

Notes and News.

THE Ontario Government have submitted plans for the new Parliament buildings, to be erected in the Queen's Park, Toronto. The estimated cost is \$500,000, and it is expected that the work will be completed in three years.

THE Postmaster General has decided to allow book packets, up to the usual limit of weight, four pounds, to be forwarded to Winnipeg, Manitoba. Book packets addressed to other places in Manitoba, or the Northwest, or British Columbia, will continue to be subject to the present limit of weight, 2 lbs. 3 oz.

A REMARKABLE breach of promise case is to come up for adjudication at the next Guelph assizes. The parties were introduced to each other, engaged, the engagement ring given, the wedding raiment purchased and made, the wedding ring bought, the parson engaged, the license procured, the meats baked, the company invited, the day set, the engagement broken and the writ issued, all inside of ten days.

THE Dublin Mansion House Relief Committee announce that the fund amounts to £82,422, and that grants have been made to date amounting to £42,814, including sixty-two grants made on Thursday of £1,710. There have been received from Brisbane, Australia, £2,000; from Dunedin, New Zealand, £470; from the New York Committee, £200; and from Madras, India, £1,000.

TORONTO has suffered an innovation. A sensational company of low comedians that played in one of the theatres during the week, announced a "sacred concert" for Sunday evening. It was held, and the house crowded so it is said. Two members of the Local Legislature were conspicuous among the crowded audience. The sort of sacredness about the concert can be understood from the company, and what it will result in can be judged from the experience of United States cities. Toronto is unclean enough now without the further addition of this Sabbath breaking demoralization.

ZADKIEL'S almanac, the prophetic utterance of which still find acceptance with a great many people in England, has made a very palpable hit in connection with the accident to the Princess Louise. Under the heading of February, it says:—"The third week of this month brings Mars over the ascendant (and places of the luminaries) of a great personage, and over the place of the sun at the birth of a certain princess; care should therefore be exercised in travelling. * * * or suffering may result." The birthday of the Princess occurs on the 18th of March, which is near enough to make the coincidence a striking one. Zadkiel will find more believers than ever on the score of this lucky guess.

THERE seems no longer any reason to doubt that Gen. Grant will be the Republican nominee for the Presidency this year. State after State in the North declares for him, the latest being New York and Connecticut. In the West, there can be little doubt that he will carry all before him—even the "rag baby." Sherman, Blaine, Conkling and the other aspirants may as well withdraw their pretensions at once. It is more than likely that a very respectable share of the Southern electoral vote will fall to his share, without the slightest necessity for repeating the Louisiana and Florida frauds in 1876. "Let us have peace" is sound, provided always that Ulysses is at headquarters.

IRELAND is far from being the only country which is at present suffering from a widespread national calamity, but, owing to our intimate connection with her people, the famine under which they are perishing has altogether obscured from view the greater evils of more remote lands. The ravages of typhoid fever are stated to have carried off 10,000 people in two Russian Provinces since November last, whole villages being almost depopulated. Famine is making terrible headway in Persia,

there being 30,000 starving families near Oroomiale with little chance of any outside alleviation of their distress. The Silesian famine, the distress in Hungary from the same cause, and the destructive floods in Tripoli, also combine to make this season memorable as one of extreme suffering and destitution in widely separated lands.

MR. CRAWFORD, of Russell county, has received a letter from Mr. James Johnston, one of the practical farmers who was sent out to instruct the Indians. He writes from Fort Pelly, and says he has a very high opinion of the country. "It's soil," he says, "cannot be surpassed. The people of Ontario imagine that the country is a vast level plain, but there is rolling prairie, and the hills rise to an altitude of several hundred feet, the tops of which are rich as your valleys, producing wild vetches in great abundance. I have seen them growing from four to six feet high, just as succulent and nutritive as your cultivated vetches. It would do you good to see the cattle wallow in them, as sleek and as fat as they can comfortably be. The climate is somewhat different from that of Ontario. The summer months are beautiful, and not in general so warm."

In discussing the late attempts of the *Globe* at photo engraving the *Orillia Packet* says: "As His Excellency the Governor-General is using most praiseworthy exertions to promote the fine arts in Canada, he will be deeply interested in seeing the samples of them, which have recently appeared in the *Globe*, labelled as portraits of this or that person connected with the Donnelly tragedy. These inspiring examples of what the engraver's art can attain to in the hands of the right kind of artists cannot fail to impress His Excellency with the enormously wide field of usefulness which there is for him in Canada in the line which he has chosen to work. As a people, we commenced life with the axe, and there is probably no people in the world who can handle that useful instrument with greater dexterity than the people whom His Excellency now governs. Almost every Canadian boy, whether his parents are rich or poor, learns to swing the axe with a lightness and artistic finish of stroke which makes it but a featherweight in his hand. Axe work, in fact, may be said to be part of the genius of our people. His Excellency will easily see broad traces of that genius in the art specimens in question."

Discussing England's course on the Irish famine, the *Telegram* argues as follows:—"England does not spend a penny in getting these unfortunate people to leave Ireland so that the redundant population may be relieved. The upshot of all this is that England, who receives the benefit of the great bulk of the Irish rents spent out of Ireland by the absentee landlords, besides refusing to make such reforms in the land laws as would prevent the recurrence of these periodical Irish crop failures, actually allows her Irish taxpayers to be relieved in the hour of their direst distress by the hand of the stranger, and is not even generous enough to pay the ocean passage of thousands who can never get more than a bare subsistence on Irish soil while the present system of land tenure prevails. If any other country than England treated her own people so gingerly we should probably hear of it soon enough. The chief duty of every government is to secure the comfort and prosperity of the people who maintain it. Clearly, in the case of the Irish people, the British Government, while squandering millions of pounds sterling in the alleged conversion of heathen Zulus and Afghans by means of gunpowder, has failed in its chief duty."

THE correspondent of the *London Times* at Alexandria points out the extreme injustice to the people of Egypt involved in the recent settlement of the finances, arranged under pressure of the external force of Great Britain and France. While £4,350,000 is allowed for the bondholders' loans, only half of which reached Egypt, only £3,300,000 is allowed for the expenditure of the country itself. The army and navy have been cut down to £430,000 a year, though Egypt is threatened from Abyssinia; £460,000 only is allowed to public works, such as canals, on the maintenance of which public prosperity depends; only £60,000 is assigned for education, of which £20,000 is spent in "expenses," that is, management; and while £140,000 is spent on international tribunals, the main object of which is to protect foreign creditors, only £60,000 is devoted to "localized

justice between native and native" in the whole of Egypt, a sum preposterously inadequate. All this while, £700,000 is set aside as tribute to the Sultan, who neither governs, nor administers, nor owns the country; and £150,000 for the food and protection of the pilgrims to Mecca, who are in very small proportion Egyptians. It seems impossible that so infamous a system of plunder should last; but Egypt is very small and its population very weak, while France and England are great powers.

THE completion of the St. Gothard tunnel, the greatest engineering work of the kind in the world, is daily anticipated and it is expected that in a few months trains will run from Basle, Switzerland, to Milan and Rome. The work was undertaken in order to secure to Switzerland and Germany a through line to Italy and the Mediterranean, in the face of the great natural obstacles formed by the Alpine chain. The first conference on the St. Gothard Railway was held at Berne in September, 1869, Italy, Switzerland and Germany being represented. An elaborate scheme was adopted, which it was found necessary to modify considerably in 1877. As now contemplated the road begins at Immensee, running along the Eastern shore of the Lake of Lucerne and the River Reuss and entering the tunnel at Goschenen. Its course on the other side is down the Valley of the Ticino, terminating at Pino, on the Eastern shore of the Lago Maggiore, where it unites with the Italian railway system. The trunk road is 147.6 kilometres in length and its subsidiary lines are 39 kilometres long, making a total of nearly 116 miles. The cost is estimated at 227,000,000 francs, or about \$45,000,000. The tunnel, upon which 3,000 men have been steadily employed since 1872, is 14,900 metres, or 9½ miles in length. The famous Mont Cenis Tunnel is 12,849 metres long and the Hoosac Tunnel 7,630 metres, or a little more than half the length of the St. Gothard.

ALEXANDER, of Russia, seems destined to realize to the utmost the truth of our great dramatist's words: "Un-easy lies the head that wears a crown." On five occasions, within a very short time, attempts have been made upon his life, which for deliberateness of purpose, ingenuity of device, and boldness of execution, are unexampled in the records of the crime of regicide. These schemes for his "taking off," viewed in order of time, present themselves as a climax,—each being more deliberate, more ingenious, more sanguinary than the one preceding it. The atrocity of the last—if the atrocity of such acts can be measured by the hurt done, surpasses that of any recorded attempt upon a ruler's life. It is no wonder that, as reported, the unhappy Czar of all the Russias is on the verge of madness. His position is more pitiable than that of the meanest hind in his immense realms. He dare not venture abroad, for every one he meets may be sworn to murder him; even his bedside has to be guarded by sentries, any dish he may partake of is just as likely as not to be poisoned; he cannot crush out his enemies by any force he can employ, neither can he appease them by any liberal concessions he dare offer. The most elaborate machinery that can be devised for the detection of their purposes breaks down through the infidelity of those whom he entrusts with the working of it, and the punishment of any on whom his agents lay their hands is a martyrdom—an apotheosis. Other Continental rulers are reported to share, of course in less degree, the terror which these regicidal attempts have inspired in the mind of the Czar. The Emperor William is said to be harassed with similar apprehensions, and other potentates are taking additional precautions to ensure their personal safety. Such anxiety is natural enough, but still the movement in Russia is unique, and from what the public are permitted to know, there seems no great reason to believe that a regicidal period has set in.

THE final settlement between the township of Brook and village of Cannington was just completed last week. It will be remembered the last summer a basis of agreement for a settlement between the two municipalities was signed, but it was not till last week that a final settlement was made. By this settlement it appears that the total amount of indebtedness of the village to the township for their share of the railway debt is \$1181.40, which is to be paid in eleven yearly instalments of \$107.40 each, with interest on the whole unpaid sum yearly at six per cent. The first payment amounting to \$178.30 has been paid.—*Gleaner*.

Our Neighbours.

AT the last Council meeting of the town of Oshawa the Hotel keepers petitioned for a reduction of their licenses but the committee concluded to keep them at the old rate, \$200 for shops and \$150 for hotels.

THE trade and navigation returns for the year 1879 show the customs returns of Collingwood to have been \$8,818.34; and Barrie, \$2,857.31. The amounts paid for collection were—Collingwood, \$1,002.12; Barrie, \$400.

THEY have a neat way of doing it in Bradford. A tramp begs to be sent to jail. The constable tells him he must first steal something. The two start down town, the tramp enters the first store they come to, appropriates some article, is taken into custody by the constable and the thing is done.

AN Orillia man has received a letter from his son in Manitoba in which the letter mentions his first experience of fishing through the ice on Lake Manitoba. A party of thirty caught 4,800 fish between noon of one day and noon of the next. The ice on the lake was three feet thick. Many of the people feed their pigs on fish.

THE school census taker of Port Perry also took note of the children which were in attendance at the Sunday schools of the village and thus reports it:—Church of England 89, Presbyterian 93, Baptist 74, Episcopal Methodist 83, Canada Methodist 136, Roman Catholic 8, Brethren 5, not attending any school, 178.

MRS. THOS. MARTIN, of Oshawa, died very suddenly this week. She had been very busy about the house during Monday and went to bed as usual in the evening. Next morning just before the time for getting up, she complained of great pain. Her husband at once sent for a doctor, but before he could reach the house she was dead. The cause was heart disease. She has left a large family, one of them an infant.

PAINFUL ACCIDENT.—Last week while Captain Corson, Victoria Road, was sawing wood at his place with a drag saw, by some means he got his hand caught in the gearing of the horse-power, and before he could extricate himself nearly all the flesh was torn off his arm as far as the elbow. Fortunately no bones were broken, but it will be a long time before he again has the free use of his arm. Dr. Fisher was called in and dressed the wound.—*Post*.

ANOTHER shocking accident from the explosion of a coal oil lamp took place near Clifford, on Saturday evening, 30th January. The unfortunate victim was Annie Morrison, a girl of fifteen years, who lived with her grandmother. She had been preparing for bed Saturday evening, and was partly undressed, when she tried to blow the lamp out with her breath down the chimney without first turning down the wick. The lamp suddenly exploded, probably from an accumulation of gas, and the flames caught her night-dress and burned her so terribly on the breast and elsewhere that she suffered untold agony until death came to her relief the following day. This fatality should exert an influence in warning people from the dangerous habit of extinguishing lamps with the breath, without first turning the wick well down.

THE Richmond Hill *Liberal* says:—The small-pox epidemic that has been raging in Markham seems, to some extent, to be stopping its ravages. Every precaution is being used, and fear of contagion is not so prevalent now. Two houses are being used as hospitals, those of Mr. Horner and Mr. Helse. There have been up to the present in all fifteen cases, two of which have proved fatal. The names of the parties are W. J. Horner, wife, mother, two children, and adopted son, Mr. Zeller and wife, Mary Hiltz and Henry Helse and wife, and Jacob Atkinson, in Markham, and Jeremiah Doer, Isaac Sider, and C. Hoover, in Whitchurch. W. J. Horner, and his mother, Mrs. Horner, Sr., Wm. Horner, their son, and Mrs. Feller, are the only cases that have proved fatal. Mr. C. Helse deserves a great deal of credit for the attention and time he is devoting to the requirements of the sick and the promptitude with which he conveys new cases to the hospitals.

THE Port Perry council, like the Oshawa council, refuses to reduce the license fees this year.

THE Directors of the Mars Branch Agricultural Society held a dinner, recently at Uptergrove, when they presented Mr. Wm. Boulton, the Secretary, with a testimonial for his services to the Society.

MESSES MILBURN, BENTLEY & PRARSON, Gentlemen—I have much pleasure in testifying to the merits of your Yellow Oil for outward application, in relieving pain from Sprains, Bruises, Burns, Neuralgia, etc., having tried it myself and used it in my family for these purposes, and found it to be one of the most efficacious and soothing remedies that I know of. Yours truly, W. H. FILTS, Real Estate Agent, Toronto.

New Advertisements.

LAST CALL.

PARTIES indebted to me by Note or Book account must pay at once as I must have money to carry on business with.
T. A. CLOUSTON.
Woodville, March 1st, 1880.

TOWNSHIP OF ELDON

Unpaid TAXES!

ALL parties whose Taxes are unpaid on SATURDAY, 20th MARCH, 1880, will positively have their goods distrained, without respect to persons.
JOHN MERRY,
Collector for Eldon.
Woodville, March 1st, 1880. 163-3

CHEAP

—IMPROVED—

FARM PROPERTY! FOR SALE.

TOWNSHIP OF ELDON:—
South West quarter, lot 13, Con. 7, fifty acres, 25 cleared, with log house.
South half, lot 14, Con. 2, 100 acres, 80 cleared, with log house, barn, stable and other buildings and a good orchard.
East half, lot 10, Con. 6, 100 acres, 50 cleared, ordinary buildings.
Part lot 8, Con. 10, 83 acres, 20 cleared, with ordinary buildings.
Lot 32, Con. 8, 116 acres, 50 cleared.
Lot 15, North Portage Road, 100 acres, 20 cleared.

TOWNSHIP OF LAXTON:—
West half lot 4, Con. 2, 100 acres, 40 cleared, with log house and outbuildings.

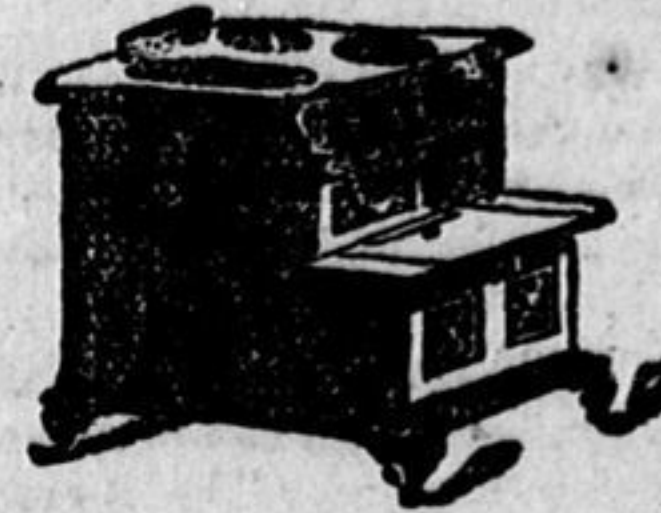
TOWNSHIP OF BROOK:—
Part lots 7 and 8, Con. 14, 150 acres, 100 cleared; with log house and barn.
Part lot 12, Con. 10, three-eighths of an acre, in the village of Derryville, with frame house and barn and brick store.

Immigrants and others wishing to secure Cheap Homesteads, will find these Properties worthy of their special attention, as they will be sold cheap, and on very easy terms of payment.

For further particulars apply to
J. C. GILCHRIST, Woodville.

Estray Heifer.

CAME into the premises of the undersigned, Lot No. 20, 5th Con., Eldon, about the 1st of November, 1879.
A RED HEIFER, one year old. Owner will please call, prove property, pay expenses, and take it away.
ARCH. D. CAMPBELL.
Eldon Station, Feb. 7, 1880. 165-2



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TEA AND COFFEE POTS,

KETTLES, Japanned Ware, &c.

All kinds of repairing promptly attended to.

Stoves!

A large and select stock of Stoves by the best makers on hand.