PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD.

Clearing Off the Slate in View of the Elections—Last Meeting of the Board,

The Public School Board met last night for the last time in 1897. There will be one meeting of the old board after the elections.

Dr. Buck wanted to know if the Finance Committee had take many steps to secure from the City Council the necessary amount for the increased school accommodation needed; and also what steps had been taken to repudiate the remarks made by certain members of the City Council about certain members of the School Board. In reply Mr. Burns said nothing had been done nor could be done before the new Council took office.

The report of the Finance Committee recommending the payment of accounts to the amount of $422.66 was adopted. Mr. S. W. Burns asked the board to make a grant of $100 to Mr. Groves, Principal of the Model School, for extra work during the Model term. Mr. Burns stated that this was customary, but Mr. Davis and Dr. Spence objected and no grant was made.

The report of the Management Committee recommending the following was read and carried: That the schools close on Wednesday, the 22nd inst., and open at 9 o'clock on Jan. 4, and that the kindergartens close on the 21st. Miss S. Noble of Parliament-street school was granted leave of absence for six months, beginning Jan. 1; Miss A. Langlois and Miss G. E. Willams were given leave of absence during December. Miss A. H. Baker, with a second-class certificate, was appointed to the temporary list of teachers, and assigned to Parliament-street school; Isabella hadley of the Fifth class in Queen Victoria school, after about half an hour's discussion, was allowed to drop the studies of algebra, and Euclid, owing to illness.

On recommendation of the Property Committee accounts to the amount of $3000 were ordered to be paid. Accounts to the amount of $2000 recommended by the Supply Committee were also ordered to be paid. Salaries for November amounted to $35,000.

Bondsman Not of Age.

Nicholas Murphy, Q.C., appeared in the Sessions yesterday with a family Bible. In that Bible was the date which proved that Fred S. Ball was not of age when he signed the bond making him liable in a surety of $200 for the appearance of Maggie Hamilton. That lady, who is more than 21, was arrested on the charge of frequenting a house of ill fame. She was released on bail, Fred Ball going surety for her.

The case was called, but Miss Maggie did not appear. Neither did Mr. Ball. His father swore that he was not of age when he signed the bond, and Judge McDougall released the infant. "The court will find them both in due time," said His Honor.

Citizens' Tax Equalization Committee.

The first of a series of public meetings under the auspices of this organization will be held in St. George's Hall, cor. Queen and Berkeley-streets to-morrow evening to discuss the question: "Are you in favor of the principle of abolishing all exemptions on municipal taxation?" which is to be submitted to the electors at the municipal elections.

ATTO
DRY GOODS ONLY
Friday, 17th Dec., 1897.

Christmas Gifts and Holiday Specials

Handkerchiefs—Ladies'

Ladies' Hemstitch Linen, box of half-dozen, for $1 and $1.25.
Embroidered Lawn, at 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c, 40c, 50c, 60c, 75c, 90c, $1, $1.25, $1.50 each.
Hemstitch, ¼, ½, ¾, 1, 1¼-inch hems, at $1.00, $1.00, $2, $2.25, $2.50, $2.75, $3, 3.50, $4, $4.50, $5 per dozen.
Fine Sheer Linen, ¼ and ½-inch hems, at 50c, 63c, 75c, 90c, and $1 each.
Hemstitch (pure linen), embroidered initial letters, A to W, in box containing ½ dozen, for $1.75.
Embroidered Linen at 50c, 60c, 75c, 90c, $1, $1.25, $1.75, $2, $2.25, $2.50, $3, $3.50, $4, $4.25, $4.10 and $5 each.
Real Maltese Lace, trimmed, at $1.25, $1.50, $2, $2.50, $3, $3.25, and $3.50 each.
Real Duchesse and Honiton Lace, trimmed, from $1.50 to $12 each.

Handkerchiefs Gentlemen's

Linen, hemmed, at $1.00, $1.75, $2, $2.25, $2.50, $2.75 and $3 per dozen.
Hemstitched, at $3, $3.25, $3.50 $4, $5, $6 per dozen.

"Kelvin" Capes

A grand assortment of fancy checks and real Scottish Clan and Family Tartan patterns, at $4.50, $5, $6, $7, $8, 9, $10, $11, $12, $14, $15, $17 each.

Rustling Silk Underskirts

A new lot of plain shot, stripe and fancy Taffetas from $6 to $10 each.

Several Hundred Dress Lengths

in black and colors, representing every fabric in vogue, laid out specially for the holidays and marked at prices to clear, $2.00, $2.50, $3.90, $4.00, $5.00 each.

Silk Dresses

(Samples on request.)
Black Peau de Soie, at $1, $1.10, $1.25 per yard.
Black Brocades, at 75c, 90c, $1, $1.25 per yard.
Plain Satin Duchesse, at $1.50, $1.75, $2, $2.50 per yard.
Moire Velour, Imperiale, Antique, Cyclone, Arabesque, at $1, $1.25, $1.50, $1.75 per yard.

Evening Gowns

(Samples on request.)
Moire Velours, Satin Duchesse, Brocades, Surahs, Taffetas, Irish Poplins, Gauzes, Silk Tissues, Tinsel and Beaded Chiffons, from $1.25 to $3 per yard.

Silks for Waists

(Samples on request.)
French Taffetas, in plaids, brocades, stripes, checks, plain and shot, at 50c, 60c, 75c, 90c, $1, $1.25 per yard.

Silk Blouse Waists

of above silks, made in latest styles, from $1.50 to $10 each.
Shirt Waists, in French organdies, fine cambrics, lawns, linen and silk mixtures, from $1.25 to $1.50 each.
Special line of Figured Silk Blouses at $3 each.

General Summary

of other lines in which special holiday bargains will be found: Mantles, Jackets, Coats, Capes.
Dress Skirts, Dressing Gowns, Dressing Jackets, House Wrappers, Waterproofs, Umbrellas, (initial engraved free of charge), Real Shetland Shawls, Real Shetland Spencers, Orenburg Shawls, White Knit Wool Shawls, Knitted Silk Shawls, Heavy Wool Shawls and Wraps, Wool Travelling Rugs, Kid Gloves, Scottish Tartan Specials, Silk Bow and Club Ties, Belts, Mufflers, Handkerchiefs, Scarfs, Silk Shawls, Wool Shawls, Reversible Travelling Rugs, Eiderdown Quilts, Cushions, Linen Damask Table Cloths and Napkins, Towels, Hand-embroidered Linen Quilts, Pillow Shams, Tea Cloths, Centrepieces, Sideboard Scarfs, etc. Hemstitch Sheets and Pillow Cases.

Mail Orders

Solicited. Satisfaction guaranteed.

JOHN CATTO & SON
KING STREET
Opposite the Postoffice.

Start shopping early in the day—forenoons always, if possible.

A better choice is secured by this foresight, and you facilitate the prompt delivery of your goods.

Have you brought the children to see the Toys and Dolls on the fifth floor? An unequalled and unexcelled display in the toy history of Toronto.

THE ROBERT SIMPSON Co. LIMITED

Black Dress Goods
MAIN FLOOR

In the Dress Goods Section we are offering many specials that will fit in for an appropriate holiday gift. We tell to-day of Dress Lengths in Black Dress Goods, prices of which have been made in some cases one-half regular figures:

Dress Lengths, Silk and Wool, with tinsel, regular $30, special..... $15.00
Dress Lengths, Silk and Wool, regular $14, special..... 9.00
Dress Lengths, Silk and Wool Mantalesse, regular $11, special..... 7.50
Dress Lengths, Silk and Wool Mixture, regular $7.50, special..... 5.00
44-in. Mohair and Wool, neat patterns, regular $1.75, special..... 1.25
44-in. Mohair and Wool Mantelasse, regular $1.25, special..... .85

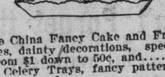
Christmas in the China Section

More than usual pleasure is taken in an invitation to inspect the stocks of beautiful China Goods in the basement. Large numbers of shoppers know the fame of this store for fine China Goods. We excel anything of the past in the large additions made for holiday trade, with prices very special for everything:

Large assortment of China Mustard Pots, with spoon, special 10c, 15c.. .20
China Shaving Mugs, with lip, special 10c, 15c; extra fine cups..... .40

Our stock of China Cups and Saucers is the finest we have ever shown. Exceptional values at 5c and 10c; fancy cups 20c and 25c; fine China Cups at from $2 down to..... .50
Fine French Limoge China Cups and Saucers, dainty decorations, 20c, 25c; burnished, gold and stippled, special at 75c, 50c.. .... .35

Plates, an endless variety, Bread and Butter Plates, $1.25, 25c, 15c, 10c; tea plates, with fruit and flowers, 10c, 15c; Limoge China, 25c, 35c; gold stippled plates, special at from $1.50 down to..... .... .50



Limoge China Fancy Cake and Fruit Plates, dainty decorations, special at from $1 down to 50c, and..... .35
China Celery Trays, fancy patterns, special 50c and..... ..... .35

Seasonable Holiday Presents
MAIN FLOOR

Just a suggestion or two from out of a thousand and one suggestions that will meet everyone as they wander through the stocks on the main floor—rich in their variety and quality, and yet eqerything low in price:

Men's Umbrellas

Men's Gloria or Satin de Chene Umbrellas, with steel rod and natural wood or horn handles, regular $2.50, special..... 2.00
Men's Gloria Silk-Ceased Umbrellas, steel rod and horn handle, regular $2.75, special..... 2.00
Men's Taffeta Silk Diminutive-Folding Silk-Cased Umbrellas, with natural wood or horn handles, sterling silver or gold mounts, excellent value for $2.50, $2.75 and... 3.00
Men's Taffeta Silk Umbrellas, with horn, ivory or wood handles, sterling silver or gold mounts, very special, regular $4.50 and $5, for..... 3.25

Flannelette Section

Imported Dyed Velours Flannelette, in floral and spray patterns, for ladies' tea gowns and wrappers, usually sold for 20c and 25c, special..... .15

Feather Boas and Neck Ruffs

Ladies' Hackle Feather Neck Ruffs, in black tipped with white or colors, special..... .40
Ladies' 52-in. Hackle Feather Boas, in black tipped with white, regular $1.75, special..... 1.25
Ladies' Ostrich Feather Neck Ruffs, in black, regular $1.50, $2.75 and $3, special at $1, $2.25 and..... 2.50
Ladies' Short Ostrich Feather Boas, in grey, brown, black or white, special..... 3.50
Ladies' 50-in. Ostrich Feather Boa, in black and white, brown and white, or black, special at from $6.50 down
Out of our large purchase of Sample to..... 3.00

Novelties in Xmas Cards

Unless you have stood before the counters on the main floor and viewed our assortment of Xmas and New Year Cards, you can have no idea of the immense variety and their real beauty. Our stock abounds in specialties. You can get cards, real pretty, for 4 cents a dozen, and a very wide range at 1 cent, 2 cents and 3 cents each, cards usually sold at 5c and 10c; or, again, at 4c and 5c, where 10c and 15c has been the regular price. We have a large range of cards in boxes, containing 10 cards and an envelope for each, all different, at 20c a box. Reward and Sunday School Cards in great variety. A distinct novelty of the Card Section are "Private Greeting Cards." These are very fashionable in the Old Country—done up in boxes of 25 cards, with envelopes, greetings to your own order printed on the cards. There are several hundred different designs and no two boxes alike, giving an exclusiveness to the selection—prices from $1.00 to $2.50 per box.

The staff in the Mail Order Section is increased and they are working every night, for promptness is the feature of this department. Order quickly, with the assurance that your goods will go out promptly on receipt of order.

The Robert Simpson Co., Limited

S.W. Corner Yonge and Queen Streets. 170, 172, 174, 176, 178 Yonge Street. 1 and 3 Queen St. West.

FIRES IN BRACEBRIDGE.

Tate and Bateson's Planing Mills and Other Property Destroyed—Incendiarism Suspected.

Bracebridge, Dec. 16.—At 5.15 p.m. a fire was discovered in the Bracebridge planing mills, owned by J. R. Higgins and occupied by Tate & Bateson. A hurricane was blowing at the time, and all efforts to save the building were of no avail. The fire spread to Whaley's blacksmith shop, adjoining, and it also was consumed. While this fire was in progress the alarm was sounded for a fire in another part of the town, in an unoccupied stable. This was also consumed. The origin of both fires is supposed to be incendiary. The loss on planing mill and shops is about $2000; no insurance.

JURY COULD NOT AGREE.

Grocer James Scott of Woodstock Charged With Attempting to Defraud.

Woodstock, Ont., Dec. 16.—At the quarter sessions to-day James Scott, a well-known grocer, was tried for having sold his stock-in-trade to J. McKenzie for $2300 about a year ago for the purpose of defrauding Thomas H. Parker and other creditors. It appears that he paid out the greater part of this sum to his creditors, but did not pay any of it to Parker, who is alleged to have benefited by payments on prior mortgages to the extent of $700. The judge charged strongly in favor of the defendant, and the jury, after being out for four hours, stated they could not agree, and were discharged. They stood ten to two for acquittal.

S. Ackerman, Commercial Traveler, Belleville, writes: "Some years ago I used Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil for Inflammatory Rheumatism, and three bottles effected a complete cure. I was the whole of one summer unable to move without crutches, and every movement caused excruciating pains. I am now out on the road and exposed to all kinds of weather, but have never been troubled with rheumatism since. I, however, keep a bottle of Dr. Thomas' Oil on hand, and I always recommend it to others as it did so much for me." 7d

The many friends of Mr. Joseph Spence, 28 Brant-street, of Portland street firehall, paid him and his estimable lady a friendly call Wednesday evening in commemoration of his 20th birthday. The party broke up at an early hour, all wishing Mr. and Mrs. Spence much happiness through their future life.

CONSUMPTION.

"Nature's Cure for Consumption" will be sent to any sufferer upon receipt of ten cents for postage, etc. The price, $5, to be paid when cured and not before. No case is hopeless! No medicine! No expense! Address J. A. WATKINS, 1340 I-st., N.W., Washington, D.C.

Sample Shoes
For Men—Saturday

Shoes from the John McPherson Co. we place on sale for Saturday 800 pairs of men's lace and elastic side boots and winter russets, box calf, wax calf, dongola, chocolate and colored calf, with genuine Goodyear welt soles, coin, needle, London and half-dollar toes—sizes, 7 and 7½, goods sold regularly at $3, $4, $5, choice Saturday at..... .....$2.00

MEN'S HATS AND FURS
FOR SATURDAY

Men's Extra fine quality English or American Stiff or Soft Fur Felt Hats, very latest style for fall and winter wear, in black, brown, Cuba or tan, regular $3, special..... ... 2.00
A choice Xmas gift is one of our extra fine Persian Lamb Caps, with band or the wedge shape, lined very heavy black satin, fancy or quilted finish, rich and even and glossy curl, extra special..... 6.50
Men's Astrachan Lamb Caps, wedge or band shape, lined with heavy quilted black satin and nicely finished, special $3 and..... 2.00
Men's Black Imitation Lamb Caps, lined with heavy sateen and nicely finished, in band shape or without bands, regular $1, special..... .65
Men's Extra choice Alaska or South Sea Seal Fur Caps, in wedge or Dominion shape, heavy, fine and even fur, richly finished, regular $16, special..... .....12.00
Men's Very Fine Silk Seaskette Caps, in Driver, Havelock and Manitoba shapes, nicely made, lined with satin, worth $2, special..... 1.00
Men's Extra Choice Canadian Mink Caps, wedge shape, an excellent Xmas gift, special reduced price... 8.50

Xmas in Men's Furnishings

Men's Initial Japanese Silk Handkerchiefs, extra large size, regular 35c, special..... .25
Men's Extra Fine Linen Handkerchiefs, with worked initial, special 25c each, or for box of one-half doz..... 1.35
Men's Fancy Silk Four-in-hand Knot, Bow and Puff Ties, dark and medium shades, all new shapes and patterns, regular 35c and 40c, special..... .25
Men's Fancy Silk Mufflers, all the newest designs, special at from $4 down to..... .....
Men's Extra Fine Fancy Striped All-Wool Shirts and Drawers, double breasted, ribbed skirt, extra fine sateen finish, regular $1.00 each, special..... .75
Men's Fancy Navy Flannel Shirts, collar attached, all sizes, regular $1, special..... .75
Boys' Fancy Flannel Shirts, with collar attached, or plain neck band, all sizes, special at 65c and..... .75
Men's Fancy Silk Embroidered and plain Satin Braces, all shades, special at from $2.50 down to..... .65
Men's Fancy Trimmed American Twill Cotton Night Shirts, in all the newest trimmings, special at from $1 to..... 2.00

Saturday Sale of Palms
For Xmas Presents

Large Palms, regular price $6 to $6.50, special..... .....$4.50
Palms, regular price $3.50 to $4.50, special..... 3.00
Palms, regular $2.50 to $3.50, special..... 1.75
Xmas Moss Wreathing, 30 yards for. 1.00
Xmas Holly, full of berries, 10c a large bunch.
Cut Flowers—Best Roses, $1.00 per doz.
Carnations, per doz..... .35
Violets, per doz..... .20
Now is the time to order cut flowers for Xmas.

Second-Hand Typewriters
CHEAP.

Blickensderfers, $15 to $25
Williams, $50 to 60
Smith Premiers, $40 to 55
Remingtons (remodeled), ... 50
Empires (new) 46
Caligraphs, $25 to 35
Franklins 20

We repair and remodel all makes of typewriters. Best equipped establishment and mechanics in Canada. Write for prices. Machines rented and sold on instalments. CREELMAN BROS.' TYPEWRITING CO., 15 Adelaide-street East.

The choir of Ketchum Hall Bible class gave a social entertainment last night, which was a success in every respect.

A Big String of Orders

Don't frighten us—we are fully prepared to furnish you with

Furs for Xmas

Special, beautiful Persian Lamb and Alaska Sable Caperines from $25 to $35, according to style and quality.

W. KAHNERT,
High-Class Furrier,
83 King Street West,
Late Designer of G. R. Renfrew & Co.

AUCTION SALES.

C. M. HENDERSON & CO.,
91 and 93 King-Street East.
(Near Church-Street.)

Turkish Rugs.

Grand and Unreserved Auction Sale of Turkish and Persian Rugs, Palace Strips, Oriental Portieres, Armenian Needle Work and Oriental Art Goods.

We are pleased to announce that we have received instructions from the well-known collector,
MR. COURIAN OF CONSTANTINOPLE,
to sell by public auction on

Thursday Afternoon,
DECEMBER 23, at 2.30.

At Nos. 91-93 King-street east (near Church-street) his entire collection, being the finest and best assorted ever submitted to public sale in Canada, comprising Bokhara, Shiraz, Silky Anatolian, Kurdistan Rugs, Demirdgits and Adgemistan Palace Carpets, Daghistan, Shiroan and Pazak Prayer Rugs, also a very choice assortment of Armenian Embroideries and other Eastern Art goods.
Moorish Furniture, etc., etc.
Every lot offered will be sold without the least reserve.
On view afternoon previous to sale.
CHARLES M. HENDERSON & CO., Auctioneers.

50 YEARS' EXPERIENCE
PATENTS
TRADE MARKS
DESIGNS
COPYRIGHTS &c.
Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. Handbook on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the
Scientific American.
A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, $3 a year; four months, $1. Sold by all newsdealers.
MUNN & Co. 361 Broadway, New York
Branch Office, 625 F St., Washington, D. C.

TO THE

Treasurers of the Municipalities Throughout the Province of Ontario

The Municipal Cash Books, as approved by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, will be ready for distribution on or about the 20th December, 1897.

Treasurers are requested to send their orders at once to Brown Brothers, Limited, Toronto, who will forward them in due course.

J. B. LAING,
Provincial Municipal Auditor.
Department of the Attorney-General, Toronto, 15th Dec., 1897.

Application to Parliament

Notice is hereby given that an application will be made to the Legislature of Ontario at the present session thereof by Lewis F. Riggs of the City of Toronto, for an act enabling the said Lewis F. Riggs to practice dentistry in the Province of Ontario as a licentiate of Dental Surgery upon passing the final examination prescribed by the Royal College of Dental Surgeons, except on the subject of chemistry and without attendance upon lectures and upon paying the requisite fees in that behalf, any law statute or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Dated this 7th day of December, A.D. 1897.

JAMES HAVERSON,
Solicitor for L. F. Riggs.

MEETINGS.

PARKDALE CURLING CLUB
Limited.

A general meeting of the shareholders of the company will be held on Wednesday, the 29th day of December, 1897, at 8 o'clock p.m., in Ross' Hall, southeast corner of Queen-street and Dunn-avenue, for the purpose of organizing the company for the commencement of business and for considering the advisability of purchasing land, and the erection of buildings suitable for the requirements of the club.

(Signed) JOHN E. HALL,
Provisional Secretary Provisional Directors.
V. B. WADSWORTH,
Temporary Chairman Provisional Directors.
Toronto, Dec. 16, 1897.

The Rev. G. C. Wallis of St. James' Cathedral will preach in St. Anne's Church, Dufferin street, on Sunday evening.

JUST SEVEN MORE BUSINESS DAYS BEFORE.....

CHRISTMAS

SOME -- Seasonable Suggestions —AT— MICHIE'S

1. If everybody left their Christmas shopping until Christmas Eve some would have to be disappointed. Shop early.
2. We have made special arrangements for a large selection of Choice Fruits for Christmas week. Oranges, Grapes, Bananas, Apples, Grape Fruit, etc.
3. Santa Claus' Surprise Stockings are all ready filled with Toys and Christmas Novelties of all kinds. They save you much trouble and are a delight to the children. Five sizes at Michie's.
4. Christmas Plum Puddings, for those who do not make their own. We have some of the finest brands of Plum Puddings in tins—several different sizes from 40c to $1.10 per tin.
5. Fancy Imported Biscuits—our special Christmas mixture—containing upwards of 20 kinds of fine crisp Fancy Biscuits, chiefly Huntley & Palmer's. Special, 25c pound.
6. French Plums in bottles. These we import direct from Bordeaux, selecting only the large ripe fruit, which, while costing more than the early pick, is so much better as to be less expensive—when the quality is considered. A special two-pound bottle for 75c.
7. Tom Smith's Christmas Crackers, brilliantly ornamented paper fancies—a pull—a little bang—a harmless explosion, and genuine excitement over the probabilities of the contents, which may be a curio, a little toy or jewel, a paper hat, cap or bonnet. Children derive intense amusement from them, and they enliven adults' dinner parties, etc.
8. Ginger, preserved and crystallized, is a prominent accompaniment of the dessert at Christmas time. We have a large assortment from 23c to $1.25 jar. A pound tin of Genuine Chinese Crystallized Ginger for Christmas for 45c.
9. Other suggestions suitable to the season are: Assorted Nuts, Almonds and Raisins, Glace Fruit, Fancy Layer and Pulled Figs, Christmas Mince Meat, Finest Java and Mocha Coffee, Selected Hams and Bacon, etc., etc.

In Confectionery

There is one that is best for all the time, as well as for Christmas time.

In addition to these we have three excellent Christmas Mixtures of Fine Chocolate Creams and Bonbons, freshly made, pure and wholesome, at

20c, 25c and 30c lb.

And a host of beautiful Novelties in

Fancy Boxes and Fancy Baskets of Candies

In fact, our whole Confectionery Department reflects Christmas time and abounds in tempting little novelties at reasonable prices.

This department alone is well worth a visit.

Our Branch Store on Spadina Ave., near College St., is daily growing in favor through the excellence of our service in the north-west section of the city.

MICHIE & CO.
GROCERS, Etc.
Two Large Stores:
5½ and 7 King Street West.
Phones 409 and 461.
466 and 468 Spadina Avenue.
Phone 415.