

DUTY ON BOOKS.

A petition has been drawn up for presentation to the Dominion Parliament, praying for a repeal of the duty on books and pamphlets of five per cent. which has been levied since the last re-adjustment of the tariff. This is on all books; but there was a special act passed during the second part of the last session by which a tax of 20 per cent. is levied on all American reprints of works first published in the United Kingdom, and for which copyrights have there been secured. The sums thus accruing are, however, for the benefit of the authors whose works have been considered worthy of republication. No person, and especially those whose profession is literature, can raise any objections to this; if an author is worth reading he is at least worth being remunerated. Again there is a duty of fifteen per cent. on foreign newspapers, about which news dealers grumble considerably. But whatever opinions may be entertained with regard to the special tax on these and on the reprints, it is only with the five per cent. collected on all foreign books, magazines, &c., irrespective of whence they come, that the petition to which we have referred, takes anything to do. A copy of it now lies in Mr Day's bookstore, with about a yard and a half of signatures appended to it. The arguments employed in the memorial are good, and can perhaps be controverted in no other manner than by showing that the tax on books is—financial necessity of the Dominion, that the revenue accruing therefrom cannot be dispensed with, and that it cannot be raised by increasing the impost on some other articles, or by curtailing the list of free goods. It is set forth, that in all countries, but especially in a young country, the free circulation of books is of great public advantage in diffusing a love for literature, and in promoting the education and intelligence of the people. This is no doubt true, as well as the next proposition which is, that while Parliament has done much to diffuse education by establishing schools, and assisting by grants of money to maintain them, these are beneficial to the youth merely, whereas books exert an influence over persons of all ages, and over all classes of the community. It may safely be said that education is always progressive and never complete. We hear of people having finished their education, when the fact is they are yet in the elements. Travel may widen experience by giving a knowledge, not at second hand, of the physical features of countries, and the customs and habits of the people who live in them, but all this besides what is learned at school or college is but the hastily constructed skeleton of an education, that must have its incarnation from pursuing and digesting the thoughts of those who thought well. It was a wise utterance that "reading makes a full man," for how brilliant soever may be the intellect, without a wide acquaintance with authors no great effort in literature can be accomplished. Thackeray lamented to a friend that he had not had five years more reading before he began to write; and it is said of Sir Walter Scott that he complained of being circumscribed in the execution of every work he undertook by his own ignorance. When these men repined at their lack of knowledge as it is to be found in books, what may others do. Schools are indispensable, but to create and maintain intelligence in a community let them, if possible, have books cheap. Another argument for the removal of this duty is that since the rise in price of American works, the importation from Great Britain has been greatly increased, and the restriction chiefly affects the better class of works from the mother country. This also is valid reasoning and should count with those who have the ordering of affairs. At present books imported direct from Britain, and American reprints of the same works, cost about an equal amount, and the removal of the five per cent it is believed would cut off all chance of successful competition by publishers in the States, and admit to the benefit of the Canadian public more of the bold, healthy masculine literature of the United Kingdom.

Legislature of Ontario.

TORONTO, Nov. 13. After routine business, it being Government day, the House went into Committee of the Whole on the Ministerial Bill to secure the independence of the Legislative Assembly, the first section being under consideration. Mr. Blake moved in amendment such change of language as would render ineligible to the Legislative Assembly persons holding any office, commission, or employment, permanent or temporary, not only in the nomination of the Crown in Ontario, but in the service of the Dominion of Canada and the Provinces of Quebec, Nova Scotia, or New Brunswick. Mr. Blake assigned his reasons for offering his amendment. The Attorney General replied, asserting that the amendment was unnecessary, because the language of the bill was quite comprehensive enough to embrace all that could be desired. The amendment was lost on a division of 17 to 43. The second section was then put. It provided that the section should not render ineligible to the Legislative Assembly "any person being a member of the Executive Council" or of the Cabinet offices. Mr. Blake moved that the words "being a member of the Executive" be struck out. The amendment was lost. The 2nd clause was then put which is as follows: No Senator or Privy Councillor of the Dominion of Canada shall be eligible as a member of the Legislative Assembly, nor shall he sit or vote in the same. Mr. Blake moved to amend the clause by adding after the word "Councillor," or member of the House of Commons. Mr. J. S. Macdonald moved in amendment to the amendment, setting forth the Constitutional right of the electors of any constituency to elect to seats in the Provincial Legislature, and House of Commons any properly qualified candidate. Carried. The Committee rose and reported the Bill with amendments.

London, 13th.—At a meeting held by the various political clubs in Madrid, it was unanimously agreed to accept a monarchical form of government, not based on a Divine right, but by a sovereignty of the people, expressed by universal suffrage.

Mr. Burlingame and the Chinese Ambassador will be officially received by the Queen, at Windsor, on the 30th inst. The steamer Tyne has arrived at Alexandria, and brings the news of the existence of a famine in the northwestern provinces of India. The English army is marching toward the East. Civil marriages are now of frequent occurrence in Spain. The formation of a Protestant Church in Madrid has been sanctioned by the Provisional Government. Admiral Topete, Minister of the Marine, favours the Duke of Montpensier, as a candidate for royalty. The Papal Nuncio at Madrid continues his relations with the new Government. Vienna, 13th.—The bill for putting the army on a war footing has passed the Reichsrath by a large majority.

London, Nov. 13th.—A report was extensively published yesterday to the effect that the Rev. Wm. Thomson had succeeded to the Archbishopric of Canterbury, and Rev. Samuel Wilberforce to that of York. To-day it is officially denied. LONDON, Nov. 13.—Lord Stanley opened the Parliamentary canvass in the borough of Kings Lynn to-day with a speech to his constituents. After reviewing and defending the policy of the Ministry he proceeded to consider the state of Europe. He said the mutual jealousy and overgrown armaments of France and Prussia were a source of uneasiness, but believed if peace were maintained, France would become reconciled to the union of Germany under the leadership of Prussia. He feared Turkey was in danger, but from internal causes. Returning to the questions which agitated England, he declared himself in favour of reform, but opposed to the disestablishment of the Irish Church. In the course of his address he announced that the differences with the United States were so far settled, that the arrangements made only awaited the ratification of the government at Washington.

PARIS, Nov. 13.—At a council of Ministers, held at the Tuilleries, proof was adduced of the existence of a conspiracy for the overthrow of the existing order of affairs in France, and a resolution was adopted providing for the use of the most rigorous measures for its suppression. The public journals will be exempted from interference if they refrain from inciting the people against the Government.

The Georgetown Abortion Case. The Toronto Telegraph this (Saturday) morning gives some further evidence in the Georgetown abortion case, the details of which we copied from that paper of the previous day. In the whole annals of crime we scarcely recollect a case of such a shocking character. Human nature almost refuses to believe that the parties implicated would commit at such an atrocious crime, or that a professional man would be guilty of such brutal work, which stamps him as a murderer of the worst kind. McConnell made a statement at the inquest admitting that Vance called on him for the purpose of procuring an abortion on a girl, but afterwards acknowledged that she was his wife. He admitted he was drunk on the night the murder was committed, that when he went into the house he gave Mrs. Vance a silver catheter, as she complained of a frequent desire to micturate; that was the only reason I gave her the catheter; we called at the house before going to the druggists; left her the catheter then; when we came back she had evidently been trying to procure abortion in the interval; I then went into the room and found great uterine congestion; I saw account for death by the spinal column having its nervous energy prostrated, which caused paralysis of the pleuric nerve and interrupted breathing. The above is all the explanation he had to make in excuse for committing a crime which even a savage would shudder to think of a crime the most repulsive and unnatural that can be imagined, and which it is painful to allude to or give its shocking details. It seems strange that the authorities have not arrested the husband also, who is almost as guilty—in having connived at the crime—as he who committed it.

METEORIC DISPLAY.—The usual display of shooting stars, which generally occurs on the nights of the 12th and 13th of November, was observed by numerous parties on Friday night. The number of meteors counted at the Toronto Observatory was 1076, the majority very brilliant and followed by trains. The phenomena will be visible again to-night.

BIRTHS. GOWDY.—At Guelph, on the 13th inst., the wife of Mr. Thos. Gowdy, Lumber-Merchant, of a son. COMPLETON.—In Mount Forest, on Saturday, 7th inst., the wife of Mr. James Coleclough, of a son (6th born). MCLAREN.—In Mount Forest, on Tuesday, 10th inst., the wife of Mr. John McLaren, merchant, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES. MCKAGUE.—GIBB.—On the 2nd inst., at Arthur village, by the Rev. George C. Moore of Maryborough, James W. McKague, Esq., of Drayton, to Miss Emily Jane Gibb of Arthur. HEALD.—SMITH.—On the 5th inst., at the residence of Mr. James Barber, by the Rev. H. W. P. Allen, Wesleyan Minister, Joseph Hyland, Esq., to Mrs. Smith, all of Maryborough. ELLIS.—MARTIN.—By the Rev. T. A. Ferguson, Wesleyan Minister of Berlin, at the residence of the bride's father, on the 25th ultimo, Mr. George D. Ellis, son of Wm. E. Ellis, Esq., of Hespeler, to Miss Mary Anne Martin, daughter of J. W. Martin, Esq., of the same place. COOLEY.—BEEMER.—By the same, at the Wesleyan Parsonage, Berlin, on the 25th ult., Mr. Wm. Cooley, of Beverly, to Miss Mary Ellen Beemer, of the same place.

DIED. STARK.—On the 8th inst., in the 3rd con. of Grey, somewhat suddenly, Mr. Robert Stark, in the 74th year of his age. Deceased was a native of Yorkshire, England. THOMPSON.—At the residence of her husband, Carleton, near Toronto, on Monday, 9th Nov., Elizabeth, the beloved wife of Samuel Thompson, Esq., aged 55 years, eldest daughter of the Rev. H. C. Cooper, B.A., Pastor of Christ Church, Mimico, and sister of the Rev. H. D. Cooper, B.A., incumbent of Fergus.

GOOD TIMES. Good times this Winter for Merchants and Blacksmiths, and those about to build. LOOK OUT for list of prices to be ready in a few days, which will astonish Hamilton and Toronto rivals. JOHN HORSMANN, Hardware Merchant, Guelph.

New Advertisements.

IMPERIAL Fire Insurance Company OF LONDON. (Established 1803.)

HEAD OFFICES.—1 Old Broad Street, and 16 Pall Mall, London. GENERAL AGENCY FOR CANADA.—24 St. Sacrament Street, Montreal.

Subscribed and Invested Capital and Reserved Fund £1,995,000 SEWERING. Funds invested in Canada—\$105,000.

INSURANCE against loss by fire effected on the most favorable terms, and losses paid without reference to the Board in London. No charge made for policies or endorsements. RENTON, BROS, General Agents, 24 St. Sacrament Street, John Donaworth, Inspector. JOHN M. BOND, Agent, Guelph. Guelph, 14th Nov. dw The Merriest Girl that's Out.

A CHOICE COLLECTION OF SONGS, DUETS, CHORUSES, AND INSTRUMENTAL PIECES. Just received at Clark's Music & Stationery Store, Market Square. Lovers of Music are invited to call and examine the fresh arrivals.

PIANOS, MELODEONS, &c. A well assorted stock of Pianos, Organs, Melodeons, Concertinas and Violins, constantly on hand. W. WARNER CLARK, Market Square, Guelph. Guelph, Nov. 14. daw tf

NEW GOODS. D. SAVAGE. Is now opening his Fall Stock, which is unusually large and attractive. CAKE BASKETS, CRUETS BUTTER ROLLERS, SUGAR BOWLS, CREAM JUGS, CARD BASKETS, FLOWER VASBS. W. WARNER CLARK, Market Square, Guelph. Guelph, Nov. 14. daw tf

PURE SILVER SPOONS ELECTRO-PLATED SPOONS. Gold and Silver Watches. FINE GOLD SETS BROOCHES, EAR-RINGS, GUARDS, ALBERTS, NECKLETS, RINGS, LOCKETS, &c.

REAL JET SETS (SOMETHING NEW.) All of which will be offered at Montreal and Toronto prices. Guelph, 14th Nov. dw

On Wednesday Ev'g, Nov. 18th. IN THE TOWN HALL. H. NICHOLS' ENTERTAINMENT For the benefit of The Mechanics' Institute TICKETS 25 CENTS to all parts of the Hall. Guelph, Nov. 14. wd ttd

PUBLIC NOTICE. The undersigned requests that all to whom he is indebted in any way will please send in their bills to the Wellington Hotel, on Saturday first, when they will be liquidated. WILLIAM HOOD, do 3 Guelph, Nov. 12.

SERVANT GIRL WANTED. Wanted in a small family, a servant girl to do general housework. Apply at the Mechanics' Office, Macdonnell Street, Guelph. Guelph, Nov. 12. do tf

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

CAUTION. THE public are warned against negotiating or purchasing any or all of six certain promissory notes, made by Christopher Campbell, of Guelph, dated on or about the 5th day of June, 1857, payable to John Fisher, of Dundas, or order, and by him endorsed to and now said to be held as to two of them by Christopher Fisher, son of the said John Fisher, of Dundas, and as to the remaining four by John Abraham Fisher, son of the said John Fisher, of Dundas; the said notes being for \$640 each, payable respectively at 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 years from date, with interest at 7 per cent. the Ontario Bank and other creditors claiming that said notes have been transferred fraudulently and without consideration by the said John Fisher. OSLER & BEGUE, Solicitors for the Ontario Bank herein and for other Creditors of the said John Fisher. Dated 28th October, 1868. d t&f dw

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TO THE PUBLIC.

MY STOCK OF BOOKS COMPRISES

Biographies, Sermons, Commentaries, Books of Devotion, Religious Works, Miscellaneous Works, Family Bibles. Pocket Bibles, Testaments, Hymn Books, Sunday School Libraries, Poetry, Toy Books, Works of Fiction.

Histories and Travels. Educational Works for all Branches of Tuition in the Grammar, Common and Private Schools. The above Departments are very large and well assorted, and buyers are sure to get what they require at my Store.

My Motto is: Small Profits & Quick Returns. As I give no Credit and make no bad debts, buy Large Quantities in the best markets FOR CASH, I am in a position to sell at Lower Prices, and keep the Largest Stock to Select from West of the City of Toronto.

Blank Books & Stationery.

Parties in want of Blank Books, Memorandum Books, Stationery, Ink, Pens and all Goods usually kept in a Bookstore, will find it to their advantage to buy from me.

BIG STOCK OF WALL PAPER! T. J. DAY, BOOKSELLER, Large Double Store, opposite the Market Crossing, Guelph. Market Square, Guelph, Nov. 2. daw 1m

ONE IN TEN. MEDICAL HALL!

Statistics show that One in every Ten of the entire population meets with an Accident every year. INSURE AGAINST ACCIDENTS By taking a yearly Policy in THE TRAVELLERS INSURANCE CO'Y, OF HARTFORD, CONN. Cash Assets, over One Million.

Has paid \$850,000 in Losses for Death or Injury by Accident. E. MORRIS, Agent for Guelph. October 20. dlm

RUTHERFORD HOUSE All the remaining Stock of DRY GOODS AT COST PRICES, And under cost prices, as the whole stock must be sold WITHOUT RESERVE before the First of January. As I am going out of that branch of the business and would particularly invite all to come and get a share of the GREAT BARGAINS, as they will get As much for a Dollar as they can get elsewhere for a Dollar and a Half.

My Stock of GROCERIES is complete as I intend to carry on that part of the business. LIQUORS of the very best Quality of a kind for Tavern-keepers. Some very Cheap CROCKERY arrived. Robert Rutherford. Guelph, September 19th. dwy

W. HARVEY & CO., COR. WYNDHAM & MACDONNELL STS. GUELPH. Guelph, November 11. dw GREAT POWERS Are always neutral in small squabbles. NO IT IS WITH PREST & HEPBURN In the leather war now going on between their opponents on the south side of Wyndham-st. WE do not believe in bosh and bunkum, but we do with facts, and leave the verdict in the hands of the intelligent people of Wellington. We are prepared to prove, and we positively affirm, notwithstanding all the puffing and blowing which has become the order of the day, that PREST & HEPBURN, Wyndham Street, Guelph, manufacture more

WE have opened our stock of Furs, of our own manufacture, which we will sell at LOW PRICES, viz: EXTRA DARK HINK ROYAL ERMINNE SIBERIAN SQUIRREL RIVER HINK LADIES' HOODS And a full assortment of CHILDREN'S FURS, GENTS' MUFFLERS and GLOVES, SLEIGH ROBES, &c. The highest price paid for Raw Furs. F. GARLAND, Market Square, Guelph, 2nd Nov. dwtm

LAMPS, LAMPS! JUST OPENED OUT AT PETRIE'S DRUG STORE Old Post Office Building, Wyndham-St. A Large Assortment of COAL OIL LAMPS, all sizes and kinds, will be sold CHEAP.

No. 1 COAL OIL. A supply of No. 1 COAL OIL KEPT CONSTANTLY ON HAND. A. B. PETRIE, Druggist. Guelph, September 25th. dw

THE FOUNTAIN PEN, WARRANTED equal to the best Steel Pen in the Market. Ink will not drop from the Pen, as it is liable to with the Common Pen. 25 Cents Per Dozen. A Large Supply at DAY'S BOOKSTORE, Opposite the Market Guelph, November 13. dw

Still on the War Path THE subscriber begs to inform his old friends and the public that he is still hale and hearty, and as able as ever to attend to all orders that may be left with him at the well known old stand. ON CORK STREET, Opposite Deady's Hotel, Where he is prepared, as formerly to make up CLOTHING of every description at short notice, and in a superior style. TO FARMERS. Having had 30 years experience, and devoting all his time to the business, he can make up Home-made Cloth and trim it cheaper than can be done at any other establishment in Guelph. All work carefully finished, and at moderate rates. Wm. MITCHELL, Guelph, 2nd Nov. dwtm

