

THE COUNTY PRINTING AND OTHER MATTERS.

The Advertiser is again in sore trouble. We have not the old story revamped this time about his being one of the suffering martyrs for principle, but we have a kind of round about confession that he has been done out of the County Printing and a good round sum of money. He prefers sweeping charges of rascality and dishonesty against the Printing Committee and County Council in general, and the publishers of the MERCURY in particular. Coming from any other source we would regard this as a serious charge, but coming from our selfish little friend, who has peculiar notions about such matters, and whose ideas of *meum and tuum* are, to say the least, very confused, we can afford to smile at them. It will be found on examination that these charges which are paraded with so much ostentation can be whittled down to a very small point.

Our neighbour's first complaint is that he did not get the County Printing this year. No doubt he is disappointed. No doubt he thinks he should have had the County Printing, and every other kind of printing in the County, since he had any connection with the "eighteen years consistent Reform Journal,"—a once stereotyped beast which is now, alas, no more paraded in big capitals—but then the County Council are actuated by a sense of justice in legislating for the County, and the public, unfortunately for the Advertiser, follow the bent of their inclination, never caring whether our grasping and greedy cotemporary is pleased or not. The Advertiser's tender for the County Printing this year is as follows: For printing the Minutes 1 cent per 1000 ems; for advertising By-laws 1 cent per line each insertion; for printing 1,250 pathmaster's schedules, \$3. The tender sent in from the MERCURY office was for printing Minutes 5 cents per 1000 ems; advertising By-laws half a cent per line each insertion; and for printing 1,250 pathmaster's schedules, \$5. On first sight it would seem as if the Advertiser's tender was the lowest, and so it is on two of the smallest items. But the committee, composed of the Warden, the Clerk, and Mr. McCurry, took into account, no doubt, the difference in the tenders in the charge of advertising the By-laws. They had in their mind that the advertising of one of these by-laws for three months costs from \$40 to \$50, and that the half-cent less charged by the MERCURY would more than make up for the lower figures charged by the Advertiser on the other two items, and that thereby the County would be a gainer by accepting our tender. Accordingly they pronounced it the lowest on the whole, recommended that it be accepted, and their recommendation was accepted by the Council without question or comment. In charging these gentlemen with unfairness the Advertiser does them great injustice. No one who is acquainted with them will for a moment suppose that they would be guilty of wrong doing or injustice in such a matter.

The second serious complaint the Advertiser makes is that we charge full rates for all county work not under contract rates. So we do. So it is done universally in the printing as well as in every other business. So did Mr. Pirie of the Herald, good man, for years and years when he had the County Printing, and when he used to send in tenders for contract work lower than any yet sent by the MERCURY. And so, we may be sure, would the Advertiser do also, if someone passionate Printing Committee would not give him the chance. It is wonderful how self-sacrificing the Advertiser is on paper, but never yet in practice that we ever heard of. With regard to the statement that the late Warden had given an order without the account being rendered, we would state that he did so, but he made himself sure before he did so that there was more work done than would cover that amount by a good deal. The assertion that other sums were paid without order is entirely false. Our accounts were sent in at the usual time, certified to, and paid. The Advertiser thinks he makes a strong point when he says that we charged \$170 for one advert., but he took good care not to tell his readers that this advert. was the non-resident lands list for sale, which occupied three columns, closely set, of the Weekly MERCURY, and which was withdrawn by the Council after we had gone to great trouble to put it in type, and spent over \$50 for figures and type required. We venture to say that that advert. occupies half the space in the MERCURY that it would have done had the Advertiser had the setting and inserting of it, and of course as such adverts. are charged by the space occupied the cost to the County is only half what it otherwise would have been. Our cotemporary blames the late Warden very much for not asking for tenders for this advert. But what will our readers say when we tell them that the proprietor of the Advertiser went to the Warden, and urged him to have this advert. put in the Advertiser. No word of tenders then, and if the Warden had granted the request, we would not have heard of them now. And yet he has the impudence to talk of tenders. The Warden decided that the advert. should be given to the office which had the County Printing, and we feel satisfied the public will back him up in his decision.

Some silly fool writing to the Advertiser tries to make out a case against us by pointing out some error in the printing of last year's minutes. He says—"I find that the equalized value of the rateable property in the County is set down as \$9,395,997, but in adding the amounts of the equalized value of each municipality I found it to be \$9,695,997, thus showing an error of \$300,000." We have tried all the powers of subtraction on these figures, and can't see a difference of one cent between them. This is the sixth year we have done the county printing, and in all that time we have never yet had a single complaint made to the way it was done—but rather

satisfaction expressed at the general accuracy and neatness of the work. We deem these explanations due to the County Council and the public. We court the fullest inquiry into the matter on the part of the County Council. At the same time we have all along held that the system of asking for tenders is not the best the County Council could adopt. Much the better plan to all concerned would be to fix fair standard prices for all work required, and give the printing to each office in turn. But so long as the system of tendering is pursued, the Advertiser must take his chance with the rest, and when he fails to succeed, he should not cry and blubber over it like a child.

We intended also to say something in reply to a letter in Monday's Advertiser, written by some scatter-brained fool in that office, in regard to our statement of Saturday about job printing in Guelph, but we have only room for a very few words. We have repeated here often before made assertion that we solicit subscribers on the score of nationality. It is false in every respect. The object in making such an unfounded statement is no doubt to raise a prejudice against the MERCURY. But it has failed in the effect before, nor will it succeed now. We publish a paper which is worth the money charged for it, and because the public—of whatever nationality—think so, they take and prefer it to the Advertiser, which paper has sadly declined in every thing requisite for a first-class paper. And because its proprietor cannot compete with us on fair ground, he seeks by every dishonorable means in his power to retain a support which is gradually dwindling down in its proportions. So be it, and so let him continue, for there by he is only drawing upon himself the scorn and contempt of every right thinking and unprejudiced individual. We could say a great deal more about this letter, and especially what is said therein about job printing, but we merely say now that we invite comparison on that score. We never yet had our printing returned on our hands as the Advertiser has had, and we never yet printed work which, when taken home, the parties ordering it were ashamed to send out, but sent it to be done over again at another office. Several such jobs have come into our hands after the Advertiser's had been rejected and thrown into the fire. The joke about the Advertiser's engine is rich. There was an old wheezy engine and boiler in that office some years ago, but after being worked a few weeks it gave out altogether, and had to be carted off for old iron.

MR. WEBSTER'S FUNERAL.—The funeral of the late Mr. James Webster took place to-day at 12 o'clock, and was very largely attended. The flags on the Town Hall and Court House were at half mast during the day. At the request of the Council, the stores in town were closed from twelve to one o'clock as a mark of respect for the deceased gentleman. The funeral cortege started from the deceased's late residence shortly after 12 o'clock, the Town Council in a body leading the procession. After they came the hearse with the pall-bearers—all old and intimate friends of deceased—which was followed by others, equally old friends, and after them came the chief mourners. Then followed a very long line of sleighs containing those who had come to pay the last tribute of respect to an old and valued friend and a respected citizen. Among these present at the funeral we noticed many from Fergus, Nichol, Waterloo and other parts of the Province.

THE REPORT ABOUT THE CAUSE OF REV. MR. MCLEAN'S DEATH.—We expect in a day or two to be furnished with statements which go to prove that the report which we gave a few days ago that Daly, who formerly lived in Morrison, had a hand in Mr. McLean's death is untrue, and that it is even uncertain whether Daly is dead.

MARRIAGES.
WILLIE MCALISTER—On the 3rd inst., at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. J. Strachan, Hillsburg, Donald White to Euphemia McAlister, all of Erin.

New Advertisements.

SITUATION WANTED.
Wanted by a young man a situation as Book-keeper in any business place in town or country. Would be willing to take charge of a commission book and make his own entries. Good references. Apply at the Mercury Office, Guelph, 9th February. dtw

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 furnished the premises throughout, and is also making other improvements which will render its accommodation for guests second to none in town. The table will always be supplied with the choicest of the market, and the bar with pure liquors and the best brands of cigars. Nothing will be left undone to ensure the comfort of all who favor him with their patronage. Extensive stabling attached, capable of accommodating 200 horses.—An attractive hostelry always maintained. Strangers to all parts of the country call at this hotel daily. Guelph, 9th February. dtw

A NITHER TWA HOURS at HOME
Town Hall, Wednesday the 10th of February.

KENNEDY'S LAST NIGHT

PROGRAMME.
O' My Love, My Love
A man's man for a that
London's Breeze, Winds and Braces
Jenny's Dawdle
Tak yer and I Cloak about ye
Why should I, a Brisk Young Lassie
I've had a Lark
English Song—The White Squall

Between the parts Mr. Kennedy will tell stories in Dean Ranney's Reminiscences of Scotch Life and Character.

PIANOFORTE. — MISS KENNEDY
Admission 25c, reserved seats 50c. Tickets can be had at the door. Doors open at seven. Concert to commence at eight.
Guelph, 9th February. dtw

INSOLVENT ACT OF 1864 & 1865
In the matter of George Leslie, late of the village of Aker, in the County of York, Debtor.

The creditors of the insolvent are notified to meet at my office, No. 83 Front Street, Toronto, on the 15th day of February instant, at one o'clock p.m., for the purpose of examining the insolvent, and the order of the court generally. And the said insolvent is hereby notified to attend at the meeting on the 15th day of February, 1890, at half-past 7 o'clock, by order.
THOMAS CLARKESON,
Official Assignee.

FISH, FISH!

Direct from the Fisheries.
Fresh Haddock, Codfish and Sea Herrings.
Choice Haddies, Bloaters, Salmon, Kipperd Herrings, Pickled Codfish.
Labrador Herrings, Lake Huron Herrings, White Fish and Trout, Dry Codfish and Haddock.

GEORGE WILKINSON,
Baltimore Oyster Depot, Wyndham-st.

Guelph, 9th February. dtw

AUCTION SALE OF HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c.

The undersigned has received instructions to sell by public auction at his sale rooms, No. 3, Day's Block,
On SATURDAY, 13th February
Hair-covered Sofa, Cane Rocker, Dining do. with leaves, Crib Cradle, Breakfast do, Hall Stove, 2 French Bedsteads, Bureau, Kitchen Tables and various other articles of furniture. Sale to commence at 11 a.m.
Guelph, 8th Feb. GEO. LESLIE, Auctioneer. dtw1

A RARE CHANCE.

A Six Year's Lease and Furniture of a First-class Hotel in the Town of Guelph for sale.

To be sold by private sale, a six year's lease and furniture of one of the best Hotels in the Town of Guelph. The subscriber being about to leave Canada, wishes to dispose of the above. For further particulars apply to
M. DEADY, Deady's Hotel, Guelph. Guelph, 8th Feb. dtw

BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES.

CHURCH-ST. GUELPH
MISS WIGHTMAN begs to announce that her school will re-open (D.V.) on the 4th of January, 1890.
Guelph, 24th December. dtw

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 to be called on at his shop, Market Square, where all orders will receive prompt attention.
Guelph, 6th Jan. dtw1 JAS BARCLAY.

NOTICE.—ACCOUNTS.

Notice is hereby given that all accounts due the late firm of Gallbraith and Beattie, saddlers, must be settled by the 1st of March. If not settled by that date they will be put into the hands of A. A. Baker, Esq., Clerk of the Division Court, for collection.
Guelph, 8th Feb. dtw3

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. JACOMB. dtw2

NOTICE.

The undersigned hereby gives notice, that he will not be responsible for any debts contracted in his name by any one, except on his own personal or written authority.
M. SHERMAN, Auctioneer, Toronto, Feb. 5, '90.

MELODEON FOR SALE.

A first-class Melodeon (one of Bell, Wood & Co.'s) for sale. Apply at this office.
Feb. 5, 1890. dtw

STORE AND HOUSE

Wanted to rent in a good business stand. Address full particulars to R. B. Abernethy, P.O. 17412

BOYS WANTED.

Four steady boys wanted to sell the Evening Mercury. Apply at this office.

FISH, FISH!

100 half bbls. Lake Huron Herrings
25 " " White Fish
50 " " Salmon Trout
50 " " Labrador Herrings

50 Cwt. OF CODFISH

Tins of Salt Water SALMON
Tins of LOBSTERS
Tins of SARDINES
Tins of ANCHOVIES

AT JOHN A. WOOD'S

Guelph, 8th February. dtw

HAMILTON DYE WORKS.

Two doors from the Royal Hotel. Established 1856.

30's, Satins, Merinos, Damasks, M. Iron Table Covers, &c., &c., dyed and finished. British and Foreign dyes used and pressed. Kid Gloves cleaned, &c. Hats cleaned, dyed and finished.

JAMES CONNELL, Hamilton.

30's, Satins, Merinos, Damasks, M. Iron Table Covers, &c., &c., dyed and finished. British and Foreign dyes used and pressed. Kid Gloves cleaned, &c. Hats cleaned, dyed and finished.

J. HUNTER, Auctioneer, Guelph, 8th Feb. dtw

Speed Lodge, No. 180.

The Regular Monthly Meeting of Speed Lodge, No. 180, will be held in the Masonic Hall, over the Bank of Commerce, on **Tuesday, Ev'ng next, February 9, 1890, at half-past 7 o'clock.** By order.
R. CULBERT, Secretary. Guelph, Feb. 4, 1890. dtw

Sale of Cloths and Clothing!

STILL GOING ON.

A. THOMSON & CO.

WOULD intimate that as their Mr. Thomson is retiring from business, the whole of their stock must be sold and the business wound up. To facilitate this, they have determined to

Commence a Clearing Sale on Monday 21st Dec.

When they will offer their immense stock of

Cloths and Clothing, Shirts, Drawers, Hats, Caps, &c.

AT COST AND UNDER. As this is a rare opportunity of securing first-class Goods at auction prices, they would recommend all to take advantage of the great bargains which shall be given. There will positively be no credit given during this sale. All indebted to the firm are respectfully requested to call and settle their accounts at once.

A. THOMSON & CO
Guelph 5th February dtw

ESSENCES AND SPICES.

PUREST AND BEST ESSENCES AND SPICES.

At J. & D. MARTIN'S.

STILTON CHEESE!

PURE AND GENUINE.

At J. & D. MARTIN'S.

1869. BY SPECIAL REQUEST.

G. B. FRASER

ON SATURDAY, 23rd JANUARY.

GREAT GIFT SALE!

Always desirous to please the public, responds to their request by commencing another.

THE ABOVE GOODS ARE NOW ON EXHIBITION.

Persons competing for prizes will have their names entered in a book opened for the purpose, and THE LARGEST CASH PURCHASER will be awarded the First Prize, even if the whole amount purchased during the sale does not exceed ten dollars, so long as it is in the hands of the subscriber. Goods will be sold at the lowest possible price, and all parties visiting Guelph are invited to come and see and purchase of the Great Gift Sale.

1st Prize, Rich Black Silk Dress, \$10 5th Prize, Black Cloth Jacket \$2.50
2nd " Rich Paisley Filled Shawl 15 6th " Cash 1.00

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PROSPECTUS

OF

CUTHBERT'S

Circulating Library.

THE Subscriber has pleasure in announcing the establishment of a Library for public circulation. This is a want that is very much needed in Guelph, and from the conviction that it will be an advantage to the public—one which will be felt and appreciated—its institution is undertaken. The best incentive to profitable reading and research is some object or prize apart from the object of developing the mental faculties. Study pursued simply with the latter object in view is difficult and tedious, and few are frightened to undertake the task, when they consider the time, patience and labour involved in the acquisition of extensive knowledge. To lessen the influence of such an idea, the subscriber proposes—

1st—To give free access to his Library for the small sum of \$1.00 per year, payable in advance. The Library consists of a large collection of STANDARD WORKS—Biographical, Historical, and Philosophical; the Novels of the best authors; and all the Magazines and Reviews, Papers and Periodicals worth having of English, American and Canadian publication, will be found in connection with this Library.

2nd—At the end of the year prizes shall be awarded for the best essays on three distinct subjects—said subjects to be submitted by the subscribers.

3rd—The information necessary to the essays to enable them to write on any of the subjects that shall be submitted, shall be fully within the scope of the Library.

4th—The essays shall be referred to a committee of gentlemen thoroughly competent to examine them and decide upon their merit.

5th—According to the decision of the Committee, no shall the prizes be awarded.

6th—The prize essays shall remain the property of the subscriber, who alone shall possess the right of publishing them.

7th—Every one, upon payment of one dollar, has the right to compete for any of the prizes, or for all of them.

8th—As this enterprise is being established for the purpose of giving rise to a healthy mental competition among those who may choose to subscribe to the Library, it is not advisable not to receive less than the written promise on any of the subjects that shall be submitted, while it is desirable that every member should compete for one or more of the prizes offered.

9th—The value of the prizes shall not be less than \$25.00 in cash, which shall be awarded in cash or otherwise at the option of the successful competitors.

10th—Any person in any part of the country may become a member, provided he or she conform to the rule of not retaining a book longer than one month. To those residing in Guelph and vicinity the time allowed shall be two weeks.

11th—The Subscriber having made arrangements with some of the largest publishing houses both in England and the United States, to be constantly in the receipt of every new work that comes out, he is confident that nothing shall be wanting on his part to make the enterprise a perfect success.

SUBJECTS:

The best exposition of "Kant's Critique of Pure Reason." Prize, \$50.
The best Essay on Political Economy, and that system of it most adapted to the interests of the Dominion of Canada. Prize, \$25.
The best Essay on Education. Prize, \$25

His books of reference now are the newest and the most expensive kind, consisting of the Popular Encyclopedia in itself a complete library—a Biographical Dictionary, a Chronological Dictionary, and Webster's Unabridged Dictionary.

One thousand subscribers are anticipated. The number already obtained, previous to any public announcement, is exceedingly encouraging.

R. CUTHBERT,
N.B.—Cuthbert's Library is not intended to conflict with any public institution, but on the contrary will have a tendency to promote the usefulness of all existing libraries.</