

County Court and Quarter Sessions.

These courts opened on Tuesday morning last, Judge Mallory presiding, and Donald Fraser, Esq., County Attorney.

The following gentlemen composed the Grand Jury:

James Wallace, Foreman.
John Byrnes, James McVeety, Jr.
Robert Baird, John McAndrew,
Malcolm Gaudin, James McFarlane,
George Geddis, Jr., Nat' McLaughlin,
Walter Elliot, John McFarlane,
John Ferguson, John Poole,
John Forrest, Adam Reid,
Richard Fraser, Donald Stuart,
David Graham, William Smith,
Robert Gardner, William Taylor, Jr.,
Joseph Hawling, John Thompson.

The following is a list of the cases disposed of:

COUNTY COURT.

Commercial Bank of Canada vs. William Gemmill.—Action on a Promissory note. Verdict for Plaintiff for \$110.76. D. Fraser for Plaintiff; W. M. Shaw for Defendant.

John Haggart vs. D. Steen.—Action on Promissory note. Verdict for Plaintiff for \$141.65 cents. D. McMartin for Plaintiff; D. Fraser for Defendant.

S. Dickson vs. J. Swallow.—Assumpsit.—Verdict for Plaintiff for \$176.67. T. Deacon for Plaintiff; J. Swallow for Defendant.

R. Boarns vs. J. McLaren.—Action on Promissory note. Verdict for Plaintiff for \$216.80 c. W. M. Shaw for Plaintiff.

J. Fleming vs. J. Taylor, Jr.—Trespass for a horse. Settled between the parties. The Defendant's Counsel not being fully instructed as to the settlement the Record was made a Remand by consent.—W. M. Shaw for Plaintiff; D. Fraser for Defendant.

McLennan vs. Griffith et al.—Trespass.—The Plaintiff claimed to own a lot in the city of Montreal, and to have been in possession of it since 1862.

The Defendant, Griffith, claimed to have been in possession of the lot since 1862, and to have been in possession of it since 1862. The Plaintiff claimed to have been in possession of the lot since 1862, and to have been in possession of it since 1862.

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the duties and freight, amounting to some \$220. The machinery was afterwards seized by a man named Noel, under a writ of *Replevin*, as his property, in consequence of which Melnotch lost the amount he has paid for duty and freight. A civil action was tried at the late Assizes, arising out of the same transaction. The question for the Jury was, did Appletton, in inducing Melnotch to pay the duty and freight on the machinery, intend to defraud him out of his money. The Jury seemed to think not, and returned a Verdict for the Defendant of no guilt. D. Fraser for Crown; J. Deacon, Jr. for Deft.

Owen Lally, Appellant, and William Elliott, Respondent.—This was an appeal from a conviction made by A. Fraser, Esq., J.P., under the Petty Trespass Act. The Appellant's Counsel tried to prove the service of a notice of his appeal, but failing to do this the case was struck off the list: D. McMartin for Appellant; J. Deacon, Jr. for Respondent.

ENGLAND AND THE PROPOSED CONGRESS.

The Gazette publishes the correspondence between the French and English Governments on this subject.

The first document is a letter from the Emperor Napoleon, addressed to Her Majesty, on the 4th November. On the 12th November Earl Russell asks for explanations, which are given on November 23 by the French Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

Earl Russell, on November 28, finally notifies to the French Government that England declines to enter the proposed Congress, principally on the ground that a general Congress of European States is not likely to furnish a peaceful solution of the matters in dispute.

The concluding passages of Earl Russell's despatch are as follows:—"We are all these questions—those of Poland, Italy, Denmark, and the Danubian Provinces—to be decided by the more active of opinion, the views of Her Majesty's Government upon most of them might perhaps be found not materially to differ from those of the Emperor of the French; but if the mere expression of opinions and wishes would accomplish all positive results, it appears certain that the deliberations of a Congress would consist of demands and pretensions put forward by some and resisted by others; and there being no supreme authority in such an assembly to enforce the decisions of the majority, the Congress would probably separate, leaving many of its members on worse terms with each other than they had been when they met."

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have solid iron plates supplied by Messrs. Beale, and building by Messrs. Mitchell. She is of Capt. Cole's design, and very nearly finished. The vessel is 175 ft. long, 38 ft. breadth, 38 ft. depth, 14 ft. tonnage, (b. m.) 1,250. The remaining eleven vessels are building by Messrs. Carr and Macpherson, two; Seimickoff & Co., two; Koudraffoz, two; and the Government, five. The towns are to be of eleven 1 inch plates bolted together, although a question has just arisen whether it would be advisable to tap them through and through and by that means strengthen them. The covering of these vessels with one-inch plates results partly from the haste with which the resolution to build was taken, and partly from the want of machinery in Russia to roll heavier plates. This want they are now about to meet by erecting a large armor plate mill, the machinery of which has been sent from England, but which will not be sufficient for rolling the very large plates. It is, however, proposed to build a second rolling mill with a diameter of 10 ft. and the authorities of a certain amount of work.

The old gunboats built during the Crimean war have all been thoroughly surveyed and a contract has been made to put them in order. Fourteen are being provided with new boilers, and all are to have steam up and be in thorough working condition on the 1st of March. Many gun boats are completely used up, and the builders seem to have emulated their English brethren in the use of green timber, &c.

Enormous exertions are being used to obtain the requisite quantity of guns, and ammunition for all the forts, earthworks, and ships, and it will perhaps be found that the Russians have got ahead of England in guns and shot. The large rifled cast-steel guns which they are obtaining for Krupp, are good, and the smaller sized guns are found to be a great step in advance. Guns are being produced in a dozen factories, working night and day, and in a few weeks another Elswick will commence. Its production will be solid cast steel guns from the six-pounder to the eleven-inch gun, which latter is to fire a 500 lb. shell. To provide the necessary shot and shell for these guns all the foundries around St. Petersburg have orders varying from 5,000 to 50,000 each. All the shot and shell from 12-pounds upwards are for rifled guns. The shot are from 2 1/2 diameter, and are round-nosed and are provided with soft metal bearings to fit the grooves of the guns. The production of steel shell of the same description is at present going on, and the Russian gunners are being made to deliver large supplies. Round hammered steel shot are also being prepared to suit the naval 60-pounder gun. One firm alone has in hand 30,000 of these.

The land artillery forces are also adopting the steel guns, and find them well adapted for their use. The Russian gunners are being made to deliver large supplies. Round hammered steel shot are also being prepared to suit the naval 60-pounder gun. One firm alone has in hand 30,000 of these.

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such a change be brought about, wise and judicious legislation cannot be expected. The same rule, too, will hold good in the choice of municipal officers as in the selection of members of Parliament. The municipal institutions of Canada have been ennobled at almost every anniversary meeting of club or society, and few subjects have more frequently been made the theme of postprandial orations. That they are worthy of all commendation in themselves, we fancy, few will venture to deny; but if we look back upon the history of the management of municipal affairs in this country, we shall, perhaps, be inclined to doubt whether the privileges granted by the Municipal Act has proved so great a blessing, as has been represented. This does not arise, however, from defects in the municipal act, or in municipal institutions themselves, but from the want of judgment and capacity in many of those who have been chosen to conduct municipal business. How few of the municipalities, whether village, town, county or city, in Upper Canada, are not now laboring under pecuniary difficulties, brought about solely by mismanagement? How many of them are free from the incubus of debts which they cannot liquidate? How many of them are there whose business has been conducted as the law directs? And how few of them are there which have not required special acts of Parliament to legalize their illegal proceedings? It is to be hoped, therefore, that the electors of this country will see and feel the absolute necessity of choosing, at the coming elections for municipal officers, none but the most thorough and experienced business men—men of the highest moral worth and the soundest practical judgment.

Coroner's Inquest.

An inquest was held on the 12th inst., before Mr. Coroner Gerrard McCrea, on the body of John Ryan, found drowned in the river Madawaska, on the Friday previous.

It appeared that he had left his residence about 8 o'clock, a. m., on the 10th inst., intending to cross the river on the ice to the Village of *St. John's*, and had most likely reached the North shore when the ice broke and he sunk almost immediately, to rise no more. Verdict of the jury, "accidentally drowned." The deceased was a native of the Parish of Newport, county Tipperary, Ireland, and thirty-four years of age.

He was a powerful, athletic young man, but of quiet, unobtrusive demeanor, and strictly temperate habits. His untimely and sudden death has cast a gloom over his surviving relations that will not soon be dispelled, and the respect in which he was held by his acquaintances was well manifested by the very large concourse of people who followed his remains to the grave.—COMMUNICATED.

THE RECIPROCITY TREATY.—The Canadian press is very unanimous in the view put forward by this journal as to the reciprocity Treaty and its threatened termination by the Americans. The Montreal *Witness*, which has a standing of repute as a commercial newspaper, takes the ground that the treaty is far less a necessity to Canada than it was deemed to be at the time it was drawn up. Other journals of both Provinces have expressed an indifference to the renewal of the compact if once unfairly broken by the Washington government; and judging from the tone of public feeling, we believe it would be difficult for American emissaries to get up a favorable agitation in Canada so as to make Canada a party to the renewal of American terms. All persons are alive to the importance and value of international trade; but at the same time the idea is gaining ground that should the treaty expire, trade when left to itself will still work to mutual advantage. Americans will still be eager to sell us their provisions, and to effect a trade they will be quite willing to purchase in Canada. It is a good sign of our ability to keep the field of commerce that the Americans complain of our competition. In the conveyance of freight and the milling of wheat, they dread the competition of Canadian enterprise and natural advantages.

For fourteen years past we have not missed one regular issue of the *Herald*, and we think that such regularity and general good conduct deserves a few play days, both for ourselves and our printers. To secure this object we will allow the next week (being the season of general festivities) to pass without printing the paper. Our readers will lose nothing by this arrangement as they will receive their full number of fifty-two copies in the year. And if any important news should arrive during the week we will issue an extra. We wish our readers all a full measure of happiness and enjoyment with all the compliments of the season.

The examination of the Carlton Place Grammar School came off on Monday last, and without flattering Professor Tytler, who has charge of the school, we must say that it was very creditable to both the teacher and the scholars. The pupils acquitted themselves remarkably well, promptly and cheerfully answering the several questions put to them. As the *Herald* writes, the examination is going on at the Common School, under the care of Mr. Grant, and as we are anxious to see how the juveniles will acquit themselves, we have only time to say that it is the opinion of those who have paid attention to the matter that a great improvement has taken place in both departments of the School during the past year. We are much pleased to learn that the trustees have secured the services of the present teachers for another year.

It was rumored in London when the Canadian called that Lord Elgin had died in India.

Late European news mentions that Sir John Lawrence has been appointed Governor General of India; but the reported death of Lord Elgin is not yet confirmed.

It is reported that the Duke of Newcastle has resigned the Secretaryship of the Colonies in consequence of bad health; and it is thought that Lord Clarendon will succeed him.

The Bank of England is still raising the rate of interest to check the speculative movements in trade. Eight per cent. is now the rate, a point which has not been reached since 1857.

We have much pleasure in mentioning that, at the Convocation of Trinity College, which took place last week, the Rev. Stewart Houston, son of William Houston, Esq., of Ramsay, was awarded the first prize for Divinity Essay.

The changes in currency and the high tariff on salt have given a fresh impetus to its manufacture in the West. In Saginaw valley, Michigan, where in 1860 no salt was made, they now manufacture 1,500,000 barrels per annum. The fabulous profits already made are creating quite an excitement among capitalists. Lands that a few years ago sold for \$10 an acre are now selling from \$300 to \$500 per acre, and the quantity of wood used in the manufacture of salt has more than tripled the value of timber lands. A company have recently been organized with a view to a single title to 60,000 acres of land in the Saginaw valley and vicinity. The purchase was made almost three years ago, previous to the salt discoveries, at a nominal price, and has recently been perfected.

A week or two ago, Miss Sallie Curtis, a resident of Richmond, Va., enlisted as a private in the 2nd Kentucky heavy artillery in that city, under the name of John Curtis, and was mustered into service. Her sex was not discovered until last Thursday when she was dismissed. Miss Curtis states that she has served twenty-two months in the Federal army and is anxious to go again.

Mr. Alexander Gow of Ashburham, C. W., while skating on Little Lake, last week, broke through the ice and was drowned; his cries for help were heard by persons in the vicinity, who made no effort to save him and only parted from him a few moments before.

To the Editor of the C. P. Herald.

SIR—There is a statement in *Littie*, I wish I could quote it, but it says, no one will feel for so as to relieve another in trouble, except one who is himself in trouble. On one of our walks of usefulness, we came to a place where there was a man suffering and alone. The occasion of it was this, a lad, of fourteen years, was harrowing in a field with two horses. At the proper time of day, his father appeared from the house and called to him to stop. The lad in answer to his father, unhitched the horses, and undertook to mount one of them, by aid of the traces. By some mishap his foot slipped and slid under the horse, while it was over the traces. The horses started, the lad fell back and trailed on the ground. And the more he trailed the more the horses ran on and round the field, in the full view of the feeling father. The father made all the speed that mortal man under such circumstances could make, to see what relief the case might admit. But when he reached the distressing stand still, the lad lay dead, but the father was himself in trouble. The same angle which had proved so fatal. The father stood unmoved, but alive to the stern reality, and he cried as he never cried before. He cried with a cry so exceeding loud and bitter that it brought neighbors to his aid, at the distance of two miles.

So our friend and fellow citizen, Matthew Anderson, of Almonte, has had a son drowned on the river, while in the full athletic exercise of skating. But it seems to us that there was no necessity for that drowning. The boy was called "a gude wee swimmer," and it was in open day and before high noon. He was accompanied by a skating companion, of about his own age. And it does not appear that this little fellow was in any way lacking either in courage or in kindness. There were people by the side of the river, and all within speaking and seeing distance. The drowning boy was not lacking in courage, and never lost his presence of mind. He made every effort to get on the ice; but the more he gained on it, the more he gave way. He talked to those who stood near and they talked to him. The only thing they thought of was to go and bring a boat for his relief. They dispatched a detachment for a boat, and he knew they had gone. And having clung to the ice to the extremity of human endurance, he put the question—"If the boat would soon arrive?"

And in an instant his hold gave way and he went down. We throw no blame on any one; nor do we feel like blaming any one. But the thing to have been done was, for the accompanying little skater to have stripped his feet to the stockings, so as to have put himself in the best possible trim for moving on the ice. Then to have gotten a long rail—in case that boards could not be had—and to have carried that in, as far as he found that he could go on the ice. Then to have brought another, and another, and laid them along side and at the end of each other, until he had forced a railway towards his perishing companion. And as soon as it could be done to have taken one rail and with it to have pushed another rail, endways, until it reached the brave boy, who was being benumbed in the water. And all that the little lad would have done promptly, had there been any one there to have so directed him. But all the directions he got—and these were charges—were to run away to the shore and not to attempt to go near his drowning companion, as he could not have helped him, but in any such attempt would be sure to drown himself. So there the little fellow stood, firm in affection but helpless in his companion.

The present case, however, was of easy access. The two boys were each about 12 years of age. And when Anderson broke into the ice, his companion, Campbell, was not more than twelve feet from him. So that two or three rails would have produced the desired effect, and rails were conveniently near.

This, however, is only another instance, of an event which is not of rare occurrence. When the destiny, in the time and place, has come, the destined person must go. Either the means of rescue are not at hand or if they are there is not action and presence of mind enough to use them.

It was on Saturday, the 5th of December, that and that have been a gloomy and a dark day to the mothers in Almonte. The boy went down early in the day—it was a deep water. The relations and sympathies are gathered round the varied known acquaintances were on hand, and the men worked skilfully with them, but it was after dark before the body was recovered. Philosophy is a feeble instrument when brought into competition with the maternal affection; and during that long time the

mother's heart must have heaved high with the hope that the body would be recovered, and that the boy would yet live. And in that case there would be but one mother in the whole town. And it would not be until the stern reality burst upon them, in the presence of the dead and cold and stiff body, that the mother's heart would cease to heave and to hope. And even then his own particular mother would not settle down. She must go again and again to see if her own dear boy was yet warming into life. If his bright eye would open, and his little hand curl on his lip. The last look she had of him he was full of glee, full of life, he went forth to play and she could not yet believe he was dead. She laid her hand on his heart, it was cold; that heart had often beat responsive to the same mother's touch, now it beat not, it stood still in death.

And amid the perplexity and weeping and wailing, the very thought of skates became hateful, and a panic got up, in the rage of which, all skates that could be seized were burned in the fire. And that panic fumed and flew like a frenzy for burning withebs. But there was no sense in that. It was merely spasmodic or mechanical action. And, as soon as reason and judgment returned, all such action must cease. We want mothers all affection within and all firmness without. Mothers to train themselves to such sufficient self-command as that they shall be equal to all the common events of life. The military rule, the military system, in it, for all failures and for all blunders they give drill. And they continue the proper discipline until the men are able to go through all the manoeuvres, which they are wont to perform.

Decent respect is due to people's feelings, in regard to the skating and a bonaparte ought to be allowed to allow