

ought to be. I think the most superficial consideration of this question will suffice to convince any person who is open to conviction that there is the most imperative demand for reform in the Canadian schools, and to prove this it is necessary to call attention to the fact that the present system of education is not only defective in its principles, but is also defective in its administration. It is not fair to mention in reference to these practitioners that however inferior their qualifications may have been at the time of graduation, many of them have subsequently been means of extending their acquirements with the aid of the medical education in Canada and the necessity which exists for its improvement and reform does not require to be proved or illustrated by any such inquiries or comparisons, for any person with even a very moderate acquaintance with human nature who will take the trouble to make himself acquainted with the present mode of administration of our medical schools will have no difficulty in forming an estimate of its inherent imperfections and the necessity of its reform. If any additional proof were wanting it can be obtained to an overwhelming extent from history, from the history of the English and Scotch medical schools. In this fact consists our chief comfort and ground for hope. Only a few years have elapsed since the medical schools of Scotland were oppressed and their progress impeded by exactly the same causes which now oppress those of Canada and impede their progress.

IMPORTANT RAILWAY CHANGES.
The Prescott Messenger says:—On the 1st of January instant, the entire interest of the Ottawa and Prescott Railway Company was handed over by the representatives of that Company to the Grand Trunk Railway Company, and within a few days, the old Grand Trunk Railway Station will be deserted. All the books of the office, the freight, clerks and all, will be removed to the Ottawa and Prescott Railway Station, where hereafter the work will be done. No train will be sent to Prescott by the Grand Trunk Railway. Before all passenger trains are due East and West, local trains will leave the station at the foot of Water street, for the Junction; where the passengers will transship themselves, and after the main train has passed, the local train will return. Additional office and freight accommodations will be required, and before a year elapses, we do not doubt the appearance of things in the vicinity of the depot will be very much changed by the buildings which will be erected. In the meantime, however, the present premises will have to suffice.

Very few people have any idea of the business which the Grand Trunk has built up at this point, and which we are glad to see is on the increase. Of course the present passport system tends to injure the passenger traffic, but the freight business, being left to itself, goes on expanding, as may easily be seen in the largely increased exports and imports at the Port. The amount of exports for the year 1863, amounted to \$225,636; the last quarter of the year, when the railway connection had just been perfected, furnished this, about half, viz: \$305,345. Last year the exports show a gratifying increase, of over 50 per cent amounting to \$400,512. The imports also present an equally favorable aspect. The total imports for 1863 were \$944,123; for 1864 they were \$1,615,467, showing an increase of nearly three quarters of a million of dollars—a most gratifying result as showing the increased traffic by the Grand Trunk Railway.

CHARGE OF FORGERY REPEATED BY THE AID OF THE MICROSCOPE.—At the Police Court in London, on Wednesday, Mr. C. W. Kent, was charged with altering two promissory notes drawn up by Henry Fletcher. It was alleged by the prosecutor that the words "with interest at twenty-five per cent" had been fraudulently added after the notes were signed. The prototype tells the remainder of the story:—The county attorney, Mr. Hutcheon, was present for the prosecution, and Mr. Beaudouin for the defence. Two powerful microscopes were introduced into court by Mr. Saunders, and the writing on each note was critically examined by these means clearly showed, to our minds at least, that the words mentioned must have been written before the signatures were appended. This was easily discovered, even on one of them, with the naked eye alone. The examination by the microscope, however, appeared to set all doubts at rest on that point, by revealing certain strokes of the pen in the top signature crossing a portion of the line said to be afterwards added, and showing plainly enough to the most obtuse that the words in question must have been inserted at the time the notes were drawn up. Here the case rested; the prosecutor, when called, failed to appear; whether frightened by the tell-tale microscope or not, we do not know, he could not be found. The charge was therefore dismissed, every one present feeling that under the circumstances no other course could be adopted.

PETTY OUTRAGES.
A few persons in the eastern part of this county, have from time to time amused themselves by shaving horses' tails, and other petty outrages against their neighbours, whose political views did not harmonize with their own. The perpetrators generally managed to keep their identity from being known, and thus evaded punishment. It is high time that this sort of thing should be done away with; and a little publicity to a case which is just come to light, may help to deter others from such unwarrantable deeds. Some time in October last, the tails and manes of Mr. William Wilson's horses, in Belmont, were subjected to this shaving process; and a few days ago, on summons issued, Messrs. John Burgess and John Brooks were convicted before a bench of magistrates at Newmarket for committing the act; the fine and costs amounted to \$34. A correspondent who writes to us adds, significantly, that horse hairs, as well as straw, show "which way the wind blows." We trust this will be a warning to similarly disposed persons in future.—*Peterborough Review.*

Two men named respectively McLeod, of Dundas, and Schofield, of Ignouville, were arrested in London on Saturday for passing counterfeit money. The hearing of the case was postponed until Tuesday.

On the 19th, Jan. 16, The beautiful little English Church recently erected here was destroyed by fire on Sunday morning. It had been burning for some time before it was discovered, and everything in it was consumed. The fire is supposed to have arisen from the heating apparatus.

What time is that which, again backwards and forwards, is the same?—*Moan.*
Fortune is painted blind that she may not blush to behold, those who belong to her.

An Irishman fights before he reasons; a Scotchman reasons before he fights; an Englishman is not particular as to the order of precedence, but will do either to accommodate his customers.

Dates from Mexico of the 26th ult. represent affairs there as very unsettled. Between 4000 and 5000 of the Imperial troops had been defeated at Etla by the Republicans.

A man named David McGibbon, of the Township of Nepean, was frozen to death on Thursday last, about 60 miles above Pembroke, while on his way to the shanty. He was in the employ of the Hon. James Black at the time of his death.

The Rev. G. D. Macartney, upon his resignation of the Mission of Plantagenet, in consequence of bad health, has received from his people several flattering addresses and handsome presentations, including a piece of plate and a copy of Alford's Great Testament, expressive of their attachment and esteem, and of their sorrow at his departure from amongst them.

WHY NOT?—We do not see why the rule will not apply in one case as well as the other. An adduced and a lawyer were talking of a disastrous battle. The former was lamenting the number of brave soldiers who fell on the occasion, when the lawyer observed, that "those who live by the sword must expect to die by the sword." By the similar rule, replied the officer, those who live by the law must expect to die by the law.

The following anecdote is told in illustration of the Scotch veneration of the Sabbath:—A geologist, while in the country, and having his pocket hammer with him, took it out and was shipping the rock by the wayside for examination. His proceedings did not escape the quick eye and ready tongue of an old Scotch woman. "What are you doing there mon?" "Don't you see?" "I'm breaking a stone." "Y'are doing mair than that; y'are breaking the Sabbath."

"PUPPIES NEVER SEE TILL THEY ARE NINE DAYS OLD."—It is related, that when a former Bishop of Bristol held the office of Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, he one day met a couple of undergraduates, who requested to pay the accustomed compliment of calling. The Bishop inquired the reason of the neglect. The two men begged his lordship's pardon, observing they were freshmen and did not know him. "How long have you been in Cambridge?" "Only eight days," was the reply. "Very good," said the Bishop, "puppies never see till they are nine days old."

The Herald.
CARLETON PLACE.
Wednesday, Jan. 25th, 1865.

The circulation of the C. P. Herald is now very large and constantly increasing. Merchants, business men and all who desire to communicate with the public will secure a wide publication for their notices, by advertising in its columns. Charges as low as for other papers of less than half the circulation. No charge for publishing births, marriages and deaths.

We have had much pleasure, from time to time, in marking the progress which was being made towards the completion of the Brockville and Ottawa Railroad; and we are sure that our readers, generally, will agree with us in giving credit to the present company for the diligence and perseverance with which the work has been pushed forward since it came under the able management of Mr. Richardson.

It is only a few weeks since we copied, from the "Brockville Recorder", a lengthy article written by the editor of that paper, who had made a visit to the railroad office, examined the books of the company, and reported everything, in relation to the financial affairs of the road, in a prosperous and highly satisfactory condition.

The course pursued by Mr. Richardson since his connection with the road, has long since dispelled any doubt or mistrust that may have arisen in the public mind, in reference to the interests of the municipality. And, that gentleman has afforded another proof of straightforward dealing in the matter, by remitting to the county treasurer of these United Counties, the large instalment of two thousand, seven hundred and sixteen dollars and fifty cents, due of the surplus earnings of the road.

The following is a copy of Mr. Richardson's letter, to the Treasurer:—
Brookville, 16th Jan., 1865.
WM. FRASER, Esq.,
County Treasurer, Perth.

DEAR SIR:—Owing entirely to misunderstanding between our respective Councils, and not between the R. R. committee of your Counties Council and myself, the formal written agreement between the counties and this company has not yet been executed.

Since the basis of this agreement was first created between us I have proceeded steadily in good faith to work up to the spirit as well as letter of our understanding.

Accordingly I believe it will be admitted that, so far as time has allowed, every engagement made by me has been honorably fulfilled.

Determined that no member of your Counties' Council shall be able to justify or truly accuse me of breach of faith.

Determined that, whatever cause of complaint the people of these counties may have had against the old B. R. Company, they shall have none against the new for having failed to commence the earliest possible repayment.

Determined that, whatever difficulty may hereafter arise from the exercise of civil influences in your council, and whatever the consequences, the discredit thereof shall not attach to this new company, but the same shall be proved in any court to have discharged its duties to the uttermost in favour of the counties.

Determined on these points and although the spirit of my agreement with your council was that I should not have to make payments until 1866, I now offer to the counties through you a further practical

evidence of my good faith and conduct towards them and their interests.
Herewith I beg to enclose a cheque in your favour on "Bank of Upper Canada" for two thousand seven hundred and sixteen dollars and 50 cents, being equal to one fifteenth part or one annual instalment on the amount already paid to Government, under the 5 cents in the \$ act as per your statement of account, and in terms of my agreement.

Allow me to assure you that I did not expect to do this in 1863, and that it places this company under the severest strain.
In my opinion the counties would have done better for their own ultimate advantage had they allowed me to apply the money towards improving the road, which will require very large expenditures to enable it to earn as much as it should do.

However I keep my agreement as to "surplus".

The following is extracted from your account:—
1869 December 1 \$13067 25
1860 do 13705 85
1861 do 13978 79

\$40747 50
One fifteenth of which is \$2716 50. Receipt of this to the credit of this company, as per agreement, will much oblige.

Yours truly
JOHN G. RICHARDSON.

We are afraid that the peace rumours, which were so current last week, are too shadowy and imaginative to afford anything tangible on which to hang a hope, of a speedy solution of the difficulties between the Northern and Southern States. Mr. Blair's mission to Richmond appears to have resulted in a failure, and he has returned without any letter from President Davis, and without being able to give any other account, than that the Southern authorities are still determined on achieving national independence for the South.

The Northern forces, however, have been winning victories, and making conquests, which will, very materially, cripple the resources of the South, and may, if vigorously followed up, be the means of bringing rebellion to terms. The capture of Fort Fisher, after a second attack, is an important victory on the Northern side, and will weigh heavily in the Southern breast. Two sea-board strong-holds, Fort McAllister and Fort Fisher, have passed into the hands of the Northern military forces—the former capture leading to the occupation of the city of Savannah, the latter, probably, will terminate in the reduction of Wilmington.

But, all this time, General Lee continues to present a defiant front to General Grant; and, for days past, the Federal camp has been in dread of an attack. In Richmond the old spirit of defiance is still maintained; and, as for the slavery question and the barrier which it has so far opposed to European recognition, the die has already been cast, and negro slaves are now fighting for Southern independence and their own freedom. Thus has it come to pass once more that with regard to the negro the two belligerents are on a level. The North and the South alike have used the negro as a slave until the necessities of each have compelled them to turn to recognize him as a soldier and a man. The war threatens to sweep away every vestige of negro bondage from the land, and must entirely change the nature of society over the area of the Southern and border States. This result is now patent; the other result, the independence of the Southern States or the conquest of all the revolted territory by the Federal armies of the United States, is yet hid in the impenetrable future, and may be left to our lot without the aid of any spurious prophecy.

The tone of the British press, in commenting upon the recent order of General Dix, is very gratifying. We are not, after all, to be left to our own resources. The old spirit of the British heart is not yet too callous to be aroused by the blustering of such imprudent generals. The "Times", very forcibly, thunders the warning in their ears, that, if they make war upon Canada, they will have to feel the might of England's power. Though somewhat tardy in espousing its present sentiments, such a declaration, from the leading British organ, is of value, as showing the turn in the feelings of the English people, which has been excited by the arrogant attitude of the Northern States towards this colony. Though the Dix order has been recalled, the animus of the American people yet remains; and Secretary Seward of the State Department at Washington still seeks to annoy the people of this country, while the Senate and House of Representatives spitefully believe they have sealed the order of our bankruptcy by voting the abrogation of the Reciprocity treaty.

When enemies are thus showing their heads on our Southern border, it is well that their still stronger the national British sentiment that insult and injury to the people of a colony is most for resentment by the force of the Empire.

In the case of Benet G. Burley, tried before Recorder Duggan, of the city of Toronto, his honor, the Recorder, has given a lengthy judgment against the prisoner, and committed him to go to await the action of the Governor General, who alone is able to order the surrender of the prisoner. There can, now, be no doubt that he will be given up to the Federal authorities, and this decision, we think, will meet with satisfaction by the Canadian people.

All the proceedings which have taken place in parliament, since its meeting on the 19th instant, appear in our columns to-day. The speech is long and interesting; and will repay a perusal, as foreshadowing the legislation which may be expected during the coming session.

A despatch from Washington says the House has concurred in the resolution of the Senate to terminate the Reciprocity Treaty.

The remains of Mr. Dayton, the late American Minister to France, have been embalmed, and are to be sent to the United States.

It is a settled fact, that the U. S. Senate has decided to do away with the reciprocity treaty. How far it will affect Canada is matter of dispute in different quarters, and will not be fully known without a trial. The "Montreal Witness" says:—If Canada loses the Reciprocity Treaty there must, necessarily, be a great change in her system of farming. Oats and Barley are the chief staples of a large portion of Western Canada, and we may say of all Lower Canada. The chief market for these crops is the United States—from which, if they are shut out, the price must fall to what it was in olden times. Many Lower Canada farmers will remember oats at 10d. to 1s. per bushel, instead of 1s. 9d. to 2s., and that grain has been lately; and so with barley. Wheat and peas, which can be exported advantageously to Great Britain, will not be so much affected by the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty. In view of this great change hanging over us, and which is likely to come into operation about one year from this date, the farmers of Canada should be laying their plans for an altered system. If they find a profitable market, it should be more largely cultivated; and, above all, more attention should be turned to cattle and sheep husbandry. Butter, cheese, beef, wool, mutton, tallow, &c., should take a far higher place than they have yet done among our staple products; and it so happens that there are just the crops, not only to keep the land in good heart, but greatly to improve it. With proper attention to animals, also, much smaller farms will support families; so that we may have a much denser population, and schools and churches will, in consequence, be much more prosperous.

RESIGNATION OF THE HON. ISAAC BUCHANAN.—The Hamilton Spectator of Wednesday announces the resignation of the Hon. Isaac Buchanan of his seat in the Legislature as member for the city of Hamilton. It seems that Mr. McElroy, who was contesting Mr. Buchanan's election, consented to withdraw his protest, and that thereupon Mr. Buchanan sent his resignation to Quebec. It will be remembered that the hon. gentleman promised to retire as soon as the Hamilton relief bill had passed. The Spectator complains of Mr. Buchanan's conduct in taking this step without consulting his constituents, a step which will throw the city into the turmoil of an election during a session of Parliament.

Our readers will observe, by a card which appears in our advertising columns, that Mr. W. C. Lewis, who, for some years past, kept the Almonte House, with so much satisfaction to the travelling public, has removed to Perth, and rented the Glasgow Hotel, in that town, for a term of years. As a hotel keeper, Mr. Lewis is a general favorite with the public. He keeps the best of accommodations, and good food, and has the faculty of making his friends feel comfortable and at home, in his house.

Today for Feb. punctually to hand as usual, if possible, more attractive than ever. It opens with a beautiful design for a country residence. A handsome steel engraving entitled "Sabbath Eve"; depicting a peaceful family worship, in a cottage. The fashion plate is unusually brilliant. "St. Valentine's Day," a charming wood cut, reminds us that this day of merriment is fast approaching. It also contains many patterns for fancy work, and useful receipts for young housekeepers. The reading matter is entertaining and instructive. None of our fair readers should be without Godfrey.

A meeting of the Directors of the Ottawa and Prescott Railway Company, was held on Tuesday, when, K. Bell, Esq., M. P., having tendered his resignation as President of the Company, W. H. Reynolds, Esq., was elected President, resigning his office of Vice-President, which was filled by the election of C. J. Bridges, Esq., as Vice-President. Mr. Joseph Mooney, resigned his office of Secretary, and Treasurer, and Mr. B. Billings, was temporarily appointed to that office.

LOWER PROVINCE NEWS.—St. John, N. B., papers of the 12th inst., contradict the statement that Mr. Hathaway had withdrawn from the Cabinet. Halifax papers state that Mr. Palmer had retired from the Prime Minister's Cabinet, and J. C. Pope had taken the post of President of the Council, vacant by Colonel Gray's resignation. The return of Colonel Gray to the Cabinet was expected.

Glasgow is suffering from prevalence of typhus fever. The disease has extended so widely over the city that the local authorities are unable to provide accommodation for the sufferers in the ordinary institutions, and in consequence they have ordered the construction of a temporary fever hospital.

AMERICAN CONSULS TO RECEIVE U. S. CURRENCY FOR PASSPORTS.—Secretary Seward has issued a circular announcing that all consular officers in the provinces are authorized to receive U. S. currency in payment for passports, and directing, in any case any Consul has charged an excess over the prescribed price, that he refund the same.

The following appears in the Odessa Zeitung:—"Muller the murderer of Mr. Briggs was formerly in the Russian navy but was dismissed the service in consequence of robbing the captain of his ship of his watch."

It is said that owing to a falling off in the supply of rat skins in Paris this season there will probably be a rise in the price of "extra fine" kid gloves.

The remains of Mr. Dayton, the late American Minister to France, have been embalmed, and are to be sent to the United States.

THE VOLUNTEER FORCE.—A code of instructions has been issued for the guidance of officers connected with the Volunteer Force now on duty on the frontier. These instructions relate to the pay and allowances to the officers and men, rations, fuel, light, transport, medical attendance, &c. The paymaster is to advance a sufficient sum weekly to each officer in command of a company for the pay of the non-commissioned officers and men, who are to be paid twice a week—namely, on Monday and Thursday. The ration of a volunteer is stated as follows: Bread, one pound; fresh meat, one pound; butter, two ounces; coffee, one third of an ounce; tea, one sixth of an ounce; sugar, two ounces; rice, two ounces; milk, one pint; potatoes, two pounds; per man, per day. The contractor for groceries will be allowed to charge 2 cents per man per diem for supplying bread, salt, pepper, and a sufficiency of vegetables (to the satisfaction of the commanding officer) for making soup. The rations must be examined by the orderly officer every morning, and if they are not according to contract, they are to be condemned by a board of officers. An allowance of oat feed will be issued as follows:—For each store actually and necessarily used in barracks rooms, 5 rations or inches per day; for each store actually and necessarily used in guard rooms, 7 rations or inches per day; fuel for cooking purposes will be issued in such quantities as may be found actually necessary by the commanding officer on the spot. Ninety six rations or inches of fuel are equal to one cord of wood. One coal oil lamp, will be allowed for every ten men. The allowance of oil is left to the commanding officer. "When a volunteer is in hospital or under charge of a local practitioner, his pay and allowances will be charged for in the pay list, in the ordinary way: the pay will be issued to himself in the usual manner, and the "allowances" will be handed over to the hospital authorities for his subsistence and medical comforts, excepting medicines, which will be furnished by the medical officer and charged to the Government in a separate account."

We mentioned last week that the person who threw a stone through the cars, one night last fall, has been arrested and is now in jail in Perth. The "Smith's Weekly Review" says, that his name is J. McElroy, and the circumstances connected with the felony, and its discovery are as follows:—McElroy, accompanied by a companion named John Murray, was proceeding from the village of Perth, when he saw the train approaching, placed a stone on the rail, which however, was kicked off by Murray, who at the same time cautioned his companion about the enormity of the crime intended to commit. As the train came up McElroy caught up a stone and dashed it through the window. After reaching the place where he was employed—a shanty on a new farm belonging to Mr. D. Terney—he commenced telling in a spirit of bragadoecia what he had done. The shanty was kept by Daniel Alexander, a person known in this village, and he, stimulated by the prospect of the reward, doubting as he seems to have been on very tardy in the matter—lodged an information with A. McDougall, Esq. A warrant for McElroy's apprehension was immediately issued, and on Saturday last he was arrested by constable Gilroy. At the trial evidence was clear, that Mr. McDougall, who had been committed him for trial at the Quarter Sessions of the Court of Queen's Bench.

THE BALLOT.
The following are the names of those drafted in the County of Renfrew which were omitted in the last year:

RENFREW VILLAGE.
William Mills, Robert McLean, Joseph Hazelton, Carl Crear, E. Cameron, Peter Gammon, John Wright, William Pennington, G. Lowland, E. Sullivan, Thomas Sullivan, Peter Stewart, John McGee, W. Hazelton, James Cook, David Murphy, Andrew French, Urban, H. Leggett, Thomas McDougall, John French, Robert McKay, Robert Carwell, J. McWilliam, James Arch, A. Muro, Alfred Plant.

ANPRIOR VILLAGE.
A. Welsh, Thomas Ford, William Russell, A. Russell, Edward Edry, John O'Connor, Thomas Foster, Hayhurst, W. H. Lang, W. Thompson, Thomas Knoch, James Minnie, Thomas Burnett, Augustus Croor, Thomas Leitch, Alcock Jack, J. Leonard, John McGuire, Francis Bushby, Mack Mary, James Jenkins, Peter McNaigh, Patrick McGonigal, John Oakes, John Terney, Patrick Cunningham.

RALPH TOWNSHIP.
James Colton, Hugh Fitzpatrick, Wm. McConnell, John John McCormack, P. O'Brien, James McConnell, John McCarty, P. O'Brien.

WILLIE TOWNSHIP.
James LaRoche, John Smith, McCarty.

Jan. 21st 1864.
The annual meeting of the North Riding of Lanark county agricultural society, was this day held in the Town Hall, Ramsey.

Lawrence Naimish, Esq., President in the chair.

Proceedings of the past year were read, and also accounts from the Board of Agriculture and other county societies.

Reports of all the Branch societies were presented.

The Treasurer's account, as audited, correctness certified by the auditors, was adopted.

Mr. Robt. Young, moved, seconded by Mr. Jas. Black.

That Lawrence Naimish, Esq., be President.

Mr. Robt. McFarlane, moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. John Steel, that John Baird, Esq., be President.

The use of members of the society 126 copies of the Canada Farmer and 50 copies of the Albany Cultivator and Register of Rural Affairs—carried.

Moved by Mr. James Black seconded by Mr. R. McFarlane, That James Johnson, Esq., London, F. W. Stone, Esq., Guelph, Richmond, Gananoque, and Wm Ferguson, Esq., M. P. Frontenac, be the members nominated by this society to fill up the vacancies in the Board of Agriculture for the ensuing year—carried.

After some other discussions the meeting broke up.

DAVID CAMPBELL,
Sec. and Treas. N. L. A. S.

To the Editor of the C. P. Herald.
DEAR HERALD,—To the West, to the West, was my mental exclamation one very stormy morning not long ago, when I took my seat in the B. & O. Railway train, as it stopped for a few minutes at old Carleton Place. Toot, toot went the whistle, round went the wheels, and we were off, gliding smoothly over the splendid track of our road. The great depth of snow which had fallen during the night, scarcely seemed to be any obstruction to the mighty "Mississippi" as she plunged through the night, dragging the heavy train behind. At the entering village of Franktown, however, we were subjected to a stoppage of more than half an hour, caused by the non-arrival of the train. So we sat and tiddled our thumbs and looked out on the dreary scene; hop-poles railing their small heads through the snow, and piles of cordwood, which were becoming shapely mounds of white. But we started again leaving Franktown and all its pleasures behind, Smith's Falls, Irish Creek, Bellamy's, euphonious names these. Who was the driver? Who was the Irishman? Who was Bellamy? Well, never mind, we may find out some day. Brockville was reached at last, and the welcome shelter of the Willson House, where the store in the office sent forth a rush of hot air which soon thawed our chilled toes and fingers. Finding that the Grand Trunk trains were all in confusion on account of the previous night's snow storm, I resolved to make myself as comfortable as circumstances would permit, and enjoining myself in an arm chair near the stove, above mentioned, I was soon deep in the pros and cons of a quarrel between the Recorder and Monitor. Will your Editorship please to explain how it is that County-down newspapers invariably get up such miserable dirty little squabbles with one another. How is it that the Blankville Sun threatens to scorch to annihilation the ditto Reporter, because the latter gentleman has dared to oppose the election of that highly respected minister, Patrick Muldoon, Esq., to the responsible office of winding up the town clock? There is a mystery in it at least to my unprofessional mind. If the aforesaid Mr. Muldoon had agreed to pay a certain per cent of his salary to the Sun, or his competitor, Timothy Muggins had entered into a similar contract with the Reporter, there might be some cause for calling each other "scoundrel scribblers" in defence of their favorites; but I hardly think this is probable. Perhaps, as Carleton Place never was a County Town, you are unable thoroughly to enter into the finer feelings which actuated your more civilized confreres in these contentions. Where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise.

Brockville seems to be highly favoured in the article of young swell, gentlemen at large without any money. I took an observation of a considerable number of specimens of this genus, and from my corner studied their characteristic points. According to their own declaration, they were a very Yankee twang, their principal occupation appears to be "kind o' loafin' round"; to which may be added, consuming cock tails, whenever they can run their intelligent countenances for a drink, and expatiating on the glorious qualities of the Brockville Fire Engine if they happen to observe a modest stranger from the rural districts, (e.g., your humble correspondent) betraying any symptoms of listening to their remarks. I do believe they think the sun might rise by Brockville time.

Another assemblage of youths in the Hotel, also, attracted my attention. They were a very jolly lot, and from some mysterious allusions to "Billy", which I overheard, I have an idea that they were Queen's College students, on their way home to enjoy the Christmas Holidays. One of them, a tall youth of about 16, had got hold of a cigar, his first to just, in mode of holding the article. I watched him for a long time, and it was a most amusing scene. The look of disgust which would force its way into his countenance after a few whiffs, and the marked contrast of the awkward appearance of sublime enjoyment which he assumed, when any of his companions turned to see how he was getting on, proved almost too much for my visibilities. I had a good mind to offer him my own "good old brier", but I was afraid that he would look upon a pipe as a vulgar thing never countenanced by a gentleman, at least when it was in his power to obtain the genuine article. Unhappy soul! I was afraid that his stomach paid for his devotion to a vegetable diet.

About two o'clock in the morning the bus came around to the door, and took me up to the depot, where I had the satisfaction of learning that the train had not, at that time, reached Cornwall, and that it would not be up for a couple of hours. The interval I passed by the glowing stove, listening to various anecdotes of the famous Wilson Leucates, related by a funny fellow, who had belonged to that remarkable corps. They sang "The Longest Lane has a Turning", and I suppose it's quite true. Anyhow, the train did arrive at about half-past four. On entering the car I found about a dozen passengers stretched on the seats in all manner of elegant attitudes, and in all degrees of sleep, from wide awake to snoring. One lengthy individual, something less than seven feet, had shut himself up like a jack rabbit and was lying on a seat with his knees in very close proximity to the roof of the car. Two or three had given up all attempts at sleep, and sitting by the stove maintained a disjointed conversation, the chief statement in which appeared to be that it was a "plucky old night", and it was. The stove was getting almost red hot, and any attempt at warming a person's toes, generally resulted in scorching the knees of his unfortunates, while, at the same time, the temperature of his dorsal region was anything but "Fever Heat." To add to our discomforts, the engine wouldn't work as it ought, and insisted on coming to a dead stop every two or three miles. Nevertheless we managed to crawl slowly along, past hills, and rocks, and telegraph posts, till shortly after daylight we arrived at Kingston, where the passengers made a rush for the refreshment room, in the hope that a hot breakfast was awaiting them—Vain hope! There was nothing on the table but table-cloths. I approached a mild looking individual, who, with a coat-tail under each arm, was warning his back at the stove, and ventured to hint that something to eat wouldn't be bad to take. "Crackum in the bar," was the gracious answer. On proceeding to the bar, I enquired for these articles of food, which I celebrated philosopher once defined to be "something analogous to biscuits." The young man behind the counter brought forth the whole stock. Three! I took them

with a sigh—for I thought he might need them himself—he looked very thin and hungry. Being of a generous disposition I shared the plunder with my neighbours, and silenced my appetite with visions of "hot vittles" at Cobourg. Slowly proceeded through village and town, stopping at stations, or anywhere else, as the iron horse took the inclination; rattling over the horrible Grand Trunk track, till every bone in my body ached, and I began to repent that I had not insured my teeth before starting. I have driven over some pretty fair specimens of ordure, but the G. T. R. is a long way ahead.

At Belleville we got rid of our pervers locomotive and obtained one which was more under control. The train was due at Cobourg about 9 o'clock, but ten, eleven, twelve, passed and still no Cobourg. At last, about 2 P. M., we approached the station and rushed to the refreshment room. Sausages, Mutton chops, Beefsteak, Chickens, Toast, Coffee, &c., &c., soon found a living tomb, and we arose like giants refreshed, we didn't pause to inquire whether the sausages were pork or puppy, or to make any minute investigation into the actual composition of the "veal pie." A very nice thing is real pie, when you know the lady who made it, "was Sam Weller's opinion. But we knew not the lady that made it, and we were too hungry to care. I don't grudge the man all that he made out of me that morning.

At Cobourg, moreover, we were favoured by the interruption of several almost famous institutions, Victoria College, of whom were, I think, the drunkest men I ever saw able to stagger. Had they been connected with that "Godless College" designated the University of Toronto, I could have underlined the matter at Victoria, "Old Vic," it was beyond my comprehension.

In due time, that is six hours after time, we reached Toronto where, securing the services of a cabman, I was soon engaged in the pleasant occupation of shaking hands with old friends, and indulging in remembrance of the days of "Auld lang Syne." The undiluted enjoyment there is in a good hearty squeeze of a friendly hand. For my part, I believe far more in the mode of shaking hands, as an index of character than in Physiognomy, or Phenology, either. Let anyone take notice of the way in which the next dozen acquaintances shake hands, and I think he will become a convert to my doctrine.

The Torontonians were enjoying splendid sleighing when I reached the city, and King street, about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, presented a brilliant spectacle, splendid turns, cuts, jacked up and down the roadway, while the sidewalks were crowded with gorgeously dressed swells, and beautiful ladies. Of the latter class, for which Toronto has long been famous, I can, however say very little for I am sorry to say, their beauty was under a cloud. I must bid you adieu in the meantime, but I hope soon to give you an account of things in the rural districts to the west of the city to which I paid a short visit.

Yours, ever,
C. P.

Minutes of Pakenham Council.
Tuesday, Dec. 15th, 1864.

The council met at Ten o'clock. There were present the Reeve and Messrs. Hilliard and Forsythe.

The minutes of last session were read, approved, and signed by the Reeve.

Mr. Hilliard moved, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, That the first standing Rule be suspended for the present, in order to allow the tenders for Russell's bridge to be received and opened. Carried.

Mr. Hilliard moved, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, That the tender of William Whalen, for building the bridge on Russell's gully, be accepted, it being the lowest. Carried.

Petition of Gregor McGregor, praying for payment for a railing on the Broad Brook bridge, was read.

The council now adjourned until half past one o'clock.

Pursuant to adjournment, the council met, and there were present, the Reeve and Messrs. Hilliard, Burrows and Forsythe.

Petition of Samuel Dickson, Esq., and others, praying for some assistance for Wm. Bailey, was read.

Mr. Hilliard moved, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, That the sum of fifteen dollars be granted to assist in the erection of a bridge, petitioned for by Francis Cockburn and others. Carried.

Mr. Burrows moved, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, That in reply to the petition of John O'Neill and others, that the council arrange to procure materials for the culvert, and posts for a bridge across the gully opposite the parsonage, and that it will be let by tender at the proper season. Carried.

Mr. Forsythe moved, seconded by Mr. Hilliard, Ordered, That the sum of ten dollars be placed in the hands of James Connery, to be by him expended on the rail of the White Lake brook, being bedfast and truly indigenous. Carried.

Mr. Burrows moved, seconded by Mr. Hilliard, Ordered, That the account of Mr. William Forsythe, for plank for the 5th line bridge be paid. Carried.

Mr. Hilliard moved, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, That the thanks of this council are due and are hereby tendered to York St. Scott, Esq., for the efficient manner in which he has presided over this council. Carried unanimously.

The council was now adjourned by the Reeve, sine die.

JAMES CONNERY,
Town Clerk.

A bill has been introduced into the