donald McGillivray,
Jas. H. Doughty.

Mr. McBride was completely taken by surprise, but responded in feeling and appropriate terms. We feel confident that our opinion is supplemented by that of all who know Mr. McBride as a teacher, when we say that he has proved himself a painstaking and efficient teacher, and has done much towards the advancement of the scholars under his charge. Mr. McBride goes to the Toronto University to complete his studies in the Arts course, and carries with him many good wishes for success