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5. We wish our readers in the several villages of the County of Victoria...

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7. We wish it to be distinctly understood that we will discontinue no paper unless all arrears are paid up.

8. No subscriptions received or payments taken for a less period than three months.

The Canadian Post.

LINDSAY, C.W. Thursday, 17th Dec. 1863.

TO ADVERTISERS—THE WINTER TRADE.

The Post has the largest and most influential circulation of any newspaper in the County of Victoria.

The Quebec Mercury of Monday says:—"So far as it is possible at present to judge, there are good reasons for believing that the removal of the departments to Ottawa will take place about next October."

In the United States House of Representatives a resolution of Fernand Wood, in favor of sending peace commissioners to Richmond, was laid on the table by a vote of 99 to 39.

Enough has transpired during the progress of the inquiry conducted by the Commissioner, to prepare the public mind for changes as a result of the manner in which the Clerk of the Peace at Montreal has been administered.

We are informed that a commission has been issued to Mr. George Murphy, barrister, of Toronto, instructing him to investigate certain charges which have been preferred to the Government against Mr. James B. Fortune, Sheriff of Northumberland and Durham.

THE TWO MESSAGES.

President Lincoln's Message and Proclamation evoke responses in all keys from the New York journals.

The retrospect concerning the civil war shows that a great change has taken place in public opinion of the North, as evinced by recent elections, and the treatment of emancipated slaves, of whom there are now 100,000 in the employment of the United States.

The proclamation declares to all persons desiring to return to their allegiance to the United States, a full pardon (excepting certain individuals), with restoration of all rights of property, except as to slaves, and in property cases where the rights of third parties shall have intervened.

The annual Message of President Davis to the Confederate Congress is published in full in the New York journals.

While therefore our success in this war, the enemy from our soil has not equaled the expectations confidently entertained at the commencement of the campaign, his further progress has been checked.

Oratorical Display.—To-day (Thursday), a "great dinner in honor of the Opposition," as the Leader characterizes it, comes off in Toronto.

Township Elections.—The act adopted on 15th October last, defining the mode of holding elections in townships, extends and explains section 275, so far only as townships divided into electoral divisions are concerned.

The Weather has been very variable during the past week—thaw, ice, rain, snow, high winds. Last Saturday there was a little sleighing, but the snow disappeared with the heavy rain of Sunday and Monday.

THE COUNTY GAOL.

The Grand Jury at the sitting of the Quarter Sessions last week made a proclamation to the Court. It is gratifying to learn that the gaol is in good order, and that the prisoners were properly treated.

The alterations and suggestions in the internal management of the gaol will, as Judge Smith remarked, no doubt meet the approval and be given effect to by the proper authorities.

A small library for the use of prisoners, will be looked upon as most desirable. Prisoners sometimes have to lay in gaol for months awaiting trial, and what more available than readable books to relieve the monotony of prison.

One most salutary thing the Grand Jury suggested was, that stone be furnished at the gaol to be broken by those prisoners undergoing sentence of imprisonment with hard labor.

The subject of the municipal elections is at present claiming attention. We believe it is not quite decided whom the gentlemen will be that will contest the different wards.

A Satisfactory Christmas Present.—We would suggest to our readers that one of the most pleasing presents they could make to their friends is their portrait.

Increased Subscriber sends us an insulting letter, such as no gentleman would ask us to publish. He chooses to put his own construction upon what we said, and in doing so exhibits a good deal of vanity in his part.

MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

The Council met to-day at 2 p.m.—The Warden presiding.

Mr. CUTTINGHAM presented an account from Messrs. Cumberland and Storm, architects, which was referred to the Building Committee.

Mr. WALKER presented a petition from Solomon Thompson and thirty-three others, ratepayers of the township of Carden, praying the County to construct a bridge across the narrows of Mud Lake in said township of Carden.

The Committee on Finance and Assessment then brought in their report, which was read, and the Council went into Committee thereon.

Moved by Mr. THURSTON, seconded by Mr. WALKER, "That the Clerk of this Council be instructed to write to the Crown Land Office, asking for a statement of all lands sold or patented in this County for the past five years, and the dates of sales or patents."—Carried.

On the motion of Mr. McRAE, by-law No. 30, to repeal part of By-law No. 24, and to appoint John McInnes returning officer for the township of Bezieux, was read a third time and passed.

Moved by Mr. CUTTINGHAM, seconded by Mr. HODGSON, "That an inventory of all movable property belonging to the County be taken by the Clerk, and that no articles purchased by any person for the County Buildings be paid for unless they were purchased on the order of the Treasurer or Warden."—Carried.

Moved by Mr. McRAE, seconded by Mr. THURSTON, "That the Treasurer do accept of the services of the Treasurer of the County, in place of the late Mr. Francis Ogilvie, deceased."—Carried.

Mr. Lucas, seconded by Mr. HODGSON, introduced a by-law fixing the salary of the surgeon of the gaol, and authorizing the payment of a sum of money to the Warden for postage and stationery, &c., which was read a first time.

Moved by Mr. CUTTINGHAM, seconded by Mr. THURSTON, "That the Treasurer of this County do proceed to purchase and demand from the Treasurer of that County any money that may be due to this County on account of the settlement between the Committees made in December last, and also to demand from the said Treasurer all the old assessment rolls belonging to this County."—Carried.

The Council then adjourned till next Friday.

PRESENTATION.—The dinner given by the members and friends of the N. O. E. D. Agricultural Society at the Victoria Hotel, on Wednesday evening of last week, in honor of the Treasurer, Wm. Boynton, Jr., Esq., was a splendid success in every respect.

The Queen vs. John Fitzpatrick. Sheep stealing.—The jury after deliberating a night on the case, disagreed, and were discharged.

The Queen vs. John Pearce. Larceny.—Prisoner was charged with stealing the carcass of a deer; but not being ready for trial, it was postponed at his request.

The Queen vs. John Bell and Francis Bell. Assaulting a magistrate in the discharge of his duty.—This case was also postponed at the request of defendants.

Robert Sanderson, appellant, vs. David Thorburn, respondent.—This appeal was against a decision made by William Cottingham, Esq., J. P., and Thomas Stranahan, Esq., J. P., as to a disputed boundary between the farms occupied by the parties.

There were other three cases of appeal from Magistrate's decisions in which the convictions were quashed on the ground of want of jurisdiction.

The Grand Jurors of our Lady the Queen, at the Quarter Sessions at Lindsay this 11th day of November 1863, present that they have visited the jail, which they found in good order, and questioned the prisoners as to their treatment, with which they expressed themselves satisfied.

The Grand Jurors however, felt called upon to suggest some alterations in the internal arrangements of the jail, of material importance to the comfort and proper classification of those confined.

In the first place, the upper cells are as yet unfurnished with beds, coming at times the lower ones to be so crowded as to compel the gaoler to put two prisoners in the same cell.

Also a want of accommodation for debtors, and those confined for minor offences. This can be avoided by using the room intended for a chapel during the day, and appropriating part of the superfluous hospital room as sleeping apartments.

A few pairs of gaol clothing also appear to be much required.

It seems that at present the want of means of keeping prisoners employed is much felt, and were some furnished at the gaol to be broken by the prisoners, and afterwards used in improving the highways, we think a cheap and effective remedy would be found.

Nothing further occurs to us as necessary to mention. CHRISTIE READY, Foreman.

His Honor, on receiving the presentment, said it would be brought under the notice of the proper authorities at the earliest opportunity, and he had no doubt but what the alterations and suggestions of the Grand Jury would be attended to.

The sitting of the Court extended from Tuesday at noon till between seven and eight o'clock on Saturday evening.

COUNTY COURT AND QUARTER SESSIONS.

In last week's Post we gave a report of the proceedings of this Court up till Wednesday evening. The following is a report of the cases before the Court on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday—his Honor Judge Smith on the bench.

Callaghan vs. Hall et al.—This was an action brought by the plaintiff against the Sheriff of Peterborough for the price of a horse and steer, seized by him under an execution against the plaintiff's father, and which he (plaintiff) alleged was his property. After five hours, the jury, not being able to come to a verdict, were discharged. Cameron, Moss, & Ord for plaintiff; Lacourse for defendants.

Sheriff vs. Ireton.—This was an action for recovery of a balance due on account. Verdict for plaintiff; Smith and Hupph for defendant.

Hickson vs. Magaly.—Defendant sold plaintiff a horse about five years ago, which proved to have the glanders. The jury, from the evidence, considering that defendant at time of sale was aware of the circumstances, gave a verdict for the plaintiff—\$75. Cameron, Moss, and Ord for plaintiff; Lacourse for defendant.

Rich vs. Edwards et al.—This was an action on a promissory note, to which defendant, added payment. Verdict for plaintiff for amount of note and interest. Hupph for plaintiff; Mackay for defendants.

McGuinness vs. Daria.—Action on notes and agreement. Plea, payment and offset. Plaintiff withdrew record.—Lacourse for plaintiff; Hupph for defendant.

Maloney vs. Hanlin.—Action of replevin. Verdict for plaintiff. Lacourse for plaintiff; Cameron, Moss, and Ord for defendant.

Maloney vs. Hanlin.—Action to recover account. Verdict for plaintiff—\$26 10 7. Lacourse for plaintiff; Cameron, Moss, and Ord for defendant.

McGillivray vs. Connelly.—Interpleader. Goods claimed by wife of execution debtor. Verdict for claimant. S. Smith for claimant; Lacourse for execution creditor.

Three bills were found against Donald McFarlane, Archibald McGee, and Duncan McGee for riot and assault, and also against Peter Marshall and Margaret Marshall for larceny, but none of these parties appeared.

The recognizances in Marshall's case were two sureties in \$50 each and Marshall himself in \$100.

There are thirteen lawyers in Lindsay. The population, according to the census of 1861, was 1907, which gives one lawyer to every man, woman and child in every 147 of the inhabitants.

The Queen vs. Samuel Nicholson. Riot and assault.—Prisoner was charged (along with two others) whose authorities did not succeed in apprehending) with being one of a "disturbed party," who upon the night of Thursday 26th Nov. last, assembled round the house of Mr. John McLeod, farmer, in the township of Fessenden, to "congratulate" him on the occasion of his marriage.

FRIDAY, Dec. 11. The Council met to-day at noon—the Warden in the chair.

BY-LAW TO RAISE \$16,000. Mr. THURSTON introduced a by-law to raise, by way of loan the sum of \$16,000 for the purposes therein mentioned, which was read a first time.

The Committee rose and reported by-law without amendment, which report was received and adopted.

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS. On the motion of Mr. DICK, seconded by Mr. FEEL, by-law No. 31, to provide for the payment of certain accounts and claims was read a first time.

The Council having gone into committee thereon, the by-law was reported without amendment, and received and adopted.

The by-law was then read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Lucas, seconded by Mr. HODGSON, the Council went into committee of the whole on the second reading of by-law No. 32, fixing the salary of the gaol surgeon and providing for the payment to the Warden of a certain sum for postage, &c.—Mr. McQuade in the chair.

The by-law on being reported without amendment was read a third time and passed. [The gaol surgeon's salary is fixed at \$84 a year.]

The Committee on County Property brought in their report which was received and read. The Council having gone into committee thereon, rose and reported the report without amendment. The report was received and adopted.

VOLE OF THANKS TO MESSRS CUMBERLAND AND STORM. It was moved by Mr. BOCHIE, seconded by Mr. DICK, "That the County Buildings being now completed, and having had sufficient time to judge of their appearance, comfort, and convenience, and of the very high eulogiums passed upon them by the judges of the Superior Courts, this Council cannot let the opportunity pass without tendering to Messrs Cumberland and Storm, the architects, the thanks of this Council, in appreciation of the excellent skill displayed by them in designing, planning, and successfully carrying to completion the gaol and court-house of this County."—Carried.

Moved by Mr. FEEL, seconded by Mr. DICK, "That the Clerk be instructed to notify each municipality to prepare and transmit to the County Treasurer a list of all lands liable to assessment for the present year, which may have been omitted from the assessment rolls already returned, with the just value of each lot and the amount of taxes payable thereon for the present year, with all possible despatch, in order that the same may be placed on the non-resident rolls of the present year."—Carried.

THE LATE ESCAPE OF PRISONERS. Moved by Mr. FEEL, seconded by Mr. LUCAS, "That this Council having examined the gaol, and having made a report thereon, and the escape of prisoners which lately took place, are of opinion that all the alterations possible should be obtained regarding the same in order to take steps for preventing a similar occurrence in future, would respectfully desire the Sheriff, the late Chaplain, and the Turnkey, to come before this Council and state what they may know about the matter, to enable this Council to come to a just conclusion as to where the blame has occurred; and as several recriminating statements have been circulated by the press through the County in relation to the matter, and remove any misapprehension that may be entertained by the inhabitants of this County and the country at large."—Carried.

On the motion being put, the yeas and nays were demanded, when they voted—Yeas—Messrs. Cottingham, Lucas, McQuade, Adair, Fell, and Dick—6. Nays—Messrs. Hodgson, McRae, Whalen, Thornton, Thorne, and Roche—6.

The Warden gave his casting vote against the motion, which was accordingly lost.

VOLE OF THANKS TO THE WARDEN. On the motion of Mr. ROCHE, the Warden vacated the chair, which was taken by Mr. Cottingham.

It was then moved by Mr. ROCHE, seconded by Mr. LUCAS, "That the thanks of this Council be conveyed to the Warden, P. McHugh, Esq., for the efficient manner in which he has fulfilled the office of Warden for the current year."—Carried.

The Warden, on resuming the chair, thanked the Council for the honor done him, and complimented them on the manner in which their meetings and business had been conducted during the past year.

The Council then adjourned.

LITERARY NOTICES.

Arthur's Home Magazine, January 1864. Philadelphia: Arthur & Co. \$2 per year. This excellent magazine for January next is already issued. It is unusually attractive.

To name the interesting articles it contains would be to enumerate the entire contents. The steel engraving, "Christmas Eve," is a beautiful specimen of the engraver's art.

"This the Farmer Sows his Seed," is full of meaning and suggestive. To the ladies, the fashion plates and patterns are of particular interest. This magazine may be read with profit by all.

Godley's Lady's Book. January 1864. Philadelphia: L. A. Godley. \$3 a year. The establishments of this number of Godley are usually perfect. The fashion-plates, the steel engravings, colored patterns for Persian wool work—all are beautiful.

The literary contents embrace "A New Year's Story," "Going to the President's Levee," "Nobody to Blame," "Adventures of a Peep-hole," &c. &c.—to judge from the titles merely, surely no unattractive "bill of fare."

In the Work Department the ladies will find something for January, with no fewer than from thirty to forty illustrations.

Taken altogether Godley for January is as more than average excellence, especially in engravings and illustrations.

LATEST NEWS. AMERICAN REVOLUTION. BOTH ARMIES IN VIRGINIA CONSTRUCTING WINTER QUARTERS.

GEN. MEADE TO BE RETAINED IN HIS POSITION. (Times's special.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13. Both the rebel army and our own are busy constructing winter quarters.

Indications of quiet never to be mistaken are the liberal granting of furloughs by corps commanders, and the return to the camp of the exiled sutlers.

The 3 years' men are rapidly re-enlisting. Nearly every man of the 1st Va. cavalry have gone in for the war.

A reconnaissance on Friday by the 1st Massachusetts and the 1st Vermont, under Major Janeway, towards Sherrillsville, furnished a little fight with a detachment of the 6th Va. but developed no other force.

Reports are prevalent in camp that Gen. Longstreet has succeeded in effecting a junction with Gen. Lee, but after due enquiry it cannot be traced to any reliable source.

Gen. Meade will retain his present position as Commander-in-Chief of the army.

LEE ENDEAVOURS TO CUT MEADE'S COMMUNICATION WITH WASHINGTON.

10,000 DESERTERS IN CANADA. FINANCIAL STATE OF THE CONFEDERACY.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14. A letter from Morris says the rebels were working very hard on Sullivan's Island, increasing their works and shelling forts Gregg and Wagner.

The rebel iron-clads occasionally showed themselves, but were always careful to avoid a fight.

The rebels are said to be very savage, and do not spare our men when they catch them.

Reconnoissances are frequently made from the front and much valuable information is thus obtained.

Our forces are not idle. Times's despatch. Lee's cavalry endeavored on Sunday to cut Meade's communication with Washington by destroying the bridge across Cedar Creek, near Catlett's Station.

About 700 men dashed at the guard posted at the bridge, but were repulsed after a short fight.

It has recently come to the knowledge of the Government that there are about 10,000 deserters, most of them in a suffering condition, and anxious to return and join their regiments.

It is probable that a proclamation will shortly be issued by the President, offering a pardon to all who will return to their regiments within 30 days.

(Special to the Herald.) Washington, Dec. 15. Senator McDougal will introduce a joint resolution in the Senate declaring the French invasion of Mexico an unfriendly act towards this country, and inquiring if it be not the duty of the United States to declare war against France in consequence.

The reference of Senator Morrill's joint resolution giving notice of the abrogation of the Canadian reciprocity Treaty to the committee on commerce is understood to indicate the modification, not the abrogation of the treaty.

New York, Dec. 15. The Rebel Secretary of the Treasury's report says the entire debt of the confederacy in round numbers is 1,000,000,000 dollars, of which 800,000,000 dollars are treasury notes, and 200,000,000 dollars of these notes are in circulation.

The Secretary says that the amount needed to carry on the confederacy to the 30th June, 1864, is \$475,000,000, besides the amount of the undrawn appropriations of the last Congress, which reaches \$476,000,000; and if the estimates are extended so as to include the entire year of 1864, the amount will reach \$1,427,000,000, which sum the hopeful Secesh Congress is formally called upon to provide.

And so, if the legs of the confederacy last so long, it will have at the end of the year 1864, the respectable debt of \$9,500,000,000.

The New York Times, anticipating the early termination of the war, thus sketches the "financial shock" which would ensue:

"In such a contingency—by no means impossible—we have at once a tremendous shock given to our whole financial world. From five to eight hundred thousand men—still leaving enough to hold the strategic points at the South—are without a few weeks, perhaps, forced on the labour market. Wages fall with a crash. Crowds of men are forced out of various branches of industry by the new competition, and become, for a time, chargeable upon or injurious to the public. All productions become cheapened, which—though a benefit to the whole community—many for a time occasion great losses to those who have already purchased their raw materials or implements at high prices. With the success of the Government and the expected resumption of specie payments, gold falls and prices come down to the old standard, so that large numbers who have purchased stocks of goods, or bought houses, or invested in railway securities, or made contracts, or entered on speculations under the inflated values, are obliged to sell or retain their purchases under reduced values, and thousands, who thought themselves rich, find themselves poor."

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