OFFICE:.....MACDONNELL STREET

WEDNESDAY EV'G, APRIL 29, 1868.

THE MILITIA BILL.

Mr Cartier's Militia Bill has now been before the country a month, and the more it is discussed the greater is the opposition manifested towards it. Volunteers regard it as a sure and certain plan for getting rid of our Volunteer Force, and the community generally condemn it on account of the odious principle of conscription which it seeks to put in force in the Dominion. This question of providing suitable means of defence for the new Dominion is confessedly surrounded with many difficulties, but they are not of such a nature but that they might be overcome if the Minister of Militia instead of framing this measure to suit his own views, had taken counsel of those officers whose long experience and active service in the Volunteer and Militia force would have been of material service to him, and whose suggestions would have been invaluable, But we are told that no officer of volunteers or militia was consulted as to its details—that even the Adjutant General, who stands high in his profession, and is, moreover, a skilled soldier—did not even see it until it had become public property. The consequence is that it pleases scarcely anybody but its author, that it meets with strenuous opposition from many of the warmest supporters of the Government, and that it has raised such a feeling among the volunteers that they will assuredly resign *en masse* if the measure becomes law.

We have said that many difficulties surrounded this question. Apart from the ruinous cost, which the country could not stand, the maintenance of a standing army for the Dominion meets with no favor but among a few high-strung Conservatives or military men of the old school. We do not require such an army, and we could not pay for it. On the other hand, it is universally conceded that a force of some kind we must have. Our position—especially since Confederation—our nearness to a country which has had a thorough training in war, which is withal proud, grasping, and ambitious to dominate over the whole North American continent—and which nurses within its bosom a Fenian organization composed of cut-throats and assassins who already made one bold attempt to gain a foothold in Canada, and who only wait a favorable opportunity to attempt a second raid—all these considerations demand from us the best means for defence we can possibly devise. Mr Cartier might have been excused for his blunders had he found no military organization already in existence—he might readily have been pardoned for recommending a draft had he found the people unwilling to volunteer. But no one knows better than Mr Cartier that since the reorganization of the Volunteer force, some years ago, there have been in the service about 25,000 men, which could have been easily increased if the Government had only held out the proper encouragement. During the time of the Fenian raid, there were about 31,000 enrolled volunteers, and that number could have been augmented to at least 40,000, which is the number Mr Cartier proposes to raise under his measure. How does he propose to raise and maintain this force? The volunteer system is left, but it is shorn of its fair proportions. If the requisite number is not made up by volunteering, then the compulsory system is brought into play. Officers may organize corps, but if they don't keep them up to the full strength and standard of efficiency, they are liable to be disbanded. They may spend time and money, and a good deal of both are required, as every officer who has been attached to a volunteer company knows—in order to keep up the standing of their companies, but what encouragement have the officers or men to remain in the service when their duties are so onerous compared with those who may be drafted—or, in other words, are compelled to serve. The volunteer must serve three years, but the militiaman—the drafted man—is only obliged to serve two years, and then he is free to go. The volunteer as at present has his sixteen days annual drill, required by Government, but in addition to that there is regular drill in almost every company once a week all the year round. By this arrangement the volunteer has every opportunity of perfecting himself in his drill, and even if he does not show signs of great improvement, he is prevented from forgetting what he has already learned by going over and over again his old lessons. But how would it be with the drafted militiaman under Mr Cartier's Bill? It provides that there shall not be less than eight days' nor more than sixteen days' drill during the year. If this be all the drill the raw militia are to be put thro' every twelve months for the two years during which they are required to serve, then good bye to anything like them would be able to understand and go through the simplest movements in that short time, and long before the lapse of the year, when they were liable to be called out again, the rudimentary lessons which they had been taught at the first drill would be entirely forgotten, and they would have to begin to learn anew. Why, the old free and easy muster on the Queen's birthday, with the roll-call and the forming into a very awkward squad, was for all practical purposes as good as the plan proposed by Mr Cartier.

It is clear that Mr Cartier has not profited by the lesson which the Government—of which he is a member—received in 1863, when the Lysons' militia bill was thrown out because in principle it was pretty much the same as that now under the consideration of Parliament. The expenditure which hitherto amounted annually to $500,000 is to be doubled—an amount more than sufficient, even after making due allowance for the increased cost under Confederation. For this sum we are to have 40,000 militiamen in Canada—Ontario having to furnish 17,000; Quebec 13,500: New Brunswick 4000, and Nova Scotia 5000. But after all it would only be a force on paper, and the men, if suddenly called out to defend their country, would be but ill prepared to face an enemy. Those who are best acquaintod with our present system, and who have given much time and study to its details, are decidedly of opinion that if properly worked, and sufficiently encouraged by the Government, it is the most efficient and economical as a means of defence, and is based on a principle which commends itself to nine-tenths of the people of Canada. Why should we resort to the practices of despotic governments and institute a conscription which ought only to be the last resort in time of war? Have the youth of our country stood idly by and refused to volunteer? Let the muster rolls in every county answer the question. Let the records of our country bear witness when the Fenian raid took place, and when our young men sprang to arms with an alacrity which showed that no personal consideration deterred them from the post of danger and of duty when their services were required. But make that service compulsory and you destroy the spirit that now exists in our volunteer companies. All the incentives to honorable distinction—to healthy emulation—are removed, and in their place you will find nothing but indifference on the part of those who remain in the service because they are compelled by the law to do so.

This is the feeling which almost universally prevails both among volunteers and civilians. The people are as anxious as the government that the country should be put in the very best possible position of defence both as regards its militia and its fortifications. They have more than once shown their willingness to take up arms in its defence. They have readily consented to a heavy yearly outlay wherewith to provide an efficient volunteer or militia force. But the government have not met them in the same spirit. Once or twice they seemed to have fully awoke to a sense of their duty, but oftener the self-sacrificing and patriotic spirit of the people have been met with indifference, and their ardour rather suppressed by cold neglect than fostered by timely and proper encouragement. Mr. Cartier in his bill seeks to perpetuate this foolish and short sighted policy, which if persisted in may yet prove dangerous to the country's best interests. We hope that he and the government will listen to the warnings of members who express the opinions almost universally entertained throughout the country. Let them perfect our Volunteer system, and strengthen it with whatever reserve force they choose to raise. We can safely speak for Ontario that her quota will be fully made up when required without the aid of a draft, and the government can rely on having a well disciplined force which will be ready—as before—to take the field whenever duty calls them to muster for its defence.

THE INPEACHMENT.—The N. Y. *Times* thinks the impeachment trial of President Johnson will be brought to a close during the present week, unless the Senate should occupy a large amount of time in debate. The verdict will be given, and the sentence pronounced within three or four days, but in consequence of the question being a party one, it is impossible to foretell the result even now.

ITALIAN BRIGANDAGE.—South of Rome brigandage has been somewhat active lately, although generally with a larger amount than usual of ill-luck for the men of the road. A ball through the brain does not leave much time for repentance, and several well-known highwaymen last week were sent to their long account in this summary manner. Perhaps the largest ransom yet demanded for a captive is that of 170,000 francs, of Signor Bucco, a rich proprietor near Naples, for the life of his brother, who is held a prisoner.

A fire took place in the village of St. Martin, near Montreal, on Thursday, which destroyed twelve houses and forty-two stables and barns. Loss $90,000.

wife of Mr. S. E. Stephenson, watchmaker, Elora, of a son.

REEVES—At Harriston on the 15th inst., the wife of Mr. Matthew Reeves of a son.

HASSETT—In the Township of Arthur, on the 16th inst., the wife of Mr. P. B. Hassett, of a son.

BUDGEON—In Puslinch on the 21st inst., the wife of Mr. B. Budgeon of a son.

New Advertisements.

NOTICE.

THE undersigned having purchased the entire Stock and Business of M. SHEWAN, Guelph will continue to carry on the business in the same premises.

W. J. McCURRY.

Guelph, April 29, 1868. daw tf

WANTED

TWO hands in the Blacksmith's Shop that have worked at the business some time, also a boy as an apprentice. None but steady persons need apply at J. B. ARMSTRONG'S, I. X. L. Works, Guelph.

April 29th, 1868. dw

CLOSING NOTICE.

DURING the summer months, commencing on 1st of May, the Drug Establishments of the undersigned will be open till Eight o'clock, p.m.

N. HIGINBOTHAM.
E. HARVEY.

April 29, 1868. d2

CARD OF THANKS.

THE subscriber desires to return his sincere thanks to the members of the Fire Brigade and citizens generally, for their prompt and effectual efforts in subduing the fire at his residence on Tuesday.

JAMES MAYS.

Guelph, April 29. 1d w1

STEER STRAYED.

STRAYED from the yard of the Subscriber, on or about the 18th inst., a Steer; red colour, with the exception of a few white spots, 4 years old, good size, and horns rather long. Any person giving such information as will lead to his recovery will be suitably rewarded.

JOHN WEST.

Guelph, April 29. d4 w2

MONTREAL OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO'Y.

GUELPH AGENCY.

CANADIAN LINE—Quebec to Liverpool every Saturday.

GLASGOW LINE—Quebec to Glasgow every Thursday.

CABIN.—Guelph to Liverpool, $79.50 and $89.50
STEERAGE, do do $30.50.

CABIN—Guelph to Glasgow, $69.50 and $49.50.
STEERAGE, do do $29.50.

Return Tickets at reduced rates. Prepaid Passage Certificates issued to bring friends out, at the lowest rates. For Tickets. State-rooms, and every information, apply to

GEO. A. OXNARD,
Agent, G. T. R.

Guelph, April 29, 1868. daw 1y.

WALL PAPER.

1868.

IMMENSE ASSORTMENT

OF WALL PAPER AT

DAY'S BOOKSTORE.

MY Stock of WALL PAPER is very large and well selected. The patterns are of ELEGANT DESIGN, and imported this Spring from England. I am determined to sell Wall Paper at extremely LOW PRICES this Season; my constant object being to supply Goods as LOW as possible.

T. J. DAY,

Bookseller, Opposite the Market,

Guelph, April 29th, 1868. dw

AUCTION SALE

OF READY-MADE

CLOTHING!

W. S. G. KNOWLES

HAS received a consignment, comprising a vast assortment of

GENTS'

COATS, VESTS

PANTS,
HATS,
CAPS,
Boots, Shoes
&c., &c.

Which must be disposed of. He has therefore rented the

Store OPPOSITE the MARKET

Lately occupied by Mr. T. J. DAY, where he will offer the entire Stock by Public Auction,

Commencing on Wednesday Even'g,

***April 29th*, 1868,**

And continue each evening until the entire Stock is disposed of.

Terms, Cash. - - No Reserve.

Guelph, April 28, 1868. do tf

Senior Girls' School.

THE Senior Girls' School will be re-opened on MONDAY, 4th of MAY, in the new School Room, West Ward School, under charge of the newly appointed Teacher, Miss Walker.

ROBT. TORRANCE,
Guelph, April 27th, 1868. d3w1 Secretary.

NOTICE.

IN consequence of building an addition to my Brewery, I have opened a depot on Norfolk Street, for the sale of my XXX ALE in bottles, and appointed Mr. John Nicholson my agent.

THOMAS HOLLIDAY.

Guelph 15th April, 1868. d1m

FARM LOTS

FOR SALE CHEAP, in a good settlement with every convenience. Apply to

C. J. BLOMFIELD, Sec.,
Canadian Land and Emigration Compay,
Toronto Bank Buildings, Toronto.

April 17, 1868. daw 1m

HOUSE AND SIGN

PAINTER,

Paper Hanger,
Glazier, &c.

Shop on QUEBEC STREET,
near Mr. Howard's Stove and Tin Depot

All orders from the Town and Country will receive prompt attention.

Guelph, April 23, 1868 daw m

NEW BLACKSMITH SHOP

THE subscriber begs to inform the people of Guelph and surrounding country that he has leased and fitted up the Blacksmith Shop, being that old and well-known stand on Cardigan Street, near Goldie's, formerly known as the People's Mills, where he intends to carry on the Blacksmith business in all its branches.

HORSE SHOEING.—Particular attention paid to Horse Shoeing. As the subscriber intends to keep none but a first-class horse-shoer, the public can rely on getting all work in that line done in a satisfactory manner.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The subscriber begs to intimate to farmers that he is now manufacturing, and has for sale first-class Steel Mould Board Ploughs, (Gray's pattern.) Ploughs of other patterns made to order. Waggons and all kinds of Farm Implements made to order and repaired on the most reasonable terms.

WOOD WORK.—A first-class wood worker kept in connection with the shop.

The subscriber having had long experience in the above business, hopes by strict attention to the wants of his customers to merit a share of public patronage.

Don't forget the Stand, near Goldie's Mills.

CALEB CHASE.

Guelph, 24th April, 1868. d1m-6mw

Apothecaries' Hall!

Sewing Machine Oil.

JUST received, a supply of very fine Oil, made to suit

Sewing Machines

Superior to all other Oils.

Will wear longer, and does not clog up the finest parts of the machine.

A. B. PETRIE,

Chemist, Market Square.

Guelph, April 23. daw tf

Insolvent Act of 1864

FOR SALE

BY ASSIGNEE,

THE Stock-in-trade of **ROBERT RUTHERFORD** of Guelph, Ont., at so much on the Dollar, of the Inventoried Prices. Goods and Inventory to be seen on the premises.

Tenders will be seen by D. GUTHRIE, Esq., Attorney-at-Law, Guelph, or by the Assignee,

Up to Saturday, 2nd May,

and may be made either EN BLOC or separately for

DRY GOODS or GROCERIES.

Terms cash, or approved credit.

PHILIP S. ROSS,
Assignee of Estate of R. Rutherford.

Montreal, 20th April, 1868. dw3

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR

At JOHN A. WOOD'S.

MAPLE SUGAR!

At JOHN A. WOOD'S.

BISCUIT

Arrowroot,
Cream,
Fruit,
Victoria,
Abernethy,
Wine and Ginger Nut BISCUITS

At JOHN A. WOOD'S.

AMBER SYRUP

At JOHN A. WOOD'S.

Guelph, April 15th 1868 dw

Notice to Builders.

ANY quantity of sand for sale at the Pit, next to the Cemetery, or delivered.

WILLIAM CHIPCHASE.

Guelph, April 24, 1868. dw 1m

ALE AND CIDER!

JUST RECEIVED

AT H. WALKER'S,

100 Doz. Magnificent Sparkling

CANADIAN ALE!

in Prime Order, at $1.50 per dozen. Also,

Penner's Champagne Cider,

in Pints and Quarts at $2 00 and $3.00 per dozen.

HUGH WALKER,
Wholesale and Retail Fruit dealer, Wyndham-St., Guelph.

Guelph, April 28, 1868. daw y

WHOLESOME LITERATURE!

Cuthbert's Bookstore!

Books of Fiction, best Authors,
Books Poetical, best authors,
Books Philosophical, best Authors,
Books Theological, best Authors,
Literal Translations of all Classics.

AT ROBERT CUTHBERT'S.

Guelph, 28th April, 1868. dw

JACKSON & HALLETT

(SUCCESSORS TO JOHN L. LEWIS,)

No. 7, Wyndham-st, - - - - GUELPH.

The Subscribers having purchased from JOHN L. LEWIS the whole of his extensive

GROCERY AND LIQUOR BUSNESS!

ARE PREPARED TO CARRY IT ON IN ALL ITS BRANCHES.

Having made the purchase on the most favorable terms for cash, they are enabled to offer **SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS**, and compete with any house in the trade. Will pay particular attention to Country Trade, and will continue to pay, to any extent,

CASH FOR PRODUCE

Their Stock of Liquors will be found heavy, well selected and assorted.

The Subscribers feel confident that, with Mr. JACKSON'S ten years' experience in the trade of Guelph at the establishments of both Messrs. Rutherford and Lewis, they will give entire satisfaction to all who may favor them with their support.

DANIEL JACKSON. | J. HALLETT,

Guelph, 23rd April, 1868. dw

BEDDING PLANTS!

C. & A. SHARPE

HAVE for sale a large number of the following assortment of

BEDDING PLANTS!

VERBENAS, LANTANAS, PETUNIAS, HELIOTROPES, GERANIUMS, Etc., Etc.

VEGETABLE PLANTS.

CABBAGE PLANTS, in best Varieties,
CAULIFLOWER, in best Varieties,
KEYES' TOMATO, 30 days earlier than any other Variety extant,
CUCUMBER and MELON.

Also, a choice assortment of **FLOWER SEEDS** of last year's growth, selected by ourselves from the most reliable Seed-growing Establishments in Europe.

For further particulars apply at the Store, Market Square, for Catalogues.

Guelph, April 28, 1868. do tf

BRITANNIA HOUSE

WYNDHAM STREET, GUELPH.

ANOTHER CHEAP LOT

OF GREY AND

WHITE COTTONS!

500 PIECES NEW

Canadian Tweeds, very Cheap

JUST ARRIVED AT

HEFFERNAN BROS.

Guelph, 29th April, 1868. daw tf