Guelph Evening Mercury.

VOL. II. NO. 160. GUELPH, ONT. CANADA, FRIDAY EVENING JANUARY 22, 1869. PRICE ONE PENNY

PETRIE'S DRUG STORE.

OLD POST OFFICE BLOCK.

MEEN FUN

A supply of that celebrated

Chinese Skin Powder

For Restoring, Beautifying and Preserving the Skin and Complexion,

AT PETRIE'S

Drug Store, Wyndham Street, Guelph.

January 6. daw tf

DAVIDSON & CHADWICK

GENERAL AGENTS,

TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, } GUELPH,

Agents for nvesting Money for the

TRUST and LOAN COMPANY

OF UPPER CANADA, AND

THE CANADA PERMANENT BUILDING and SAVINGS SOCIETIES

OF TORONTO.

THESE Companies afford every facility to the borrower, and give him the privilege of either retaining the principal for a term of years or of paying it off by instalments extending over any term of years up to 15.,

DAVIDSON & CHADWICK,

Have also a large amount of

PRIVATE FUNDS

On hand for Investment.

Money Invested and interest collected Mortgages bought subject to examination of title. and valuation of property offered.

Debentures, Stocks and Securities of all kinds negociated.

DAVIDSON & CHADWICK

Are Agents for the

Royal Insurance Co'y

OF ENGLAND.

CAPITAL - - $10 000 000.

DAVIDSON & CHADWICK

are Agents for the

STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,

Established - - - - in 1825.

The STANDARD takes risks at very reasonable rates, and Policy holders are secured by the very large sum of accumulated and invested Funds, viz: $18,000,000, and the Company have made the deposit with the Government of the Dominion of Canada required by the new Act.

DAVIDSON & CHADWICK

Have a number of **FARMS** for sale n the Co. of Wellington and adjoining Counties.

Also, Town Lots and Houses

In Guelph, Berlin, Fergus, &c.

FARM FOR SALE IN ERAMOSA.

For sale that farm, being Lot 22, 1st Concession, Eramosa, containing 200 acres, more or less, about 130 under cultivation, the balance covered with the best hardwood and cedar. The land is in a high state of cultivation, and is well watered, the Speed running through part of the lot. There is also a spring creek running through the Lot.—There is a two-story frame house 26×40 feet, a stone kitchen story and a-half high 21×22, back kitchen, boiler house and store-room, also of stone. There are three frame barns 30×50 each, long frame shed and driving house. There is a fine orchard on the place, with 100 trees, the most of them in good bearing order. There is a never failing well, also soft water cistern. It lies on the leading road from Eramosa to Fergus, and is distant from that village 8 miles, and 9 miles from Guelph. It is convenient to churches, school and post office. Terms made known by applying to the undersigned on the premises, or if by letter (post paid) to

DAVIDSON & CHADWICK,
Land. Loan and General Agents, Guelph

OPENING NOTICE.

The GUELPH BAKERY

Upper Wyndham Street.

H. BERRY in taking this opportunity of thanking his numerous customers for the very liberal patronage bestowed on him, begs to intimate that owing to the rapid increase of his Wholesale Confectionery business, he has disposed of his Bread business to ARCHIBALD GILCHRIST, whom he has great pleasure in recommending, and who, he is confident, will do his utmost to give satisfaction to all who may patronize him:

A. GILCHRIST

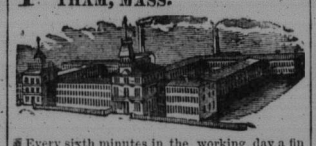
Has much pleasure in informing the public that he has opened the Store

NEXT DOOR TOM. SODEN'S,

Where he hopes by strict personal attention to business, and keeping a first-class article, to merit the share of puolic patronage so long bestowed on his predecessor.

A. GILCHRIST,
Fancy Bread, Biscuit & Cake Baker.
Guelph, Dec. 19.

THE WATCH FACTORY AT WALTHAM, MASS.



Every sixth minutes in the working day a finished watch movement is the average production of the above Factory. Yet, at this enormous rate of manufacture, the Company can but barely supply the demand. They have already produced almost

HALF A MILLION OF WATCHES,

most of which are now in the pockets of the people, testifying to their superior merits as timekeepers. They are now almost exclusively used on

ALL THE LEADING RAILWAYS.

Where they are found to run with perfect accuracy, in spite of the constant jar, which so much affects ordinary watches.

SHIP CAPTAINS

and other officers, who are frequently absent on long voyages, prefer THE AMERICAN Watch t any other, as they are not perceptibly affected by change of climate, and do not require frequent regulating. The story of the twenty-five dollar "Ellery" watch that was carried five years by a soldier in the Army of the Potomac, and that varied ONE MINUTE AND A HALF IN THAT TIME, WITHOUT CARE OR CLEANING, could hardly be told of any other watch of the price that ever was made.

TO LUMBERMEN

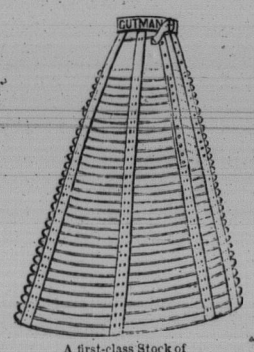
these watches are of great value, not being liable to stop or get out of repair during their months of absence in the woods. They are admirably

ADAPTED FOR PRESENTATION,

as the movements are not only reliable, but the cases in gold are rich and handsome and of guaranteed fineness. Thousands of these watches are now worn in Canada—every day they are becoming more popular. Very soon they will be the only watches sold in any quantity in the Dominion. Buyers should always require the guarantee of the Company with each watch, to avoid being imposed upon by spurious Swiss imitions. These watches may be ordered through any Jeweller in the Dominion in gold or silver cases, for ladies or gentlemen; or in districts where there are no watchmakers, we supply them to general merchants by the dozen. To the wearer they are the cheapest watches in the world!

ROBBINS & APPLETON,
Genera Agents, New York.
ROBERT WILKES,
Wholesale Agent for Canada, Toronto and Montreal.
dw

JUST IN.



A first-class Stock of

GUTMAN'S CELEBRATED

Hoop Skirts

In all the Latest and most Approved Styles.

Including the

New PANNIER Skirt

Which is a general favorite.

THIS IS BEYOND ALL COMPARISON

THE CHEAPEST LOT OF SKIRTS EVER SHOWN

IN GUELPH.

The attention of every lady is requested.

A. O. BUCHAM.
Guelph, Jan. 17. d

GREAT POWERS

Are always neutral in small squabbles.

SO IT IS WITH

PREST & HEPBURN

In the leather war now going on between their opponents on the south side of Wyndham-st.

WE do not believe in bosh and bunkum, but deal with facts, and leave the verdict in the hands of the intelligent people of Wellington. We are prepared to prove, and we positively affirm, notwithstanding all the puffing and blowing which has become the order of the day, that PREST & HEPBURN, Wyndham Street, Guelph, manufacture more

BOOTS AND SHOES

And employ double the number of Workmen of any other establishment in the County of Wellington. We invite the public to call and look through our Factory, and they will be convinced that we are telling the truth, and nothing but the truth.

A great deal has been said for and against machine-made Boots and Shoes. Now we believe, and we are confident that every well-balanced mind in Wellington will agree with us, that the less machinery used in manufacturing Boots and Shoes the better. All our staple Boots and Shoes are made by hand, which must be admitted is far superior to any machine made Goods. We have now on hand the largest and best assortment of Boots and Shoes ever offered to the people of Wellington which we will sell as cheap as the cheapest.

Remember that all our work is warranted, and no second price. Repairs done as usual.

PREST & HEPBURN.
Guelph, 2nd November. dw

MONTREAL STEAM SHIP COMPANY.

GUELPH AGENCY.

CANADIAN LINE-Portland to Liverpool every Saturday.
GLASGOW LINE—Portland to Glasgow every week.

CABIN.—Guelph to Liverpool, $83.50 and $63.50
STE RAGE, do do $32.00.
CABIN—Guelph to Glasgow, $73.50.
INTERMEDIATE, do $47.00.
STEERAGE, do do $31.00.

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

GEO. A. OXNARD,
Agent, G. T. R., Guelph
Guelph, A ril 1, 1868. daw

Evening Mercury.

FRIDAY EV'G, JAN. 22, 1869.

Local and Miscellaneous

The Rev. W. Morley Punshon is coming to give a lecture in Guelph soon.

The Postmaster here has a letter addressed to 'the wickedest man in Guelph.' Wonder who's going to take it out.

THE Wellington County Council meet at the Court House, Guelph, on Tuesday next, at 2 o'clock p.m.

THE GODERICH MURDER.—A verdict of wilful murder has been rendered against Joseph Mills, who is still at large.

KENNEDY, the renowned Scottish vocalist, is going to give the citizens of Guelph an opportunity to spend "an hour wi' Burns" before long.

FIRE IN BEVERLY.—The two-story frame dwelling-house, owned and occupied by Wm. Henry, Esq., 6th Con., Beverly, was destroyed by fire on Monday.

We see by announcement in another column that Cupid's headquarters for the season will be located at Thornton's new bookstore, Wyndham street, where a fine assortment of Valentines will be shown.

HOGS.—Five large hogs of extra quality, weighing about 2,000 pounds, and fed by Mr. Thos. Card, were purchased yesterday by Mr. J. T. Brill, at $10.25 per cwt., who also bought 500 other hogs—all for the Guelph Packing House.

THE TOWNSEND FAMILY.—We are to have a visit of the talented Townsend Family on the 3rd and 4th of February. They open with the "Merchant of Venice," after which will be played "My Neighbour's Wife." Further particulars and advertisement in a few days.

SALE OF NON-RESIDENT LANDS.—The adjourned sale of non-resident lands in this County, in arrears for taxes, is advertised in this week's Weekly *Mercury* to take place at the Court House on the 27th April at 10 a. m. Those wishing to secure copies of the *Mercury* containing the list can do so by applying at the office, or at the bookstores.

The *Evening Star* shines in Montreal in the shape of a new cent daily paper, and promises to be in every way a brilliant success. It is nicely printed, its summaries of news fresh, and its articles vigorous and independent in tone. The *Star* will not be tied to any party, but will pursue a course of strict independence. We wish it all success.

DETAINED.—The eastern train on the Grand Trunk, which should have left Guelph, at three a.m., was detained at the station here for four or five hours on account of some obstructions on the track near Rockwood. If the passengers possessed the quality of patience, it must have been put sorely to the test by this detention.

FIRE AT BRANTFORD.—At an early hour on Wednesday morning a fire broke out in a brick store on Colborne street, owned and occupied by W. Lines, grocer. The fire is supposed to have originated up stairs, which was occupied by J. D. Kirchner, as a cigar manufactory. The building is entirely destroyed.

SOUTH WATERLOO AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—At the meeting of the members of the South Waterloo Agricultural Society, held in Galt on Tuesday last, it was resolved that the next show of the Society be held in Preston, and that the said show be continued for two days.

TIP-TOP MILITARY, OR ANY OTHER SHAVING, done on short notice at Morgan's Dominion Hair-dressing Parlour, St. George's Square. Satisfaction guaranteed or no charge. Morgan says everything about his establishment is in first-rate order, and as clean as a new pin.—See advt.

NEW AUCTION ROOMS.—We would call attention to the advt. of Mr. George Leslie, who has commenced business as an auction and commission agent in Day's Block, Guelph. Mr. Leslie has first class references, and being a good business man with long experience, parties entrusting him with their business will find him prompt, active and trustworthy.

R. T. Wilson, a grocer of Dundas, is out in a card in the Dundas *News* cautioning his fellow-tradesmen to beware of a fashionable ball reported to take place there soon, as from his experience of a fashionable affair got up by the young bachelors last year, the account for wines should be C. O. D. Hard on the bachelors.

The following Lieut.-Colonels are gazetted Brigade Majors for the Province: 1st Brigade Division, Jas. Moffatt; 2nd, Robt. S. Service; 3rd, Henry V. Villers; 4th, J. Stoughton Dennis; 5th, Robt. R. Denison; 6th, Alex Patterson; 7th, David Shaw; 8th, W. H. Jackson.

WELLESLEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of the members of the above Society was held at Oakley's Hotel, Crosshill, on Saturday, when the following gentlemen were elected office bearers for the current year, viz: John Wilson, President, D. Petch, Vice-President, Geo. Oakley, Secretary and Treasurer. Directors, Messrs. Chas Scott, Alfred Boomer, Alex. Miller, Wm Scott, Alex. Frame, Valentine Otterbein, James Hall, Gottleib Poomer and John Frame.

THE AMERICAN ARTISAN.—Many of our readers of a mechanical turn of mind would be pleased regularly to receive a journal containing all information relating to new machinery and the latest discoveries in mechanism, besides practical rules for mechanics, and advice to farmers—the whole forming an Encyclopedia of general information on topics connected with the industrial arts, the progress of inventions, &c. To all such we can cordially recommend the *American Artisan*, a weekly publication, now in its eighth volume, published in New York, and mailed to subscribers in Canada at the extremely low price of $2.20 (greenbacks) per annum. The *Artisan* is neatly printed in octavo form (sixteen pages), convenient to bind, and well illustrated. Leave your orders at the bookstores, or remit the money to Brown, Coombs & Co., 189 Broadway, New York.

Early risers must have been struck with admiration at the beautiful sunrise we were favored with this morning. The sun rose in full glory in a clear blue sky, gilding the spires and roofs of the town, and throwing its gleams through the woodlands in the vicinity, where the squirrels and chipmonks, disdaining their covers, hold carnival daily, and frisk about with their autumnal sprightliness.

Salem Correspondence.

A scanty supply of snow yesterday had a tendency to cheer the drooping spirits of our produce dealers, more particularly of those who are concerned in the interests of the swine family, but alas! the hope of realizing a "big thing" by what appeared to be an auspicious event, has today vanished with the snow of yesterday, leaving bare, desolate and dejected, the hearts and countenances of these victims of disappointment, for scarcely a solitary pig (that is a dead one) is to be seen on the way to market, and but few loads of wheat or any other grain are brought to the mills in this vicinity. Our sister villages suffer likewise from lack of good sleighing, and I presume that even Guelph and other towns are deeply affected therefrom.

Amidst all this vexation of spirit and temporary dullness of the times the Elora people strive to bring about a reaction occasionally, and last week they got up a "free and easy" fight, using axe handles for the puppose, such weapons being deemed more durable than fists, which, however, in order to vary the entertainment, were brought into requisition in a "rough and tumble" with one of the village constables at the close of the performance; the distillery yard of Mr. Louis Glick—who is gone we believe to superintend the erection of a malt house at the new Suspension bridge—was the principal stage of action.

A Magistrate's Court was held last night at Dalby's Hotel, Elora, for the purpose of trying a charge of assault preferred by the aforesaid constable against Mr. Munson, a cattle drover. All grades of J. P.'s were present, and after adjourning the Court so as to give their Worships an opportunity of quenching their thirst caused by eating salt meat for dinner, they mulcted the defendant in the sum of 25 cents, not that they believed him to have committed a breach of the peace, but simply because the aforesaid constable was himself fined in the same amount at Fergus, on a similar charge brought by the cattle dealer after the pugilistic exhibition we have related. The decision of the Elora magistrates proves therefore that they dispense justice as Scripture records in olden times—"an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth."

Salem, 21st Jan., 1869.

Steam Type-Composing Machine.

During the past three weeks a machine, driven by steam, has been at work in Manchester setting type automatically. It has been visited by many of our craft and by leading machinists, who pronounce it a decided success. The inventor, Mr. Mackie, a native of this town, and who has already made several machines for distributing and setting type—machines of singular ingenuity—claims for the one to which we refer as follows:—1. All brain work, except "justification," may be done anywhere, and by persons who never need see a type. 2. Narrow paper is perforated by a tiny machine with 14 keys only for 100 kind of letters, and 20 keys for 200. 3. This perforating can be done at the rate of a *Times* column of minion per hour. 4. The actual composing of the type is done by a horizontal wheel machine, having on its rim as many kinds of type as required, which are placed one on the top of another in endless lines, at the rate of 200 a minute. 5. The composer is driven by steam, by foot or hand, and when the endless perforated paper is attached to it, it works automatically. 6. The justification will be done by stick fulls, and instantaneously. 7. The paper used for the perforations may be old copies of the *Times*; new paper costs 1d. per column. 8. Errors are reduced to a minimum. The composing machine makes none, and the perforating one only when the operator is careless. 9. Duplicates may be perforated at one time, and lent, sold, or used on two or more machines, and for different sizes of type. 10. The same perforations distribute the type automatically. 11. The perforated paper may be used years after for future and corrected editions. Stereotyping, is, therefore, not needed. 12. One edition may be set in nonpariel and another in pica from the same perforations. 13. Small type is set with the same rapidity as large. 14. An author may do his own perforations, and thus save the chief cost of his work. 15. Intelligent women may perforate at home, for offices any distance away. 16. Authors may send perforated slips, instead of "early sheets," abroad, and by putting on a number of composing machines a foreign publisher might have an ordinary volume out in a day or two. 17. The reserve force which these machines will give is worthy of attention. Six perforators and three composers will set a *Times* page in an hour. An office, therefore, having six of such machines in stock—and they take up little room—could run up two pages of late matter in an hour. 18. There are no tapes, elastics, or gravitation movements to get out of order. That the machine has all the capabilities mentioned there can be no doubt. But, as at present it is like a Hoe's eight-feeder with only one attached, its production is limited and we shall wait with interest the advent of the complete one guaranteed to be ready in three months. Mr. Mackie proposes to call it the "Bonnie Dundee."—*Dundee Advertiser.*

The Grand Orange Lodge, of Ireland, has passed a resolution condemning the members of the brotherhood who voted at the last election for candidates pledged to disestablish the Irish Church, and directing their expulsion from the institution. At the same time, all Orangemen who are engaged on "anti-Protestant and Radical newspapers" are at once to cease their connection with the society.

A prize of two dollars was recently offered to any member of the Connecticut Teachers' Institute, who would write and spell correctly the words in the following sentence: "It is an agreeable sight to witness the unparalleled embarrassment of a harassed pedler attempting to guage the symmetry of a peeled onion, which a sibyl has stabbed with a poinard, regardless of the inuendoes of the lilies of cornelian hue." Thirty-eight teachers competed for the prize, but not one was successful.

A sensitive and high-spirited dog in Gloucester, Mass., went and drowned himself the other day on casually overhearing his master remark that he was good for nothing and ought to be killed. Fact. The newspapers say so.

Last week a man named Thomson, residing in Zorra, commenced racing with his team in the streets of Stratford, and raced so well that he ran into an open culvert killing one of his horses, a valuable animal worth $150.

Local News.

Among the troubles incident to newspaper reporting, not the least irritating is the constant liability to be hoaxed. If there is one *bete noir* that more than another disturbs the reporter's peace, it is that babbling goddess of rumour, whose unlimited power alike of listening and of talking, and whose utter disregard of truth or falsehood, have been celebrated of old. To no man does the story of the Three Black Crows come home with greater force, for many a time and oft has that familiar apologue been amply verified in his experience. The worst of it is, that however frequently disturbed by vain cries of "Wolf," he cannot, like the shepherds in the fable, revenge himself by disregarding the next alarm. In nine cases he may have found startling reports to vanish, when investigated, into air and moonshine. But none the less must he enquire into every fresh tale of disaster, for in the very next instance a disaster may have actually happened, and it would be quite the reverse of pleasant to find a rival contemporary glorying in an exclusive account of it. Every item of local news is looked for by the public; and to find out the particulars of the most common place affairs, we have often to go and see several people in order to get a proper account of them. But anything is better than the monotony which reigns in Guelph at present. Very few of the farmers are coming in with their produce, and the baker's dozen who, in spite of bad roads and the flatness of trade, *will* come to town, look very uncomfortable as they stand about the market place, shivering with cold, and with that resignation which becomes them so well, awaiting the bids and offers of the slow buyers, and in their own minds wondering when there will be some snow to furnish sleighing, to make trade lively, and thus gladden their hearts. The opinion of one of them that he thought "the weather would continue," is worthy of note, and a truer saying than any that ever appeared in the almanacs.

The general appearance of things mundane seems to pervade the "blokes" and "bummers" of the neighborhood, for there has been no *levee* at the Police Court for several days, which to many is as great a source of disappointment as the arrival of the noon hour without a blow being struck at Donnybrook Fair was to the impatient Irishman with the long coat-tails. There are no accidents, no adventures, no meetings, no revivals, no squabbles, no snow, no—news, and, as yet, no millenium. "Whither are we drifting."

Why Americans hate Farming.

I think no one can read the splendid prose poem, G. Pyot's Earth and Man, wherein he characterizes the position and products of the American continents, without feeling that they ought to be the food producers of the world. They are the seat, he says, of excessive vegetable, as the continents of the Eastern Hemisphere are of the noblest animal development. Let us, then, rather set to carry out the grand design of Nature than to go against it. I am tired of the stories about Western farmers burning their corn. Let the dry-goods clerks be set to work on the railroads and canals to bring it to the seaboard, then. With butter at sixty cents and beefsteak at forty cents a pound, and flour at eighteen dollars a barrel, as they are at this present writing (May, 1868), it is absurd to say that we are producing enough for home consumptiod and for exportation too. Many and many a poor family have given up butter and sugar and juicy meat within these last eight years. The fact that a paper dollar is but two-thirds of a gold dollar cannot account for provisions being two or three times their former price. No, the real trouble is that the American hates farming and loves trading, partly because he is physically undeveloped, and therefore physically lazy; partly because farming is lonely and stupid, and without any of the stimulus of human companionship to which his childhood at the district school accustoms him; partly because at school he got no knowledge nor love of nature, but only the trading ideas instilled by six years drill in the dollar-and-cent examples of the arithmetic; and last though not least, because farming kills his wife, takes all the bloom, flesh and vitality away from her at forty. Very often, even if she can afford one, she cannot get a servant; so that she is in truth, next to an Indian squaw, the greatest drudge on the American continent.—*Atlantic Monthly for January.*

The Kentish papers report that an extraordinary character has been captured in a lonely shed at Egerton, in the person of Frederick Nasseh, a Belgian soldier, who for some months has been wandering about the Wealds of Kent, clothed in rags, and living on roots, berries, and offal. His appearance was grotesque in the extreme. The article which did the duty of a coat consisted of patches of old rags quilted over and over again, in many places to the thickness of an inch. His nether clothing was of the same description. He was barefooted, and carried a quantity of fowls' legs, some putrified flesh, and pieces of fish in a pair of worn shoes which he had under his arm. One good habit he retained, for a piece of soap was found upon him when apprehended. He was sentenced by the Ashford magistrates to ten days' imprisonment, but was too ill to be removed. The Belgian consul at Dover has been communicated with and the poor fellow will be received by that gentleman and sent on to Ostend as soon as he can be removed.

The cypress of Somma, in Lombardy, Italy, is the oldest tree on record. It was known to be in existence at the time of Julius Cæsar, forty-two years before Christ, and is therefore 1,901 years old. It is 106 feet in height and 20 feet in circumference at one foot from the ground. Napoleon when laying down his plan for the great road over the Simplon, diverged from a straight line to avoid injuring this tree.

Washington was never so busy before. The hotels and boarding houses are very crowded with aspirants for office, with railroad, telegraph and canal jobbers, reconstructionists and destructionists, St. Domingo fillibusters and Cuban revolutionists. All of them are working away with a zeal worthy of success.

THE N. Y. HERALD.—The increase of the business in the New York *Herald* office is extraordinary. The steady increase in the circulation has forced the proprietor to bring into use all his press facilities, enabling him to throw off eighty-five thousand copies per hour!

BY TELEGRAPH

PER ATLANTIC CABLE.

Despatches to the Evening Mercury.

London, Jan. 21.—Advices from Madeira to the 14th, give no mention of the whereabouts of the thirty-nine missing passengers and crew of the *Hibernia*, who were said to have landed there. The story of their being picked up is now believed to be unfounded.

The amount of bullion in the bank of England has increased £99,000 stg. since the last report last Thurday.

London, Jan. 21.—Late advices from Aukland, New Zealand, report that a frightful massacre of the whites by the natives, had occurred at Poverty Bay on that Island.

Paris, Jan. 21.—Mr. Burlingame and the two chief Mandarins of the Chinese Embassy, made their first visit to the Minister of Foreign Affairs yesterday, accompanied by the Secretary of the Legion. The interview was highly satisfactory, and promises a successful result for the Mission. The Marquis informed the ambassadors that the Emperor would be pleased to accord them an audience on Saturday next, at the palace of the Tuilleries.

It is officially stated that the Conference awaits the reply of the Greek Government to the resoultion which has been adopted. When that is received, the Conference will dissolve.

American Despatches

San Francisco, Jan. 21.—Mexican advices state that, in the State of Oaxaca, a formidable revolution was brewing against the Government of Juarez.

Advices from China state that the Yung Chow affair has been settled satisfactorily. A proclamation has been issued by the Chinese Government, setting forth that a treaty with England requires that religious establishments and missionaries shall not be annoyed nor foreign travellers be treated with disrespect.

The mining operations in Chafoo have proved successful, and some valuable mines have been discovered.

Havana, Jan. 21.—Advices from Hayti state that a battle had taken place, in which the revolutionists were victorious. They appear to have gained ground everywhere in Hayti.

New York, Jan. 22.—The steamship Kangaroo, from Liverpool, has arrived.

Legislature of Ontario.

TORONTO, Jan. 21.

Mr. Scott (Grey) inquired of the Ministry, whether parties settling on Free Grant Lands, completing their settlement duties before the the time assigned in Section 9, of the "Free Grant Act," and furnishing such evidence to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, will, as soon thereafter as possible, receive their deeds.

Hon. Mr. Richards said they would receive their deeds after five years.

Mr. Gow moved the fee on Private Bill respecting the estate of the late Alex. Wright, of Minto, be refunded, less the expenses for printing. He said that this was a poor man, who had been killed by the fall of a tree, leaving a young and helpless family. The Bill was for the purpose of appointing trustees to manage the estate, and provide for the education of the children, and he thought the House should relieve it from the amount of the fees. This had been done in the case of a bill with reference the property of a church.

Attorney General Macdonald said when Bills passed, the fees had never been refunded, except in the case of Churches and Manses, and he must oppose it in the present case.

The motion was lost on a division.

Attorney General Macdonald moved the third reading of his Bill respecting lands sold for arrears of taxes. After a sharp debate the motion was carried.—The Assessment Bill was also read a third time, likewise the Toronto, Grey & Bruce Railway Bill on a division of 57 to 21, and the Toronto and Nipissing Railway Bill.

Destructive Fire in Ottawa.---Total Loss about $200,000.

The Desbarats' block was burned down on Thursday morning at 2 o'clock. The flames were first discovered in a wooden outbuilding in the rear. It is supposed to be a case of incendiarism. Mr. Desbarats is the principal sufferer. The building was insured for $25,000. His stock, consisting of presses, printing materials, bindry, &c., were insured for $40,000. Total insurance, $65,000. His loss is estimated at $100,000. He employed about one hundred persons, and the fire will be a heavy blow to the operatives.

The agency of the Royal Canadian Bank was next door to the Queen's Printing Office. Mr. Grassett, the Manager, was early on the ground and at great personal risk secured the removal of the gold and valuables of the Bank. There is no loss of any consequence. Mr. Reynolds, manager of the Ottawa and Prescott Railroad, had the office part of the building over the Bank. He loses a great deal of valuable furniture, and some of the books and papers of the Railroad. The safe has not yet been recovered, so that the exact loss is not known. Hon. John Rose, Finance Minister, was staying with Mr. Reynolds. He secured all his papers. Col. Bernard was also staying there temporarily. He lost nothing.—Several stores and Mrs. Trotter's Hotel, where Mr. McGee was killed, were also burned. The whole estimated loss by the fire is about $200,000. The whole block was burned in about two hours.

What wonder that the events of past centuries are shrouded in uncertainty, when the very occurrences of to-day cannot be agree upon. Mr. E. Pollard, a noted Southerner, furnished an article in the last number of *Packard's Monthly* upon the flight and capture of Jefferson Davis. He says that "the wicked and absurd story that Mr. Davis was captured disguised in female attire is scarcely credited." But Gen. Wilson, in his official report, states positively that the President of the defunct Confederacy was attired as described; and Col. Harrison, the Secretary of Mr. Davis, in his account of the capture, makes no denial of the facts. Despite Mr. Pollard's assertions, therefore, Jeff. Davis will live in history as a king in petticoats.