

St. Thomas Reporter.

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR, Single Copies, Two Cts.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1880.

"LEGISLATING" FOR 8,000 PEOPLE

HOW THE CITY FATHERS ADVOCATE ECONOMY—TAXES STILL UNPAID—MORE CLERICAL EXEMPTIONS—THE STREET RAILWAY NUISANCE—UNLIT LAMPS WE PAY FOR—MR. BRUNS' GRIEVANCE—OUR FINANCES—THE BLOATED OFFICIALS—OTHER TOPICS.

The twelve good and true men who were elected to perform the onerous duties, pertaining to civic legislation, held their monthly session on Tuesday evening, all the members being in their places.

The minutes of previous meeting having been signed, the following COMMUNICATIONS WERE READ:

From J. Griffin, managing director of the street railway, that 100 loads of screened gravel are required by the company on St. Catharine and Talbot streets, and requesting the Council to have the same placed there at once, as per agreement. Referred to Road Committee.

From the Chief of Police, intimating that in the interval from January 9th to March 1st, thirty-six lamps were unlit. Referred to Gas Committee.

From Mrs. Crawford, asking for remission of taxes, her house having been occupied by Rev. Ellmore Harris at the time of assessment.

From C. W. Harte and other ratepayers of St. Andrew's Ward, requesting that the council reconsider and cancel the by-law relating to fire limits in as far as the north side of Talbot street, in St. Andrew's Ward is concerned, as the petitioners were convinced it hindered buildings going up in the ward. Referred to Fire and Water Committee.

From H. Comfort, reporting the reason of Mrs. Crawford's refusing to pay the \$30 taxes on her property; that Rev. Mr. Simson asked to be exempt from paying taxes on a house which he had purchased one year after its construction; and that Dr. Wilson, as owner, refused to pay \$24 assessment on the "Home," and threatened to sue the Council for the recovery of the sum if made to pay the taxes.

From G. Laidlaw, requesting that petitions be signed and forwarded to our member at Ottawa, in favor of an Act to give the Credit Valley Railway access to the Toronto Esplanade, and for the appointment of a Railway Commission to regulate business between railways and municipalities and between railways and individuals. Resolved that they be signed and sealed.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT exhibited a balance of \$388.01, and stated the indebtedness to the Merchant's Bank has been reduced to \$4,000, and that the amount due from the collector is \$3,893.25.

THE GREAT NUISANCE. Mr. Roe referred to a motion passed at last regular session, instructing the town engineer to see that the rails of the street railway were made flush with the road, but said nothing had been done yet.

Mr. Hunt thought it would be dangerous to delay putting on more material any longer.

Mr. Still favored having the gravel stored on some lot, so the Company could use it as required.

Dr. Vanbuskirk endeavored to apologize for the neglect of the street railway company, alleging that the town was at fault in not furnishing the necessary gravel.

Mr. Roe advocated the establishment of a wide gauge, and thought the company should be compelled to keep their rails flush with the street.

Mr. Wright mentioned another very great grievance of the public, which was that the company are in the habit of having the slush cleaned from between their rails and thrown upon the road on each side, often to a depth of seven or eight inches.

Mr. Morse urged that it was impossible to draw gravel at present. The motion carried on division.

Moved by C. O. Ermatinger, seconded by P. Martyn, that a communication be sent to the Credit Valley Railway, respecting the Credit Valley Railway, be signed by the Mayor and the corporation seal attached, and the document be forwarded to the Council.—Carried.

MR. BRUNS SPEAKS. At this juncture, considerable merriment was created by the reading of the wing communication from an indigent ratepayer:

Mrs. I beg to inform you as Council St. David's Ward: "your collector ram Comfort charged us for five years for dollars for one-tenth of one acre and we have not more than one-eighth." The indenture says we should have a south-east angle north sixty-four

feet and we have it not. The other party "have the benefit of seven feet."

"Hiram Comfort is boss over the Town "paint work and the building society are "the boss gentlemen for giving wrong "measurement. Please let us know if we "will get our taxes cheaper next spring, E. "D. Burnes."

HOW TAX EXEMPTION WORKS. It was moved by J. H. Still, seconded by F. Hunt, that the collector be authorized to accept one-half the taxes of Rev. Mr. Simpson.

Mr. Roe made some very sensible remarks upon this subject expressing his belief that clergymen enjoyed too many favors altogether. He was willing to comply with the law and give clergymen every privilege the law allows them, but was most strongly opposed to the action proposed by the resolution to exempt property that was not owned or tenanted by a clergyman at the time of assessment. He was aware that some clergymen in town received \$1,500 or \$1,600 a year as salary, and he could not see what right they had to be exempted from taxes more than other ratepayers. He favored the repeal of the law.

Mr. Ellis, the solicitor, being asked his opinion of the matter, expressed his opinion that as the property was assessed to another party, it was liable for taxes.

Mr. Still stated that as remission had been granted to others under similar circumstances he thought it "only right to pursue the same course in this instance. However, it was his belief also that clergymen enjoy too many favors and he was favorable to repealing the exemption law.

Upon a vote being called, the motion was lost, the yeas and nays being as below:

YEAS.—Ermatinger, Wright, Morse, Mann, Coyne, Drake, Martyn.—7.

YEAS.—Fraser, Vanbuskirk, Hunt, Still.—4.

THE FINANCES. The Finance committee reported payment of several accounts amounting to \$935.84, and recommended as follows:

"Your committee have carefully considered the different applications for increase of salary. In the case of A. Ware, your committee would recommend that his salary be increased to \$400, with an allowance of \$25 a year for stationery, use of office and gas for the purposes of committees during the year. With reference to the application of Mr. Ellis, your committee would not recommend any increase. The Treasurer's claim for an increase of salary your committee decided to leave entirely to open Council.

Your committee recommend that the Auditors' report be received, and that the Clerk be instructed to have the same published in pamphlet form."

Mr. Drake enquired the cause of the large expenditure for telegrams, and was informed by Mr. Still that it was on account of the London Junction Railway Bill.

Mr. Still stated that the increase was recommended on account of the extra work the engineer would have to perform in preparing plans for sewerage, pavement and other improvements that were projected.

Mr. Roe however found a totally different excuse for increasing the salary; the engineer's books which he said, are more difficult to keep than those of the treasurer, and concluded by expressing his belief that Mr. Ware was the right man in the right place.

G. W. Boggs having spoken in reference to accounts against the town it was decided to allow the same as offset to the judgment against him when he should pay one half the amount.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the mayor and treasurer be authorized to renew the note for \$4,000 in Merchants' Bank.

An account from the C. S. R. was not passed, the same not having been handed in at the proper time.

A report was presented from the Market committee specifying the sales of market and other fees and recommending a grant of \$50 to S. Rhyard as settlement of his claims.

The Relief committee estimated that \$1,200 would be required for relief purposes during the year, \$900 of which would be for the home.

After a lengthened discussion the report was adopted and the council adjourned.

Robert Miller was fined \$20 and costs by squire Gordon, at Melbourne, for giving liquor to an Indian. Mr. Miller stated that the Indian was a half-breed, and did not come under the provisions of the Act, but his objections were overruled. A neighbor tells us that the Indian being of mixed breed, Mr. M. would give him nothing but mixed drinks, the water for the Indian and the whiskey for the white part. Mr. Miller since denies the statement altogether.

Mr. Leitch, a hotel keeper of Duart, endeavored to make a target of the body of the well known brewer, Mr. Frank Wener, by firing two shots from a revolver at him, for which he was brought before two Highgate J. P.'s., but was discharged on the grounds "that he did not know it was loaded." Evidently Mr. L. must have been pretty well loaded himself, to perform such a foolhardy action.

The concert held at the Opera House on Friday evening last, for the benefit of the Irish sufferers, was not as well attended as it might have been; however, those who did attend had no occasion to regret it. The speeches by the Revs. Flannery and Ballard were delivered in their usual excellent style, while the singing, reading, &c., were without a flaw. The singing of Miss Reidy was especially worthy of notice, holding the audience enraptured while singing the old Scotch song "We'll meet na' mair at sunset." The rest of the company are too well known for any comment from us, we can only say, they each and every one, acquitted themselves perfectly.

URBANA'S DEFAULTING CLERK. HIS CAREER IN CRIME AND HOW IT WAS TERMINATED.

"This Canada of ours" has come to be regarded as the Paradise of defaulters and other peccolators, and another instance wherein a recalcitrant official who sought immunity from his misdeeds in Canada has been brought to justice, has just been revealed through the skill and cleverness of Chief of Police Fewings of this town.

During the past ten years, L. C. Hovey, or as he was more familiarly known "Cook" Hovey, has occupied the position of clerk in the city of Urbana, Champaign county, Ohio, and has performed the duties appertaining to his position in a manner that placed him above any shade of suspicion. But, Hovey, who is a somewhat fine looking man himself, is wedded to a handsome and elegant lady, and in accordance with the too prevalent custom of American people the couple appear to have been living in luxurious style, occasionally visiting the popular watering resorts and in other methods dispensing the almighty dollar. Hovey appears to have mingled to some extent in the political arena, and was supported by a coterie of friends sufficient to elect him at every election.

The first occasion offered for the display of his versatility, claimed by the prosecution, was in 1871, at which period the clerk was authorized by resolution of the city council to issue debentures to the amount of \$15,000. However, it is claimed that Hovey subsequently erased these figures and substituted others, thereby increasing the value of the bonds to \$50,000. Of course, the disposal of the extra amount is obvious; but so completely did Hovey enjoy the confidence of the citizens that no suspicion attached to him until in November last it was discovered that a bank in an adjoining place held an over issue of the city bonds of Urbana, amounting to \$2,000 or \$3,000, the same having been deposited by Hovey as collateral security for a call loan made to him; and the prosecution claim that these bonds were forgeries, Hovey having issued \$3,000 of 8 per cents in addition to the authorized 7 per cent bonds.

The board of auditors made a thorough examination of Hovey's books, and despite a rigid examination, reported his accounts correct. As this did not satisfy many citizens a special board was appointed, who after a very laborious examination were upon the point of returning a similar report when an examination of the city debenture account revealed the deficit. In the meantime Hovey had fled to Canada, and arrived in this town from the west upon the Canada Southern Railway, during the month of December last, but at once proceeded to London where he registered under the name of Grant, at the Tecumseh House, but subsequently removed to a more retired locality on the Hamilton Road, known as the One-Horse Tavern, where he has since remained.

Chief Fewings, of this town, became cognizant of the defalcation and soon he became satisfied as to the identity of Grant. Thereupon, some few weeks ago, he communicated with the authorities of Urbana, enquiring if a man named Hovey was wanted there and received a reply in the affirmative. City Marshall, J. J. Anderson, was at once despatched here with the requisite information for Hovey's arrest, and having made himself known to Chief Fewings, applied to Judge Hughes for a warrant of arrest, which was placed in Chief Fewings' hands, who proceeded to London on Monday last, and securing the assistance of Detective Murphy, went to the hostelry that evening and the Chief entered the room where a man whom he at once recognized as Hovey was seated, and after an interval the Chief arrested his man who submitted quietly while the bracelets were clapped upon his wrists.

He remarked that he had nothing to say about the affair, but upon the warrant being read to him, although he acknowledged to having taken the money, he denied any forgeries in connection therewith. The prisoner was identified by the Marshall, and Chief Fewings at once left for this town which he reached early on Tuesday morning, and immediately lodged his man in gaol. On the following day he was brought before Judge Hughes, and remanded until Tuesday next. A telegram was received from Mr. Duncan McDonald, prosecuting attorney of Urbana, announcing that Governor Foster of Ohio had forwarded the necessary documents to Washington, and that upon receipt of the papers required for extradition he would proceed here at once. In the meantime, County Attorney Stanton has been engaged to prosecute on behalf of the city, while Messrs. E. Meredith and A. J. McDonald, of London, have been retained by the prisoner.

The warrant issued against Hovey specifies the crime as forgery in the third degree—the penalty attached thereto being five years imprisonment at hard labor. From the fact that at the time of his arrest, beyond a valuable gold watch, only two dollars was found upon Hovey, it is surmised that the greater portion of the money remains in the possession of his Ohio friends who have been in constant communication with him, and have forwarded money to him as required. Hovey is about forty years of age, but appears much younger, and has been twice wedded. He has a family of three children, and his wife has been residing in London with him for some time. He is very reticent in regard to the affair, and disclaims any purpose of fraud or forgery. He also expresses his confidence in the failure of the attempt to procure his extradition, from want of evidence.

A reward of \$500 offered for his apprehension has been paid to Chief Fewings and Detective Murphy.

The American horse, Parole, retired from the first to the fifth place in the betting for the Lincolnshire handicap, to be run for on March 17th.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

LISGAR HOUSE. Friday, Feb. 27.—Fred J. Pavey, Chas. James, J. Cozens, T. Beattie, A. J. Watson, London; D. Beridan, Brownville; J. Bobier, Sparta; A. J. Wilson, Montreal; J. McLeerie, Thonburg, Saturday, 28.—G. Spence, G. McHolm, Toronto; S. S. Paupet, Aylmer; L. W. McIntyre, Wallacestown; L. W. Stansfield, London. Monday, March 1.—G. McHolm, R. W. Boyd, Toronto; S. Brown, A. E. Peters, C. James, W. J. Rutherford, London; J. Smythe, Kalamazoo, Mich.; R. W. Jones, Rochester, N. Y.; J. McMartin, W. A. M. Millman, Montreal; J. Peten, Berlin; J. A. McCausland, S. S. Paupet, Aylmer; S. Wilkins, A. Frazier, Hamilton; W. H. Merritt, St. Catharines. Tuesday, 2.—J. C. Morgan, E. H. Smyth, H. Bell, Toronto; A. J. Watson, A. J. B. Macdonald, J. C. Wilson, C. Jones, J. A. Hutton, F. M. Williams, J. L. Fitzgibbon, London; B. Hicks, Goderich; A. N. C. Black, W. S. Jackson, Dutton; J. W. Hagne, Alvinston; John Gilland, D. G. Ellis, W. Bremner, Hamilton; W. H. Barerson, Sandusky, Mo.; J. W. Graney, North East, Penn. Wednesday, 3.—I. W. Stansfield, C. A. Sippi, H. H. Bray, J. Eagan, Thomas Billingham, N. H. Tubb, London; Mrs. Hayne, Alvinston; E. K. Bullock, Detroit; A. Peterson, E. Musgrove, C. A. Kelly, Jr., O. R. Graham, Toronto; O. J. Moore, A. J. Moore, A. J. Moore, Iona; H. Holden, S. E. Fulton, Fingal; E. M. Matchet, Caledonia; J. H. Quarry, C. H. Field, E. K. Hope, Hamilton; J. L. Smith, Sonoma, N. Y.; A. C. Dewar, Dunwich; S. Pierson, Detroit, and 15 members of the Popular Dime Co's. Thursday, 4.—A. T. Higginson, R. Betancourt, R. G. Watson, Montreal; E. Kilner, F. G. Tisdale, A. Kranse, Hamilton; G. Watt, jr., Brantford; J. C. Wilson, F. M. Williams, London; R. Armstrong, F. W. Coles, Toronto; E. D. Tison, Mrs. VanNorman, Tilsonburg; H. F. McNally, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba R'y.; J. S. Minegar, Rodney.

HUTCHINSON HOUSE. Friday, Feb. 27.—J. T. Trindren, Ayr; C. A. O'Malley, Wardsville; C. W. Johnston, W. A. Sutherland, Kingston; J. H. London; N. T. McCall, G. A. Short, Alvinston; Y. A. Gosomer, Oil City; J. Brennan, M. Crenant, Amherstburg. Saturday, 28.—J. J. Auger, Ridgetown; D. McKillop, Shedd; J. W. Dougherty, T. Haggart, London; G. P. Deuby, A. Worster, Toronto; T. W. Kirkpatrick, Rodney; L. Clark, M. D., Iona; T. Falla, Muncytown; W. Kenedy, Oneida; W. Haight, Frome; W. S. Bodine, Glenoe; C. E. Bailey, J. S. McDiarmid, Ingersoll; H. Ginnack, Dundas; J. Hunter, Leamington; T. Bingham, do.; J. W. Hungerford, Hagersville. Monday, March 1.—J. Flanagan, W. H. Kennedy, Houston; W. T. Rutherford, A. U. Mitchell, D. Wilson, London; A. Neilson and wife, Streetsville; H. C. Street, Toronto; J. Rosenyong, Buffalo; T. Warrenclyff, do.; H. W. Langford, W. S. Gingham, Newbury; A. Mountjoy, Wingham. Tuesday, 2.—J. C. McColl, Shedd; R. Sylvester, Enniskillen; S. Hillard, Cosh, Brantford; H. S. Zolyn, Hamilton; P. C. Sleeman, Toronto; J. Richardson, J. Hogan, A. Biggs, A. M. Grimabee, London; A. H. Hughes, Aylmer; J. Whitlow, J. Wilson, R. D. Paterson, Montreal.

Elias Hawkins made his bow to his worship for assaulting Josephine Bassett, fined \$2.

WEST END BARBER SHOP, Talbot street, opposite the Town Hall, St. Thomas. Shaving, Shampooing and Hair-dressing. Switches and Curls made to order. Combing dressed in the latest style. Charges moderate.

ABSTRACT STATEMENT OF Receipts & Disbursements

Municipality of the Town of St. Thomas, for the year ending 31st Dec., 1879.

Table with columns for Receipts and Disbursements. Receipts: To Cash on hand from last Audit, \$3,170 64; Waterworks, 839 65; License Fund, 4,544 62; D. D. Campbell, 555 00; H. Comfort, 27,492 93; Merchants Bank, 46,146 99; General Purposes, 516 01; Interest, 207 01; Geo. W. Boggs, 409 56; Fines and Forfeitures, 414 05; Town Hall, 54 94; L. & P. S. R'y., 2,039 60; S. Rhyard, 1,093 00; General Improvement, 10 00; Registry Office, 191 18; Public Schools, 823 00; Henry Cusack, 27 00; D. Drade, 78 00; Joseph Cox, 50 30; A. Marsh, 55 00. Total Receipts: \$88,718 89.

Table with columns for Disbursements. Disbursements: By Coupons, \$6,408 75; General Purposes, 1,623 56; Water Works, 3,999 52; General Improvement, 258 27; Town Hall, 161 33; Officers Salaries, 3,710 30; Indigent Fund, 1,055 67; St. George's Ward, 1,946 40; St. Andrew's Ward, 429 42; Horton Market, 21 75; Gas Account, 1,253 23; Fire and Water, 1,471 43; St. David's Ward, 1,208 63; Public Schools, 4,823 00; County of Elgin, 787 30; Bills Payable, 44,500 00; Central School, 4,000 00; Interest Account, 20 68; Market Account, 1,797 83; St. Patrick's Ward, 1,313 78; Street Railway, 63 85; Debentures, High School Acct., 750 00; Balance on hand 31st Dec. 1879, 6,529 46. Total Disbursements: \$88,718 89.

GEORGE W. MORGAN, J. H. CRAWFORD, Auditors

WANTED

A FEW GOOD MEN to sell Gennie Singer Sewing Machines. Special inducements to good men. Apply to The Singer M'fg Co., 207 Talbot Street, St. Thomas. 8-1m

POPULAR DIME!

OPERA HOUSE

ST. THOMAS.

The above Company will appear in one of their

Favorite Dramas

—ON—

Wednesday Eve, March 10

Our new list of Prizes to be seen at Webb's China Hall. Remember

20 PRIZES 20

Grand Prize, Beautiful China Tea Set.

Admission, 10 cents. Reserved Seats, 15c.

Caution to Farmers!

Timely Warning!

FARMERS AND OTHERS BRINGING any article to market for sale must first come on the market and pay their fees, otherwise they will be prosecuted. Parties purchasing produce of any kind from a farmer without first going to the market, will also be liable to prosecution. Therefore, both buyer and seller, take warning, as it is my attention to carry out the law.

FRANK BOGGS, Market Clerk, St. Thomas, March 1st, 1880-7ft

CLEARING OUT

SALE

AT THE

VARIETY HALL

Third door East of Post Office, St. Thomas.

Monday, Thursday, Saturday,

at 7 o'clock, p.m. The stock consists of

SALES

EVERY

Monday, Thursday, Saturday,

at 7 o'clock, p.m. The stock consists of

CLOTHING,

Boots & Shoes, Tinware, Vases, and

FANCY GOODS

Call and see for yourself.

A. LARMAN.

St. Thomas, March 5th, 1880-7