

GRAMMAR SCHOOLS.—Under the provisions of the new Act to amend the law relative to Grammar Schools (19 Vic. cap. 188) the Board of Trustees of each County Grammar School is declared to be a Corporation, and by the 9th section of the same Act, the present Trustees of Grammar Schools are required to meet on the 1st Wednesday in January to appoint from amongst themselves three Trustees for each Grammar School, and the County Councils are required at their first meeting in 1854 to appoint other three Trustees for each Grammar School.

Mr. Cameron and Sabbath Desecration.—Mr. Cameron has denied, through the columns of the Montreal Herald, that he ever desecrated the Sabbath by visiting the Canadian Ocean Steamer Genova on that day, but remarks that it is well known that the distinguished leader of the Anti Sabbath Desecration party (Mr. Brown) hired a public conveyance and drove fifty miles on the Sabbath to his election!

MURDER OF JOHN ROSS.—The investigation of this case before the Coroner, closed on Wednesday evening, and the Coroner having summoned up the evidence at some length, the jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against all the four parties in custody.—viz. Joseph Tomlinson, Alfred Tomlinson, Cicero Tomlinson, and Horatia S. Lewis.—N. American.

Boy DROWNED.—We learn from the Pilot that a distressing casualty has occurred, which has again thrown the family of our respected fellow citizen, Mr. Thomas McGrath, into deep affliction. On Monday last his nephew, a promising lad of 12 years of age, was drowned, in rear of his uncle's residence at LaSalle, by the giving way of the ice on which he was playing.—Montreal Gazette.

GRAND TRUNK TELEGRAPH TO BUREAU.—Last night we received a communication from Buffalo by the Grand Trunk Telegraph; the line having just been completed and put into operation. The dispatch states that the instruments work exceedingly well and that there is good sleighing in Buffalo. The kind of instrument used is that which prints the words in large letters, plain and bold; and must be much less liable to mistakes than those instruments that make indentations on white paper, not always very legible even to the initiated, and which consist of an unknown language to the general public. From the other end of the line we have also good intelligence.

The Quebec Gazette states that the poles of the Grand Trunk Telegraph Line, from Montreal to Quebec, are nearly all up, and several gangs of hands engaged in putting on the wire, which has been already erected in the streets of the latter city.—London.

ARRIVAL OF THE AFRICA.—New York, December 30.—The Africa, from Liverpool, with 80 tons of cargo, arrived at half-past ten this forenoon.

Lord Palmerston has resigned his office as Home Secretary. His resignation because he will not consent to the new Reform Bill, which extends the Parliamentary franchise. His resignation, Eastern affairs, has no concern with the policy of the Government.

The Turkish Embassy has received advice of the Sioupe engagement. The Russian fleet of two of the largest ships, the town was totally destroyed. The opinion very generally prevailed in London, that Lord Palmerston did retire in consequence of Eastern politics.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.—BREADSTUFFS.—The buoyant tone of the market is unimpaired. Wheat and four freely offered to arrive, and find buyers at extra rates. Prices closing at 40s. per ton and 61 per 70 lbs on wheat. Indian four better, and quoted a few pence at 6d. to 1s. per quarter.

MR. HINCKES'S LETTER ON THE CLERGY RESERVE.—The agitation in the Western part of Upper Canada on the subject of immediate legislation respecting the Clergy Reserve, and especially under the name of a manifesto signed by a number of ministers of various religious denominations in Toronto, has led to numerous applications being made to members of the Government to explain their intentions with reference to that measure.

THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS'S MODE OF LIFE.—The Emperor Nicholas leads a life of the most ferocious activity. He rides, walks, holds a review, superintends a sham battle, goes on the water, gives a fire exercise, and all in the same day. He travels incessantly, passes over at least fifteen hundred leagues every season, and all those who are attached to his person have to share his fatigues.

blow to their own reputation, while it would be a triumph to the party which has honored them with its confidence. Feeling a deep sense of this responsibility both to the crown and to the people, I confess that the course to be followed under present circumstances appears to me to be no plain, that I cannot understand how any unprejudiced man, who has studied the history of his country and its constitution, or who has any respect for public opinion, can hesitate with regard to it.

I am bold to affirm, that the strongest advocates for secularization in the British House of Commons, viz.—Mr. Hume, Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright, would look on the refusal under existing circumstances to appeal to the people on this question, as a most violent outrage on constitutional rights. You will, I am sure, do me the justice to believe that these observations have not been made with a view to depreciate opposition from any unworthy desire of place. I have for years been subjected to aspersions of all kinds with reference to this subject.

DISASTROUS FIRE IN MONTREAL.—Yesterday morning, about four o'clock, the large retail establishment of Messrs. J. & D. Lewis, in Notre Dame street, was discovered to be on fire. The wind blowing strong from the north-east, the surrounding premises, and in a short time the whole block of four story stone buildings was in flames.

THE QUEEN VS. DAVID BECKET, ASSAULT.—The Queen vs. David Becket, assault with intent to commit rape, was on an indictment for a second attempt at rape upon the person of the above mentioned and alleged to have taken place a few hours after the former attempt.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.—These elections are at length over and if we may judge from the number of candidates put forward, and from the severity of the contests, elicited considerable interest. The following gentlemen were elected as Councillors for the Town of St. George's Ward:—Messrs. James Watson, H. B. O'Connor and W. G. Smith. St. Andrew's: Messrs. John

McDonald, John Strachan and W. E. Green. St. David's: Messrs. Robert Gibbons, Dan' Henley and Robert Park. St. Patrick's: Messrs. Horace Horton, W. M. White and George Bissett. The political feeling manifested at these elections was not so strong upon this as upon any former occasion, although when viewed in that light it will be seen that there are eight reformers and four Tories; but upon the whole when looked upon as a body of men, into whose hands are to be entrusted the interests of the Town for twelve months, and whose actions while in power may be made to tell either for good or evil for many years, they are well entitled to our confidence, and we have no doubt they will successfully fulfil the engagements they have undertaken.

spot. The supply of water, however, at the first, was rather deficient, but in a short time a plentiful supply was obtained and the firemen exerted themselves in a manner beyond all praise. The engines left the ground about 8 o'clock A. M., but Mr. B. Bertram, the indefatigable Chief Engineer on the ground during the whole day, it having been thoroughly of something more than a mere passing compliment, from the fact that he was compelled to change his clothing several times during the day, it having been thoroughly drenched and froze. It was the opinion of many with whom we conversed, that if Mr. Bertram had been furnished with abundance of water the fire would have been confined to the store in which it occurred, for since Mr. B. has filled his present office, the ruins were visited by immense crowds yesterday, but as some danger was apprehended from the falling of the walls, a barrier was thrown across the street and policemen stationed to prevent persons passing. The large building is a complete wreck, scarcely any thing remaining but the front walls, which will no doubt be removed immediately.

THE COURT OF GENERAL QUARTER SESSIONS OF THE PEACE AND COUNTY COURT OPENED AT GODERICH ON TUESDAY THE 3RD JAN. INST. before His Honor Judge Scott and the associate magistrates Benj. Parsons, Joo. Longworth, Robt. Gibbons, Wm. Chalk, James Watson and James Gordon Esq's. This is the first appearance of Judge Scott on the bench as Judge of the United Counties of Huron and Bruce. The Court was held in the Court room at the Gal which with all its convenience and the danger to life, its inmates in case of fire, would inevitably result in means of fire, is by far the best room at present to be had in the town for holding a Court. His Honor has expressed a decided objection against holding his circuits in Taverns, this we think is very proper, as it is well known that the contiguity of the bar-room to the Court during its Session is anything but calculated to promote morality or to facilitate justice among a people.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—The annual meeting of the members of this Institute, will take place according to the constitution, on Thursday next the 12th inst., at 6 o'clock, P. M., in the Temperance Hall, for the purpose of electing the officers and managing Committee for the ensuing year. We hope there will be a full attendance of members.

REDUCTION OF NEWSPAPER POSTAGE.—Our readers will no doubt be glad to learn that the Hon. M. Cameron, Post Master General has reduced the postage on Newspapers as follows: on Daily papers to 8s. Try-weekly to 4s. Semi-weekly to 2s. 6d. Weekly to 1s. 4d. This is a reduction of nearly one half the late rates, and removes a portion of the heavy tax on knowledge and will be regarded as a great boon.

COMMUNICATIONS.—COLBORNE PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW LEAGUE.—Pursuant to public notice, a number of the inhabitants of Colborne and Wainamosh was held in Young's School House, Township of Colborne, on the evening of Tuesday, the 27th December last, for the purpose of taking into consideration the expediency of forming a branch of the Canadian Prohibitory Liquor Law League, Mr. Stephen Yates in the chair, and Mr. William S'ymington acted as Secretary.

THE CHAIRMAN briefly explained the object of the meeting, and then called upon the Rev. O. G. Cullumore, who in an able and energetic manner, showed the direful effects of intoxicating liquors among the human family, and concluded by calling upon the audience, to come manfully forward, and join in one grand and glorious band, for the suppression of intemperance, and the acquisition of a law similar to the Maine Liquor Law.

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