

BRITISH AMERICAN COMMERCIAL COLLEGE. PRIZE PENMANSHIP! Superior Advantages Offered!

The attention of young men looking forward to mercantile life is earnestly requested to the internal arrangements of this College, which afford every possible advantage and facility for acquiring a thorough practical knowledge of business life and business habits.

One of the direct means of attaining and holding this high position has been the constant and varied selection of the thoroughly competent, conscientious and energetic teachers in each department. In the Writing Department the First Prizes for Business Penmanship are awarded to us as at the Provincial Exhibitions of 1863, 1864, and 1867, the only occasions on which we competed.

The time required to complete the full course varies considerably according to the attendance, attention and ability of each student. Young men, however, are earnestly cautioned against the injurious practice of hurrying through the course from the mistaken idea that they will thus be gainers by the saving of money in the item of board.

For penmanship, circulars, &c., address MUGROVE & WRIGHT, Toronto, 6th Dec. 1867. dw

H. HOGG'S FLOUR AND FEED STORE. Opposite the Market Shed.

CONSTANTLY ON HAND, all kinds of MILL Feed, Chopped Peas, Hulled Shorts, Bran, Cornmeal, Oatmeal, Flour!

Bacon, Sugar-cured Hams, and Potatoes. Guelph, 25th August, 1867. dw-1f

New Livery Stable, HORSES FOR HIRE.

Parties wishing to hire Saddle-horses, or Horses and Buggies, can do so at moderate rates, by applying to the undersigned, at the Wellington Hotel.

JOSEPH STRAHAN. Guelph, Oct. 7, 1867. dw-3m

CORDWOOD FOR SALE IN GUELPH.

GOOD, cheap Cordwood for sale at BROWN'S WOOD YARD

Woolwich Street, nearly opposite the Court House.

Quantities from half a cord and upwards delivered in any part of the town by leaving the order at the wood yard. ALEX. BROWN. Guelph, 25th November, 1867. dwm

The Wizard Soap W. F. FOX & CO.

HAVE commenced to manufacture the celebrated Wizard Soap in Guelph. It is superior to any others.

SOAP for all kinds of WASHING IT REMOVES STAINS, PAINT, GREASE OR TAR.

Does not injure the hands, takes less labor, and gives the clothes a better appearance.

Sold at one-third the price of any soap of the same quality in the market—14 lbs. for 50 cents. Orders sent to W. F. FOX & CO., JOHN HOWARD, Agent. Woolwich-st. Guelph, 30th November, 1867. d

TROTTER & GRAHAM. DENTISTS! GUELPH and BRAMPTON.

Members of the Dental Association of the Province of Ontario. (Successors in Guelph to T. Trotter.) OFFICE: Over Mr. Higginbotham's Drug Store

REFERENCES.—Rev. Archdeacon Palmer, Drs. Clarke, Parker and Herod, Guelph; A. F. Scott, Esq., County Judge; George Green, County Attorney; Dr. Pettibone, M. C.; Rev. Mr. Arnold—Brampton. Dr. Barnhart, Warden of Peel; Dr. Hampton, resident Surgeon Toronto Hospital. The new anaesthetic agents used for extracting teeth without pain.

W. K. GRAHAM. Guelph, 2nd August, 1867. (dw-1y)

STRAY CATTLE. CAME on the premises of the undersigned on the 9th December 1867, 2 Heifers 3 years old, and one two years old. The owner can have them by proving property and paying expense.

WARREN JESTIN, Lot 2, 12th Concession, Township of Ganaraska. Guelph, Dec. 18, 1867. (w 3)

Store House to Rent. TO RENT, the premises formerly known as Williams' old Brewery, with three floors so feet long by 25 wide, suitable for either storing wheat or packing pork. A never-failing stream of water runs through the premises. It is adjacent to the Market Square. Apply to WILLIAM DYSON. Guelph, 17th Dec. 1867. dw-1y

Amongst the Roses.

Last night as the carriage whizzed along Through the silent star-roofed city, Through my busy brain swept walls of song. Half of pleasure and half of pity.

Of pleasure, for two sweet girls were there, And as chance sometimes disposes I sat twist the pair—(one dark—(one fair) Like a thorn between two roses."

Two poets of many tongues and climes Upon all sweet themes have written, But here and there through the golden rhymes One sees where a blight has smitten;

And oft we note on the stanzas end How the pathos wild discloses That all pleasures are tinged with pain, my friend— Just "a thorn between two roses."

Ah! life's first laurel is fair, no doubt, With its smiles and its silver laughter, Like a happy youth with his hands stretched out To the manna coming after;

But our ripen years bloom not so fair, And the truths their light disclose Are prophets crying—"Beware!—beware! Of the thorns amongst the roses."

Aye! this ripen age of manhood strong, And of womanhood so tender, If it be no light which cheers us long With its calm and steadfast splendor;

If not all sweet be its flower—If ween Though a blight its petals close, That youth and age have the sweeter been For this "thorn between two roses."

Still on we whirl through the silent streets; Our talk is light and I wonder As I gaze on each sombre face I meet Of the moon hidden under;

Of the secrets locked in each rugged breast Where a record stern reposes, Of months and of years whose tale at best Is of thorns but where the roses?

Ah well! if the world prove not so sweet As our youthful dreams have found it, There is some smooth path for the weary feet, Though the dark clouds gather round it.

A night, for the brave who struggle on, In the future fair reposes; For the thorn exults or the winter gone Whose first frost slew the roses!

NEW LAW OFFICE. FREEMAN & FREEMAN BARRISTERS AND ATTORNEYS, SOLICITORS IN CHANCERY, CONVEYANCERS, &c.

Office over Berry's Confectionery Store, Wyndham Street, Guelph, 4th December, 1867. dw

Evening Mercury. OFFICE:.....MACDONNELL STREET. SATURDAY EVEN'G, DECEMBER 21.

Local News. For the commencement of our new Story—"The Maiden's Choice"—see the fourth page.

For Almonds, Walnuts, Brazil Nuts, Filberts and choice Turkey Figs, go to Geo. Wilkinson's.

The Chimney of the NEW COAL OIL BURNER can be taken off at any time without burning the fingers.—To be had at MR. HORSMAN'S.

SAD.—John Paxton, the young man who sustained such severe injuries by the bursting of his gun, in the neighborhood of Fergus, died on Monday the 16th inst.

STILTON CHEESE.—Ingersoll Factory Cheese at John A. Wood's.

ELMIRA FAIR.—At the last fair in Elmira about a hundred head of cattle were offered for sale, and seventy of them changed owners, at prices twenty-five per higher than had been paid for similar animals at the fair held the month previous.

If you appreciate a good article in Briar Root Pipes, at a low figure, go to Geo. Wilkinson's.

A VILLANOUS DEED.—During the night of Thursday last week, says the Fergus Record, some dastardly wretch, having gained an entrance to Stewart's photograph rooms, scratched his two lenses with a diamond, and mixed certain of his chemicals. The same mean trick was done at Miller's room on the same night. The lenses thus almost irretrievably injured are valued at from \$50 to \$75 in each case. We hope the perpetrator of an action so utterly atrocious and mean may be discovered and brought to severe punishment.

THE NEW BURNER at MR. HORSMAN'S saves one-third Oil, and gives a Light Clear, White, and Cheerful.

PROSPERITY OF SEAFORTH.—Seaforth, five years ago, contained about three hundred souls, it now boasts of a population of 1,500, with every evidence of a continued and steady increase. The quantity of grain actually sent away from that station during the last year summed up 350,000 bushels, and of pork and butter 1,100 tons—representing a money value of not less than \$202,000. The Presbyterians are erecting a large brick church at a cost of about ten thousand dollars, which, when finished, will add much to the appearance of the village.

If you want Sugar at low rates, go to Geo. Wilkinson's.

THE NEW BURNER for Safety, Economy and brilliancy of flame is unsurpassed. To be had at MR. HORSMAN'S.

ARREST OF A HORSE THIEF.—The Berlin Telegraph relates the particulars of the arrest of a horse thief, who is individualized by the complimentary sobriquet of "Drunken Louis." He stole a horse some place near Linwood, traded him in Hawkville for another—getting boot, drunk the boot, sold the horse he had traded for, invested the proceeds in the ardent, and had a high old time. The constable caught him near Listowel, and he does not deny his guilt.

Goderich Salt is only to be had at John A. Wood's.

"CHRISTMAS CHEER" AT THE GUELPH GROCERY STORES.

The Christmas week puts the best phase upon business that it is capable of assuming in any particular locality, and the shops don their most gaudy attire, and look their best as the festive occasion approaches. People expect to treat themselves to indulgences, and indulgences are set before them in a most tempting way. We imagine—perhaps it may be only imagination—that the town is not so lively, nor business so brisk as it was during the corresponding week of last year. This is what we say when we speak in general terms, for were we to particularize, and give each person's own report of himself, we would find their opinions concerning business as different as mountain tourists, when one descending into the valley will meet another going up to whom he will complain of the heat, while the latter in his turn will grumble about the cold. We should find men murmuring about dullness—we should find those individuals (the most difficult to find and the most happy) who are satisfied and no more, and we should find the sanguine-tempered who are agreeably bothered with customers and profits.—However these things may be, whether people have resolved to deny themselves gastric luxuries or not, we know that the Grocers' stores in Guelph are heavily stocked with everything that any epicure might demand, with which his Christmas feast should be prepared. As Mr James Meredith observes for himself, and as we helped him to observe yesterday, he is "battling alone," like a hero, with the trade of Upper Wyndham street. We have looked in upon this interesting warrior and found him well supplied with many groceries, and more liquor of the best brands, and telling him to persist in being courageous we left him, assured that the patronage of the public would reward his valor. Mr Rutherford has a full supply of groceries, and in his own person gives the amplest testimony of the excellence of their quality. It must be good faith in customers when they see a man improving on the same kind of edibles he recommends to them. Mr Hugh Walker has on hand, in addition to the usual amount and variety of groceries, a very large quantity of sardines, oysters and other shell fish, besides fruits of many kinds, and the very best of liquors. Mr Meredith's window is a sort of epitome of his store, and is well worth observation. Nothing in his line is wanting inside, and if a happy Christmas be contingent on good cheer, a great many people can procure the biggest part of the cheer from Mr Meredith. Mr John A. Wood's capabilities in the way of groceries are well known, and it would be almost superfluous for us to say that he is as well prepared as ever to suit his patrons in the quality and price of the goods he offers. Gentlemen with moustaches will see china cups to their advantage by calling upon him. Mr Lewis is going to resign the field of retail, and as far as groceries are concerned betake himself wholly to jobbing. We, as well as the other retail dealers, will wish him success in his venture. The Co-operative Store presents to the public the inducements of a large and varied stock of articles at very reasonable prices. The Messrs. Hadden are not a whit behind their neighbors, but are fully prepared to fill all orders with which those bent on the enjoyment of good things may favour them. Mr George Wilkinson presents a very extensive and very varied bill of fare. His groceries are fresh and good, and if extensive oyster suppers, or repasts at which sardines are indispensable, he has them on hand to any amount at reasonable rates. The fire has no injurious effect upon Mr. Masse's retail business in Day's Block. He knows his numerous customers and is known of them, and his name is a sufficient guarantee that while he has a store he will have it well stocked with the choicest productions of the sugar plantations, tea, and other fields, and we have heard the contents of the cellar rapturously applauded. Messrs. E. Carroll & Co. have entered with spirit into business, and done what was most necessary for success, laid in a splendid stock that must needs prove attractive to housekeepers, and the prices of the various articles which can scarcely be murmured at by the most economical purchaser. Mr M. J. Doran's store does not show his goods to advantage, but if people will be pleased to step inside they will wonder at seeing so much crowded into such little space. Irishmen as well as others can eat good things when they can get them, and Mr. Doran at his end of the Town, like Mr. Murphy at the opposite, is amply provided with luxuries to eat, and has also numerous things in the way of drink, which he is dispensing at moderate rates. Messrs McGill & Co., as usual, have a capital stock of everything required—both in liquids and solids. Mr. Robert Burns, Northumberland street, has also made ample preparation for his increasing trade and those in his end of the Town will be fully supplied with all that the season can afford.

FANCY GOODS. "The sports of children satisfy the child," sang Goldsmith, but inventive as youthful ingenuity is in drawing from within itself the means of amusement it often requires external aid. We know of no place where such assistance can be so easily procured as at Mr. Shewan's. He has reared his Christmas tree, and the "little things that are great to little minds" are heaped together in gaudy and attractive profusion. It is seldom except in a wholesale house, that so many material "nothings" designed to afford gratification to children are found together. Prices and qualities are such as will suit the rich, the poor, and those in moderate circumstances, for toys of innumerable descriptions can be bought, from a jack-in-the-box up to the big wax doll with its bright eyes that seems almost asking you to speak to it. Mr. Shewan has besides a large stock of new books, handsomely bound, and most appropriate for Christmas presents to those of a literary turn of mind.

Mrs. Robinson, of the Dominion Store, has a large stock of goods, consisting of albums, dolls, fancy baskets and fancy pipes, beads, &c. She is well supplied with everything in the fancy goods line

that the season requires, and also a fair stock of first-class groceries, and an abundance of excellent fruits, pea nuts, and a number of other kinds of nuts. She will sell a large lot of her fancy goods by auction this evening.

Mrs. Hunter, Market Square, can supply the demand of ladies for Berlin and fancy wools of all kinds and colors. She has also toys to more than a moderate amount, worked ottomans, and what is very important at a time when ladies make presents to the gentlemen—some beautiful slipper-pattens. Get the slipper-pattens, ladies, you will know how to finish them and dispose of them afterwards, and as certain individuals lounge in the evenings with elevated feet, they will look upward and call you blessed. This comfort with many others Mrs. Hunter's store is amply adequate to supply.

Mr. Cuthbert has remodelled his premises into possession of which he has lately entered, and his display of watches, clocks and jewellery is now indeed magnificent. He goes in pretty strong in the book business, and fancy goods we observe. His stock is seldom excelled by any house.

Mr. Savage has an elegant and costly stock of watches, clocks and jewellery of all descriptions, and much beautiful electro-plate ware. His articles must attract custom, and please the most fastidious.

Mr. Day's stock has been previously noticed, and we may just say now that he is constantly increasing it. He has a rare and costly assortment of books, elegant albums, and the very best gift books ever issued from either the American or English press. Gustave Dore's illustrations of the Wandering Jew, are superb.

HARDWARE.—It is unnecessary to remind the public that everything in the way of hardware required at this season, or indeed at any other season, is to be found at Mr. Horsman's. His large establishment is crowded with goods peculiar to his business, and intending purchasers both in town and country, who buy wholesale or retail will find that Mr. Horsman can supply their every requirement, and that he will deal with them too in the most fair and honorable manner.

CAKES AND CONFECTIONERY.—As will be seen by advertisement Mr. H. Berry has a large stock of cakes and confectioneries, peculiarly suitable for the present festive season. His window gives only a faint idea of what are stowed away upon the shelves. Mr. John Harris' establishment will also be found fully up to the times. His long established reputation is a sufficient guarantee that nothing will be lacking so far as he is concerned to render every one who patronizes him happy as the season requires them.

Messrs. Armstrong, Watson, Simpson, Wright and Stirling, are also making great preparations for supplying in copious abundance everything in their line.

Scotch Whiskey, Malt Whiskey, Old Rye Whiskey, Cobourg Whiskey, at John A. Wood's.

School Examinations. The Local Superintendent finished his examination of the Town Schools on Thursday.

GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL.—The attendance at this school is 63. The following pupils passed to the Senior Girls' School, Annie Hadden, A. Brightmore, Annie Kenney, Louisa Dyson, Eva Oakes, Annie Kribbs, Harriet Cross, Harriet Oldham, Margaret Campbell, Elizabeth Collins, Elizabeth Torrance. Ed. Rudd passed to the Senior Primary.

WEST WARD PRIMARY.—The attendance at this school is 72. The following were passed to the Senior Primary—Charles Brown, Charles Waldron, George Bruce, James Davidson, James Harrison, Wm. Griffin, Frank Hatch, John Emalie, Herbert Smith, Eli Cunningham, George Penfold, Charles Walker.

SENIOR PRIMARY.—The attendance at this school is 58. The following passed to the Grammar School—A. Buckland, C. Clarke, R. Hunter, J. Kirk, W. Torrance, W. McCrae, W. Smith, J. Hood, G. Martin, A. Kelley, E. Armstrong, J. Fessant, S. Sunley, C. Tatham, J. Allen, W. Heather, C. Kelly, G. Burgess, G. Alexander, J. Barclay, W. Taylor, A. Glass, R. Howie. The Superintendent specially examined the class in Algebra, Geometry and Bookkeeping, and was much pleased with them. Charles Clark, John Kirk and George Alexander answered every question put to them.

EAST WARD SCHOOL.—The following passed to the Senior Primary School—George R. Coulson, Frederick A. Preasants, George Hood, Alex. Mackenzie. The Superintendent declared himself better pleased with the classes in Geography than at any other school.

NORTH WARD SCHOOL.—The attendance at this school is 110. None were passed to higher school, the teachers and parents mutually desiring that the children should continue their till able to compete with the older scholars of those institutions. Rev. Mr. Graffley is himself carrying on an examination, and has purchased a list of prizes, which he distributes among the most deserving of the pupils.

SENIOR GIRLS' SCHOOL.—This school was examined on Monday, and gave great satisfaction. We will in a future issue give a list of the pupils who received merit marks.

EXPLANATION.—In our notice of the South Ward School examination, we stated that five pupils were promoted directly to the Grammar School, and that this was the first time such a thing had happened. In saying so we meant that it was the first time pupils had been promoted from that school to the Grammar School. At the East Ward School, taught by Mr. John Martin, two of his pupils were promoted directly to the Grammar School at the last midsummer examination.

EXAMINATION OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—The half-yearly examination of the pupils attending the Guelph Grammar School took place yesterday. They were put through a most rigid ordeal, and acquitted themselves admirably—their pertinent answers proving that the "root of the matter" was in them. The fairness of the examination gave the satisfaction, as it was plain that the masters made it their chief object to inculcate principles, the main, the only basis on which a sound education can be built, for from principles fully understood theories can be deduced ad libitum. The visitors were but few, yet more we believe than are usually in attendance on such occasions. Mr. Cuthbert generously presented three volumes as prizes for the greatest proficiency in Mathematics, in Classics, and in General History. The

BY TELEGRAPH

Despatches to the Evening Mercury. The Clerkenwell Affair. FURTHER ARRESTS.

THE CORONER'S INQUEST. Verdict of Murder against Timothy Desmond & Jerry Allen.

Proposed Suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act. BY ATLANTIC CABLE.

London, Dec. 20.—Four men, who gave their names as English, Mulvaney, W. Desmond, and O'Keefe, were arrested in this city, last night, on suspicion of having been connected with the recent Fenian outrages. The alarm caused by the outrages here continues. The magistrates are still swearing in special constables. The guards around the prisons have been strengthened, and the warehouses in the city are carefully watched during the night. Troops were suddenly ordered to Portsmouth to-day, and left on a special train. The coroner's inquest on the bodies of those killed by the explosion at Clerkenwell prison was concluded this evening. The jury rendered a verdict charging Timothy Desmond and Jerry Allen, who were arrested on the 13th, with the crime of murder, in having caused the explosion which resulted in the deaths of the deceased. The prisoners, English, Mulvaney, O'Keefe and W. Desmond, who were arrested last night, were brought before the justices for examination to-day. The testimony so far elicited goes to show that they had something to do with the Clerkenwell explosion.—They were remanded to gaol for further examination.

London, Dec. 20.—A great fire is raging in Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Paris, Dec. 20.—It is reported that the Emperor has proposed to Belgium, Holland and Switzerland that they join France in a Customs union. Belgium is said to have declined the proposition, on the ground that she had already concluded a military and commercial alliance with Prussia.

London, Dec. 20.—In view of the recent outrages committed or attempted by the Fenians in this country, and to prevent, by summary measures, their repetition, the Cabinet has determined to ask Parliament to suspend the privilege of the writ of Habeas Corpus in England.

London, Dec. 20th.—The Times of this morning has a leading editorial article on American matters. It is mainly devoted to decrying the finances of the U. S., and the plans of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Paris, Dec. 20.—The Monitor of this city publishes later details of the recent battles on the Parana. It seems, according to the Monitor, that Lopez, the Paraguayan general, by neglect and inactivity, not only lost the results of his real victory, but was turned on by his vanquished enemy and badly beaten. The loss of the Paraguayans was very heavy.

American Despatches. Schenctady, 20.—Considerable excitement exists in the town of Glenview on account of an outrage committed by a negro on the person of a married white woman named Mrs. Brown. The negro fled, and has not been arrested.

New York, 20.—Mr. J. Weir, editor of the Brooklyn Times, died suddenly last night.

New York, 21.—The Herald's Havana telegram says losses sustained by earthquake at Antigua amount to £100,000 sterling. Intelligence has been received from Melbourne, dated 1st Nov., that a gold nugget weighing 500 ounces had been found in Sandhurst. The abolition of the Constitution was possible. The Governor asks for £500,000 sterling, and will then dissolve the Chambers. Miners were flocking to the new diggings.—The United States gunboat Shamout is at Aspinwall. About 1500 miles north of Cartagena the Shamout lost her foremast and three men. Advice from Panama to the 12th state that President Prado had gained a victory at Arequipa, and the city was completely surrounded by his division on the west and Gen. Bustamante on the east. Prado demanded the surrender of the city within three days. If refused, he would take decisive measures. The revolution in the North had been checked. The Chilean Minister to Peru had asked to be relieved. Gen. Mosquera arrived at Panama on the 7th en route for Peru, accompanied by Gen. Estrada and 100 men. Intelligence from Terotula to the 13th represent the people suffering greater privation than those of St. Thomas. The dead remain unburied, and pestilence could only be averted by burning the corpses.

The Pure White Coal Oil at MR. HORSMAN'S Gives the most Brilliant LIGHT, and does not Smoke the Chimney.

DEATH OF DR. OSGILVIE.—The death is announced of Dr. John Osgilvie, author of the "Imperial Dictionary" and other educational works of merit. Dr. Osgilvie was a native of Banffshire, and, after finishing his University course, devoted himself for some time to teaching. He was for upwards of thirty years mathematical master in Gordon's Hospital, from which position he retired some seven or eight years ago. Since then he has devoted himself principally to the work of a lexicographer. His principal work is the "Imperial Dictionary," a work of considerable merit. Dr. Osgilvie was a quiet, unostentatious, scholarly man, and was highly esteemed by all with whom he came in contact.

For the best flavored, strongest, finest and cheapest Green, Black and Japan Teas in the Dominion, go to Geo. Wilkinson's.

A new and attractive stock of China, Glassware and Crockery, suitable for holiday presents, at Geo. Wilkinson's.

Be sure to get the NEW BURNER. No other will answer. It is to be had at JOHN HORSMAN'S.

A superior lot of AXES at John Horsman's.



MUNICIPAL NOMINATIONS.

The nomination of candidates for the Mayoralty, for the offices of Reeve, and Deputy Reeve, and for the four vacant Councillors' seats, will take place on Monday next. The nominations for the four first mentioned offices will be made in the Court House, beginning at 10 o'clock a. m. The candidates for the position of Councillors will be nominated at 12 o'clock noon, at the following places—for the North Ward, in the Court House; for the East Ward, in the Town Hall; for the South Ward, in the School-house; and for the West Ward, in the Senior Girls' School-house. The retiring Councillors are: In the North Ward, Mr Harvey; East Ward, Mr Sayers; South Ward, Mr Hefernan; West Ward, Mr Galbraith.

THE MARKET TO-DAY.—There was a very large outside market to-day, which in view of Christmas was unusually well supplied with all kinds of poultry from the big well fed turkey and goose down to the plump spring chicken. Prices for fat turkeys and geese ranged from 50 cents each to \$1 according to size and quality. A large quantity of apples were also sold. Meat of all kinds was in plentiful supply—indeed there was no lack of everything good wherewith to furnish the Christmas tables.

FEARS FOR THE FUTURE.—In the discussion on the Bill to prevent unlawful drilling, etc., which was read a second time in the House on Wednesday night, the Hon. Mr. McGee again appeared in his favorite character of an "alarmist." He said he believed this to be a very critical period, and he should be sorry to see the country lulled into a false security. In his humble opinion, the next six months would be the most critical six months through which Canada had ever passed. He based this opinion partly on the fact that next year was the Presidential year, when influences would naturally be at work, dangerous to the peace, especially of our border districts.

PROBABLE RECONSTRUCTION.—There are reports in Ottawa that the Ministry will be reconstructed before the re-assembling of Parliament. It is especially weak in the Senate. Hon. Mr. Kenny, Receiver-General, has gone to Halifax. Mr. Archibald and Mr. Chapin still continue without seats. This places the Government in an embarrassing position, which will not much longer be tolerated, as it is now six months since the Government was organized.

ROME.—Notwithstanding the determined attitude of the French Government on the Roman question, the Italian Prime Minister Menabrea adheres to the opinion that Italy, in the course of time, will secure the annexation of Rome by moral force. Popular feeling in Italy runs clearly in another direction, and it is a significant fact that Rattazzi, the late Prime Minister, openly identifies himself on this question with the National party.

COAL OIL LAMPS. The Finest Assortment ever seen, at MR. HORSMAN'S.

THE MINNESOTA AND LAKE SUPERIOR RAILWAY.—Arrangements have been made which promise an early construction of the projected railroad from St. Paul to the western extremity of Lake Superior, distance 150 miles, in a nearly direct line. According to present calculations, seventy-five miles will be completed next year, and the whole by the end of 1869. The people of Minnesota reasonably attach much importance to this enterprise, as tending to complete the railway system of the State by connecting the great channels of trade which follow the direction of the St. Lawrence.

CLOSE OF PARLIAMENT.—The Government announced yesterday that His Excellency would come down to-day at 11 o'clock, and give the Royal assent to the Bills which had passed Parliament, and that Parliament would then adjourn till the 5th of March next. Although Parliament will stand adjourned till the 12th of March, of course, on the advice of Ministers, it may be called earlier or prorogued to a later period.

THE CUNARD LINE.—The Cunard steamers have been withdrawn from the Boston route. The new contract of the Company has relieved it of the necessity of sending its ships to that city, and it does not choose to send them there, because, as Sir E. Cunard says, in a letter which was published by the New York papers, freight cannot be had on as good terms as at New York. The Cunard vessels will cease, also, to call at Halifax; but their place will be supplied by the Inman line.

SERIOUSLY ILL.—The Hon. W. P. Howland is lying seriously ill at his residence in Toronto, from congestion of the liver, and abscess under the arm. He has been laid up for some days.

THE EARTHQUAKE.—The late earthquake seems to have extended from Port Hope, in the West; to Three Rivers and Sackville, N. B., in the east, and as far south as Rome, New York.

To the farmer, mc chanican d la borer: Spend your hard earned money where you can get the most General Groceries for the holidays at the lowest prices. This is at Geo. Wilkinson's, Wyndham-st., Guelph.

The Largest, Cheapest, and Best Assortment of Coal Oil

Parliament of Canada.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. Ottawa, Dec. 20.

Sir J. A. Macdonald stated that Government, before the adjournment of the House, would allow all the items on the paper, except the first and ninth, to stand over till March. The first was the third reading of the Bill respecting banks, and the ninth was certain resolutions respecting the rates of postage in Canada and Government Savings Banks. It was expected the House would get through with these resolutions and the Bill founded upon them in time to enable His Excellency to come down at 11 to-morrow and give the Royal assent to the measures which had passed Parliament. All the Bills relating to the organization of the departments would stand over till Parliament again met.

The Postal Bill was then brought up, and amended to-day so that in addition to petitions, the votes and proceedings and other papers printed by order of the Legislature of the several Provinces will go free. The deposits in the Post Office Savings Banks will be liable to seizure. When the seventh resolution, respecting postage on newspapers, came up, Mr Chamberlain moved that it be not concurred in. He thought that revenue derived from newspaper postage was over estimated. The postage on newspapers sent from offices of publication would not amount during the coming year to more than \$60,000.

Sir John A. Macdonald said the resolutions proposed distinct relief to all the Provinces; to Ontario and Quebec a reduction in the rate of both letters and papers, and to the Maritime Provinces on letters. It was necessary also that the Post Office Department should as far as possible be self sustaining. If this source of revenue was removed, it would be impossible for that department to grant facilities in way of opening up new post offices which the progress of the country demanded. Of course, people would like to get their papers free of postage; but Government had in this instance, in the interest of public service, to resist popular feeling.

Mr. McKenzie moved that the 2nd resolution be not now concurred in, but that its further consideration be postponed till the 12th of March next.

The amendment was then negatived. Yeas, 23; Nays, 40.

Mr. Bodwell moved that the Bill be referred back to the Committee in order that the 7th section be struck out and the following substituted—that newspapers printed and published in Canada and sent to regular subscribers in Canada be mailed free.

The motion was then put, when upon a division there appeared—Yeas, 23; Nays 36.

The remainder of the resolutions were concurred in without division. On motion of Sir John A. Macdonald the Bill for the Regulation of the Postal Service, from the Senate, was read a second time and referred to Committee of the Whole, with the resolutions, which were reported with amendments.

THE POSTAL BILL.—The Montreal Daily News says: We have reason to believe that an omission in the Postal Bill is about to be rectified. So long ago as August, 1865, the Post Office Department had in contemplation to allow the transmission by book post, of partly written and partly printed documents, such as Insurance policies, legal writs, commissions, &c. In England this practice has obtained for many years, and it is a fact that such documents can now be sent across the Atlantic at much lower rates than are incurred in transmitting them from Montreal to the next post office. It seems extraordinary that while the framers of the new Postal Bill provided for the cheap transit of seeds, cuttings and bulbous roots," in the mail bags, the interests of Insurance Companies and of the legal profession have been altogether overlooked. We are glad to learn, however, there is a chance of a clause being added to the Bill providing that partly written and partly printed papers shall be sent at the reduced book rates—a provision so obviously reasonable and necessary that the wonder is how it could have escaped the notice of the framers of the Bill.

THE COAL OIL at MR. HORSMAN'S is decidedly the Purest and Best that has ever been sold in Town.—Only 15 Cents per Gallon.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.—Speaking upon this vexed question the New York Herald says:—Lord Stanley insists upon it that the late so-called Confederate States were entitled to the belligerent rights of a separate nationality, and here he stands. Mr. Seward insists that said States were nothing more than a league of insurgents and that they had no shadow of right to any belligerent rights under the law of nations, and there he stands. What, then, is to be done? Clearly, the only alternative left our government is to cut the Gordian knot in the simple Jacksonian ultimatum of indemnity or reprisals—the cash or the Canadas.

A Splendid Assortment of Electro-Plate Ware at HORSMAN'S—Very Cheap.

DIED OF COLD.—The Milton Champion says:—On Thursday evening last a poor woman, who was tramping on Dundas Street, was found dead near Mr. William Perkins'. She had called at Mr. Perkins' a few minutes before, and was very civil in her behavior although she had purchased some whiskey at Munn's Corner a short time before. She had apparently fallen over the fence into the road and perished from the intense cold. Dr Buck held an inquest on the body and found a letter addressed to Mary Ann Speck, and a pin cushion marked A. S. She was a medium sized woman, and her hair was red.

FROZEN TO DEATH.—The cold night of Wednesday, the 11th inst, every person will remember. In the course of his sojourn with us old King Winter generally claims several victims, and on that night he seized at least one, for the Whitty Chronicle tells of a woman who was found in that frozen condition.

New Advertisements.

CROWDED TO EXCESS.

THE Great Clearing Sale continues to attract an immense number of customers anxious to participate in the

Extraordinary Bargains

being offered. The store is daily crowded to excess, and an immense quantity of Goods have been sold to the entire satisfaction of the purchasers. The sincerity of this sale, when compared with "other sales," will never be questioned by the most skeptical. CALL AT ONCE.

Guelph, 20th Dec, 1867. A. O. BUCHAM.

CHRISTMAS.

THE subscriber, though unfortunately left to battle alone with the trade of Upper Wyndham Street, begs to assure the public that he is determined not to surrender, but will, as usual, keep a full supply of

GENERAL GROCERIES

Wines and Liquors, Crockery, China and Glassware,

Teas, Coffees, Sugars, Tobaccos.

Good Green and Black Teas from 50c. per lb., Green and Ground Coffees. SUGARS—Muscovada, Leaf, Ground and Crushed. First class Cheung and Smoking Tobaccos.

Fruits and Sauces for Christmas & New Year

ALL TO GO OFF CHEAP.

WINES AND LIQUORS

will be sold as low as the Tariff and Excise Laws of the Dominion will permit. Always good value for your money on Upper Wyndham Street.

JAMES MURPHY.

Guelph, 21st December, 1867.

Canada Clothing Store. CLEARING SALE! FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR. GUELPHAT (No. 40.)

BIRTHS.

BRUCE.—In Guelph, Dec. 20th inst, the wife of Alex. Bruce of twin sons—both doing well.

New Advertisements.

Queen's Book 85 Cents.

NEW supply of the Queen's Book. Price 85c.

At DAY'S BOOKSTORE, Opposite the Market. dw

Guelph, 21st Dec, 1867.

SHOOTING MATCH!

A SHOOTING MATCH will be held at the Wellington Hotel Range, Rockwood,

ON NEW YEAR'S DAY,

for Turkeys, Geese, Pigeons, &c. For the Turkeys and Geese shooting will be done against a target at a range of about 300 yards, and the Pigeons will be shot after being let go from a trap. Every arrangement has been made for securing a day's good sport. Refreshments served on the ground free. WM. McHARDY, Wellington Hotel, Rockwood, 21st Dec, 1867. d3w1

MIDWIFERY.

MRS. MORRIS, Midwife. Residence, Essex Street, half way between the Market Square and Holiday's Brewery, first house east of Mr. Minnick's former residence. Guelph, 15th December, 1867. 41m

HAY IN TRUSSES

Constantly on hand. Also Straw for beds

TERMS CASH. JOHN WEST. daw-1f

Insolvent Act of 1864

In the matter of GEO. ALEXANDER, of CHIFFORD, AN INSOLVENT.

THE creditors of the Insolvent are notified that he has made an assignment of his estate and effects under the above Act to me, the undersigned, Official Assignee, and they are required to produce before me, within two months from this date, their claims upon the said estate, under oath, specifying the security they hold, if any, and the value of it; and if none, stating the fact, with vouchers in support of such claims. THOMAS SAUNDERS, Official Assignee. Guelph, 19th December, 1867. ldw2

Four Corners' Hotel, ELIZABETH ROAD.

Gift Books

Gift Books

Gift Books

Very Cheap, at

Day's Bookstore,

Opposite the Market.

Illustrated Books

Very Cheap, at

Day's Bookstore,

Opposite the Market.

Pocket Bibles

Pocket Bibles

Pocket Bibles

VERY CHEAP, AT

At Day's Bookstore,

Opposite the Market.

Wesley's Hymns

Wesley's Hymns

Wesley's Hymns

Very Cheap, at

Day's Bookstore

Opposite the Market.

Church Service

Church Service

Church Service

VERY CHEAP, AT

Day's Bookstore

Opposite the Market.

Hymn Books

Hymn Books

Hymn Books

Very Cheap, at

Day's Bookstore,

Opposite the Market.

Juvenile Books for Boys

Juvenile Books for Boys

Juvenile Books for Boys

Very Cheap, at

Day's Bookstore

Opposite the Market.

Juvenile Books for Girls

Juvenile Books for Girls

Juvenile Books for Girls

Very Cheap,

At Day's Bookstore,

Opposite the Market.

TOY BOOKS

TOY BOOKS

TOY BOOKS

Books for Xmas

Books for Xmas

Books for Xmas

VERY CHEAP, AT

Day's Bookstore,

OPPOSITE THE MARKET.

Ladies' Satchels,

Gents' Satchels,

Wax Dolls,

Fancy Goods, of every description.

VERY CHEAP, AT

Day's Bookstore,

Opposite the Market.

DAY BOOKS

LEDGERS

CASH BOOKS

JOURNALS

AT DAY'S

BOOKSTORE,

Opposite the Market.

Guelph, 19th December, 1867. dw

HENRY MULHOLLAND!

THE OFFICE

of Henry Mulholland is removed temporarily to the

READING ROOM OF

ELLIS' HOTEL,

Nearly Opposite the Old Stand.

Guelph, 17th December, 1867. dw

THE RED MILL

THE subscriber having put a steam engine in his Mill, farmers bringing in their Grists can rely on having them ground the same day.

Chopping done every day.

FLOUR AND FEED

FOR SALE AT THE MILL.

GROUND PLASTER for sale at the Mill, and also at his Old Stand, near the Railway Crossing. GEORGE BALKWILL.

Guelph 19th December, 1867. dw2m

NEW SHOP

SMITH & METCALF

BEG to inform their customers and the public that for the present they have opened a shop in the premises

Two doors North of the Post Office,

next door to Mr. Coffee's Hotel, where they will be prepared, as usual, to supply all articles in their line. The stock saved from the late fire will be sold at reduced prices.

SMITH & METCALF. Guelph, 17th December, 1867. dw1f

OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO'Y.

1867 1867

GUELPH AGENCY.

Steam to Liverpool, Londonderry and Glasgow.

Steamship MORAVIAN, Portland to Liverpool, 7th December, 1867.

Tickets to and from the Old Country, Passage Ce tickets to bring friends out. Return Tickets for six months, issued at reduced rates. State ooms secured, and every information given on application. Insurance Policies for the voyage issued at the low rate of \$1 per 1,000 up to 10,000. Apply to

GEORGE A. OXNARD, Agent, G. T. R., Guelph. Guelph, Oct. 21 1867. da

CARD OF THANKS.

THE subscriber begs to acknowledge the payment in full of his claim against the Puslinch Mutual Fire Insurance Company for the loss sustained on the 8th July last, by fire, in the destruction of his dwelling House and contents. Absence from the Township prevented his publicly acknowledging earlier the prompt manner in which the Company paid his claim. JOHN CARTER. Puslinch, 17th December, 1867. w1

DOMINION SALOON, (LATE GRAND'S SHADES SALOON,) OPPOSITE THE MARKET, GUELPH.

CHOICE LIQUORS, Cigars, Oysters, &c., &c. Always on hand. Meals furnished at all hours. DENIS BUNYAN. Guelph, December 2, 1867. dawly

DEVON BULL FOR SALE

FOR sale by the subscriber, the Devon Bull "Prince William," 4 years old. He has taken eight premiums at the Provincial and County Shows, and also at the last New York State Fair. He is the best bull of the Devon



# RETIRING FROM BUSINESS!

**TREMENDOUS CLEARING SALE OF THE LARGE STOCK OF DRY GOODS, MILLINERY, READY-MADE CLOTHING, &C., BELONGING TO HOGG & CHANCE, GUELPH.**

**The Co-partnership Dissolved! Mr. HOGG retires from the Business!**

The Stock to be Cleared Off at Cost Prices, commencing on Monday, the 9th of December.

**GREAT BARGAINS!** Families ought to take advantage of this rare opportunity of laying in their Winter supplies at once, as this Stock is very large and complete in every Department. Actual Cost Prices will be asked for all the Goods, and no second price or bantering. Store will be open at 9 o'clock in the morning, and close at 6 o'clock in the evening during the sale. All Goods will be sold for Cash only.

Guelph, 30th November, 1867.

dw-1m

**HOGG & CHANCE.**

GO TO CUTHBERT'S CHRISTMAS BAZAAR.

GO TO CUTHBERT'S CHRISTMAS BAZAAR.

**A Merry Christmas**  
AND A  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
TO ALL.

GO TO CUTHBERT'S CHRISTMAS BAZAAR.

**NEW FRUITS**

The most complete,  
The most choice,  
The most select,  
The Best and Cheapest

- 22 lbs. New Currants for . . \$1.
- 11 lbs. New Valencia Raisins
- 10 lbs. New Seedless Raisins
- 8 lbs. New London Layer do.
- Orange and Lemon Peel, 30c.

**FILBERTS!**

Brazil Nuts, Walnuts,  
Almonds, shelled or unshelled,  
Figs, Prunes,  
Dried Cherries and Cranberries  
Oranges, Lemons,  
Dried and Green Apples,

Canned Fruits and  
Vegetables  
of every description.

**HUGH WALKER,**

Wholesale and Retail Fruit Dealer,  
WYNDHAM STREET, GUELPH.  
Guelph, 13th December, 1867. dw

**Medical Dispensary**

JUST received at the Medical Dispensary, a large supply of

**Tooth, Nail and Hair Brushes,**

**TOILET SOAPS, &c.**

Also, the largest and best assorted stock of English and French **PERFUMERY** in town.

**COAL OIL**

of the best quality always on hand.

**E. HARVEY**

Opposite the English Church, Wyndham-st., Guelph, Ontario,  
Guelph, 11th Dec. 1867. dw

**Cordwood Wanted.**

WANTED, 700 cords of good hard wood. Apply at Brown's Wood Yard, Woolwich-st.

**GREAT CLEARING SALE**

The Great Clearing Sale of

**DRY GOODS!**

IS STILL GOING ON AT

**WM. STEWART'S,**

Guelph, 11th December, 1867. dw

**IMPORTANT NOTICE!**

**GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE**



**AMERICAN WATCH**

THE American Watch Company of Waltham, Mass., being determined to place their several grades of Watches at prices within the reach of all parties, and to effectually shut out all Swiss counterfeit Watches, have decided from this date to supply their Watches in the Dominion of Canada at the net Gold value of American Currency. The Company by thus paying all duty, costs and charges on their Watches into Canada, will supply to the people of the Dominion the

**Cheapest Watches in the World.**

The Watches are of all grades, from the finest Gold Watch made, adapted to any climate from the Tropics to the Poles, at a price to suit the wealthy connoisseur or for presentation, to the Cheap Silver Lever, strong and serviceable, regulated to minutes; suitable to the Mechanic and Farmer, and quite as low in price as any moderate quality Swiss Watch. Our grades of **Extra Heavy Cased Watches** for Railway Engineers and Lumbermen deserve particular attention in Canada, as nothing can equal them for the purpose. Our leading Watches in **18 Carat Gold Cases** for Ladies and Private Gentlemen, at medium prices, will also be found very desirable.

We are frequently asked why we don't advertise prices. We reply that as we only supply the trade and as our Watches are now kept by most respectable houses, the public can rely on being served at a fair advance on the Manufacturer's List. Our trade marks are AMERICAN WATCH CO., APPROVED TRACY & CO., P. S. BARTLET, WM. ELLERY, HOME WATCH CO. Guaranteed in all cases.

W. S. BARTLET, New York, and ROBERT WILKES, Toronto and Montreal, General Agents.

**LOOK OUT For No. 1.**

**WILKINSON'S**

BY going to WILKINSON'S for

**XXX OYSTERS**

They are admitted by customers to be the best, largest and cheapest in Guelph.

**FINNAN HADDIES**

IF you want real Finnan Haddies, fresh Cod Fish, fresh Haddock and Yarmouth Bloters, Go to GEO. WILKINSON'S.

**SEALED GOODS!**

FOR hermetically Sealed Goods, consisting of Strawberries, Lawton Blackberries, Peaches, Cherries, Tomatoes, Green Peas, Lobsters and Sardines, go to GEO. WILKINSON'S.

**FRUIT, FRUIT**

BUY your Fruit at Wilkinson's, and save 20 per cent. To convince you of this fact, below are quotations.

- 10 pounds Layer Raisins for - \$1
- 10 " Seedless Raisins - . 1
- 20 " French Prunes - . 1
- 20 " Currants - . 1

**GEOGE WILKINSON.**  
Next door to Telegraph and Express Office.  
Guelph, Dec. 9, 1867. daw tf

**MRS. HUNTER'S**

**FANCY STORE,**

West Market Square.

JUST received, a large lot of FANCY GOODS, all kinds, suitable for PRESENTS for

**Christmas & New Year's**

She has the LARGEST and BEST ASSORTMENT in town of

**Berlin & Fancy Wools**

Stamping for Braiding and Embroidery

**MRS. HUNTER.**  
Guelph, 11th Dec., 1867. dw

**Dominion Store!**

(Late Post Office Store.)

**MRS. ROBINSON**

HAS on hand a varied stock of GENERAL GROCERIES for

**Christmas & New Year**

consisting of Almonds, Brazil Filberts.

**NEW FRUIT!**

Figs, Dates, Raisins. Lemons at 25c per dozen.

Don't forget the stand, next to the Wellington Hotel, where you can get the best and cheapest lot of **Fancy Goods** in Guelph.

**MRS. ROBINSON,**  
Upper Wyndham Street, Guelph.  
Guelph, Dec. 17th, 1867. daw

**FURS,**

FURS, FURS.

WE have opened our stock of FURS, for our own manufacture, which we will sell at

**LOW PRICES, viz:**

Extra Dark Mink,  
Royal Ermine,  
Siberian Squirrel,  
River Mink,  
Ladies' Hoods,  
CHILDREN'S FURS,  
GENTS' MUFFERS and GLOVES, SLEIGH ROBES, &c.

And a full assortment of CHILDREN'S FURS, GENTS' MUFFERS and GLOVES, SLEIGH ROBES, &c.

**F. GARLAND,**  
Market Square, Guelph.

**FIRE! FIRE!**

**AT ALMA BLOCK!**

THE SUBSCRIBERS BEG TO INTIMATE TO THEIR NUMEROUS CUSTOMERS AND THE PUBLIC THAT UNTIL LARGER PREMISES CAN BE PROCURED

**THE RETAIL BUSINESS**

WILL BE CARRIED ON AT THEIR STORE

**IN DAY'S BLOCK,**

where they hope to continue to receive the patronage of their friends during the season.

**WHOLESALE TRADE**

THE WHOLESALE TRADE WILL BE CARRIED ON AT

The Old 'Advertiser' Office, East Market Square.

**Auction Sale of the Saved Stock!**

At an early date the Stock saved from the late fire will be offered by AUCTION, and sold without reserve, due notice of which will be given.

**J. MASSIE & CO.**  
Guelph 16th Dec. 1867. daw

**MONTREAL BOOT AND SHOE EMPORIUM.**

**CLEAR THE TRACK**

**BOOTS AND SHOES.**

**SKATING BOOTS!**

**JOHN McNEILL,**  
Montreal Boot and Shoe Emporium, Wyndham-st., Guelph, Ontario.  
Guelph, 14th December, 1867. dw

**SKATING BOOTS!**

JUST RECEIVED a large lot of Ladies' Skating Boots. An early date is solicited. **REDUCTION IN PRICES.** Ladies' Skating and Walking Balmorals from \$1.25 to \$3. Ladies' Flannel lined Gaiters from \$1.12 to \$2.50. Men's Thick Boots from \$2 to \$3. An immense stock of Ladies, Gents, Misses and Children's Felt Balmorals, Gaiters and Overshoes, at prices that cannot fail to give satisfaction. Home manufactured Goods always on hand. All work warranted. **TERMS CASH.**

**REMEMBER McLAREN'S OLD STAND.**

**JOHN McNEILL,**  
Montreal Boot and Shoe Emporium, Wyndham-st., Guelph, Ontario.  
Guelph, 14th December, 1867. dw

**\$20. STAR \$100. SHUTTLE SEWING MACHINE.**

Patented May, 1867.

THE Star Shuttle Sewing Machine makes a stitch alike on both sides of material sewed, which will not rip or ravel. Does all kinds of work equally as well as Singer's high-priced machines. Combines simplicity with durability, and is warranted for five years. It is suited alike for the dressmaker, tailor, manufacturer or family. Mr. J. SPAFFORD having been appointed General Agent for Ontario, wishes to engage a few good local and travelling agents, to whom good inducements will be offered. For machine, sample of work, or terms, address

**J. E. SPAFFORD,**  
Ponsonby P. O.,  
Reference—Rev. E. A. Healy, Stratford P. O.,  
or Box 450, Toronto

**Span of Working Horses FOR SALE.**

FOR SALE, a span of 7 years old good working Horses. Warranted to be in good sound working condition. Will be sold for cash, or on credit on approved security, as may be agreed upon.

**JOHN HARRIS,**  
Market Square, Guelph.  
Guelph, 7th Dec., 1867. daw

**Wool, Hide and Leather**

**JOHN HARRIS,**

CONFECTIONER, and

**BISCUIT Manufacturer.**

Wholesale and Retail!

MY Goods are all made of the best material, and under my own supervision, and having no rent to pay, am prepared to offer to

**Wholesale Purchasers**

Goods as cheap, if not cheaper, than any other house in the trade.

**JOHN HARRIS,**  
Market Square, Guelph.

Guelph, 7th Dec., 1867. daw



TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers wishing to take the Evening Mercury...

Guelph Evening Mercury

OFFICE:.....MACDONNELL STREET.

SATURDAY EV'NG, DECEMBER 21.

The Maiden's Choice

OR, THE LAIRD OF BIRKENCLEUCH.

A Tale of the Covenanters.

CHAPTER I.—ADVENTURES ON THE MOOR.

Twilight had fallen, and the crescent moon dimly lighted a wild and solitary region...

The travellers were a youth and a maiden, whose personal appearance could scarcely be made out in the grey and misty light...

His companion, who sat upon a pillow behind him, was a young girl, whose features could not be discerned at all...

"Is anything the matter Hugh?" asked his companion in a sweet voice, though with somewhat of an anxious tone.

"Some one is on the moor in front of us," he replied. "Hark! it is the voice of singing."

And as he spoke, the evening stillness of the moorland was broken by some one singing in a not unmelodious voice, a verse of a popular Border ballad.

"I had rather it had been a psalm," remarked the youth dubiously. "We had thus been sure that the company we are likely to meet with would prove friendly."

"Heaven forbid that it should be any of the rough lawless soldiers," said the maiden in tremulous accents.

"That is just what I am somewhat afraid of," rejoined the other. "From the report we received at Muirkirk of the license they are taking in that district, we may be apprehensive of an encounter with them in this lonely place."

"True, but their hoofs would make little sound on the soft grassy path; though certainly their accoutrements would clank loudly as they proceeded. I am anxious only for your sake, Marion. To me they would be tempted to do little harm, but to you they might be rude, and I, alas! am not the best champion you could have for your defence."

"See, yonder is a dark moving object on the height," said the maiden, in an eager and suppressed tone.

"The road in front went over the top of an abrupt heathery knoll, and on the crest of this height they saw clearly defined against the bright western sky the figure of a man on horseback, jogging leisurely forward, and began to descend the slope towards them, but the view they obtained during these few moments was sufficient to reassure the hearts of both."

turned Jamie, "for they are harryin' and rampagin' in a' directions, and there's a' use o' his officers I ken would like weel tae see the harryin' o' Birkenkleuch. Ye ken him, Miss Marion, and sae does Maister M'Kail."

"Who is it, Jamie?" asked both his listeners in a breath.

"Oh, deed, wad I be Charlie Allan. Him and his company o' troopers are quartered down at Sanghar, and their heilid wretches are no in a' Turner's army. If a' tales be true, there's naebody ken better than you, Miss Marion, hoo he wad like tae see his revenge got on the young laird o' Birkenkleuch."

"I believe you are right in that," said M'Kail. "But unprincipled as I believe Allan to be, he would never be so ungrateful as to harm Mr. Gordon, to whom he is so much indebted."

"Weel, I wish ye may find it eae, but my opinion is that he's no tae be trusted, and I jealousy that he has a cause o' anger that mak's a'ne like him sick at naething. But I'm a' be joggin'." Gaid nicht w' ye baith, and I hope ye'll get safe owre the muir. Hup, wab, Dick, my man; ye and me ha' tae gang tae Muirkirk the night."

No saying, Jamie brought his stick gently down on the neck of his pony, and as it edged away at its wonted leisurely pace, the even-tempered cadger struck again into a verse of his favourite border ballad.

"Oh, and Charlie Allan has become a persecuting trooper," remarked M'Kail, as he and his fair companion continued their way. "It might have been otherwise though, Marion, if you had made choice of him instead of Walter Elliot. Your influence over him might have prevented this sad result."

"Surely, Hugh, you do not blame me for the choice I made?" said Marion Gordon, in a tone of wounded surprise. "Would you have had me prefer Charlie to Walter?"

"Certainly not, my dear cousin. Your choice is an excellent one, and such as all your friends most cordially approve. Walter Elliot is a brave manly youth, who, I am sure, will prove himself worthy of the training your father gave him, and Allan is wholly the reverse. But a maiden's heart is often wayward in its choice, and it might have been that your love had fixed itself on the unworthy object."

"Oh no, Hugh," returned Marion, very decidedly. "I could never have loved Charlie Allan. I always thought him selfish and heartless, and no more like Walter than—"

TO BE CONTINUED.

If you want Wine, Brandy, Rum, Gin, Extra Old Rye, Ma't, Scotch Family Whiskeys, go to Geo. Wilkinson's.

No other House in Town has one-quarter the Stock of COAL OIL LAMPS that MR. HORSMAN has.

NEWSPAPER CURRENCY. A Chicago divorce case rests on the complaint of a lady that her husband made her get up in the middle of the night and make the bed over.

Tom Morgan, of Manchester, N. H., recently placed his tongue against an iron lamp post and was "frozen fast" for his pains. Hot water was required to release him.

On Wednesday an American ignorant of the heavy duty on silver, was prevented from landing at Prescott with a large quantity of silver he was openly carrying in a satchel. It is said he returned to Ogdensburg.

"The honorable Mrs. Norton," well known as an author, has fallen heir to a fortune of £50,000 sterling. The property was acquired in the East India trade. [This lady is perhaps best known by her lovely and pathetic poem "Bingen on the Rhine."]

THE GROCERY & WINE TRADE

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT.

FRANK SMITH & CO.

77 Front Street, Toronto.

BEG to intimate to their Western friends and the public generally, that they have now received a large portion of their Fall supply of

Fresh English Groceries, Wines, Brandies, &c.,

Ex. 'Planet,' 'Chaudiere,' 'City of Hamilton,' 'Glenboffe,' from London. 'Avon,' 'Onida,' 'Hibernia,' 'Peruvian,' 'Summer,' and 'Pericles,' from Liverpool. 'Abouca' and 'Glenfife,' from Glasgow. 'Agnes' from Charente.

And are daily expecting the arrival of

Fresh New Crop Fruit and Mediterranean Cargo

Ex. 'Deodara,' 'Canny Scott' and 'Mary Ann,' from Malaga, Marseilles and Denia.

JUST RECEIVING IN STORE

303 Hhds and Tierces of Barbadoes, Porto Rico and Cuba Sugars. 522 Bbls Currants crop 1866, VERY CHEAP. 5175 Half Chests and Cattes Souchong, Congou, Japan, Gunpowder, Young and Old Hyson Teas.

With a full assortment of Tobacco, Refined Sugars, Wines and Liquors and Dry Groceries. All of which will be submitted to the trade, equal to and below Montreal prices.

Inspection invited. Terms Liberal. Cash and prompt paying customers desired. Toronto, 6th November, 1867. dwif

CHRISTMAS BOXES.

WE WOULD INVITE THOSE ABOUT TO PURCHASE

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

to step in and examine our stock, as it is larger and more varied than ever.

Guelph, December 14, 1867.

APOTHECARIES' HALL,

MARKET SQUARE, GUELPH.

JUST RECEIVED

A large supply of

SYDNEY BROWN'S

PERFUME

WATCHES!

Superior to either the "Russell" or "American" Watch, containing as it does a new and

DELIGHTFUL PERFUME

for the Handkerchief, unrivalled for the sweetness of its odour and lasting properties.

Price Twenty-five Cents each

ALEX. B. PETRIE, Chemist, Market Square, Guelph, Dec. 7 1867. dw

CHEAP Photographs

It will, I am sure, be a great satisfaction to the admirers of the great Scottish Poet on both sides of the Border to make the acquaintance of Miss Jenny Hafkins."

COMMERCIAL.

Guelph Markets. MERCURY OFFICE, GUELPH. December 21, 1867.

Flour, per 100 lbs. .... \$3 75 " 4 00 Fall Wheat per bushel. .... 1 60 " 1 65 Spring Wheat. .... 1 55 " 1 50 Oats do. .... 0 45 " 0 48 Peas do. .... 0 62 " 0 67 Barley do. .... 0 75 " 0 80 Hay, per ton. .... 12 00 " 12 00 Straw do. .... 4 00 " 4 00 Shingles per square. .... 1 00 " 1 00 Wood per cord. .... 2 00 " 2 00 Wool do. .... 0 27 " 0 20 Eggs per dozen. .... 0 14 " 0 16 Butter (Irish), per lb. .... 0 14 " 0 16 Cheese, each. .... 0 25 " 0 25 Turkeys do. .... 0 50 " 0 50 Chickens per pair. .... 0 20 " 0 25 Ducks do. .... 0 20 " 0 20 Potatoes. .... 0 50 " 0 55 Apples per bushel. .... 0 00 " 2 00 Lamb per lb. .... 0 08 " 0 07 Beef do. .... 4 00 " 4 00 Beef, per lb. .... 0 05 " 0 00 Pork per 100 lbs. .... 5 00 " 6 00 Sheep Fat as each. .... 0 30 " 0 30 Lamb skins. .... 0 40 " 0 40 Hides per 100 lbs. .... 6 00 " 6 00

Money Market. JACKSON'S EXCHANGE OFFICE. Guelph, December 21, 1867.

Gold, 133s. Greenbacks 60¢ at 73½ to 74; Sold at 74½ to 75. Silver bought at 41 to 42 cts. sold at 42 to 43. Upper Canada Bank Bills bought at 65c to 66c. Commercial Bank Bills bought at 92c to 95c.

Cait Markets. Fall wheat—\$1 50 @ \$1 60. Spring wheat—\$1 40 @ \$1 42. Barley—45c @ 70c. Oats—45c @ 48c. Peas—55c to 70c.

MONTREAL MARKETS. Kirkwood, Livingstone & Co's. report by Special Telegraph to 'Evening Mercury.'

MONTREAL, December 19, 1867. Flour—Fancy, \$7 40 to \$7 50; Superfine No. 1, \$7 05 to \$7 25; Welland Canal, \$7 10. Bag flour, \$3 40 to \$3 50. Oats 40 c to 42c. Barley 75c to 80c. Butter—dairy 16c to 18c; store packed 14c to 16c. Ashes—Fines \$3 50 to \$3 55; pearls \$0 95 to \$1 00.

Flour—small receipts; prices unchanged but less enquiry and rather mostly nominal. Grain unchanged; sales of U. C. spring wheat at \$1 60. Peas—no sales. Provisions—pork unchanged from former rates, prices a shade lower. Butter scarce, and good wanted. Ashes—poor lots; pearls firm.

TORONTO, December 20, 1867. Flour—Receipts, 200 bbls; No. 1, at \$6 75—Wheat—\$1 44. Peas—70c. Oats—55c to 57c. Barley—82c to 84c.

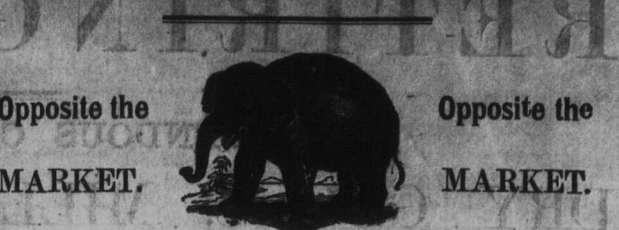
HAMILTON, December 20 1867. Fall wheat, \$1 45 @ \$1 50, spring do—\$1 30

THE BARCLAY SEWING MACHINE.

Without any exceptions, the Barclay Sewing Machine, Manufactured by the British American Sewing Machine Company.

AT PARIS, ONTARIO, are the best in the Dominion of Canada for general purposes. An examination is merely requested, which will be to the advantage of those intending to purchase. All machines warranted. Also, Agent for the DALTON KNITTING MACHINES, one of the best machines in the market. Apply to MOSES BECHTEL, General Agent for the County of Wellington

NOTICE!



Opposite the MARKET.

1,000 MEN WANTED

At the ELEPHANT Clothing Emporium

TO FILL THOSE

OVERCOATS and PEA JACKETS

which range in price from \$3.50 upwards. During the present month

SMITH & BOTSFORD

will sell their CLOTHING at prices much lower than that of any other house in Guelph. It is now generally admitted that this is the only store in town where real Bargains can be obtained.

Commercial Bank Bills taken at par.

SMITH & BOTSFORD.

Guelph, 11th December, 1867. dw-1f

DIRECT IMPORTATIONS

OF STAPLE AND FANCY

DRY GOODS!

AT THE BRADFORD HOUSE.

GEORGE JEFFREY

Has much pleasure in announcing the arrival of his

FALL AND WINTER STOCK!

WHICH WILL BE FOUND ONE OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE IN CANADA. HE WOULD PARTICULARLY DIRECT ATTENTION TO A FEW DEPARTMENTS:

SILKS, Black and Coloured. REPS, PRINCESS' CLOTHS, MANTLE CLOTHS, Some things Quite New.

And every other description of Goods will be shown as they appear in the Market.

GEORGE JEFFREY.

Guelph, September 21st 1867. d

RUTHERFORD HOUSE!

DRY GOODS, CLOTHING

And a Cheap lot of Ladies' and Gentlemen's Underclothing,

All of which we are determined to sell cheaper than any house in the town, and our

Groceries, Crockery and Liquors are Cheaper than ev

Just Arrived from Newfoundland

100 Barrels Latest Caught Labrador Herrings, 100 Half Barrels Latest Caught Labrador Herrings,

which can be confidently recommended as the best imported this year.

Commercial Bank Bills taken at par.

Guelph, November 14, 1867. daw-1f

GREAT SALE OF

BOOTS AND SHOES

At Cost and Under!

and will continue until the whole is CLEARED OUT, as they intend in future to keep nothing but their own manufacture. This will be the best opportunity ever offered in the Town of Guelph to buy cheap Boots and Shoes, as the

Whole Stock will be sold without Reserve for Cash only.

PREST & HEPBURN

WILL COMMENCE

On Monday next, 23rd Dec.,

To sell off their entire Stock of Imported Goods

PREST & HEPBURN.