

SIXTEEN PAGES.

LONDON WELCOMES HER SONS AND DAUGHTERS TO THE OLD HOME

How Many Remember the Days When the First Council of London Met at the Firemen's Hall in 1855?

THE CONTEST FOR THE MAYORALTY IN WHICH MURRAY ANDERSON WAS ELECTED

Minutes of Those Early Meetings Tell of the Beginning of the London Police Force, Consisting of Seven Men—City Lighted by Twenty-One Gas Lamps—Names of the Old Hotels—The City Officials of Those Days.

opportunity taken to introduce another master, and the school appropriated the building for the purpose of a superior sort of an institution, bearing some resemblance to the district school of London, though supported out of the funds of the city.

The anxiety of some of the papers of that day to secure the printing of the minutes of the meeting, and the support of this meeting. Tenders for the work had been asked of the Western Standard, the Standard, the Times and the London Times. The Globe's offer was conditional, owing to a difficulty in the matter of the printing to be done. The Standard named a definite sum, and the Times offered to do the work as cheap as any other firm wanted it at that figure. In regard to this the Times says it would be difficult for any person not present at the meeting of the council to believe what a great deal of party feeling was elicited in the discussion of the matter. One of the council—Mr. Coyne—considered himself greatly insulted by the offer of the Standard, and the Standard, on the remainder of the council to enjoy a hearty laugh. Other members of the council believed in encouraging the Standard, and the Standard was taken it was found that no decision had been reached and the chairman of the meeting, Mr. Coyne, was obliged to come to the conclusion that the offer of the Globe and the Times was too good to be refused, and the council was called upon to go to the St. Thomas office.

RAPPED OVER THE KNUCKLES.

The Times did not pass the council over with the reference already given in connection with the Standard. Following week it tells of the closing meeting, and as the council was dissolved, it says that the Standard came to the conclusion that the offer of the Globe and the Times was too good to be refused, and the council was called upon to go to the St. Thomas office.



city clerk of Chicago that is of particular interest in these days, when old boys and old times so occupy the attention of all. He was rummaging through the vaults of the city hall, and he happened to find he would know just what sources of information about the city's early days were there; and, very soon, his first meetings with the members of the first council of the municipal council of this city were held from 1855 to October, 1856. This was the first time that the city of London, its time of swaddling clothes and infantile trouble, is described with the same accuracy as the city of London, its clerk of that period, Mr. John Doyle, whose penmanship, by the way, in the records of the city, is a masterpiece. The whole year of council meetings, is beautifully rendered; it is a relic of the time when undergarments were worn. The first meeting was held on Monday, Aug. 15, 1855, at the Firemen's Hall, and was called by the city clerk, and was presided over by that year. There were then seven wards in the city, and each was represented by a councilman, and a city clerk. They in turn elected by vote one of their number to the position of mayor. The first mayor was John A. Leary, and he is, in fact, the only one of the city's earliest, the prominent men around the council table that has been again elected to the position of mayor. The baby municipality. In ward 1, Peter Schram and James Moffatt were aldermen; in ward 2, John A. Leary and James Wheeler, councilmen. Murray Anderson and Elijah Leonard were aldermen in ward 3, and John A. Leary and Wm. McLebride and George M. Gunn. The third ward was represented by Ald. James Daniel, councilmen, Wallace and John Clegg. Robert Abernathy and John Wesley were aldermen in ward 4, and John A. Leary and

Rolf and Benjamin Nash, whose salaries were to be £40 each for all services, and a S. S. collector at £150 per annum. One other appointment was left to this meeting, that of wood inspectors, and it was decided that they should be properly given to Mr. John Wilson.

POLICE FORCE INITIATED.

The meeting held Jan. 29, 1865, saw the initiation of the London police force, and the formation of a committee of the numerous body of handsome and intelligent men whose presence during the past year had been a source of terrors for the returned ones, that their predecessors' forms inspired in the young men of the present. "In their opinion," the special committee reported, "it is necessary to employ a sufficient number of men to be employed for the protection of property, the prevention of crime, and the preservation of the peace, and to be clothed in a uniform illustration's artful aid." "The committee are satisfied," the report went on, "that the police force should be held accountable so responsible, without paying them for their services, and they recommended that the police force should be clothed in a uniform of blue, and that the constables £22, and above and above all fees collected in the discharge of their duty." The report included a recommendation that seven constables be appointed, and that the police force be moved also "that each policeman be furnished with a staff, and a crown or badge, and that the police force be designated their occupation." Here is an idea that might well be adopted now, and which might be made to do a great match handed down or to know the time if policemen were hanging from a butchery's motto "The style is the life."

A meeting was held on March 1st which is distinguished chiefly on account of the election of officers for the new year. The following gentlemen were chosen: Chief engineer, Francis Smith, first assistant, John H. Smith, second assistant, S. Abbott. The meeting that, following was marked by the council's decision to accept the offer of the federal government to grant the city of London a province for a grant of £200 to assist in defraying the expense of the erection of a public building. The council, however, founders were in an extremely irascible mood that afternoon owing perhaps, to their meeting being so late that they were obliged to get home to their evening meal. The result fell heavily upon the city engineers, to the dismay of whom the meeting was not looking for a new job. A motion passed without a single dissenting voice, that the city engineer, with the office of city engineer for the present year, except for the completion of the city hall and other existing contracts. The status of their tenure was shown also by a motion which ordered that the clerk be directed to give to the city engineer notice if they do not comply with the report of the finance committee as far as it concerned the city engineer's salary for reports monthly, their services will be dispensed with. Those who disre garded the warning were the council of that time, the Leonards and Francis Smith, the Mills and McBrides and the rest of them, did so at their risk and the city of London was obliged to land given by the late Colonel Burr will to the town of London for the solicitor for his opinion thereon." The



B. C. McCANN,
President of the Home Guard.

advised of happenings at home and abroad. Telegraph and railroad wires, unknown in little London then, and the mails, carried cross country stages, had to be almost entirely depended upon for the news.

might please or displease. About that time there were more people than ever for the cause of education, and the Times expressed its approval in the following way: "It is pleasing to find that the Government are now making to introduce a uniform system of education in our common schools, by the introduction of a set of books, and a system of teaching which are not only better calculated than such as have been in vogue, but general use to establish a regular and uniform system of instruction. The new system, but are also better suited to the plan in the mind of the rising generation, and to the habits of the people, of honorable integrity and loyalty—sentiments which their parents or guardians should ever glory in cultivating in their children. The new system, which, in after life, they should themselves ever feel the honor, pride and Britons."

FOUGHT A FIRE

Here is something of interest to the veteran firemen, although there are few if any of them in the city today who were connected with the fire fight which broke out on the night of Nov. 14, 1845. It relates to a slight fire which broke out on the night of Nov. 14, and was extinguished by the tower fire engine. The tower firemen sent with a fire engine from the military barracks: "Last Friday night about 10 o'clock, a slight fire broke out in the 'Fire,' and immediately afterward we heard the alarm bells ring. On going to our windows, at the tower, we saw a fire burning in the tower, the temporary building erected in the churchyard as a workshop and a great quantity of wood was burning."

much business of importance remained unfinished, the paper gave the item a head-line, "A Morning's Wait," and, on the following morning," it says, "about the appointed hour, a few of the members attended in the usual manner, and waited for the start of the conversation and waiting for some time the warden adjourned them for three months for want of a quorum, there being not more than nine or ten of them present, nor yet in a town. And we understand that not one of the members but were finally expelled, the whole session has been thrown away through the non-attendance of some of the members. Such an usual adjournment may occasion a great deal of public inconvenience, and, perhaps, some private injury. We, however, trust that a similar occurrence will not again take place, and that henceforth the members of the assembly will see the necessity and justice of punctuality and constantly attending to what was said in the previous session, and after having once qualified for the office. Although we admit that it is an onerous and formidable duty, we certainly are not to be harshly to compel a man, when elected, even against his will to serve without any pecuniary recompense, or reward, his to a heavy fine, yet we conceive the moral obligation is not on that account the less imperative upon him. Let him to perform the task which, has been

city about a week since. A youth, who had been drinking brandy and a pint of whisky, and after lingering in great pain through the night, died at the age of twenty years. To this are added the sentiments of the editor, who says: "We trust these deaths will be a warning to you of the habit of using this liquor, and more especially against parents permitting their children to use it. It is not only a deadly poison, but it is also a deadly sin, and it is the duty of every parent to see that his children do not use it, and to practice make it also most a necessity."

GOVERNOR RESIGNS.

The sudden and unexpected retirement of Governor Smith from the office of Governor-General took place towards the close of that year, and it created a great sensation in the colony. The suggestion was made that the British ministers should postpone the appointment of a new governor for the colony until Sir Charles had returned to his land, in order that they might avail themselves of his good judgment in the selection of a successor. It was generally acknowledged that he was a man of splendid ability and high character, and that his ill-health was the cause of Sir Charles' retirement.

ODD ADVERTISEMENTS.

If some of the advertisements which sometimes were to appear in the daily papers of today they would cause some amusement. The Times enjoyed a good deal of patronage, and the advertisements were written in a peculiar style. Ralph Smith was the proprietor of the Blackfriars Mills then, and he had a high horse which was visited by thieves, who carried away a table and many papers. Here is how Smith

the councilmen were Francis Smith and David Glass. In the fifth ward, Daniel McQuinn, John J. McQuinn, John J. McQuinn, and Thomas Carter and Robert Smith, the councilmen. John Carlisle, William J. McQuinn, and John J. McQuinn, the councilmen. In the sixth ward, and William Glenn and Paul Phillips were the councilmen. Vm. Barker and William Darby, and Robinson Orr and John Mills, represented ward 7, the first two wards, and the latter two wards, the councilmen. This was the body of stalwart citizens who met on the evening of the 15th of January, 1880, to choose the first mayor of the city of London, who "handed in their oaths of qualification, as also their oaths of office, and took their seats."

FIRST MAYORALTY CONTEST.

The election of a mayor for the city of London has been the occasion of many a warm scrap, and it is interesting to observe that even the first of these elections evoked the yeas and nays. It was, however, a friendly battle, this first tussle for the chief magistracy. The two parties to it were Ald. Martin and Ald. James Daniel. Ald. Daniel, Ald. Anderson received 17 votes. His competitor received 10. Ald. Daniel took the office and subscribed the oath of office and took his seat." At this meeting notice was given of a motion

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F. G. RUMBALL,
Third Vice-President Home Guard.

CLAMORED FOR RAILWAYS.

While London, as already stated, was not without a railway of any kind, the people were clamoring for one, and it was this clamor which was the main point, for it was seen that a railway would open up the country as never before, and do so in a more rapid manner than any other mode of transport. At the same time, the Times called on the fall of the year with editorial in the most advantageous manner looked at it. "The mania for railways, which has for some time been rife in England, where it is more rapid than in any other country, has now spread over many parts of the continent of Europe, has latterly shown some remarkable signs in the United States, and the great town of London seems not a quarter free from the infection, as, exemplified for instance, in the case of the extreme anxiety of a few individuals to purchase stock in the Great Western Railway. It is noteworthy, however, that the mania is chiefly confined to certain individuals torn from house to house to find out the value of stock, and to the frequenting of the streets with such expressions as 'Have you any shares in the Great Western Railroad?'"

There are several lines of road advocated by individuals, each professing one ostensible object—that of facilitating commerce, and of opening up the eastern and western frontiers, whose different local interests being in variance, each party is anxious to show the superiority of their route to all others. There are also some of the lines contemplated which may be said to have no special auxiliary, but tending to support the one main object that we think should be supported, and which will be the most beneficial modulation, keeping in view future as well as present advantage. And as we have to have a railway, we may as well hope that every consideration of personal and local interest will be aside, and that each individual will be interested in the success of the great an undertaking, will unite to accomplish the making of one route in the most advantageous position.

"Although we have an opinion on

company were soon on the spot with their engine, and soon after a fire broke out in the main mass of flame. The town fire engine was unable to get to the spot with the engine from the barracks. Both parties exerted themselves in vain, and the fire was too big to say their efforts were unavailing except to stay its further progress. The night being dark, the distance from the church was happily prevented from spreading. The estimated loss was, of course, very great, and the funds for the church and some tools, it may be of considerable amount. We are glad to hear that the prisoner taken with being the cause of the fire."

This fire gave rise to some ill-feeling on the part of the volunteer fire company towards the Western City Council, whose account of it was not altogether correct. The fire was not so constant for the county) was captain of a fire company at the time, and in the following statements made in the Toronto publication.

HAD BIG DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The council of London district was much larger than the city council, and had a number of aldermen and town councilors and aldermen. Tuesday, Nov. 11, was the day set for one of the meetings of the council, and the proceedings the Times says that Lawrence Lawson, Esq., had received a letter from the council, asking him to erect a new and efficient hot stove in the prison, and that though he had declined to do so, he would be willing for the sum of £100 to give good security for the durability of any stove that might be supplied, though it was urged by the chairman and the members of the council that the stove could be cheaper for the present than the prison with ordinary stoves. The council then adjourned.

Thomas also attracted the attention of the council. Mr. Lawson wanted to know that a competent person to have a model school that town had been frustrated. He told them that a competent person, who thoroughly understood the system, had been dismissed (pro-


R. A. CARROTHERS,
First Vice-President Home Guard

columns: "£5 reward and very many thanks to any person who will give information of a portable oak-colored leather box, with a key, and a lock of my office window last spring; contained notes and papers of considerable value to the Government; also sundry receipts and vouchers connected with the Board of Claims for Rebellion. The box should be in the name of John B. Penitence, and the name of the eye of the guilty person. I am a member that 'penitence will cover a multitude of sins' and that this note is a sign of the cross for the guilty." John Norval was a druggist in London in those days, and he announced that he had a "guilty" fellow-drugger killed! Caught him at last, the scoundrel! He had much pleasure in intimating to his friends and the public that he had "concocted" a very good recipe, has procured the oil of a very large bear, killed in the township of Cumbria, and forthwith concocted the same. He had in the undated state of his sign.

John Penitence, of the French street, directly opposite the residence of Mr. Lawrason, presented his compliance to the enlightened public of London, and the following advertisement, which he had just returned from the United States and New York with the most valuable and profitable of fancy goods, groceries, etc.

"Free and easy" affairs were a specialty of his in the taverns, and the Webster advertisement for an evening at the Shakespeare Inn, in the Theatre Royal, and the guarantee of the same, were all of the kind preserved. Those who might wish to spend an evening in hilarity were invited to do so, and the opportunity in the town of London, Victoria Cottage Inn, corner of York and Richmond streets, had a free and easy evening, and the "social sons of wit and humor" were respectfully invited to attend.

There was probably the same public spirit in the world's appearance at Easter on the Halles Nordstrand, Moor, in Schleswig-Holstein. It was a very interesting sight, in consequence of the depopulation of the land, but it is about to be opened to the public.



R. W. HENNETT.
Fourth Vice-President Home Guard.

"for the appointment of a committee for the purpose of taking into consideration the formation of a board of police"; another, "for the appointment of a committee to consider the formation of a police magistracy." The council then adjourned, to meet, by the way, at 10 o'clock in the afternoon of the following Monday. At the following meeting, it was moved, and the motion carried, that "this council shall meet every second Wednesday at 10 o'clock, and for them to lambaste the ambitious atmosphere of the council chamber in the most inconsiderate manner." At the second meeting of the council, it was decided that Mr. Doyle was appointed city clerk—a position which included the work of the police and recorder's clerk—and his salary was to be £200 per annum. This must have been a fairly low salary for a municipal servant to receive in those days. Before this was decided upon, two economists were perusal extract is inserted here for the benefit of the present day, which may have been in the knowledge of the city clerk, and the recorder, and the city hammer. A "city chamberlain" was also appointed, John Brown being the first to occupy the office, which corresponded to the one which Mr. J. C. Pope so efficiently fills at the present day. His salary was £750 per annum. The council chose the first assessor

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