LONDON WELCOMES HER SONS AND DAUGHTERS TO THE OLD HOME

Old Boys, With Their Wives and Daughters, Are Flocking to the City of Their application for the rates, were passed unanimously by the parish council. Youth From All Parts of Canada and the United States.

HAS MADE BIG PREPARATION TO GIVE THEM A ROYAL RECEPTION

The Days of Old Will Be the Subject of All Conversations—Joyous Meetings of Old Friends Will

to an unumery end allrough drinking, an immoderate quantity of whisky. Having, with the remainder of the family, arrived in the province only a few months since, and as yet a comparative stranger, and as yet a comparative stranger of the effects of this comparative stranger. Be Witnessed Everywhere and Incidents of the Past Will Live Again—Many of the Events of the Past, Now Remembered by Very Few, Were Recorded in the "Times."

next few days there will wander back hension as to the commencement or master, and the school appropriated to the scenes of their childhood days sanity in the directors can ever induce superior sort of an institution, bearing a number of the boys and girls who them to divert the line essentially from some resemblance to the district school were residents of London in the forties. this place. If anything would attract them to the "As our opinion, not formed altoas the city is on the verge of witness- of our contemporaries, as well as many ing, as it would afford them an op- of our subscribers, regarding railroads portunity to meet hundreds, thousands, subject at a future time. We underof the boys and girls now scattered stand all the shares in the Great broadcast over the land, who would Western Railroad have been purdelight to talk over the events of their chased, mostly by English capitalists." own time and would take an extra pleasure in hearing veterans of the veterans recall the many stirring incidents of the days when the founda- year by two parties under the directions for the present city were being civil engineers. The work was begun so well and truly laid. If there are at Hamilton, with Fort Erie and Niany visitors who were included in Lon- agara Falls as the objective points. don's populace in the forties, there is The Suspension bridge, which spanned this to be said—they will not be numerthis to be said—they will not be numer-ous. They will recollect that towards of the surveying parties was to gain the close of 1845, London was just re- the summit of Hamilton Mountain in the council believed in encouraging the covering from the terrible conflagra- a westerly direction, with a view of home concerns, but when the vote was tion which wiped out such a large continuing to Windsor, and as the taken it was found that no decision business are earlier in the year. As directors were adopting energetic had been reached and the chairman rapidly as it could be carried on, the measures to have the line completed had to vote to break the deadlock. He town was being rebuilt, more substantial structures were taking the place of those destroyed by the flames, and from a business standpoint there was reach London until 1854. not much cause for complaint. There building was not as rapid then as office. at that time could always boast of a Grand Trunk Pacific in five years. large number of British regulars, London could boast of one newspaper as far back as 1845—the Times, a bright weekly sheet, which kept the people Times-it took an independent course



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

advised of happenings at home and pended upon for the news.

CLAMORED FOR RAILWAYS.

editorial on the question. Here is the way it looked at it. "The mania for ing. The estimated loss varies, but as railroads, which has for some time existed in England, where it first generated, after spreading at a more recent Europe, has latterly shown some rabid prison charged with being the cause date over many parts of continental symptoms in this country. Even our quiet town of London seems not alto-gether free from the infectior, as exthe extreme anxiety of a few individuamusing to observe the alacrity with of the fire company at the time, and which certain individuals trot about in a letter to the Times he sharply from house to house to find out the owners of stock, even hailing some in 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 tating the communication between our eastern and western frontiers, but whose different local interests being at the broad principle of public accom- reasonable offer, though are to have a road in some direction,

It may be that in the course of the considered, we are under no appre- opportunity taken to introduce another terminus, for nothing short of in- by the inhabitants of St. Thomas as a

would be a reunion such gether without some experience and observation, differs perhaps from most

SURVEYING COMMENCED.

tion of H. Strange and William Hale, Railroad the work going to the St. Thomas was plenty of life in the town, which now, when it is hoped to complete the

EDUCATION ADVANCING.

There was this to be said of the on all matters, and never failed to might please or displease. About that unfinished, the paper gave the mem-time steps were being taken to advance bers a rap over the knuckles. "On scarcely 12 years of age, drank upwards time steps were being taken to advance the cause of education, and the Times expressed its approval in the follow-expressed its approval in the follow-expressed its approval in the council room, and af
| Advance the knuckies. On scarcely 12 years of age, trains approval of a pint of whisky, and after linger-ermen, and Thomas Carter and Robert of a pint of whisky, and after linger-ing in great pain through the night, died appointed hour, a few of the members ing in great pain through the night, died appointed hour, a few of the members of appointed hour, a fe ing way: "It is pleasing to observe attended in the council room, and after the efforts now making to introduce attended in the council room, and after the efforts now making to introduce ter some conversation and waiting for this are added the sentiments of the edermen in the sixth ward, and William with some misgiving. It is not said tion of a set of elementary books which are not only better calculated of them present, nor yet in town. As improved system of practical instruction, but are also better suited to implant in the mind of the rising generation sentiments truly British, of honorable integrity and loyalty - sentiments which their parents or guar-Britons.'

FOUGHT A FIRE.

Here is something of interest to the veteran firemen, although there are it certainly appears to be a hardship -for it was generally acknowledged few if any of them in the city today to compel a man, when elected, even that he was a man of splendid ability who were connected with the fire fight- against his will to serve without any Ill-health was the cause of Sir Charles' ing corps of the town so far back as pecuniary recompense, or subject him retirement. 1845. It relates to a slight fire which to a heavy fine, yet we concerve the broke out on the night of Nov. 14, and moral obligation is not on that account was extinguished by the town fire the less imperative upon him faithfully company and a squad of men sent with to perform the task which has been a fire engine from the military barracks: "Last Friday night about 12 o'clock we were awoke by a cry 'Fire,' and immediately afterwards heard the alarm bells ring. On going unknown in little London then, and to our windows, at the north end of on the house, we observed that the temstages, had to be almost entirely de- porary building erected in the churchtity of lumber adjacent were enveloped in one mass of flame. The town fire company were soon on the spot with without a railway of any kind, the people were clamoring for one. Not only was this the case in Londen, but with the engine from the barracks. points, for it was seen that a road praiseworthy manner, but we are sorry else could do. So constant was the talk except to stay its further progress. The else could do. So constant was the talk about railways that the Times came being some distance from the church,

for the church and some tools, it must be of considerable amount. We understand a man and woman are in This fire gave rise to some ill-feeling emplified for about a week past, in pany towards the Western Globe, whose account of it was not altogether als to purchase stock in the Great fair. Henry Groves, afterwards high Western Railway. It is somewhat constable for the county) was captain

ronto publication. HAD BIG DISTRICT COUNCIL.

did councilors and aldermen. Tuesday, Nov. 11, was the day set for one meeting in 1845, and in its report of the faithful execution of the trust reposed one estensible object-that of facili- Nov. 11, was the day set for one meetproceedings the Times says that Law- in him by his fellow townsmen. rence Lawrason, Esq., had received a variance, each party strongly contends letter from some practical man offerfor the superiority of their route over ing to erect a new and efficient hot air all other. There are also some other stove in the prison, and that though terest in Canada, as well as the old lines conemplated which may be con- he would require the money down he land, was a little tax dispute in which sidered as so many auxiliary branches, would be willing for the sum of \$550, Prince Albert was implicated. The tending to support the one main road to give good security for the dura- prince was at issue with the parish of that we think should be supported, on bility and efficiency of the stove. The Windsor, and refused to pay poor rates modation, keeping in view future as urged by the chairman and Mr. Law- was no beneficial occupation, and that well as present advantage. And as we rason, was rejected on the ground that the property belonged to the crown. it would be cheaper for the present to The arrears due amounted to £2,000. are to have a road in some direction, we hope that every consideration of personal and local interest will be laid aside, and that each individual who feels interested in the success of so great an undetaking, will unite to accomplish the making of one main road in the most advantageous situation. "Although we lave an opinion on the subject for our war town, abstractly and the conneil shaded are to the present to the prison with ordinary stoves. The prison with ordinary stoves, the the prison with ordinary stoves. The prison with ordinary stoves, the the prison with ordinary stoves. The prison with ordinary stoves. The arrears due amounted to £2,000. It would be cheaper for the present day officially who fitted up for a lockup house, the work to attend that part of the better of the work of the during the prison with ordinary stoves. The during extract from it what considers the what consolation there may be in the knowledged that the prison with ordinary stoves. The during extract from it what collable to attend the prison with ordinary stoves. The during extract from it what consolation there may be in the knowledged that the prison with ordinary stoves. The during extracted the striking extracted the served that most certainly the prince prison with ordinary stoves. The during extracted the striking extracted the striking from a lockup for a lockup for the what connected to attend that part of the other which was officially officially officially officially officially occupied the property, for two owns sent to the Agricultural synonyment of the council and that that part of the whor which was officially officially officially official unit of the what connected the striking during the prison with ordinary stoves. The during extracted the like the what connected the striking of the other was officially officially officially occupied the property, for two owns and to the Auth part of the other was officially officially officially occupied the property stores and the traction of the was officially officially off

of London, though supported out of the

The anxiety of some of the papers of

funds of the district.

that day to secure the printing of the council's bylaws was shown in the report of this meeting. Tenders for the work had been asked of the Western Globe, the St. Thomas Standard, and the London Times. The Globe's offer was conditional, owing to a difficulty in the calculation of the work to be done. The Standard named a definite sum, and the Times offered to do the work as cheap as any other, even 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 by this trifling business. One member of the council-Mr. Coyne-considered himself greatly insulted by the offer of the Times, a remark that caused the remainder of the council to enjoy a hearty laugh. Other members of

RAPPED OVER THE KNUCKLES.

The Times did not pass the counci over with the reference already given to its session. In the issue of the following week, it tells of the closing meeting, and as the council was adfourned for want of a quorum and speak its mind, regardless of whom it much business of importance remained one uniform system of education in some time the warden adjourned them itor, who says: "We trust these in- Glenn and Paul Phipps were the coun- whether this was a sort of vigilance our common schools, by the introduc- for three months for want of a quorum, stances will prove cautious to all in cilmen. Wm. Barker and William committee or a Whitecap organization than are such as have been in most general use to establish a regular and the latter two as lation. If that is the proper interpremany better calculated with the latter two as lation. If that is the proper interpremany better calculated with the latter two as lation. If that is the proper interpremany better calculated with the latter two as lation. If that is the proper interpremany better calculated with the latter two as lation. If that is the proper interpremany better calculated with the latter two as lation. If that is the proper interpremany better calculated with the latter two as lation. If that is the proper interpremany better calculated with the latter two as lation. If that is the proper interpremany better calculated with the latter two as lation. If that is the proper interpremany better calculated with the latter two as lation of this name it will go far to rethrough the non-attendance of some most a necessity.' of the members. Such an unusual adjournment may occasion a great deal of public inconvenience, and, perhaps, some private injury. We, however, ment of Sir Charles Metcalfe as Govtrust that a similar occurrence will ernor-General took place towards the dians should ever glory in cultivating and fostering, and in the practice of forth the negligent members will see little anxiety as to his successor. The which, in after life, they should them- the necessity and justice of punctually suggestion was made that the British selves ever feel the honest pride of and constantly attending to what we ministers should postpone the appointconsider to be their paramount duty, ment of a new governor for the colony after having once qualified for the until Sir Charles returned to Engoffice. Although we admit that it is land, in order that they might an onerous and unprofitable office, and avail themselves of his good judgment



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

conscientious man to build upon as an goods, groceries, etc.

A matter which attracted some instrongly for Flemish Farm, alleging that there

Though the population of the country was slim, there was the average number who were liable to do foolish things. The Times tells of the cases of a young man and a boy: "We regret to learn that about a fortnight since, a fine, promising young man of the name of Smith, residing in Garafraxa, came to an untimely end through drinking mon, yet pernicious, liquor, he, being in company with his brother, foolishly made a bet that he would drink a quart of whisky, without taking the bottle from his mouth. He accomplished this feat, but at the cost of his life, death immediately ensuing. By the Toronto papers, we see that a somewhat similar occurrence took place in that

NICHOLAS WILSON, London's Veteran Teacher, Whose 50th Old Boys' Movement.

whole session has been thrown away to the taste, until practice makes it al- stalwart citizens who met on that move feelings of veneration for the

GOVERNOR RESIGNS

ODD ADVERTISEMENTS.

If some of the advertisements of those times were to appear in the daily papers of today they would cause some amusement. The Times enjoyed a good advertising patronage, and many the ads were worded in a peculiar style. Ralph Smith was the proprietor of the Blackfriars Mills then, and during the night his office was visited by thieves, who carried away a table and many papers. Here is how Smith announced it in the advertising columns: "£5 reward and very many thanks to any person who will give information of a portable oak-colored desk, which was wantonly taken out of my office window last spring; contained notes and papers of considerable value to the owner; also sundry receipts and vouchers connected with the Board of Claims for Rebellion Losses. Should this notice meet the eye of the guilty person, let him remember that 'penitence will cover multitude of sins' and that this notice shall be his only punishment." John Norval was a druggist in Lon don in those days, and he announced a great bargain as follows: "Bear killed! Caught him at last. The subscriber has much pleasure in intimating to his friends and the public that in consequence of his advertisement he has procured the oil of a very large bear, killed in the township of Colborne, Goderich, last week, which may he had in the unadulterated state at his sign.'

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.

City Clerk Edwards made a find a at this meeting, Messrs, Johnston, J. F. week or so ago that is of particular interest in these days, when old boys and ries were to be £50 each for all services. A S Abbett was appointed the old times so occupy the attention of all. He was rummaging through the vaults at the city hall for old books so that he would know just what sources of were there; and he came across the given to Mr. John Wilson. minutes of the very first meetings of the municipal council of this city-

from 1855 to October, 1856. This eventful year in the life of the city of London, its time of swaddling clothes and the numerous body of handsome and infantile trouble, is described with intelligent men whose presence during elaborate detail by the painstaking Old Boys' week will have none of the clerk of that period, Mr. John Doyle, terrors for the returned ones, that their whose penmanship, by the way, in the recording of all that transpired during whole year of council meetings, is beautifully regular; it is a relic of the time when undecipherable scrawls had not become fashionable. The first meeting was held on Monday, Aug. 15, 1855, at the Firemen's Hall, and was called "for the purpose of electing a mayor" for that year. There were then seven illustration's artful aid?" "The commit wards in the city, and each was repre- tee are satisfied," the report went on, sented by two aldermen, and two coun- "that proper men cannot be had for sit cilmen. They in turn elected by vote one of their number to the position of ing them for their services, and they mayor. It is interesting to note the recommend that the high mayor. It is interesting to note the names of those men, the prominent mon of the city's earliest days, who sat around the council table, from the very beginning, and directed the affairs of the baby municipality. In ward 1, Peter Schram and James Moffatt were Peter Schram and James Moffatt were commendation that the high bailiff be paid £75, the high constable £62, and over and above all fees collected or received by them in the discharge of their duty." The report included a recommendation that seven constables be applied at the high bailiff be paid £75, the high constable £62, and over and above all fees collected or received by them in the discharge of their duty." The report included a recommendation that seven constables £62, and over and above all fees collected or received by them in the discharge of their duty." The report included a recommendation that seven constables £62, and over and above all fees collected or received by them in the discharge of their duty." The report included a recommendation that seven constables £62, and over and above all fees collected or received by them in the discharge of their duty." The report included a recommendation that seven constables £62, and over and above all fees collected or received by them in the discharge of their duty." dermen, and John Blair and Barna- employed. It was adopted. bas Wheeler, councilmen. Murray An- moved also "that each derson and Elijah Leonard were alder- furnished with a staff, and a crown or men in ward 2, and the councilmen

David Glass. In the fifth ward Daniel out-a-Mother mottoes could be obtain-Lester and George G. Magee were alder ermen, and Thomas Carter and Robert Reference is made in the minutes of

office, and took their seats."

FIRST MAYORALTY CONTEST. The election of a mayor for the city of London has been the occasion many a warm scrap, and it is interesting to observe that even the first of these elections educed the yeas nays. It was, however, a friendly battle, this first tussle for the chief magistracy. The two parties to it were Ald. Murray Anderson and Ald. James Daniell. Ald. Anderson received 17 votes. His competitor received 10. Ald. Dan-

"who then took and subscribed the oath of office and took his seat." At this meeting notice was given of a motion



for the purpose of taking into consil- himself." At this meeting also the coun- this council to enable that gentlem eration the formation of a board of police"; another, "for the appointment of men meet after the evening meal, when believing him fully competent to affor J. J. Beniteau, of the French store, a police magistrate." The council then directly opposite the residence of L. adjourned, to meet, by the way, at 2 feeling of contentment that rises with quired of him with regard to the care. Lawrason, presented his compliments o'clock in the afternoon of the follow-to the enlightened public of London ing Monday, At the following meetassigned to him. There may be de- and its vicinity, and also told them ing it was moved, and the motion car- over-speaking. It was a confession of advantages as a field of immigration The council of London district then fects in the law (which we admit there that he had just returned from Monwas much larger than the city council are), but that circumstances ought treal and New York with the most future at 6½ o'clock." It became popuof the present time, comprising, as it did councilors and aldermen. Tuesday, convergentions man to build upon as an for the aldermen to meet, theoretical- needless discussion, when at this meet- building of the city hall for rent, goods, groceries, etc.

"Free and easy" affairs were the "go" at some of the taverns. Peasley and Webster advertised one for every evening at the Shakespeare Inn. near evening at the Shakespeare Inn, near the Theater Royal, and guaranteed that the utmost decorum would be preserved. Those who might wish to spend an evening in hilarity were told they could not find a better oppornum. This must have been a fairly large "Your committee beg to report that gas committee reported having man tunity in the town of London. The Victoria Cottage Inn, corner of York and Richmond streets, had a free and decided upon, two economists wanted story well adapted for the purposes of ling a total of 40, each of which was a local purpose of ling a total purpose of lin easy every Monday evening, and the to cut the salary to £150. This histor"social sons of wit and humor" were ical incident is inserted here for the mend that that part of the building be One of the other striking items perusal of present day officials who fitted up for a lockup house, the work business recorded during the qui to be completed as early as possible."

there may be in the knowledge that Does this clause remaind anyone of a gested by this motion presented to the perusal of presented to the other striking items business recorded during the qui

A meeting was held on March city's first collector at £150 per annum One other appointment was left to this

POLICE FORCE INITIATED.

The meeting held Jan. 29, 1855, saw the initiation of the London police force which in that year was far from being predecessors' forms inspired in roungsters of the past, who are the Old Boys of the present. "In their opinion," the special committee reported "it is necessary to employ a sufficient police force in the city of London for the protection of property, the prevention of crime, and the preservation of the public peace." How's that for "ap It was motto, attached to the buttonhole, were Wm. McBride and George M. designate their ccupation." Here is ar The third ward was represented idea that might well be adopted now. by Ald. James Daniell and Ald. Joseph How assuring it would be if one want-Anniversary of Teaching Started the Gibbins, and by Councilmen Arthur ed a match handed down or to know Wallace and John Clegg. Robert Ab- the time, if policemen were hanging ernathy and John Wesley Kermott from a buttonhole, a motto saying were the aldermen in No. 4 ward, and "This Is A Policeman"? The style councilmen were Francis Smith and adopted in the What-Is-Home-With-

> evening of the 15th of January, 1855, citizens of the past that have been into choose the first mayor of the city spired by the oft-heard sorrow exof London, who "handed in their oaths of qualification, as also their oaths of good old days." It seems strange that there is no subsequent mention of any conflict of duties between the newly-ap pointed police force and the "Commit-

tee on Tanks. Following the report of the "Committee on Tanks," suggestively came that of the license committee, which issued the licenses at that meeting to taverns and saloons. Some of the ones mentioned are herewith quoted in the hop that the recollections of the visiting Old Boys will be stirred by at least one paragraph in this unadorned and veracious tale: Robinson's Hall, the City iell voted for the successful candidate, Hotel, the Golden Ball, the Western Hotel, the American Hotel, the Prospect House, the Commercial Hotel, the Wa- of an inspector of weights and mean terloo Hotel, the Prince of Orange, the ures, a position for which there we Western Railway Hotel, the Sun Inn, three applicants, Messrs. Samu the Harp Inn and the Farmer's Inn. Parke, Samuel McBride and P. Me the Harp Inn and the Farmer's Inn.

Several appointments were made at this meeting. Henry Boyd was appointed and was duly declared elected. The to ring the town bell, Thomas VanVal- minutes of the meeting of April 9 c kenburg to be high bailiff, Wm. O'Reil- tain the first reference to any of t ly to be chief constable, Michael Ken- aldermen being fined. On that afte nedy poundkeeper and William Wil- noon, it is recorded, "the followi liams city crier, and bill-poster. Some gentlemen were fined for being abse of the council wished policemen of those days to be "the glass of fashion and being absent from the council, viz the mold of form," judging by a motion Ald. Kermett, Darley, Lester, Leona put at this meeting that "each of the and Gibbins for being late, and Cou by this council of the value of £7 10s, absent." Ald. Magee took pity upon in addition to their salaries. A very the offenders and moved "that decisive "Lost" is written after that fines imposed upon the members of

ALDERMEN FINED THEMSELVES.

of motion was given at it that "this council intends to apply at the next defeated. That they sturdily believ session of the Parliament of this prov- in their country and its prospects cel of land in the city, granted for a the circular of Freeman Talbot. Esc potters field." Another motion that car- we are of opinion that the object himself or may hereafter absent him- sources of Canada and the encourag self without giving a sufficient reason ment of immigration thereto is ve for so doing, shall be subject to a fine commendable, and would recomme "for the appointment of a committee of 2s 6d for each time he so absents that the sum of £10 be granted

FIRE BRIGADE OFFICERS.

which is distinguished chiefly on account of the election of officers for the fire brigade, when the following gentlemen were chosen: Chief en meeting, that of wood inspector, which the council thought could be properly given to Mr. John Wilson.

gineer, Francis Smith; first assistant, John Craig; second assistant, A. S. Abbott. The meeting that followed was marked by the council's decision to "petition the Legislature of thi province for a grant of £200 to as: in defraying the tion of a public hospital." men and councilors were owing perhaps, to their meeting b result fell heavily upon the city gineer of that time, who, after th neeting, was out looking for a ne job. A motion passed without a single with the office of city engineer for the present year, except for the completio The state of their temp ontracts." was shown also "ordered that the clerk be directed to write to the auditors and state th if they do not comply with the repor of the finance committee as far as has reference to them making the reports monthly, their services will b dispensed with." Those who disregarded the mandates of the council of that time, the Leonards and Fran Smiths, the Mills and McBrides at the rest of them, did so at their is recorded here also that "the de of land given by the late Colonel Bur well to the town of London for solicitor for his opinion thereon." The



Third Vice-President Home Guard.

solicitor, by the way, was Thoma Almost the first thing done at meeting of March 19 was the electing Messrs.

dicemen be furnished with a uniform cilors Gunn, Orr and Carter for bei council this evening for being late a absent shall be remitted with the d tinct understanding that all membe The meeting on the evening of the 19th of February was remarkable for very little of the business done. Notice said that they would be fined and fine ince for the passing of an act, en- shown by this clause in the finan abling this council to sell a certain par- committee's report: That as regar ried was to this effect: That any member of this council who has absented poses of giving lectures on the r