

LOCAL NEWS-LETTERS

MEMBER ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—At the regular meeting of the L. O. District lodge of Emory the following officers were elected: W. D. M. W. M. Cottingham, D. D. M., W. Neil, chaplain, W. H. Hooper, secretary, J. T. Beatty, fin. sec., J. J. Williams, treasurer, W. D. Stinson, lecturer, Chas. McCague, D. C. Thos. Newsum. The reports from the various lodges show the order to be in a flourishing condition in the district.

BURY'S GREEN Special to the Watchman. A BUCK BEE—Last Wednesday a brick bee was held, for the purpose of drawing brick from Curtis's brickyard at Lindsay for venerable Mr. John Green's fine house here. Sixteen teams turned out. The distance for the round trip is about 55 miles, and this some of the teams covered in one day, but the majority of them preferred two days. The roads were heavy after the storm, and the trip was no picnic.

VALENTIA Special to the Watchman. OBITUARY.—On Saturday morning, Jan. 22nd, Edward Dorey, fourth son of Mr. Geo. Dorey of this place, died from appendicitis. Deceased had been ill only a short time, and when the nature of his illness was discovered Dr. Hall of Little Britain and Vrooman of Lindsay were summoned and an operation performed, but the patient gradually sank and the end soon came. His sudden taking away is a sad blow to his parents, relatives and numerous friends, and much sympathy is extended them in their sorrow. The funeral was very largely attended.

PENIEL-MARIPOSA Special to the Watchman. OBITUARY.—Mrs. H. Osborne of this place, who had been ill for the past two years with a cancer, died on Dec. 22nd. She was an active member of the Methodist church, and her demise will be regretted by a large circle of friends. In addition to her husband a family of eight—four sons and four daughters—survive her. The funeral on Monday at the Cannington cemetery was very largely attended.

CAESAREA ACCIDENT.—A serious accident occurred last Thursday to Fred Watson, who was hunting in the bush. He had placed his gun against a small bush and in laying hold of the gun by the muzzle, the hammer was drawn back and the small finger and part of his hand was shot off. Dr. Fish was summoned and dressed the wound. No serious fears are anticipated, though the loss of the finger and part of the hand will be a mark for life which Fred will remember.

BEAVERTON A DANGEROUS NIGGER.—The negro hostler recently committed from Beaver-ton for theft, received a sentence of two months at Whitchy. The Chronicle says: "While enroute here in charge of a Beaverton constable, Jackson's hands were handcuffed behind his back. He was considered a dangerous customer, as he had drawn a knife when the constables effected his arrest, and the man in charge wished to take no chances. While waiting for the train at Blackwater Junction, Jackson, who was on the platform, was approached by a commercial traveller, who in a sarcastic way remarked, 'Well, coon, have you got your hands tied.' The coon jumped forward and kicked the drummer in the abdomen and then followed up the attack by bunting the insulter with his head. Bystanders interfered and overpowered Jackson, while the drummer put a safe distance between himself and the negro."

BALSOVER Special to the Watchman. WEATHER.—Snow and soft weather is all the cry.

SCHOOL.—We are highly pleased with our new school teacher, Mr. Peter Campbell. His work is very satisfactory.

VISITORS.—Mrs. R. McPherson, Mrs. Avery and son, Miss F. McPherson and Mr. Samuel Nicholson and Mr. S. Nicholson of Dakota spent Sunday here. We were greatly delighted to see them all, and especially Mr. Nicholson of Yankee land, who is spending the winter in Canada. It is rumored that he is going to capture one of our citizens here and take him back to Dakota. We wish our citizen (Norman McLean) every success, and hope the Yankees will use him well.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING.—The annual congregational meeting of St. Andrew's church was held Thursday last, the Rev. Mr. Currie in the chair. The reports of the various organizations in connection with the church were read, all showing a prosperous state of affairs and favorable balances financially. Owing to the severe illness of Mr. W. Wallace, which we regret very much to hear, the treasurer's report was not read. The pastor referred to the fact that only two were removed by death from among the members and adherents during the year and that in extreme old age, and gratitude is due to God for His goodness. During the year some improvements were made in the church building, all of which goes to show that the congregation is in a comparatively prosperous and progressive state.

OPERA MEETING.—On Friday evening the Y.P.S.C.E. held an open meeting, and at the close presented Mrs. F. A. Staback with a well-filled purse in recognition of her services as organist. On the same evening the pupils of the public school presented their ex-teacher, Mr. McDougall with a handsome shaving case and Book of Praise. Both presentations were so skillfully planned that the recipients were taken completely by surprise, but made feeling and suitable remarks. (Crowded out last week.)

EMILY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.—The council of Emory met at Omeme on Jan. 10th, at 11 o'clock a.m. pursuant to statute. Present, the following duly declared elected members for the current year: William Adams, reeve; William Graham, deputy reeve; Isaac Ege, David Kennedy and Dennis Sully, councilors. After taking the

usual statutory declaration of qualification and office, the council proceeded with business. The minutes of last session were read, approved of and confirmed. Several important communications were received. The reeve appointed William Lebane's auditor to audit the accounts of the municipality for the year 1897. Moved by Deputy Reeve Graham, seconded by Coun. Fee, that the following named persons be appointed to the several offices hereinafter named: William Brown to be trustee for the Omeme high and public school for the ensuing term of two years in the lieu of D. Thornion whose term has expired. Simon Perdue, reappointed member of the local board of health for the ensuing term of three years. G. S. Cameron, M.D., to be medical health officer for the ensuing year at a salary of ten dollars. W. H. Hooper, re-appointed joint auditor to audit the accounts of this municipality for the year 1897 at a salary of six dollars, and that the reeve's appointment of William Lebane as auditor, be confirmed, and that the clerk do draft the necessary by-law confirming these appointments.—Carried. Moved by Coun. Scully, seconded by Deputy Reeve Graham, that orders be issued on the treasurer for payment of the following election expenses and other accounts, namely: Arthur Franks, services as deputy returning officer, subdivision No. 1, \$6.80; David Balfour, subdivision No. 2, \$5.40; John Spence, subdivision No. 3, \$5.40; Joseph Lucas, No. 4, \$6.60; John Vant, No. 5, \$6; J. McChan, No. 6, \$6.40; G. H. Hopkins, Lindsay, Emily proportion of rent for gravel pit on lot 4, con. 14, Emily, leased for 99 years, payment subject to corrections in lease as required by this council, \$50; McIntyre & Stewart for advice re Omeme high school, \$3; Adam Spence, for building culvert opposite lot 7, con. 7, \$5; William Curry, treasurer of village of Omeme, for five sittings of division court in village hall, \$10.—Carried. Moved by Coun. Scully, seconded by Dep. Reeve Graham, that the contract for the performance of all necessary printing and advertising (including the furnishing of blank forms) for this municipality for the current year be awarded C. W. Richards, at or for the sum of \$70.—Carried. Moved by Coun. Kennedy, seconded by Coun. Scully, that by-law No. 285 for the purpose of appointing a trustee for the Omeme high and public school and other municipal officers as therein enumerated, be now introduced and read a first time.—Moved by Coun. Scully, seconded by Dep. Reeve Graham, that C. W. Richards do receive an order on the treasurer for the sum of \$25 on account of printing contract for the current year.—Carried. Moved by Coun. Fee, seconded by Coun. Kennedy, that this council do adjourn to meet on Monday, the seventh day of February when in connection with general business other necessary municipal officers including pathmasters and fenceviewers will be appointed.—Carried. R. J. GRANDY, clerk.

VICTORIA COUNTY COUNCIL. January Session. Second Day. Council opened at 10.30, the warden in the chair, and members all present except Mr. Bailey. After confirming the minutes of the preceding session the warden read the treasurer's statement of current assets and liabilities to Jan. 1st, 1898, and of moneys at the credit of the township councils at that date. These statements were referred to the standing committee on finance and assessment. The warden submitted the following documents: Reports of county police magistrate for 1898; Victoria Rifle Association; East Victoria Farmers' Institute and Kirkfield public library; correspondence on county roads scheme; a communication from county magistrate relative to complaint of deputy reeve of Eldon respecting disposition of certain fines; from Mr. C. N. Campbell, respecting same subject; from J. E. Belcher, C.E., reporting expenses on Pigeon Creek bridge; Fenelon township clerk, respecting expenses on Rosedale bridge; Mr. J. H. Sotherton, local treasurer, of Eastern Daymen's Association, giving statement of finances for the year; James Graham, Carden, respecting Mud Lake Narrows bridge; secretary of trustees association, asking a delegate to their annual convention; American Surety Co., respecting bonds of treasurers; clerk of Bruce county, a petition asking amendment of County Councils Act; clerk of Lanark and Wellington, petitions asking for amendment of High Schools Act; clerks of Bexley and Eldon, concerning certain indigent persons. Dr. McKay's bill respecting borrowing powers of municipalities pending collection of taxes; from Wm. Cameron, referring to Black river bridge; clerk of Manvers, copy of resolution of the council respecting the approaches to Ops and Manvers bridges; Dr. Wood stating that the resolution respecting the bridge in Dalton was before the attorney-general; president Agricultural College, Guelph, respecting right of attendance of county students; grand jury at fall sittings, respecting indigent persons; grand jury at general sessions, respecting good roads; request for grants from prisoners' aid society and Kinnmount public library; from W. H. Law, C.E., offering services; John McKay, respecting audits; Hamilton Bridge Co., regarding steel bridges. All foregoing referred to proper standing committees.

Dr. Wood presented a petition from Dalton for grant of \$30 to improve boundary between that township and Rama. Mr. Fox presented a petition from Ops council that the west Cross Creeks bridge be accepted in lieu of a boundary bridge. Mr. Cameron had a letter document from Eldon, asking that a certain portion of boundary be walled in and that he be made liable for travel. All referred to committee on roads and bridges.

On motion of Coun. Ellis and Shaver, the report of the advisory committee recommending grant of \$100 to the Eastern Ontario Butter and Cheese Association was approved and referred to finance committee. Dr. Herberman was permitted to address the council in regard to the public meeting to be held on Thursday night in behalf of the Children's Aid Society. On motion of Messrs. Graham and Bryans, D. J. Sifers was appointed trustee of Co. State Institute for next 3 years, and also a like motion of Messrs. Switzer and Fox concerning Mr. Thos. Robinson for Omeme high school. These appointments were referred to the standing committee on appointments to office. Moved by Mr. Switzer, seconded by Cameron, that the standing committee on finance assessment be instructed to consider and report on the advisability of a change in the hawkers' and pedlars' act necessary by-law increasing the license.—Carried. Moved by Couns. Wood and Graham, that the above committee do likewise concerning a grant of \$50 to improve the boundary between Dalton and Rama, provided Ontario council grant an equal sum.—Carried. Messrs. Cameron and Switzer moved and seconded, that the same committee do the same regarding a grant of \$100 on the hill opposite lot 11, con. 1, of Eldon, if Ontario council grant an equal sum, and also that Mr. Veale be a commissioner to expend said money.—Carried. Moved by Mr. Shaver, seconded by Mr. Switzer, that the committee also advise concerning the usual grants to public libraries.—Carried. Also by motion of Messrs. Graham and Bryans, the grant of \$200 for the Home for the Aged was to receive like consideration. The warden read a letter from Mr. J. C. Argue referring to the hardship and expense entailed upon witnesses called to Lindsay from the north at the hearing of the Luff case.—Referred to standing committee on finance and assessment.

Mr. Switzer introduced a petition to the minister of railways and canals for a swing bridge across Pigeon river. Council adjourned. Third Day. Council resumed sitting at 11 o'clock, the warden in the chair. The minutes of preceding session were confirmed. COMMUNICATIONS. From the Home for the Aged, asking grant; clerk of the township of Ops, transmitting a resolution relating to the approaches to the Ops and Manvers bridges; Mr. James McCaughey, Uphill, asking for grant of \$250 to secure like sum from government for repairs on the Victoria road, south of Uphill.

REPORT OF COUNTY PROPERTY COMMITTEE. On motion of Mr. Graham, seconded by Mr. Shaver, the report of the standing committee on county property was received, and council went into committee, with Mr. Fox in the chair. The report, which was reported without amendment, received and adopted is as follows: Your committee beg to recommend that accounts be passed as follows: Light, Heat and Power Co., Court House, \$25.01; Light, Heat and Power Co., Registry Office, 4.58; W. A. Goodwin, work, Court House, 80; Jas. Boxall, sundries, 2.10; E. Gregory, 8.80; McLennan & Co., 11.28; A. Campbell, 23.79; W. G. Woods, work, etc., 1.80; J. Brimmell, 45; Alex. Skinner, Registry Office, 1.25; Henry Parker, 11.25; Lindsay W. W. Co., rates, Ct. House, 13.73; G. A. Little, mirror, Court House, 55; McLennan & Co., handcufts, Sheriff's Office, 10.50; Bell Telephone Co., Court House, 10.00; Home for the Aged, clothing O'Shea, 11.33.

The chairman reports that tenders have been asked for a supply of cordwood for the court house and gaol, and that a contract has been let to Mr. Joseph Maunders at \$2.77 per cord. Your committee beg to express approval of the action of the chairman. Your committee recommend that the chairman be authorized to purchase a flag for the court house at a cost not exceeding \$10, to be used on all ordinary occasions. Your committee recommend that the chairman be authorized to have the ceiling and cornices of the court room repaired and the room placed in a good state of repair throughout, and that the authority given last year for the covering of the floor within the bar be renewed. Your committee recommend that the chairman be authorized to carry out any ordinary repairs that may be urgently needed in about the county buildings and premises, and to exercise a general supervision of the buildings and premises during the year. Council next went into committee of the whole on report of committee on printing. Mr. Johnson in the chair, and upon rising reported the report as presented, whereupon it was received and adopted.

The petition to the Dominion minister of railways and canals for a swing bridge over Pigeon Creek was read a second time, Mr. Bryans in the chair, and upon being reported intact, was read the third time and adopted. Moved by Mr. Fox, seconded by Dr. Wood, that the standing committee on finance and assessment be required to investigate and report on the advisability of a grant to the Children's Aid Society.—Carried. The council adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock in the court room. At that hour the warden called the members to order and upon motion by Coun. Shaver, seconded by Coun. Ellis, the council resolved itself into a conference for the discussion of a county system of roads. A number of representative gentlemen had entered the chamber, and upon motion of Mayor Taylor, seconded by ex-Mayor Smyth the warden was voted to the chair. For full report of the proceedings of this conference see other columns.

NEWS OF THE WEEK. —Mr. John McCann of Belmont township, committed suicide by cutting his throat on Thursday last. —The Spanish government will ask the next Cortes to vote £8,000,000 for strengthening the navy. —Russia will make experiments to find means of communication between her north coast and Siberia by crossing the Arctic sea. —Wm. Hutton, a colored employee of the Ontario rolling mills, Hamilton, was fatally crushed between a pony engine and a truck last Thursday. —The suit of Hathaway and Heard against Dr. Fridtjof Nansen for \$20,000 damage for alleged breach of contract has been settled by the lecturer's paying \$240 to his former managers. —The gold reserve in the United States treasury has reached \$163,670,000, the highest point in about seven years. The accumulation is becoming somewhat of a burden, and the government is no longer encouraging its deposit. —About a month ago Samuel Gurnett of Woodscook sustained a slight injury to one of his fingers, which at first was thought to be trivial. Two weeks ago blood poisoning developed, followed by erysipelas, which finally resulted in his death. —Lord Aberdeen has approved of an order in council allowing the law to take its course in the case of James Allison condemned to be executed for the murder of Mrs. Orr, near Berlin. The execution takes place to-morrow (Friday). —While Lord Brassey, Governor of Victoria, was attempting to board his yacht in Melbourne harbor from a launch last Thursday a wave carried the gangway away with Lord Brassey and the boatswain on it. They narrowly escaped being crushed between the yacht and launch. —A deputation representing the bicycle manufacturers of Canada waited on the ministers of Finance and Customs at Ottawa last week and asked for a specific duty of \$9 each on bicycles, with a provision that in no case it should be lower than the equivalent of 25 per cent. ad valorem. —Jabez Spencer Balfour, now serving 14 years for fraud in connection with Liberators Group, was examined in the London bankruptcy court last Thursday. The convict was in ill-health. He said he had left the country in 1892 owing to the advice who ought to have known better. —"Jeanie Deans'" gravestone in Iron-gray churchyard is being chipped away by relic hunters. The name of the girl whose story Sir Walter Scott used in the "Heart of Midlothian" and whose appeal to the Duke of Argyll procured her sister's pardon was Helen Walker. —Eli Blake, postmaster of Tongawa, Oklahoma, has been waylaid and beaten to death. Blake was a deacon of the Baptist church and had been a leader in an attempt to drive the saloons out of Tongawa. The attack upon him followed the arrest of four saloonkeepers. —The German emperor completed 39 years of life on Thursday last and the anniversary of his birth was celebrated throughout his empire more generally than usual. His mother and relatives congratulated him, and the newspapers, excepting Socialist organs, had kind things to say about him. —While agents and lawyers were searching the world over for Edward Oheinstich, one of the heirs to the millions of Budapest's greatest banker, the object of the quest occupied a maniac's cell at the county asylum, Chicago. His death is recorded, with a paper's number opposite it, on the books of the asylum. —The Italian government intends to submit to parliament a bill imposing a tax on titles, and the measure discloses the idea the Italians have of the market values of these marks of distinction. The bill provides that anyone desiring the title of prince shall pay \$8,000 therefor. Five thousand dollars will be the sum necessary to obtain the title of marquis, while \$4,000 will buy the title of count. Anyone may become a baron who is willing to pay \$1,000 for the honours. —There is likely to be a big demand for labor from British Columbia during the coming season. The British Columbia Mills, Timber and Trading Company of Vancouver require about 100 men to work in the woods, getting out the Douglas firs, for which that country is noted, and they have been compelled to come all the way to Montreal to try and secure them, as all the spare people in British Columbia have turned their attention to the Klondyke. —Mrs Langtry is about to appear as a defendant in a suit which will entail the laying bare to the public of her relations with the late Abinden Baird, the millionaire sporting man. When the executors of Baird's estate made an inventory they found considerable of his property in question in Mrs. Langtry's possession. She alleged it had been presented to her by the squire, and added that she had a deed of gift, signed by him. Mrs. Langtry has lost the deed, and an advertisement is appearing in the papers asking for its return.

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