XMAS PRESENTS.

Novelties in Silver Ware,
Novelties in Fancy Goods,
Novelties in Bohemian Glass,
Novelties in Dressing Cases
Novelties in Writing Desks,
Novelties in Work Boxes,
Novelties in Knicknacks,
Novelties in Books,
Novelties in Xmas Cards,

NOVELTIES INNUMERABLE,
AT VERY LOWEST PRICES, AT
Moorhouse's.

Goderich, Dec. 11th, 1877.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, DEC. 19, 1877.

The Municipal Elections.

Since our last issue considerable interest has been awakened in the approaching municipal elections, and, although nothing definite has been arrived at in the way of a complete ticket, yet a fair judgment of the probable candidates can be made. The uncertainty in connection with the mayoralty has partly ceased, although nearly all of those so far mentioned, M. C. Cameron, H. Horton, Dr. McMicking, P. Adamson, H. Macdermott, Wm. Campbell, Dr. McLean and B. L. Doyle have refused to come forward. The only ones whom we hear of as being actually in the field are Mr. C. Crabb, who however is disqualified for the position, and Mr. B. L. Doyle, who has determined to stand. As will be seen by the requisition to Mr. H. Macdermott in another column, that gentleman has consented to become a candidate. Although a person of high legal attainments, he has no particular interest in the town, and has no qualifications which recommends him to public support above many others of our citizens. Mr. S. Pollock is spoken of, and he is a man possessed of many good qualifications which fit him for the position. If Mr. Pollock consents to run we are sure that he will be the people's choice by a good majority.

No opposition is likely to be offered to the present Reeve, Mr. J. T. Garrow, who has proved himself an able, conscientious official, thoroughly worthy of the confidence reposed in him by the people. For the first Deputy Reeve, the names of Messrs. Hutchison, F. W. Johnston and Wm. Campbell are mentioned, Mr. E. Martin is again in the field for the position of Second Deputy with good chances of success.

As Councillors for St. David's Ward we hear the names of Messrs. McFadden, Smaill, Dancy and D. C. Strachan mentioned. Messrs. Seegmiller and T. Johnston, retiring members, we believe will not offer themselves for re-election. In St. Patrick's Ward Mr. Sloan we expect will again head the polls, and the probable contestants with him will be Messrs. Wm. Campbell, R. W. McKenzie Cozzens and Wm. Mitchell. The names of Messrs D. McKay, Jos. Williams, W. M. Savage, J. C. Detlor, are mentioned in St. George's Ward; and in St. Andrew's Messrs. Seymour, A. Watson, E. Bingham and D. Ferguson are spoken of.

As we said last week, men most interested in the progress of the place and of known energy should be selected to sit at the Council Board. Among those enumerated above, our readers will have no difficulty in making a good choice.

A considerable interest is being manifested in the election of School Trustees, particularly in the result in St. Andrew's Ward, where the return of Mr. Simmons is to be opposed. Mr. H. W. Ball is in the field, besides two other individuals who still doubtless retire before the nomination. A number of influential citizens have brought out Mr. J. H. Colborne, in this Ward, a gentleman who has the advantage in his favor of being qualified for the position, and in a high degree He is well-informed, has had considerable experience as a teacher and is well acquainted with educational matteas. A vigorous canvass will be made by his friends, and we hope he will be returned by a good majority. Messrs. Nicholson and Passmore we believe will be returned without opposition, as their constituents generally are well satisfied with their stewardship.

In St. David's Ward Mr. L. Elliott is the retiring candidate, but so far little has been said with reference to a contest there.

NOTE.—We are informed, as we go to press, that a large number of influential citizens have interviewed Mr. Pollock, and obtained his consent to stand for the Mayoralty. A formal requisition will be circulated to-day, and doubtless will be largely signed.

The Tramp Nuisance.

Several of our cotemporaries have of late been discussing this subject, which becomes an absorbing topic, when winter makes its appearance and the army of tramps, trooping from their summer haunts to towns and cities, parades before the representatives of law and order to be rewarded and dealt with as legal wisdom sees fit. All are of the opinion that, in order to abate this nuisance, imprisonment is the best remedial agent, and commend that every tramp found on the streets be sent to jail for short terms. This remedy would doubtless prove efficacious if properly applied, although some of its advocates would be surprised to see how kindly the patients would take to it, as a rule. Very few of these tramps are worthy of sympathy, and when the cold weather comes on the majority count themselves fortunate in securing warm quarters and regular meals in prison for a few weeks or months. The few worthy ones would not altogether despise such fortune, and be ready to accept it as a temporary release from a hard fate rather than as a punishment. Imprisonment is not dreaded by the majority, the able bodied and chronically lazy ones, if not accompanied by labor, and if it is desired to punish them thoroughly put them to work and make them earn their living. If every tramp that made his appearance in city or town was sent to prison and made to work, instead of as is frequently the case, being nominally fined after having a night's lodging and given time to "clear out" before the fine is paid, the evil would soon be almost entirely wiped out and some localities greatly benefitted while the remedy was operating. When dealing with this class the desire with the authorities generally seems to be to get rid of their presence, and they are passed to and fro as though it was impossible to retain them. This is manifestly a source of much expense and it might in a great measure be obviated by a very simple means. Very little labor is performed in the jails beyond sawing wood, and this in many cases is quite insufficient to employ hard labor prisoners during the six or eight hours in which they should be at work each day. Now, in order to get a return for the expense in maintaining these vagrants, we think it would be wise to give them stones to break. This plan has been adopted in some places and proved very efficacious, both in abating the tramp nuisance and in furnishing a cheap mode of improving roads. It would cost very little to put it in practice, and, whether the broken stone was sold to smaller corporations or used by the county itself, the return would at least cover the outlay.

There is too little attention paid to employing prisoners in county jails, where we think much might be done to reduce the expenditure in maintenance by utilizing the inmates.

When the Geneva award of $15,500,000 was handed over to the United States to satisfy the Alabama claims, that country was simply a trustee into whose hands the sum was placed to be distributed amongst the individuals who had suffered through the agency of the rebel cruisers. The sum has not been all expended, and the surplus has been reported all the way from seven to ten millions. Elihu Burritt recommended that the surplus, which he estimated at seven millions, should be refunded to England. Considering the manner in which the United States held the money, the proposition made by the press of that country to pay the fishery claims out of this surplus is not creditable. It would simply be satisfying a British claim with Britain's own money.

OUR Exeter cotemporary is endeavoring to rouse the South Huron Conservatives to name their candidate in the approaching election for the Commons. Says that paper: "Since Wm. Greenway has gone over to the enemy, he is entirely out of the question," and the journal which found Mr. Greenway too independent to be a blind partizan, will very likely soon be telling all the virtues of "my brother Isaac" or of the youthful aspirant to parliamentary honors in Goderich. By all means let the Conservatives "stir their stumps," for their prospects are getting desperate.

Legal Notes.

WIFE BEATING.—George Beattie, of Wingham, was, on Saturday, committed for 20 days for beating his wife.

ASSAULT.—David Drany, of Goderich, was on Wednesday last sentenced to two months imprisonment, by C. Crabb, Esq., for assaulting Mrs. Spach.

PROSTITUTION.—Mary Barrie of Clinton was last week committed to jail for 20 days, for street walking, and Robert Young for cohabiting with her was committed for a similar period.

AGAIN IN QUOD.—Louisa Smith, of Zurich, well known in connection with the indecent assault case, has been committed by Squire Gidley of Exeter for 21 days, for vagrancy.

SENTENCED.—James F. Buckland, charged with stealing articles of clothing from Maxnell's and Martin's hotels, Brussels, was on Monday sentenced to six months' imprisonment in the Central on two counts, the sentences to run concurrent.

LIQUOR CASE.—Charles Spach, an aged German, was on Monday sentenced by C. Crabb, J. P., to pay a fine of $20 and costs for selling liquor without license. He went to jail, not having the coin to meet this legal demand.

ASSAULT.—On Monday night the notorious Samuel Noble was engaged in the pastime of wife beating, when constable Yule happened that way and lugged him off to the lockup. Noble left his house quietly, but when near Touchborne's hotel he suddenly stopped, drew a sort of pruning knife, and made a thrust at Yule with it. Fortunately the light from the forge in Thompson's blacksmith shop caused the blade of the knife to glitter, and Yule on seeing it struck Noble on the head with his baton and knocked him down. He then went quietly to the lockup, and on Tuesday was committed for trial by Mr. Crabb, for the assault.

ATTEMPT TO DEFRAUD.—On Friday P. O. Inspector Sweetman, of Toronto, caused the arrest of S. J. Andrews, of Clinton, and he was brought before C. Crabb, Esq., who duly committed the prisoner to stand his trial for conniving to defraud the Post Office Department. It is alleged that Andrews had written to O. S. Woods, an engraver of Boston, where the engraving is done for the Canadian Post Office Department, for prices of dies from which the one cent stamps are printed, signing himself L. S. Rounds, Post Office agent. The letter was sent to the authorities at Ottawa, and Mr. Sweetman set a detective at work, who answered the letter sent to Woods. A meeting was arranged with Rounds first at Guelph and then at Clinton, the result of which was the arrest of Andrews. Prisoner has a farm in Dacotah, but has been living in Clinton, where his father resides, for about a year past. M. C. Cameron, Q. C., has been engaged for the defence.

THE Canada Paper Company claim that their process is now so perfect, that it is possible to cut down a green tree, and from its fibre produce a bound book in six hours.

Banquet to Judge Squier.

This affair proved very successful. Some forty persons including members of the Huron County Bar, County officials and Messrs. Greenway, H. Horton, Col. Ross, and Alex. Bishop, members of Parliament, sat down to a most elegant repast prepared by Capt. Cox, in the commodious dining room of the British Exchange Hotel. Ample justice was done to it by the guests, and when fully discussed the tables were cleared. M. C. Cameron occupied the position of chairman, having on his right the guest of the evening and on his left G. J. Abbot, Esq., U. S. Commercial Agent; and H. MacDermott filled the vice-chair. The chairman opened the programme by proposing the health of the Queen, in a patriotic speech, which was drunk enthusiastically. The President of the United States was next proposed by the chairman, who alluded lengthily to the pleasant relationship existing between Britain and our neighbouring country; and the toast was responded to by Mr. Abbot. He replied to the remarks of the chairman in a happy manner, and alluding in very complimentary terms to the advancement of Mr Squier to the Bench. He thought an excellent choice had been made, more particularly because that gentleman was still young and with the promise of a long and useful life before him. He admired the system of electing judges here as compared with that in vogue in his country. In conclusion he alluded in very complimentary terms to the beauty of the town and the character of its institutions, and expressed his gratification that one enterprising individual in our midst (Mr. Attrill) was taking means to surmount all the difficulties which hampered the salt interests and kept its wealth from being fully developed. "The Governor General" and the "Army and Navy" were next proposed, Col. Ross replying to the latter in an interesting speech. Mr. C. Seager also responded. "Our Guest" was next proposed by the chairman. He said he had known his friend for ten years, and from what he had seen of him in his frequent association with him while practicing at the Bar, he was satisfied that he would do honor to his new position. The toast was drank with much enthusiasm, and Mr. Squier on rising to respond was loudly cheered. His reply was short, and expressive of his thanks for the many courtesies which had been extended to him by the Bar of Huron. The vice-chairman, Mr. MacDermott proposed "The Bench," responded to Mr. John Davidson in a happy manner. He was a little surprised at being called upon to reply to the toast as he was not on the Bench, although he had once filled the position of Deputy Judge for a few months. However he could say that the position of County Judge was a difficult one, more so than that of Superior Court Judge. He thought law was administered in the highest degree of perfe[illegible] passed, responded to by Messrs. Horton and Greenway in happy terms. The latter referred to the unfortunate manner in which too often members of Parliament were alluded to publicly, in unmeasured denunciations. There were many good and able men in their ranks, who were misjudged and treated unjustly through these means. He thought that the time was not far off when the public would fully appreciate the impropriety of this failing; and that public questions would be discussed without that personality and acrimony which too often now occurred. He concluded by wishing that Mr. Squier might long fill his new position, satisfied that he would do so ably and creditably. "The Local Legislature" was responded to by Col. Ross and Mr. Bishop in fitting terms. Mr. Ross followed up the remarks of Mr. Greenway in an able manner. Mr. E. E. Wade sang "Wait for the Turn of the Tide," much to the pleasure of the company. Mr. Bedenhurst proposed the health of the "County Officials," responded to Sheriff Gibbons, Ira Lewis, Esq., D. McDonald, Esq., and P. Adamson, Esq. Mr. Lewis in responding said that he had been asked why he was so quiet, and he would explain by saying that for about twenty years he had been Crown Attorney and acted as wet nurse, so to speak, to the judges. Now he had gotten twins to nurse, and the responsibility made him feel serious as the youngest of his charges was accounted very young, but he thought he could bring him through, although he did feel "pegged out." He had nursed already seven judges, and he still survived. This fact gave him courage to meet his task. Mr. McDonald's speech was in his happiest and most eloquent strain. Mr. Seager proposed "The Press" in very complimentary terms, the toast being responded to by Messrs. R. P. Rogers and Jas. F. Dickson. "The Ladies," was proposed in an elaborate speech by Mr. Giffard Elliott, and responded to by Mr. M. C. Cameron (in a very neat speech), F. Holt, E. Campion, and F. W. Johnston. Mr. McFadden proposed the health of the chairman, which was drunk with enthusiasm. Mr. Cameron responded in appropriate language. Mr. Abbot, in a few remarks, proposed "The Bar of Goderich," coupled with the name of Mr. J. T. Garrow, who duly responded, as did also Mr. B. L. Doyle, both of whom complimented Mr. Squier highly. Mr. Doyle took great pleasure in Mr. Squier's preferment, as the latter had at one time been a student in his office. From what he had then seen of Mr. Squier he was satisfied that he would be a painstaking, conscientious official and an honor to his position. The proceedings were brought to a close about 12 30, by singing "God Save the Queen." The evening throughout proved a very pleasant one, and the unanimity and heartiness of the congratulations extended to the guest were calculated to give him sincere pleasure and the assurance that his performer was regarded with entire satisfaction.

Quarter Sessions.

Judge Squier's address to the Grand Jury on Tuesday was as follows:—

"*Mr. Foreman and Gentlemen of the Jury:*

"I must congratulate you upon the lightness of the duties which you will have to discharge at the present session. This is due somewhat to the absence of crime in the county, but more largely to recent legislation, by which provision is made for the trial of criminals immediately upon their incarceration. Last year forty one cases were disposed of at the County Judge's Criminal Courts, which, but for such provision, must have been disposed of at the Sessions by you and the Petit Jury. You can easily see that, as we now have but two General Sessions, your duties would (supposing crime to continue as it does) be fearful what they now are, and the expense to the county would be correspondingly great. In this respect we are, so far as I have been able to ascertain, far ahead of any country in the world. The New Zealand Legislature has just introduced a Bill similar to ours, but the Mother Country is still far behind us. Prior to 1876, criminals outside of Middlesex were compelled to be in prison for trial until the Spring or Autumn Assizes, and, in consequence, many innocent persons were confined as criminals during a long period. Last year, however, an Act was passed by which it was possible to hold an intermediate Assize in certain counties grouped for that purpose. I observe that this provision has thus far worked very favorably.

"The average time between the date when a prisoner was received into custody and commission day was for Glamorganshire fifty-four days, or nearly two months; for the other two counties eighty-one days, or nearly three months; so that but for the Winter Assize Act the five prisoners from the last two counties would have had to remain in prison an average of nearly eight months. No better illustration could be found of the injustice of the old system and the necessity of amending it than the case of Thomas Lloyd, who was indicted for the killing and slaying of John Walsh at St. Mary's, in the county of Pembroke, on the 10th September last. The death of Walsh was caused by Lloyd under circumstances which, if the jury had found him guilty of manslaughter, would have justified an almost nominal sentence, as the deceased was solely to blame. The jury found him not guilty, and he was allowed to go free, after having suffered nearly two months' imprisonment for having, through no fault of his own, caused the death of another man. Had he committed the same offence two years ago he would have had to remain in prison until March or April, six or seven months—certainly a much longer term of imprisonment than he would have suffered under the circumstances, even if he had been found guilty. You will perceive, therefore, that the legislation at home has not even yet advanced as far as we in our treatment of persons charged as criminals. They congratulate themselves that criminals have to await trial but two months, while we disposed of them in at most but a week or ten days. As this is the only opportunity given me of reaching the public ear, I take the liberty of saying that in my short experience at the Bar, and my still shorter experience on the Bench, I have observed that the administration of justice has been rendered very burdensome, and the consequent expense to the community has been increased very greatly by the imprudence of many of the J.s. P., some of whom seem to imagine that they are appointed for the mere purpose of multiplying offences and piling up commitments. The office of magistrate is a high and honorable one, and should not be lightly undertaken by any who do not by previous education and familiarity in public affairs, find themselves fully qualified to distinguish between those trivial quarrels, which must always occur in a mixed state of society, and the offences and crimes for the punishment of which the legislature has made efficient provision. Certainly it is not the intention of the legislature that magistrates should make money on their office, or should have any other interest or desire, &c. And their improper performance of their duties and their injudicious action in cases brought before them, not only entail trouble and expense to the community, but entail scandal upon those numerous upright and honorable members of the magistracy who have only in view the preservation of the public peace, and the proper administration of justice. If the remarks I have ventured to make are correct, it may be suggested that some change should be made in the mode of appointment, or that some known qualification or official position should be made necessary to any one taking upon himself the office of Justice of the Peace."

The Grand Jury visited the jail on Wednesday and, after making the following presentment, were presented:

We, the Grand Jurors of our Sovereign Lady the Queen, beg leave to present that we have visited the gaol and found it clean and in good order, and no complaints from the prisoners confined therein. There are 9 prisoners confined for various offences, 1 female and 8 [illegible] all express the[illegible] treatment shown us by the efficient gaoler, Mr. Dickson.

In your Honor's able and instructive address to the Grand Jury you enunciated the opinion that at no distant day some change could be made in our Magistracy, a change that would be in the interest of peace and order, a change which would at least check the very trivial cases that are unfortunately now too often made the subject of investigation and adjudication before a magistrate, in which opinion the Grand Jury entirely concur and think that the magistrate that fosters and encourages petty strifes and quarrels between the neighbors of his immediate community is no credit to the ancient and honored magisterial institution.

It affords the Grand Jurors great pleasure to congratulate your honor on your elevation to the Bench of this County as we believe that your appointment is universally acknowledged to be popular to the people of this County and highly creditable to the Government.

Multifarious as the duties of your office are, onerous as your official work is, yet we sincerely believe that your Honor possesses those energies and abilities by which you can keep abreast of your judicial duties.

As an administrator of both criminal and civil justice in this County long may your Honor adorn the Bench.

WM. H. MOSS, Foreman.

"No bill" was reported by the Grand Jury in the case of horse stealing against Alex. Bosenbery, of Zurich.

The civil business occupied the attention of the Court until Saturday morning, and was as follows:

Millin vs. McGuire—Action on promissory note. Verdict by consent for $119.91, and immediate execution granted. H. Meyer for plff., M. McCaughey for deft.

Sheppard et al vs. Douglas et al—Action on promissory note, tried without jury. Verdict for plaintiffs for $348.71, and immediate execution granted.—Cameron, Holt & Cameron for plffs., F. Proudfoot for defts.

Hood vs. Gibson—Action on promissory note. Verdict for plaintiff for $191.64. Malcomson & McFadden for plff., Garrow, Meyer & Radenhurst for deft.

Curry vs. Carpenter—Action on exemplification of judgment from the Province of Manitoba, a foreign judgment. Verdict for plaintiff for $157.21. Cameron, Holt & Cameron for plff., Garrow, Meyer & Radenhurst for deft. Plaintiff, who formerly resided near Brussels some time ago, brought action in Manitoba against the managers of the Dawson Route for the loss of a trunk belonging to him in transit to Winnipeg. Judgment was obtained against the company before Chief Justice Woods. The present action was brought on this foreign judgment, against Carpenter, the chief manager of the company and the only person within the jurisdiction of the courts of this Province, for the value of the trunk and the costs of the case. The verdict was given by consent, the defendant to pay all costs and be released from the debt.

McMillan vs. Courteney—Action on promissory note. Verdict for plaintiff of $57.75—certificate for costs moved for and reserved, immediate execution moved for and granted. Cameron, Holt & Cameron for plff.

Tuckey vs. Wright—Action on promissory note and account. Verdict for plaintiff for $105, subject to the award of I. F. Toms, Esq. Malcomson & McFadden for plff., Seager & Wade for deft.

Jewell vs. Simmons—Action for breach of contract. Verdict for plaintiff for $111.50. Garrow, Meyer & Radenhurst for plff., B. L. Doyle for deft. The plaintiff applied for damages through a failure of the contractor to complete his work properly. After occupying two days and a half in hearing witnesses, the case was disposed of with the above verdict, the sum mentioned being deemed sufficient to cover the amount of repairs necessary to remedy the defects.

Two appeal cases were settled as follows:—Fralick vs. Lynn—Conviction quashed with costs, on the ground that the conviction had not been made by a majority of the magistrates who sat on the case, three having dissented to the judgment, Cormack vs. Durnin—Conviction quashed on the ground that the appellant did not remain in custody or enter into recognizance to prosecute the appeal as required by law.

Queen vs. McFarlane—Jas. McFarlane, confined in jail for want of sureties to keep the peace, was brought before the court and bound over to keep the peace on his own recognizance.

The Court confirmed the appointment of Thos Sturdy, of Goderich, as constable for the county, annulling the appointment of Peter McDonald and Jas. Mills, of Grey Township, who neglected to qualify. Edward Bossenbury of Zurich and Arch'd McIntosh, of Gorrie, were appointed county constables.

Model School.

The examination of the Model School pupils at Goderich and Clinton closed on Friday, the result being that all those who passed the non-professional examination in this County received their certificates to teach. One pupil attended from another County, and his papers were sent to the proper County Board for examination. Forty four pupils attended the two schools, twenty-two at each, and the examination was passed very creditably. On Friday the pupils attending the school here, presented Mr. W. R. Miller with the following address.

MR. MILLER, TEACHER OF THE MODEL SCHOOL.—We the pupils of this Model School, join in tendering our sincere thanks and expressing our gratitude to you for the interest which you have manifested in our welfare and for our advancement in the various subjects taught in this, the Model School. When we were first informed that we were compelled to attend a session at the Model School, notwithstanding that we were successful at the non-professional, we felt indignant, that we, like our predecessors, were not then granted certificates, but now since we have completed our term and received so much benefit through the medium of your instruction, so ably imparted, and have seen the different modes of teaching used by those who are experienced in the profession, we are satisfied, and feel that we have been much benefitted, and are better prepared to take charge of schools with a view to doing ourselves and our pupils justice. Had we gone, as did our predecessors, in a raw and crude condition we must have experienced much difficulty, which we now feel prepared to surmount, much to the benefit of the pupils. If the Board of Examiners deems it just that each of us should receive a certificate, we hope that we shall do honor to the profession by doing our duty nobly and in such a manner as will reflect great credit on Goderich Model School, and be extremely beneficial to those intrusted to our care.

During the time that the afflicting hand of the Great Father was laid heavily upon you, you had our heart-felt sympathy, and you were missed very much, but since it has pleased God to restore to you comparative good health again, we hope and pray that you may long be spared to discharge your duty as Principal of Central, and Instructor of Model Schools.

Signed by
RICHARD MORRISH.

In behalf of the students of Goderich Model School.

Mr. Miller made a brief and touching reply, in which he kindly thanked the students of the Model School for their attention, and diligence, during the term, and expressed his willingness to aid them in the great and noble sphere in which they are about to enter, and closed his reply by thanking the students for the expression of gratitude manifested in the presenting of the address.

Christmas Presents—To every buyer of $1 00 and upwards will be presented a Christmas Gift in proportion to purchase. B. CROFTS, late Crofts & Johnston.

NOTICE.

Owing to Christmas Day falling on Tuesday next, our next issue will not appear until Thursday, instead of Wednesday as usual. We take this opportunity, therefore, to wish all our readers a "merry, merry Christmas."

Local News.

ABOUT TOWN.

XMAS GOODS.—Mrs. Warnock is showing a fine collection of toys and fancy goods, suitable for holiday presents.

VARIETY STORE.—Saunders' Variety store is jammed with holiday goods, of all kinds and descriptions. Do not fail to inspect the stock.

F. G. WIDDOWS.—On Friday evening next, F. G. Widdows, Ex-Franciscan Monk will lecture in Oddfellows' Hall. Subject: "The ways of Rome, or a peep into Convent Life." Admission, 25 cents.

NEW BRIDGE.—Mr. H. Y. Attrill has had a temporary wooden truss bridge erected across the Maitland from the breakwater to opposite his shaft works. This will prove a great convenience.

IN BROOKLYN.—Rev. Dr. Ure was called from home on Saturday by the announcement of the death of Rev. Dr. Inglis, of Brooklyn. The death was very sudden, and Mr. Ure has the sincere sympathies of all in the loss of his relative. Dr. Inglis had received a call to Toronto.

—About 3 o'clock on Friday morning fire was discovered in S. E. Jones' jewellery store, Exeter, but the application of a few pails of water extinguished the flames. The stock was badly, and the building slightly, damaged. The fire originated from the shop stove. Loss covered by insurance.

FARMS AT AUCTION.—By adv. it will be seen that Mr. Trueman will sell by auction at his mart, on Wednesday, 2nd January next, two valuable farms in Goderich Township. They are admirably adapted for stock raising, and are within seven miles of Clinton and Goderich.

VOTERS.—Until after the elections are over, candidates will be very anxious about the health of your families—post yourselves before leaving home in the morning, and follow the crowd on Thursday evening next, to the great auction sale of pictures, &c., going on at Whitely's corner.

J. C. CURRIE, Auctioneer.

ENTERTAINMENT.—The entertainment in the Temperance Hall, on Christmas evening promises to be very pleasant. A programme of readings, singing, &c., is being prepared, and a handsome gold ring will be voted by the audience to the most popular lady. The ring is on exhibition at W. T. Welsh's jewelry store. An admission fee of 10 cents will be charged at the hall.

KNOX CHURCH.—The three services in this church last Sunday were very largely attended. Rev. J. B. Mullin, of Fergus, occupied the pulpit in the morning, and in the afternoon addressed the children of Knox church and Gaelic church Sabbath Schools, and a large gathering of adults. Both services were simple and thoroughly practical discourses. In the evening Rev. Mr. Mann, of Granton, delivered an able sermon.

CHRISTMAS EXAMINATION.—The quarterly public examinations will be held in the several departments of the Central and Ward Schools on Friday next, commencing at 1:30 P. M. Prizes will be distributed in the Ward Schools at the examinations. A public meeting will be held in the Central School, on Saturday at 2 P. M., when prizes will be distributed, and the results of the late examinations made known.

FELLOW CITIZENS.—As there are already more candidates in the field for the position of Mayor than will be elected, I have consented to stand for the position of first Auctioneer, and will be on hand again on Saturday next, at 1 o'clock sharp, with an entire new line of seasonable goods, when I shall expect my friends to rally round me and bid early and often, and swell the majority.

J. C. CURRIE, Auctioneer.

ORANGE.—At the regular meeting last week the following officers were elected for L. O. L. No. 153, for the year 1878:—Bro. Jos. B. Edwards, W. M.; Bro. Samuel Weller, D. M.; Bro. Robt. Gordon, Chap.; Bro. Chas. F. Straubel, Treas.; Bro. John S. Dickson, Secy.; Bro. Robt. Clark, Master of Ceremonies; Bros. James Kusk, Richard Tichbourne, Robert Hyslop, Alexander Daun and Robert Henderson, Committeemen; Care-taker, A. Dann.

ENGLISH OPERA.—Hamilton's English Opera Co., are announced to give entertainments in Oddfellow's Hall this and to-morrow evenings, presenting the operas of The Bohemian Girl and Martha. The company performed before large audiences in Toronto a few nights ago, and both the *Globe* and *Mail* spoke highly of them. The company is made up of famous singers lately connected with Carl Rosa English Opera and Kellog Opera companies. Our readers are promised a rare treat. See adv.

Y. M. I. A.—The regular meeting of Knox Church Literary Association will take place in the church on Thursday evening next. A debate on the question, "Resolved—That the freedom of the Press is useless," will be discussed, Mr Jas F. Dickson leading the affirmative and Mr. R. D. Carey in the negative. Vocal and instrumental music will be furnished. The programme promises to be very interesting. Members should bring as many of their young friends as possible.

PERSONAL.—Messrs. James and B. Johnston, for several years past connected with the mercantile business of Goderich, are about removing to Toronto to start in business there. In connection with the firm of Crofts & Johnston they proved themselves possessed of excellent business qualifications, and assisted in building up an extensive business. They are pushing and energetic young men, and doubtless will meet with prosperity in their new location. Many friends in Goderich will wish them success.

SALT NEWS.—Mr. S. Platt has reached the salt bed, in his drilling operation at his mill, but will penetrate forty feet further before stopping the work. He has erected a good sized block, and is placing a pan therein. The brine will be pumped by water power, and the only fuel required will be that used under the pans. The refuse from the saw mill will be used for this purpose, and Mr. Platt thinks the cost of manufacturing can be reduced to about 8 cents per 280 lbs. We are pleased to learn that he is working up a good trade in table salt.—It is reported that the International Co. intend sinking a shaft, similar to that sunk by Mr. Attrill. The majority of the stockholders are favorable to the scheme.

A GOOD JOKE.—County councillors are proverbial practical jokers, and during the recent session of that body here some of the members indulged this peculiar penchant. A prominent Hibernian from the Centre Riding had been playing pranks on some of his fellows, who resolved to retaliate, and one night when they had got him to bed they purloined his pantaloons. These they concealed in a certain lawyer's bag, who unwillingly carried the garment home with him to an adjacent town. The owner of the pantaloons was in sore distress the following morning until the portly hotel-keeper brought him a pair of his (Boniface's) own. With the aid of a paper of pins the pantaloons were reefed up sufficiently to fit the proportions of the unfortunate practical joker, who went home in his borrowed feathers panting for vengeance. The lawyer has not been heard from, but it is probable he has found that the short association with Blackstone and a gown has not converted any portion of the pantaloons into a seat of learning. We *trow, sirs*, it is not likely.

COLORED GOLD lockets very low, considering quality, at O. G. MARTIN'S.

O. G. MARTIN is offering special inducements in solid gold watches and Waltham Watches.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS in great variety now, fresh and all this season's goods—suitable for both ladies and gents, at MARTIN'S.

WANTED.—High School closed on Friday to re-open on 7th Jan., 1878. The examination for admission is going on this week.

LIBRARY.—Call and see the Library of music, composition of Books and Fancy Goods, suitable for Holiday Presents, at Moorhouse's.

GENT'S solid gold vest chains, from $10 up. A guarantee given with all gold goods, as to quality, at O. G. MARTIN'S.

HELD OVER.—A lengthy report of the debate by the Model School scholars and several communications have to be held over until next issue.

WATCHES, WATCHES.—Call at Martin & Armstrong's for watches, clocks, jewelry and fancy goods. Cheap for cash, and a fair share of patronage solicited. Repairing a specialty. Remember the place, Opera House block.

NEW MUSIC STORE.—Violins, concertinas, accordeons, guitars, banjos, cornets, clarionets, flutes, flutes, mouth organs, &c., &c., for Christmas presents, sheet music and music books, at Jamieson & Armstrong's.

OUR readers will recollect the great sale at Sharpe's mills, near the Railway Station, Goderich, by G. M. Trueman, auctioneer, on Saturday next, Dec. 22d. For particulars see advertisement in this issue.

WE WOULD particularly direct attention this week to Mr. J. C. Currie's list of auction sales. The goods are new and seasonable, and usually sell for half the regular prices. A large lot of beautiful chromos, photographs, &c., belonging to Mr. D. Gordon's stock will be offered on Thursday.

IMPROVED.—The Clinton *New Era* has been converted into an eight page paper and enlarged. Messrs. Holmes & Son have made extensive alterations and improvements in their establishment, securing new presses, type and a steam engine. They have the only steam printing establishment in Huron, and have reason to be proud of the distinction. We have no doubt the enterprize of the proprietors will be properly rewarded and appreciated.

PRESENTATION.—Rev. Mr. Wallace, assistant pastor to the Methodist congregation here, has received a call to Fullarton, and on Wednesday evening after the prayer meeting in Brock St. church, when the gathering was quite large, Mr. B. Armstrong presented him with a complimentary address. Miss Wilson, on behalf of the young people of the congregation, also presented Mr. Wallace with a fur cap, a handsome plaid and a photograph album containing the potraits of his young friends.

Y. M. C. A. CONCERT.—The third annual concert to be held in the North St. Methodist Church on Thursday of next week will be an interesting affair. Addresses will be delivered by Rev. Dr. Ure and Rev. Messrs. Preston, Fletcher Sieveright and Maitland (the new assistant pastor in the Methodist church). The choir of the North St. church aided by other choirs of the town under the leadership of Major Thomson will furnish music, and solos will be rendered by Misses McKay, Preston, Mellish, Thomson and Mr. J. G. Sheriff. Miss Barnes will preside at the organ, and be assisted in the instrumental parts by leading instrumentalists of the band. A collection in aid of the funds of the Association will be taken up.

The Great Sale is a decided success, and will be continued. B. CROFTS, late Crofts & Johnston.

COLBORNE.

MUNICIPAL.—Mr. Wm. Young, we believe, has intimated his intention to withdraw from public life and will not again be a candidate for the Reeveship. This will generally be regretted, as he proved himself a valuable officer under the Council. His retirement from the Council will be deemed a great loss to the Township. The County Council could ill spare his presence; and his many friends will earnestly desire him to reconsider his decision.

NOMINATIONS.—The nominations for Colborne will be held in the Township Hall, on Monday, 31st Dec., at 12 o'clock noon, and in case a poll be demanded the election will be held on the first Monday in January, 1878, in the several Sub-divisions as follows: Subdivision No 1, polling place Headley's shop, Benmiller; Wm. Robertson, Deputy Returning Officer. Subdivision No 2, polling place Temperance Hall, Maitlandville; A. Sands, D. R. O. Subdivision No 3, polling place Township Hall, Township Clerk Returning Officer. Sub-division No 4, polling place Temperance Hall, Lake Road East, James O. Stewart Deputy Returning Officer.

COUNCIL MEETING.—The municipal council of Colborne met in the Township Hall on 13th Dec., members all present, excepting the Deputy Reeve. Communication from R. Jewell, requesting the Council to remit him the taxes on his mill, which was burned during the summer. It was moved and seconded that his request be granted—Carried. The following persons applied to the Council to have the amount of money refunded which was charged against them for Statute labor returned undone by the pathmaster:—John Varcoe, 50c.; S. Oake, $1; J. Buchanan, $1.50; Mrs. Glassey, $1. It was moved and seconded that the above sums be refunded as the Council considers that the amount of work demanded by the pathmaster was too much.—Carried. Wm. Jones was allowed to perform his Statute labor on the side road opposite his farm. Mr. Strachan and Donald McGillivray were refunded each $1, being charge on dogs. Jas. Jones paid over $1 to the treasurer, pound money. The Treasurer's salary was increased $10. The following accounts were ordered to be paid, viz:—J. Davinson, for work on road, $6; W. Downs, for repairing scraper, $8 60; J. McIntyre, repairing shovel and pick, 60c; S. Hare, for gravel, $2; London General Hospital, for maintenance of L. Sharp, $80; *Star* office, for printing, $3; Moorhouse, for stationery, $4.90; R. B. Scott, for stationery, $5; A. Bay, surveyor, $14; W. Blake, for gravel, $6.35; McKinnon and others, for work, $6.50; A. Sands & Son, for work, $20.90; A. Sands & Son, for posting, work and posts, $7.35; Clerk, for having Township Hall cleaned, $1; J. Symington, for culvert, $2; J. Snider, for gravel, $2 80; Thos. Dodd, for gravel, $16.20; V. Fisher, for culverts, $12; T. Gledhill, for gravel, $2; J. Allin, for gravel, $4.50; W. Tribble, for work on road, $4; J. Glen, for gravel, $2.70; Clerk, for postage, $8.05; J. Heatherington, for timber, $4.75.—It was moved and seconded that the Reeve and each Councillor be paid $25 for their services for the past year.—Carried. The Council then adjourned.

J. A. MCDONAGH, Clerk.

GODERICH TOWNSHIP.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.—Special meetings for some time past have been held at Wilkinson's Corners. Rev. Messrs. Brokoy and Trelaven, of Bayfield, assisted by others, officiating.

EXAMINATIONS.—The public examination of No. 6 School will be take place on Thursday, 20th inst., commencing at 1 p. m., the proceedings will be enlivened by music, recitations, &c. The day of the examination in No. 2 has been altered to Friday, instead of Thursday.

THE BELL.—The scholars at School Section No. 5, derive a great advantage from the bell. It can be heard quite a distance, and when it is rung at one o'clock it has the effect of causing a scramble among the scholars from the adjoining woods and fields.

—3,200 bushels of grain were shipped from Blyth last week.

DUNGANNON.

NECKTIE SOCIAL.—The Sons of Temperance here propose getting up a necktie social on Christmas Eve. As it will be conducted on a new plan, the entertainment no doubt will be pleasant.

A GOOD RETURN.—The Co-operative Company lately held their annual meeting. A dividend of 25 per cent on the stock, which considering the hard times, is considered a fair return. We believe this flourishing Company have paid about 170 per cent since it was started some six years ago.—CON.

LOCAL JOTTINGS.

—Hensall is to have a foundry next spring.

—W. Clegg, clerk of Blyth, is out in opposition to Mr. P. Kelly, for the Reeveship.

—Mr. Wm. Wilson, of Hensall, has erected a $3,000 brick residence for himself.

—The Bishop of Huron confirmed forty young people at Christ Church, Exeter, last week.

—Twenty hens have been stolen from Wm. Deacon's henery, in Winchelsea, within the last few nights.

—A son of P. McPhilips, of Exeter, had some of his fingers chewed up by a cog wheel of a straw cutter last week.

—Very wisely the people of Lucknow have dropped the proposal to grant a bonus to establish a foundry.

—A Lucknow constable got very drunk a few nights ago, and the gamins had a good deal of sport with him.

—A buffalo robe was stolen from Samuel Love's sleigh, while standing in front of Pollock's hotel, Blyth, a few nights ago.

—Mr. G. Fulton has sold 230 acres of his farm on the Bayfield road, to Mr. Graham