AT

AUCTION PRICES.

Bargains in Books,

Bargains in Stationery,

Bargains in Wall Paper,

Bargains in Vases,

Bargains in Pictures

Bargains in Silver Ware,

Bargains in Fancy Goods,

Bargains in Every Department

FOR CASH.

☞ *This Sale will continue until further notice*

AT

Moorhouse's.

Goderich, Oct. 3rd, 1877.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, NOV. 28, 1877.

Salt Protection.

We have noticed that a correspondent of the Montreal *Gazette* speaks very strongly and lengthily respecting the condition of the salt trade here, blaming the Government for not protecting the interest, and declaring in terms that their failure to do so is the cause of so many wells being closed here at the present time. The writer hits very wide of the mark, and apparently talks for political effect. A casual glance at the character of the interest and its relation to the other interests will show the lack of wisdom in his statement.

Every one knows how recklessly our capitalists speculated in salt, after its discovery, and how this spirit induced excessive competition, over stocking and and the natural results of such a succession of events. Had there been free access into the United States, there would have been a hope for the now tenantless blocks, but Canada is far too small a field for all the blocks now in existence. It is true that American salt is brought into Canada, but in comparatively small quantities. If it was desired to place a duty on American salt to what extent should we tax it to keep it out altogether. They have much cheaper modes of manufacturing it than we have adopted, except in the case of Ogilvies & Hutchison, and even if a reciprocal tariff was imposed we believe they could make sales still if the manufacturers did succeed in raising the price 20 cents on the barrel. But to what extent would they be benefitted if this salt was kept out? Only a few of the blocks would be started again, and the competition which would begin would soon make prices as low as ever. We believe, too, that a good deal of the American salt brought here is by vessels which take back barley and other Canadian products, and the farmers are benefitted doubly, getting cheap salt, and by means of this interchange the American purchaser is enabled to pay more for his barley.

If this correspondent's idea was carried out and a duty imposed on American salt, would he not go farther and place a duty on English salt as well. Doubtless he wishes to have this salt excluded also. If it were reasonable we would like to see our Canadian salt producers in possession of the trade in the Maratime Provinces, but it is unreasonable to expect it. It would be foolish to discriminate against American manufacturers, and it would be unreasonable to impose such duties on English salt as would shut it out of Canada. We have referred to this latter subject before, but it is necessary to repeat our arguments. The English salt is used by the fishermen along the sea cost, and is brought out as ballast and costs the fishermen a very small amount. These vessels carry back cured fish, and the business is thus carried on very cheaply If these fishermen were forced to get their salt from Goderich and pay regular freight rates and possibly increased figures, their business would be injuriously affected. We could not trade with them as do the Englishmen, for England is one of the principal markets for their fish and the proportion which comes here is small in comparison. It is further to be considered that our fuel supply is getting scarce, and our manufacturers are using coal to a considerable extent. Should salt be protected, the coal miners of Nova Scotia will demand protection, and if the granting of their request would be very unfortunate for Ontario.

The *Gazette* correspondent may hold his peace, for he can make nothing out of the silent, empty salt blocks of Goderich, to condemn the policy of the Government.

The Dunkin Act.

As the County Council will soon meet, and the anticipation finds expression that the request to that body to submit the Dunkin Act to the vote of the people will be repeated, we hasten to make some suggestions to our temperance friends. When the question was brought up last year the main objection to the measure was the five gallon clause, and later information on this point proves that this is a weak point in the Act, and one which, in the County of Grey if we are to believe the reports from there, is very injurious to its good reputation. The statement, however, is to be accepted at a considerable discount, although the fact may yet be developed, if left unguarded by future legislation, into a fatal defect. Many professing friends of prohibition have witheld their support from the Dunkin Act on this point, and to doubly ensure its success this obnoxious clause should be amended. E. King Dodds, the anti-Dunkin champion, alludes to the measure as one which "throws away the glass and elevates the demijohn," and although we do not expect that he would become a supporter of the act if the clause was altered—for he is a pronounced anti-prohibitionist — yet it would rob him of his chief argument. At the next session of Parliament it has been promised that such steps will be taken as will obviate this difficulty in the way of the successful operation of the measure. When this has been done the temperance men may go more hopefully to the people to solicit their verdict, and we feel more than sure that the County will say "yes," by a large majority.

In the meantime much can be done to prepare the people for the contest. Such men as Rine and Murphy assist very materially in preparing the people for temperance legislation, even if they do go no further than getting men to pledge themselves to lead temperate lives. If one or other of these men was induced to spend a few weeks in the County this winter he might do a great deal of good. We believe that Mr. Rine is to visit London shortly, and then will be our opportunity. If he were to simply lecture his week in the towns, and spend a few nights in each, the campaign could be continued successfully by local advocates.

Whatever else may be done, however, let the Executive Committee of the Huron Prohibitory Association refrain from pressing the measure on the people until the obnoxious "five gallon clause" is amended, and success will be more certain when the vote is taken.

THE *Mail* is very desirous that Mr. Blake should take a seat on the Bench, and is solicitous that he should succeed the late Chief Justice Draper. It even flatters Mr. Blake and tells him that he would honor the Bench. A very different opinion was expressed by this journal when the executive clemency was exercised in the case of murderers sentenced to be hung not long ago. For his action in these cases, Mr. Blake was characterized as everything base and dishonorable, and remembering this the public may reasonably enquire: "Why this altered tone?" It is only a Pooh-sniffianism, too thinly covered, however, to deceive. The *Mail* would much like to have Mr. Blake retire from the Government, and if he did so it would at that moment rail at him for taking a position of emolument. By its present utterances the *Mail* is giving the lie to its many false and shameful libades against Mr. Blake in the past.

SIR JOHN prates a great deal about his having left the office of Premier as poor as when he first succeeded to it. He lived luxuriously enough while in power, and it is quite possible that whilst possessing the "loaves and fishes" he thought of future trouble. He at least secured a nest egg from the Secret Service Fund, and cast bread upon the waters which is returning now in various ways. If what he says is true, it is strange that a man in his position can afford to run around the country so much after political affairs, to the injury of his business. It looks as though his business was politics, and that he has come down to the level of the "carpet-bagger."

THE contest in Quebec Centre takes place, to-day, and Mr. Laurier has excellent hopes of being successful. An opposition, almost as bitter as that in Arthabaska, has been incited against him in the present contest, though not with such influence, and members of the ministry are fighting hard in the opposition. It has been found necessary to caution working men against accepting a few days' work about election day, as some agents of the Conservative Government of Quebec are suspected of offering work to certain voters to get them out of the way for election day.

THE *Canadian Granger*, an independent organ, speaking of the recent meeting of manufacturers in Toronto, says that the sum and substance of the manufacturers' cry is:—"You farmers (⅞ of the community) for whom we manufacture, and on whom we depend for the sale of our products, do not pay us enough; we must shut you out of any market but our own, by getting the Government to put such a tariff upon foreign importations that you will be compelled to buy from us at our own rates."

IT is stated that the Dominion Parliament will assemble for despatch of business on 20th January next.

Town Council.

Council met on Friday evening, the Mayor in the chair, and present the first and second Deputy Reeves and Councillors, Seymour, Dancy, Bingham, McKay, Sloan, Savage, T. Johnston and Hutcheson.

Communication from a committee of the Napanee Council, requesting replies to questions regarding the separation of town from county.

Communication from city council of Toronto with petition for council to sign asking the government to abolish the exemptions from taxation, and let all property and individuals contribute towards the taxes. On motion of Mr. Sloan seconded by Mr. McKay the Mayor was authorized to sign said petition on behalf of the council.

Communication from the secretary of the Goderich Curling Club, explaining the position of the Club with regard to the holding of the drill shed. It seems that in 1872 the club applied to the council for the use of the shed in winter so long as it was not required for military purposes, and the council then granted the request and could not now honorably ask the club to give up possession without a notice of six months. After a good deal of wrangling by several members of council, Mr. Seymour gave notice that at the next meeting he would move to rescind the resolution of 1872, giving the Curling Club possession of the drill shed.

Report of Public Works Committee recommending that $20.83 be paid in full of extras on drill shed extension; that the sidewalk on North side of Colborne St. should be graded. Report adopted.

Report of Relief Committee that application has been made for relief to Mrs. Ann Splan, an old resident of the town, and nearly one hundred years of age, and they recommended $1 a week be granted for a few weeks. Mr. Savage moved, seconded by Mr. McKay that no action be taken in the matter. Mr. Savage said he would not grant relief to one that had $225 of her own, it was time enough to apply to the town for relief when her own funds were spent. Messrs. Sloan and Bingham explained her position and said that if the relief is granted it must only be continued for a few weeks at most with a special view to getting her into a respectable boarding house. Report was withdrawn.

Report of Fire Committee that the tower and building for fire engine is nearly completed, that the matter of purchase of a bell be laid over to next season, that some means be adopted to have a separate entrance to the lock-up instead of passing through the engine room, or that a new one be built. Mr. Savage thought a new lock-up could be built at the back of the present one. Mr. McKay would not spend a dollar more on the old building as it was tottering now, he would fix up a lock-up in the old market house. Mr. Seymour moved, seconded by Mr. McKay that an entrance be opened at the back of the building into the present lock-up. Carried.

Communication from Mr. G. C. Robertson that he received notice to brick up the frame addition to his store, and that as the season is now late he cannot do the work but will attend to it in the spring. Received and filed.

Communication from Mr. A. Cantelon claiming $12 rent not paid him by Mrs. Ellen Scallion, a pauper. Mr. Bingham moved, seconded by Mr. Sloan that the amount be paid. Carried.

Communication from Mary McKay asking for remission of taxes. Granted.

Petition from a number of citizens asking that relief be granted to widow Catherine Paterson. Referred to Relief Committee.

Report of Finance Committee recommending payment of sundry accounts. Adopted.

Report of Special Committee as to the petition of Messrs. Secord, Cozzens & Co that the petition of said firm is too indefinite, that council had better wait till said firm have secured a site for the proposed mill and can give more definite particulars as to its size and the number of hands they will employ. Adopted.

Report of Street Inspector that the works ordered by council are completed, that the water supply is now good since the connection of the tank at the head of East St. with the one at Knox church, recommending the connection of the tank at the head of West St. with the one at the head of East St., that shutters have been put on the drill shed windows at a cost of about $1 each, that the length of branch drains built this season is 1170½ feet along which there is 39 gratings, that the water taken of these drains and gratings would be secured if people living near by would keep such gratings clear. Adopted.

Communication from Mr. Geo. McKenzie offering $300 for one of the hand engines. Mr. McKay would let the engine go. Mr. Seymour thought it should be fixed and kept in case of need. He stated that Mr. Robinson would take charge of the engine and take it out in case of fire, if the town would fix it up and put 200 feet of the old leather hose and the old reel with it. On motion it was referred to the Fire Committee.

The accounts of Messrs Buchanan, Lawson & Robinson for lumber, $76.01; and Messrs. Williams & Murry, lumber, $192.32 were sent to Finance.

The account of J. Wilson for shade trees planted three years, $6, was referred to the Street Inspector.

The by-law for appointing officers for municipal elections and places where elections will be held passed the various stages, and the Council adjourned to the third Friday in December.

Legal Notes.

AGAIN.—Michael B. Markey, the notorious, of Seaforth, was committed to jail last week for 21 days, having assaulted his mother.

DISCHARGED.—John Sullivan, the alleged Exeter lunatic, appeared before Judge Toms on Monday, and was discharged. The Judge held that the evidence of Boyle, prisoner's supposed accomplice, was unreliable, and that there was not satisfactory corroborative evidence, either circumstantial, or that of reliable witnesses, to prove the prisoner's guilt. Sullivan, though claiming to be innocent, from his peculiar position expected to be sent to Kingston, and was therefore much delighted at getting clear.

CLINTON.

TEMPERANCE HALL—The members of the United Temperance Order, of this place, contemplate the erection of a hall for their convenience.

GRAIN SHIPMENT.—Just at present considerable activity is noticed in the shipment of grain from the storehouses on the G. T. R., in this town. Among the shipments are 20 car loads (8,000 bushels) for Liverpool.

FAT CATTLE FAIR.—A fat cattle show, under the auspices of the Hullett Branch Agricultural Society, will be held in this town, on Tuesday, the 18th Dec. next, when a number of good prizes will be offered.

FRATERNAL VISIT.—On Tuesday evening, (15th) the members of the Clinton Lodge I. O. O. F. paid a visit to their brethren at Goderich. After attending lodge meeting they were entertained at an oyster supper. It is needless to say they enjoyed themselves well.—*New Era.*

Canadian News.

The Welland railway station was destroyed by fire on Saturday morning.

A society of fools, with the motto "Never refuse a drink," has been formed at Kingston.

The schooner Celia Jeffery of St. Catharines, sank on Friday night in Lake Erie. The crew were saved.

The commission of enquiry into the July teachers' examination frauds was formally closed on Saturday morning.

Burglars broke into the jewellery store of Mr. Nicholas Armour, at Georgetown, on Saturday night, and carried off articles worth $1,500.

The *Gazette* of Saturday contains the Order-in-Council amnestying Professor O'Donoghue. The conditions are the same as those on which Riel and Lepine were pardoned.

Charles Aylesworth, mail driver between Picton and Kingston, has been arrested on a charge of stealing registered letters.

James Smith, a tailor, violently insane, who was being treated at the Guelph hospital, nearly murdered John Hyde, the steward, on Saturday morning.

Malcolm Cure of Puslinch, went to church last Sunday, came home, and while unhitching his horse dropped dead. He was nearly eighty years old.

The Ontario Legislature will be called for the despatch of business on Wednesday, the 9th January, two days after the municipal elections, which this year fall on the 7th of the month.

The decision of the Fishery Commissioners was given on Friday afternoon, awarding Great Britain five and a half million dollars— Judge Kellogg, the United States Commissioner, dissenting. Practically the commission has effected nothing.

Captain Anderson, of the Quebec, received from the residents of P. A. Landing, before leaving the Landing on his last voyage, $100 in gold, as a token of their respect and esteem; for which token of appreciation Capt. A returned them cordial thanks.

An old soldier named Hart was recently sentenced to seven years' imprisonment for rape on a girl in Montreal under fifteen. It now appears the girl is and was a notorious character, and has herself been sent to gaol for three months for disorderly conduct on the street in the small hours of the morning.

A portion of the wall of a large three-story stone building, on Macdonel street, Guelph, being an addition to J. D. Williamson & Co.'s large dry goods store, gave way, on Saturday morning, deluging the street with an avalanche of stone, mortar, timber, etc. Three men who were working in the building at the time fortunately escaped unhurt. The loss is about $600.

A man named Jonas Clink, living near the village of Stoney Creek, is afflicted with a painful stoppage in his speech. There are those who take a delight in teasing him, goading him sometimes almost to madness by their cowardly remarks. The other evening two strong, hearty men, named James Anderson and Phineas Glover, commenced one of these insulting attacks for the amusement of a grinning crowd who had gathered round. Mr. Clink lost his temper and defended himself with a few hot words, and Anderson and Glover thought this sufficient excuse to attack him violently and give him a severe beating. The persecuted man immediately got out a warrant for their arrest and they were brought before Mr. Cahill and fined $7 and costs and severely reprimanded.

—Wm. Pethick, of Walton, aged 20, died at Mitchell a few days ago. He had contracted a fever after working a few weeks in the Michigan lumber woods, and was returning home, when he took very ill at Stratford station. He remained in the waiting room, until the night watchman put him out, and while making his way up town fell and rolled under the sidewalk where he remained all night, too weak to move. In the morning he was found, placed on the cars and taken to his brother's residence in Mitchell where he died. His funeral was largely attended by the Orangemen of Walton,—where he was buried—Brussels and vicinity.

SENSIBLE ADVICE.—You are asked every day through the columns of newspapers and by your druggist to use something for your Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint that you know nothing about you get discouraged spending money with but little success. Now to give you satisfactory proof that GREEN'S AUGUST FLOWER will cure you of Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint with all its effects, such as sour stomach, Sick Headache, Habitual Costiveness, palpitation of the Heart, Heart-burn, Water-brash, Fullness at the pit of the Stomach, Yellow Skin, Coated Tongue, Indigestion, swimming of the head, low spirits, &c., we ask you to go to your Druggist and get a sample bottle of GREEN'S AUGUST FLOWER for 10 cents and try it, or a regular size for 75 cents. Two doses will relieve you. 1599

Local News.

ABOUT TOWN.

WRAPPING PAPER reduced to 2½c per lb. by single ream. All weights and sizes in stock. In 10 ream lots, 2¼c per lb.—at Moorhouse's Cheap Book and Stationery Store.

TABLEAUX AND PANTOMIMES.—Remember that the pantomime of Cinderella and Bluebeard will be repeated at Oddfellows' Hall on Thursday evening, and several new and pleasing tableaux will be presented.

THE young man that was around with the basket looking for ears and noses, after the great auction battle on Saturday last, didn't find any; and it wasn't a draw game either. J. C. CURRIE, Auctioneer.

AUCTION SALE.—On Thursday Mr. G. M. Trueman, by instructions from Thos. and Henry Johnston, lot 14, con. 2, Goderich Township, will sell a valuable lot of stock, implements, &c., besides 40 acres of land, being south half of above lot.

THE JOKES of the great political orators at their great pic-nics won't phiz on those I have ready for the great sale at my auction mart on Saturday next, and I have a carpet bag full of them and a monster stock. J. C. CURRIE, Auctioneer.

CAUTION.—Some parties of late have been guilty of tearing down sale bills put up by J. C. Currie, auctioneer. Such acts are severely punishable, and Mr. Currie gives warning that he will make trouble for any one whom he finds doing so.

HARBOR MILLS.—The shipments last week were 3110 bags and 20 bbls flour, 4 cars bran and one cars horts. The receipts of American grain were 16,000 bushels by the Mary Collins and 16,000 by the Argyle. The barge Muskoka is on the way with 22,000 bushels.

LAUGH and grow fat and save money by attending my great auction sale on Saturday next. No loud or idle talk, but solid business. J. C. CURRIE, Auctioneer.

LUMBER.—The shipments for the past week were 22 cars by Secord, Cozzens & Co., 5 by Williams & Murrry and six cars by Yates & Stratford. The former firm received 185,000 ft lumber by schr. Tecumseh, and Williams & Murray received a lot of shingles.

SERENADING.—On Thanksgiving day the Silver Cornet Band serenaded several citizens of the town, and desire to express their thanks to Mr. M. Hutchison for his hospitality, and to Messrs. Horace Horton, C. Crabb, D. Gordon and R. C. Kirkpatrick for liberal donations to the band funds.

CHRISTMAS FAT CATTLE SHOW.—Arrangements are being made for the holding of a show of fat cattle, sheep, poultry, &c., in town, under the auspices of the West Riding Agricultural Society. The directors will fix upon date, prize list and arrangements in a few days. It is the intention to offer vary liberal prizes, as the society has a large amount of funds on hand.

SCRIBNER AND ST. NICHOLAS,—These magazines are daily gaining in popularity throughout America and England, and very deservedly too. The most distinguished writers of the day contribute to them, and the illustrations are very superior making the various issues fine specimens of illustrative art. Scribner is a magazine of superior tone, spicy and instructive, and managed by that fine novelist, J. S. Holland. In the last few issues the magazine has highly commended itself to Canadians by the series of well-written and properly illustrated articles on Canadian sports by Dr. W. George Beers, of Montreal; illustrations by Henry Sandham of the same city. St. Nicholas is essentially a juvenile magazine, and has no superior in the world. Under the editorial management of Mary Mapes Dodge it has attained great popularity. No more acceptable holiday gift could be made to adult or juvenile friends than a subscription to one of these magazines. We are favored with especial rates, and persons wishing to subscribe should call on us.

TELEPHONIC. — On Friday evening last a very pleasant "telephonic social" was held at the Montreal Telegraph office, attended by a small party of ladies and gentlemen. The apparatus worked exceedingly well after the first hour, and as a similar party had assembled in Stratford to converse with those in attendance here, the affair proved very interesting. Several songs were sung at Stratford by Miss Fraser and others, the most of which were distinctly heard, and those sung here by the Misses Trainor and Mr. J. G. Sheriff were clearly audible in the Stratford office. Two telephones were used at this end of the wire, and conversation was carried on very successfully. Compliments were expressed by the distant auditors to the singers here, and Miss Fraser was warmly thanked in reply and asked to join the party here at supper, but declined for certain good reasons. At the close of the test, the party, by invitation of Mr. W. P. Rogers, of the *Star*, partook of a substantial supper at the Albion. The evening's enjoyment was concluded with dancing, and the party broke up at a seasonable hour, after thanking Mr. Rogers for his hospitality as well as Mr. Armstrong for the telephonic treat.

THANKSGIVING SUPPER.—The supper given by the Ladies' Aid Society of North Street Methodist church on Thanksgiving evening, was well patronized. An excellent repast, served in the class rooms, was provided, turkey and pumpkin pie taking a conspicuous position in the array of good things. The ladies were very attentive, and aided the guests to do ample justice to the feast. At about 8 o'clock a small audience assembled in the body of the church—the attractions at the Temperance Hall having drawn a large number away after supper—where a very pleasing programme was gone through, J. Detlor, Esq., was called to the chair, and made a few appropriate and eloquent remarks. Rev. Messrs. Treleaven of Bayfield and Caswell of Dungannon, who had been expected, failed to attend, but the time was entertainingly filled up by Rev. Messrs. Preston and Wallis. The former, in his address, alluded in amusing terms to the receipt of a formidable legal document from the town solicitor, touching the erection of a frame, $30 wood-shed, threatening to demolish the "magnificent structure" if it was not enclosed in brick or otherwise protected according to the Fire Limits By-law. A conciliatory note had been sent in reply, asking the Council to wait until spring, when something would be done. A select choir under the direction of Mr. James Thomson furnished excellent music during the evening, the selections from the Cantata of Esther being very well rendered. The solos sung by Miss Preston, Miss A. Smith, Miss E. Thomson and Miss Jamieson were very pretty. The former has a beautiful, well controlled voice of considerable compass, and sings with excellent taste. Miss Smith, who was doing double duty that evening, acquitted herself admirably. Miss Barnes presided at the organ, which statement is sufficient to indicate that the accompaniments were well played. A not uninteresting feature of the programme was the reading of the Society's first report, by Mr. W. J. Gordon. The object of the society is principally to aid in church improvements, and the tasks they have undertaken have been well performed. The report showed the receipts from subscriptions, socials, bazaars, &c., to have been $884.51; expenses for improvements to parsonage, furnishing, &c., $884.47. Besides this a verandah had been erected in front of the parsonage at a cost of $73 and a small account of $2.10 was also held against the society, which had on hand as assets about $20 worth of bazaar goods. Much pleasure was expressed at the excellent showing of this report. The entertainment was brought to a close at an early hour. In conclusion we might say that the officers of the Society for this year are: President, Mrs. T. Andrews; Secretary, Mrs. B. Crofts; Treasurer, Mrs. R. B. Smith.

SALE.—The only shipment of salt last week was 210 bbls. by W. Campbell.

STOCK SHIPMENT.—On Monday Mr. S. Andrews shipped 466 sheep and lambs and 31 head of cattle to Buffalo.

FIRE.—The receipts last week were 150 pkgs. by Wm. Lee, and shipments were 20 pkgs by the same and 5 by W. Stitt.

SOAP RECEIPTS.—Last week Wm. Seymour & Co. received 22 bbls oil and 11 bags of beans from the Buckeye State.

IT WAS rare sport chasing the tiger, but when the tiger turned on them, then the genuine fun commenced. J. C. CURRIE, Auctioneer.

WE HAVE been too busy this week to change the advertisements of J. C. Detlor & Co. and J. W. Weatherald, but will advise our readers to be on the lookout for them next week.

ALL RIGHT.—The schr. Tecumseh arrived in port on Saturday, much to the surprise of those who had heard of her recent accident. After the barge Mary Robertson failed to pull her off the sand bar, a Nor'-West gale sprung up and so raised the water that she was enabled to clear herself quite uninjured.

PERSONAL. — Jos. Tomlinson, Esq., C. E., General Superintendent of Lighthouses for the Dominion of Canada, was here on a visit of inspection last week. He examined the improvements on the north pier and the breakwater under the lighthouse, and expressed himself satisfied with the manner in which the work had been done. He also examined Strachan's patent boat launch, and commended it very highly.

—Mr. Jas. F. Dickson, of this paper, leaves to-day to spend the American Thanksgiving with friends in Buffalo.

—We regret to learn that Mr. W. R. Miller, Principal of the Central School, is ill and confined to bed. He has been unable to attend to his duties since Monday morning.

MANHATTAN SHAFT.—The rock has been reached and penetrated about four feet. A drill was driven into the rock to that depth, when a crevice about three inches in depth was found, forming a pocket for a strong spring. A blast was discharged in this cavity, and the rock was thoroughly loosened. The rock at this depth was too soft to form a foundation for the brick-work casing, but it is thought to be hard enough a few inches deeper. A steam pump has been put in operation, and no trouble, in consequence, is experienced from water.

SKATING RINK.—MESSRS. Harrison & Grierson have rented for three years the vacant lot opposite the residence of Mr. Abraham Smith, South Street. They are already laying down the material for their mammoth covered skating rink, and the building will be of substantial and neat construction. In this connection, we might mention that the Silver Cornet Band was not in any way connected with Mr. McQuarrie's application for the Drill Shed as a skating rink. As the idea has got abroad that the band was interested in the endeavor to secure the shed, this statement is made to correct the error.

ODDFELLOWS' BALL.—The third annual ball given under the auspices of Huron Encampment, No. 28, I. O. O. F., on Wednesday evening last, was the most successful that has yet been held. Some fifty couples were present and one and all entered into the spirit of the entertainment with a heartiness that made the evening very enjoyable. Quite a number gentlemen and ladies of Clinton were present, the former being brethren in the craft, and the indefatigable committees in charge, showed them, as well as the rest of the gathering, every attention. As usual the lodge room was thrown open as a reception room, and the arrangements for the comfort of the guests were excellent. The body of the hall constituted the ball room, which was tastefully decorated with flags, banners and festoons. An excellent orchestra occupied the stage, and the musical part of the programme was well sustained. Dancing began about nine o'clock, and was kept up with great vigor until about midnight, when the gentlemen and ladies—and of the latter there were many charming and handsome ones present—repaired to the refreshment room on the ground floor. The supper capped the climax of of the arrangements for the evening, as Mr. Wm. Reed, the caterer, laid himself out to do the thing up in style. And he succeeded, as the spread was all that could be desired and the bill of fare very varied. The room was tastefully decorated with evergreens, flags, &c., and the tables were neatly laid out. Mr. Reed and his large staff of waiters were very attentive to the wants of the guests, which tended greatly to increase their good humor. Dancing was again resumed, and it was nearly 5 a. m. before the company, thoroughly tired, dispersed to their homes. The floor managers, Messrs. E. VanEyery and T. Sturdy, performed their duties very satisfactorily. The committee of management, Messrs. C. W. Andrews, H. S. Holmes, W. T. Welsh, C. A. Nairn and W. Reed, are to be congratulated upon the successful issue of their efforts.

PENNY READINGS.—On the evening of Thanksgiving day the temperance hall on North St., was crowded on the occasion of the opening of a series of "penny readings," for the purpose of wiping out the present debt on the building. This entertainment was given under the auspices of the Sons of Temperance, and in all probability the next will be under the auspices of the Good Templars. Mr. S. Sloan, the Chief of the Sons occupied the chair and explained the object of these readings. Rev. Mr. Fletcher opened the exercises by prayer, after which Mr. Jas. Thomson sang "Man the life boat" in his usual good voice. Mr. Strang read "The witches' frolic," a legend, in excellent time and with acceptance. Miss Barnes sang "My cottage home" and was deservedly encored. Rev. J. Sieveright was called to occupy the place of an absent speaker, and gave an interesting address. He thought all should give thanks for present privileges when we compare the past with our time; the hardships endured by our Puritan fathers for the cause of religion and temperance were neither few nor small, but their hearts were warm and strong and their faces cheerful and not sad and downcast as many in the present day seem to imagine necessary in religion; he hoped the day was not far distant when temperance people would hold a day of thanksgiving for the total suppression of the liquor traffic; the fight is now going on and the result will be victory for the temperance party. Miss Lizzie Thomson sang "Take me back to home and mother" very sweetly. Mr. Fred Bond played a solo on his concertina and was so loudly encored that he responded by giving a very excellent imitation of the "bugle call," the "kettle drum" and the "fifer's hornpipe." Rev. Mr. Frazer read the "Dream of Eugene Aram," by Tom Hood, with good effect. Miss Mellish sang "The loving faces of Home" with feeling, and was encored. Mr. Bond, being called for by the audience gave another solo, performing part with one hand and in excellent time. Mr. J. R. Miller gave a short address, referring specially to the work of temperance reform; he said that now about one third of Ontario had accepted the Dunkin Act and still the demand appears to be for stronger measures and no doubt the end will be prohibition pure and simple; he called on the young to join the ranks of the temperance party. Miss Annie Smith and Mr. Sheriff sang a duet, the "Gipsy Countess," which so tickled the ears of the audience and called forth such rounds of applause that the singers responded with "The Hunting Tour" which again brought down a ringing encore from the audience. Mr. Joseph Williams gave a reading, or rather a recitation consisting of his own experience of forty years with man, his ideas of man, and a discussion as to what man really is. The composition of this medly was original, pointed, full of wit and humor and was appreciated highly. Miss Mellish sang "The drunkard's wife" with feeling. Mr. Bond, by request, gave another concertina solo, and the entertainment closed with "God save the Queen." Rev. J. Sieveright pronounced the benediction. Altogether this was the most enjoyable entertainment of the season and we doubt not but the course of "Readings" will be largely patronized by the public. The proceeds netted about $40.

MISSIONARY MEETINGS.—On Sabbath last the annual missionary sermons in connection with the Methodist church were preached in North Street and Brock Street churches, by Rev. J. G. Scott of Listowel and Rev. R. H. Waddell of Lucknow. The sermons were of a very high order, and were listened to by large audiences. On Monday evening the anniversary meeting took place in the North Street church, when, notwithstanding the unpleasant character of the evening, the attendance was good. S. Pollock, Esq., occupied the chair, and after the meeting had been opened in due form and the chairman had made a few opening remarks, Rev. Jas. Preston gave a concise report of the missionary work for the past year of the Canada Methodist Church. The income was $145,995.92; expenditure, $174,355.89 showing an excess of outlay to the amount of $28,357. The liabilites of the Society in excess of its assets amount to $53,595.70. London conference had raised $36,655.49, a decrease of $1207.15 since the previous year, and the contribution from Goderich District, $4,190.71, was $84.79 less than the year previous. Rev. J. G. Scott followed, and expressed the opinion that enough had not been done in the missionary cause since the commission was first given to spread the truth in all lands, but yet the noble pioneers of christianity were penetrating the dark places and spreading the seed. Although the offerings which had been brought to God as evidences of the work which was being prosecuted were not as great as the magnificence of the work deserved, yet the laborers were found in all the fields of the world. There were noble, unselfish, self-sacrificing men, and women too, laboring in the cause, and the spirit of the time of Wesley was still existing in the church. Alluding to finances, he said some declared the means could not be had to carry on the work. He thought it was treason to God to say so. Christian nations had wealth poured abundantly into their laps, and they should the more kindly think of benighted nations for that reason. With increasing wealth we should increase our gifts to christian objects, and always give according to our ability. Rev. R. H. Waddell next spoke, referring to missionary work as the most important work of the church. Having proved so efficient and successful up to the present, the work commended itself to the increased liberality of the public. The work had prospered mightily. In Asia, since the work was first instituted by Dr. Coke, who died on the voyage to India to begin the work, and left the task to his three youthful sons who entered the work courageously and with great success, the change had been wonderful. Buddhism, which had been established for hundreds of years and sustained by an intelligent priesthood, succumbed to the true gospel, and where some 500 Buddhist temples flourished, only about fifty crumbling edifices remain. Some of the temples were destroyed and were turned into christian churches. In Hindostan alone there are now 400 missionaries, 1500 native helpers and thousands of converts—and this change within the last fifty years. In Africa the work was prosecuted at the sacrifice of many lives, but it has prospered and many nations are reclaimed from savage ignorance and superstition. The seed was first planted in Sierra Leone, by a party of negroes who escaped from slavery during the American revolutionary war. These were educated and transported to this portion of Africa, and gradually they spread their knowledge among the people, and some eighteen years later missionaries were sent out to carry forward the work. In New Zealand the missionaries struggled for ten years without success, when the natives suddenly responded to the appeals of the missionaries. Now there is a Methodist college there, about 800 Sabbath schools and some 88 day schools. Such evidences of the success of the work should stimulate and increase the contributions of the church. Rev. Chas. Lavell rejoiced that all the churches gave such attention to the missionary work. The present was a time of great import, which demanded the consecration of greater gifts to the work. Great disquietude prevailed among the nations, and he thought it was because of their becoming alienated from God. He had heard people remark that very little had been done in spreading the Gospel in the past 1800 years—he was sorry that more had not been done; but he would ask the question: how would the world now be if nothing had been done? It was no use to talk of economizing, the missionaries were cut down to the lowest salaries and it would never do to withdraw them. What had to be done was to wipe off the debt now existing, and he felt sure it could be done easily. Collections and subscriptions were taken up, which proved to be liberal ones. During the evening the choir sang some excellent anthems sacred songs, &c. The following collectors were appointed for the ensuing year: Mrs. J. H. Colborne and Miss Gordon for St. Patrick's and St. George's wards, Mrs. H. Howell for St. David's and St. Andrew's wards, Miss Bonnamy and Miss Dever for Brock St. Church, Miss Maywood for Bayfield Road and Miss Gilders for Maitlandville. Votes of thanks were tendered the collectors for last year, the choir, the speakers, and the chairman, and the meeting was brought to a close by Rev. C. Lavell pronouncing the benediction.

LOCAL JOTTINGS.

—Capt. Howard will open a skating rink in Brussels this winter.

—Centralia Methodist church has decided to purchase an organ.

—Thos Pope, of Turnberry, has this year grown a turnip weighing 25 lbs.

—The Clinton *New Era* is going to be enlarged.

—John Ainsley has been appointed collector of taxes in Wingham.

—A Lucknow wife-beater was fined $5 and costs last week.

—Blyth Council has decided not to grant any billiard licenses.

—Messrs. Kelly and Clegg are mentioned as candidates for the Reeveship of Blyth.

—Some twenty lots were sold at the last sale in Wingham, at an average price a little below $100.

—The outlay in connection with the Brussels flax mill from spring to September was $8,124.

—James Mills, of Jamestown, has taken up 300 acres of land at Bruce Mines.

—Samuel Grigg, of London, has bought the Royal Hotel, Wingham, for $6,000.

—Peter Hill, 1st con., Morris, has gathered 630 bushels of turnips from about half an acre of ground.

—Sick horses are numerous about Bluevale. Mr. John Lightle has lost two, and Mr. Wm. King one.

—On Wednesday last Mr. John Alexander, merchant of Brussels, shipped two tons of butter to Aberdeen, Scotland.

—Brussels is rigidly enforcing the by-law requiring hucksters and others to sell their wares on the market-place.

—A little boy, son of Mr. Chapman of Hay, fractured his skull by a fall recently. He is recovering.

—Hensall Dramatic Association played "Dick Turpin" to a large audience on Wednesday night.

—Five gallons of catsup and two dressed ducks were recently stolen from Mr. E. Christie's cellar, Exeter. Next night one gallon of the catsup was returned.

—Two unknown men broke into the house of Richard Jones, 7th concession, Usborne, on Saturday night, and bound Mr. and Mrs. Jones, then took about $2.30 and a watch, and left.

—Messrs. Petty of Hensall have contracted with a Liverpool firm to ship a large quantity of sugar cured hams thither this winter.

—Messrs. Potter and Currie are to contest the Reeveship of East Wawanosh, Mr. Taylor having decided to retire.

—Mr. Robt. McPherson, of lot 5, 2d con., of Morris, had 219 bushels of Treadwell wheat from five acres of new land this season.

—Eight boys recently picked 1,000 bushels of turnips, on the farm of John Tamblyn, 12th con., Hullett, in one hour and twenty-three minutes.

—Mr. W. J. Biggins, Blenhurst, (near Clinton) has sold a thoroughbred shorthorn bull, eleven months old to Mr. T. Ady, Hullett, for the sum of $100.

A little two legged pup—a natural curiosity—belonging to Mr. Jas. Hunter, of Clinton, was poisoned with strychnine by some evil-minded being a few nights ago.

—W. Burdskin, a few days ago, was badly wounded in the side by a blow from a board which got caught in a saw he was running in Mallon's binding factory, Exeter.

—Rev. T. Goldsmith, of Seaforth, has received a call from the East End Presbyterian church, Hamilton. We have not learned whether he has accepted the call or not.

—The residence of Mr. A. Robertson, Thames Road, Usborne, was broken into by burglars, in the absence of the family, a few days ago, and about $200, in money and valuables, were stolen.

—The first monthly cattle fair will be held in Brussels on Thursday, December 6th, when a number of prizes will be given for fat stock and cattle. The fair is to be held regularly on the first Thursday in each month.

—The Tuckersmith Branch Agricultural Society have arranged to hold their annual Christmas Show, for the exhibition of fat stock, on Tuesday, December 11. A liberal prize list has been prepared.

—Mr. Wm. Duncan, of the Blyth Foundry, while making some repairs to his shop on Tuesday, stepped on one of the circular saws while in motion. The sole of his boot was cut through, as well as his sock, but he escaped without even a scratch upon his foot, which was very fortunate.—*Review.*

—A swell Clinton youth on a recent Sunday drove out to Goderich Township to see a couple of fair ladies, but from both places he was ordered away, and threatened with a horse-whipping. The young man, who parts his hair in the middle, says he "weally cawn't undawstand it—aw!"

—A few days ago Mr. Thomas Hamilton, of Colborne, in drinking swallowed a handful of pins which had been thrown inadvertently into a tumbler. Drs. Sloan and Carder of Blyth were called and removed six upwards, pushing a number downwards, and one is supposed to be still in the throat, from the effects of which Mr. Hamilton is still suffering severely.

—Mr. Charles W. Lawrence, from the township of Hay, has purchased the farm of Mr. James McRae, lot 1, 5th concession, of Morris. The amount paid was $3,000. The farm contains about 85 acres. Mr. Lawrence sold his farm of 50 acres in Hay, to Mr. John Reeth, from the neighborhood