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THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 21, 1876.

The time-honored greeting of "Merry Christmas" is now in order. With words of joy let us meet and part, and not only by empty words but by good deeds show to the world that not all is dreary and selfish.

THE GRAND TRUNK—A circular has been issued to the employees of the Grand Trunk Railway stating that, in consequence of the great depression in trade and falling off in the Company's business, it has been decided to discontinue a large number of trains on and after the 23rd inst.

VENOR'S PREDICTIONS VERIFIED.—Mr. Venor's latest forecasts of the weather has been verified with remarkable accuracy. He fixed the setting in of a "cold spell" about the 15th of this month, and, sure enough, after a period of exceptional mildness, on the evening of the 14th the mercury suddenly fell to extreme cold, which promises to continue.

The Earl and Countess of Dufferin will visit Toronto during January. A grand ball will be given by the Lieutenant Governor.

And now John Knox has been appointed a policeman in Hamilton, and John Bannys keeps a tavern in Guelph. What is the world coming to!

Arthur Aiken, John Junkin and Dexter Potter have been convicted of corrupt practices in the Lincoln election, fined \$200 apiece for each offence, and disqualified for eight years. Aiken must pay \$1,000, Junkin \$200, and Potter \$800.

The Grangers of Turnberry have bought a corner of Wingham Cemetery for their own use, and behold from which we infer the "ruling passion is strong in death" amongst the Grangers, they being determined to secure even their graves at wholesale prices.

A fatal colliery explosion has occurred near Newport, Wales. Up to latest advices seventeen dead bodies had been recovered, and a number of cases of fatal injuries are reported.

A special cable despatch to the Globe reports a rise in Grand Trunk stock, consequent upon the recent arrangements for an advance on through freight rates.

The United States Senate has appointed a committee of seven of its members to act with a committee appointed by the House in devising means to count and declare the electoral vote.

Announcement is made of the commutations of the sentences of Belcher, the Colchester murderer, and of Allen, the murderer of Jefferson, the Hamilton watchman.

NEW PUBLICATIONS. READINGS AND RECITATIONS. By R. Lewis, Teacher of Elocution, author of the Dominion Elocutionist. Toronto: Belford Bros., Publishers.

THE PRINCE OF WALES IN INDIA. We have received from Belford Bros., Toronto, a neatly bound volume containing a graphic description of the Prince of Wales' trip from Fall Mall to Peshawar, by Mr. J. Drew Gray, the special correspondent of the London Telegraph.

JOHN BILLINGS' FARMERS' ALMANAC. Belford Bros., publishers, Toronto. Price 15 cents.

The sale of this comic almanac has been very large, and has increased since its first issue. The American edition sells for 25 cents.

Our Prisons and our Poor Houses.

We have from time to time noticed in looking over the minutes of our County Council that two subjects of some public interest to the inhabitants of the county have been brought before that body; and that each received at least so much attention as to have considerable time spent in discussing them. We refer to the matter of beginning to make some provision for maintaining and sheltering the unfortunate but honest, poor of the county, and the matter of enlarging and making more commodious and comfortable the institution already provided for the unfortunate dishonest of the county.

Mr. Warren moved, seconded by Mr. McHenry, That the way of one hundred dollars be granted and paid to the treasurer of the Town of Oakville to assist in maintaining the large number of indigents which from the geographical position of Oakville are thrown upon that municipality. He said there were 15, 20, and even as many as 25 relieved some nights. Last winter over 1000 poor outcasts had been sheltered and fed by the people of Oakville.

Mr. Warren was opposed to the motion. It was quite enough for the rural municipalities to maintain their own poor. He himself had found shelter for four or five on one night. Col. Clay was opposed to the principal of these grants, but Mr. Young had proved his case to be an exceptional one and as the sum asked was small he would vote for it. He was prepared to consider the case of any other municipality on its merits when it came up.

Mr. Ramsay presented an account for improvements on the town line between Nassagaweya and Wellington County. He said it had been customary in the past for the County to assist in works of this nature. It was urgent and for that reason he had got it done previous to asking for a grant. Col. Clay thought every municipality should pay the cost of improvements on their border lines. But the practice had been different in the past, and as Mr. Ramsay had got the work done in good faith he thought the County ought to pay the account.

"Now is the Time." Now is the time when all contemplate the approach of Christmas holidays. Now is the time when turkeys and geese are beheld to gratify the palates of our creatures of humanity. Now is the time when mince pies are considered one of the necessities of household decorations. Now is the time when juveniles save up their copper to have "a big time" at Christmas. Now is the time when merchants expect to push off business, and the wise use printers ink liberally. Now is the time when single young ladies light a fire in the parlor of evenings and await the coming of their cousins, of course.

Halton County Council.

From the Oakville Express we learn that the Council met on Tuesday the 12th inst. pursuant to adjournment, in the Town Hall, Milton. The Warden reported to the Council that the debentures had been handed over to the H. & N. W. Ry. Co. He said that a claim was made at the time for arrears of interest which he refused to grant. When the debentures were advertised the tender prices were 101 and 101 1/2. He took the responsibility of purchasing \$10,000 worth, and purchasing those maturing at the same time as the C. V. R. debentures. The same day the trustees handed over to the company \$10,000 on presentation of the proper certificates; since then, the balance, less the amount reserved for a section of the road between Georgetown and the County line, had been paid.

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Mr. Warren thought that the County of Halton was plucky and able enough to build a poor house; but if it was found that one for the two counties could be carried on at less expense, it certainly was worthy of consideration; at present the rural municipalities had to support their own poor and also to contribute to the support of the poor in the village.

Mr. Barclay thought it would be much more simple and effective to have a poor house of our own, if we have one at all. It was easy to see that difficulties would arise as to the management and apportionment of running expenses. It was one of our own. A difficulty would arise, no doubt, from residents of other counties adjoining seeking shelter, which could hardly be refused. It was a matter which would be remedied by the Legislature, and it was a matter which would be remedied by the Legislature.

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Mr. Warren said that according to law the minor municipalities were responsible for these improvements, so that until the County by law undertook to make one line County roads, the responsibility remained where it was. On motion the account was referred to the committee on roads and bridges which reported in favor of a grant of \$100 being given to cover the cost of the improvements. Mr. Ramsay paying the balance. The report was adopted.

Mr. Warren said there was not so much need of a new gaol as some people thought. As the way was required was proper means of classifying prisoners, and this could be provided by building an addition. The Warden said the County of Haldimand occupied a position similar to that of Halton. There the recommendations of Mr. Langmuir had been carried out at an expenditure of \$15,000 of which amount the government paid half. Mr. Barber said the Council had got to the end of their rope as regarded the building of a new gaol. It was not at all probable that Mr. Langmuir would stand any more trifling. The gaol would have to be built in the year 1877, and the sooner it was set about the better for all parties. The stone could be got out cheaper now than in summer when there was no sleighing. Mr. Ramsay said Mr. Langmuir was not omnipotent. Mr. Langmuir was not the government, but merely a government servant. The Council had friends at court, and he questioned whether the government would force them to go to a

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

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TO BREEDERS. The young Berkshire Boar "Wellington Chief" bred by Geo. Rudd, of Guelph, has been purchased by me and will be kept for service on my premises adjoining this village.

ESTRAY STEER. Came on to the premises of the subscriber, Lot No. 23, 6th con. Esqueusing, about the 1st of October last, a Dark Red Steer, rising three years old.

PORK! PORK!! Charles Cameron is prepared to pay the Highest Market Price for 50 tons of Good Pork.

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THE PHILANTHROPIST.

Who is the true Philanthropist? The merchant who provides the best goods at the cheapest value for his customers.

GEORGE YEMEN. Begs leave to inform the public generally that he is prepared during THE HOLIDAYS

to make great sacrifices for cash on all kinds of goods. My stock is now complete in toys for the little folks, and also a beautiful assortment of goods, useful as well as ornamental, suitable for

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS. For both old and young, but their greatest beauty is their cheapness.

GROCERIES. In this line my customers may rely on getting their goods fresh and good, as I have purchased them all within the past two weeks, and am selling them at prices that would have to be paid for goods that have been in stock for several months.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE. During the Holidays I will sell goods in this line at prices that defy competition, as my present large stock must be cleared out by the beginning of the New Year to make room for a new stock.

SPECIALTIES. Fresh Oysters, Finnan Haddies, Pork and Bologna Sausage, Yarmouth Bloaters, &c., always on hand.

Call and examine the goods and prices before purchasing elsewhere. Please note the address.

CEO. YEMEN. Post Office Store, Acton. December 19, 1876.

W.M. STEWART & CO. Would respectfully call the attention of their friends and the general public that they

Have Removed To their NEW PREMISES Upper Wyndham Street, GUELPH.

SPECIAL LINES At Low Figures. Many Special Lines of Goods have been secured at extraordinary low figures.

GREAT BARGAINS Will Be Given. CALL EARLY. An early call is necessary, as many Lines can not be repeated at the low figures.

W.M. STEWART & CO. Guelph, Dec. 18, 1876.



THOS. RUSSELL & SON, Watchmakers, Liverpool.

Having determined to sell out their Canadian business previous to their opening a Jobbing House in England, have instructed their agent,

G. D. PRINGLE, OF GUELPH.

To offer for sale the whole of the stock of RUSSELL

Watches, Clocks and Jewellery

At a Special Discount of 25 per cent, commencing on

Monday November 27th, and continue until the whole stock is sold.

An Auction will be held every Saturday Evening.

G. D. PRINGLE

Will continue business and the repairing of Watches and Clocks will go on as usual, but the present stock must be sold within three months.

No Reasonable Offer Refused. This is a bona-fide cheap sale.

G. D. PRINGLE, Guelph, Nov. 20, 1876.