Vicinity Chips.

Characteristics of the Past Week Carefully Culled for the Curious.

Business notices among locals will be charged at the rate of 10c per line for each insertion. A reduction will be made on contracts for 100 lines or over.

Boy wanted—to learn roller milling. Address G. H. Walter, Hornings Mills.

Dundalk's '96 council were entertained to an oyster supper by the band.

Have you made sure of the weekly visits of The Advance during 1897 by paying your subscription?

Rev. Mr Tom of Arthur occupied the Presbyterian pulpit on Sunday. He will also remain for next Sabbath.

Money—good money—and plenty of it to loan at five, five and a half and six per cent. Apply to A. S. VanDusen, Flesherton.

We neglected to mention last week that at the anunual school meeting Mr. Wm. Davis was chosen trustee in place of Mr. Swanton, whose time had expired.

As per advertisement elsewhere, it will be seen that the Farmers' Institute will meet here on Wednesday of next week, in the Town Hall.

The Euphrasia municipal election resulted in the return of Jas. Erskine, Reeve; John Eaton, 1st Dep.; John Miller, 2nd Dep.; C. Knott and R. Ward, councillors.

The Methodist church choir elected officers on Thursday as follows: Leader, W. Barnhouse; assistant, Dr. Mahan; organist, Miss Christoe; Sec.-Treas., F. Hickling.

Miss Mart Wright has secured the union school, townline Artemesia and Euphrasia, and entered upon her duties on Monday. The teacher which had formerly been engaged could not qualify.

A grand Orange Soiree will be held in the hall of L. O. L. 1132, 4th line, Artemesia, on Wednesday, Jan. 20. A good time is always provided by this lodge on such festive occasions. Remember it. See Bills.

A change was made on Monday in the days of Council meeting for 1897. Council will hereafter meet on the first Saturday of each month, instead of the first Monday as heretofore. This, in our estimation, is a desirable change.

Mr. R White, who lives near Mt. Zion, asserts that some evil disposed individual placed paris green in a well from which his cattle drink. Fortunately it was discovered in time to prevent serious consequences.

A supplementary catalogue of books in the Flesherton public library is being issued and will be placed in the hands of members this week. By the way, are you a member? Fifty cents gives you a year's reading and the choice of a thousand volums.

Mr. Howard expects to have the rink in operation this week if the present cold snap continues. It is remarkable that the weather up until the present time has been unfit for an ice rink. The young people have had considerable skating on the pond, but the luxury of a closed rink will be appreciated.

A social will be held at the handsome and commodious residence of Mrs. J. W Armstrong, on the evening of Tuesday, 19th inst., under the auspices of the Methodist church choir, Mrs. Armstrong having kindly placed her residence at their disposal. A good time may confidently be expected, as a grand musical program is now under preparation. Admission 25 cents.

Mr. A. Sherson of Proton Station and Miss Catharine Quigg, daughter of Mr. P. Quigg, west back line, were united in matrimony on Dec. 30 at the Presbyterian parsonage, Dundalk, by the Rev. Mr. Harrison. We extend congratulations and at the same time desire to inform our Proton Station cor. that we do not understand what he was about in not informing us of this important event in time for last week's issue. Surely his nose for news failed him on this occasion.

OUR STOCK IS

Going fast but our great bargains are still with us. Our Genuine Clearing Sale is giving the people of this section such opportunities as they seldom get. It will not be wise to forget this point. We still take Trade or Cash and have put all prices away down.

COME IN AND PARTICIPATE IN THE GOOD THINGS GOING ! ! !

It is useless to quote prices as everything is so far below usual selling prices that everybody is more than surprised. We beg to thank the many customers who have called upon us and would respectfully invite others to come in and share the bounties.

= = **T. HILL, Flesherton**

Mr. Jerry Thompson attempted to cross a pond on the fourth line on Thursday last with a team and bobsleigh, when the ice gave way and precipitated the outfit into deep mud and water. The horses sunk in the mud up to their necks and were with great difficulty pulled out by chains and another horse after being in their uncomfortable position for some time. It was a sad looking outfit as it wended its way homeward in the frosty weather, and the animals required a long siege of grooming.

Mr. John Jaques, a young man, while placing a gun in a wagon at Mr. John English's, gravel road, the other day, came as near being sent to the spirit world as he could comfortably desire to be. He carelessly placed the gun in butt foremost, when the weapon was exploded, the charge of shot ripping Jaques' coat sleeve from wrist band to shoulder and not scratching the flesh. This may, with emphasis, be entitled a close call, and Mr. Jaques will be more cautious in his handling of firearms in future.

The clouds of steam arising from Messrs. Beecroft & Talbot's factory on Tuesday caused us to make an investigation, when we discovered that these gentlemen have just placed in position a bran new 40-horsepower boiler and engine which is working like a charm. They are now in position to saw an unlimited quantity of logs, do your sash and door work and chop your grain. The Advance hopes the large outlay will prove very remmunerative to these enterprising gentlemen.

Mr. Luke Bradbury of this place, showed The Advance one day last week a couple of rare old relics. The rarest and most valuable was a snuff box owned by Sir Frances Drake. This was possessed by a relative of Mr. Bradbuy's in England and handed down by him to the present owner. The box is oblong,—an inch in thickness and 3 inches long—and was carved out of horn. On the cover it contains Sir Frances Drake's coat of arms, his name, crest and motto carved in base relief. The workmanship is very beautiful. While examining this rare old curiosity it did not require a vivid imagination to picture the original owner on that day in the summer of 1588, when playing bowels on the green, and on learning that the Spanish Armada was in sight, taking out this identical snuff box after surveying the enemy through his glass, and tickling his olfactories preparatory to buckling on his sword. Could that box but speak, what stirring stories it could tell of the Spanish Main and the capture of the £200,000 Spanish treasure ship off the cost of Peru, and other stirring scenes in that first English circumnavigation of the globe! It is a rare old curiosity with many secrets locked in its breast. The other relic is a silver medal presented to Mr. Bradbury's uncle, commemorative of the battle of Waterloo, in which he took part as a member of the Life Guards, 2nd regiment. It has stamped upon it "Frances Bradbury," and bears the date of Waterloo, June 18, 1815. Love or money would not purchase these rare old curios from their present owner.

A Sensational Arrest.

There exists between Dundalk and Corbetton, and for a few miles to the northeast, a community which has become a terror to insurance companies, so much so, indeed, that no company will allow a risk to be placed on any property in that district. During five or six years past it is said that nineteen farmers in the district have had some forty-nine fires or an anverage of about nine a year. This will give a good idea of the condition of affairs. It is claimed that there was a regular gang of unprincipled yeomen there who made a scientific study of how to fleece insurance companies, and many yarns are spun descriptive of their tactics. Last week a barn belonging to a young man named Fenton, living about three miles from Dundalk, was fired, and young Fenton was burned to death—it was said while attempting to save his cattle. Dark stories have been whispered about for the past few days to the effect that this young man's death was not accidental and that his death resulted from the fact that he refused to join the gang of firebugs, and was in a position to inform on them. Whether there was anything in these rumors remains to be seen. At all events the burning of his building was the act of one or more incendiaries, and it is alleged that there is strong evidence pointing to the criminal in this case. The last act played in this terrible fiery drama opened on Saturday last when Detective Greer of Toronto and an assistant dropped off the noon train at Dundalk, and drove out into the country. The result of that jaunt was the arrest of James and David Ballard, William Reid, Alonso Smith and James Smith. These were all taken to Orangeville and their preliminary trial will take place on Monday next. In the meantime the rumor of something worse than barn burning is being investigated, and the body of young Fenton, who was burned, has been exhumed for a post-mortem. It is said that several other arrests are likely to follow.

STOCK-TAKING - - -
Sale of Furniture

SIXTEEN (16) DAYS' SLAUGHTERING OF PRICES previous to STOCK-TAKING. During this sale we have cut off all profits. Think what this means to you. EVERYTHING in our large and well assorted stock of

Furniture . . .

PICTURES, BLINDS, CURTAIN POLES. In fact everything needed in the home of rich or poor, from the kitchen to the most artistic drawing-room requisites, at absolute cost for 16 days or till February 1st when we commence to take stock.

J. E. MOORE

The People's House Furnisher, Picture Framer and Undertaker

District L. O. L.

Artemesia District Orange Lodge met at Proton Station on Tuesday in the handsome new hall of No. 244, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: S. Sheardown, D. M.; N. Lawrence, W. M.; F. T. Carr, Chap.; J. A. Dodds, Rec. Sec.; S. J. Bowles, Fin. Sec.; Thos. Elliott, Treas.; H. J. McLoughrey, D. of C.; S. J. Halbert, 1st Lect.; Wm. Wright, 2nd Lect. The officers were installed by M. W. County Master Bro. James Elliott.

It was moved by Bro. Jos. Beatty, seconded by Bro. Jas. Elliot, That this lodge exercise its best endeavors to secure a county demonstration at Markdale next twelfth of July. Carried.

A resolution was also carried unanimously thanking the members of 244 for their courtesy, more particularly in supplying supper for all the delegates.

PERSONALS

Mr. John Flesher of Parry Sound is visiting old friends here.

Mr. Lou Karstedt of Buffalo is the guest of his brother, Mr. F. G.

Messrs. Geo. and J. T. Sled, Collingwood, were the guests of Mr. George Wickens during the past week.

Mrs Guy Miller of Minto, North Dak., is visiting with her cousin, Mr. F. G. Karstedt.

Miss Hockley, who was thrown out of a rig at Rosemont on New Years day, died from the effects.