

BORN.  
GRETCHEN—In Acton, on the 12th inst., the wife  
of Wm. Gurney, of a daughter.

MARRIED.

BOWMAN—HUNTER.—At Moose Jaw, N.W.T., Oct.  
1st, by Rev. John McLean, M.A., P.D., A.  
and J. H. Bowman, M.A., LL.B., son of Thomas  
and Thomasina (Tommy) Anna, daughter of Thomas  
Hume, Esq., Carpenter,  
Acton.

DIED.

Nancy—in Toronto, on 9th December, the wife  
of Mr. J. Nixon, aged 81 years.

SISTER.—In Krammer, on the 11th November,  
Kathleen, daughter of Wm. Souter, aged 51.

The Acton Free Press.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1890.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Arrangements are being made to secure a pair of oil and money order connection with the West Indies and Hong Kong. The prospective growth of trade with the east and west owing to direct steamship connection has rendered this necessary.

The Ontario Gazette of Saturday contains the announcement of the Federation of Victoria University with the University of Toronto. In view of the fact it was proclaimed that after November 13th Victoria University will be federated with the University of Toronto, Victoria retains her power for the conferring of degrees in ditto.

The shipments of live stock from Canada to England for 1890 are largely in excess of those for 1889. The shipments of cattle will aggregate 123,137, as against less than 83,000 last year. The shipments of sheep total 42,303. The ocean freight on this year's shipments a ton will be \$1,746.310, and without this trade the shipper now entering Montreal could not run a profit.

In all the States where the Canadian system of balloting was put in operation last Tuesday it was an unequalled success. Our neighbor call it the Australian system, but as a matter of fact, the Australians copied it from Canada, where the English system is improved upon. There are some other things the United States might copy from Canada with advantage—

Star.

Already the grain movement in Manitoba has assumed proportions which are almost stunning to the traffic departments of the railways. The Canadian Pacific is hauling out over 150 cars daily, and before the end of the week the movement will have increased to 250 cars a day. The crop of 1887 was heavy, but that of 1890 will discount it, and then there is a difficulty in the way most of which was not experienced in 1887. Little grain will be shipped via the lakes this fall, owing to the lateness of deliveries caused by the recent prolonged wet spell, so that the question of storage will be a serious one.

In Samoa there is a "Prevention with a party behind it," the party being the King. A late copy of the Samoa Times contains the royal proclamation—No spirituous, vinous or fermented liquors or intoxicating drinks whatsoever shall be sold, given or offered to, or brought or bartered by any native Samoan or Polynesian resident in Samoa to be taken as a beverage. Any person who will be guilty of the violation of this provision shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$100, or by imprisonment not exceeding six months or both fine and imprisonment, and the liquor not consumed shall be confiscated.

Considerable misunderstanding appears to exist regarding the necessity for the issue by a municipality of a Financial Statement in December and also an Auditor's Report shortly after. A number of our exchanges some time ago stated that a bill had been passed substituting the December Statement for the Auditor's report; this is not the case. It is true a bill was brought forward for that purpose but it did not become law. On seeing the report on the change of the law and not finding anything of it in the Statement an exchange wrote to the Provincial Secretary on the matter and ascertained that neither the December Statement nor the Auditor's Report can be omitted; both must be published.

Reports from a number of medical sources show that "a gripe" has reappeared this fall in Western Europe and the United States, though apparently it is not marked by the same degree of virulence which characterized it last year. A Wurtemberg cablegram on Tuesday stated that the school in that city have been closed on account of the epidemic of influenza. In connection with its return it is important to note that the Health Department of New York recorded for last week a decided increase of mortality from pneumonia. The average number of deaths for the first week of November in past years has not exceeded seventy, but this year it is ninety. This fact is a warning to all classes of people to take precautions against undue exposure to the elements, against overwork and against whatever tends to debilitate the system.

With the exception of the capital sentence upon Birchall last Friday morning there closed a tragic episode in Canadian annals which has created a most unusual and most painful interest throughout the country. While the law imposes the death penalty for murder, it is difficult indeed to find any possible reason why the extreme penalty should not have been carried out in this case. There could be no reasonable doubt about the unfortunate man's guilt and it is well nigh impossible to conceive of any extenuating circumstance. The widespread and freely expressed desire for mercy can only be attributed to sympathy for Mrs. Birchall, to very general repugnance to the hanging of one who was a gentleman by birth and education and to the growing objection in the public mind to capital punishment under any circumstances. Now that the affair is over it can be too soon forgotten.

It is stated that the Department of Education have decided that after the close of the present year there shall be one instead of two examinations annually for the admission of pupils into the High School. Both High and Public School teachers favor this. Under the present system the teachers and the pupils who are preparing for the examinations are under a pressure which never ceases during the whole year, and which is especially trying in the short session between the summer vacation and the December examination; and the tendency to study with a view to this direct result rather than with a view to real culture and education is strong. Then the High schools will be relieved of the inconvenience of a large influx of new pupils at the opening of the new year, which now has a disturbing effect upon the arrangements. The candidates for the entrance examinations will therefore be more thoroughly grounded in primary school work and their ages upon the average will be higher, and both these things will have a beneficial effect upon the efficiency of the High Schools.

MOVING THE DRILL SHED.

The Park Committee and the Council Talk About It.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT CONTRACT.

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Council was held on Monday evening.

The Reeve and Councillor Kennedy absent.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Dr. Lowry occupies the chair.

The committee on Finance presented their fifth report recommending payment of accounts as follows:

J. B. H. Smith, m.s.c. .... \$8.50

John McLean, M.A. .... 12.00

Thos. Eaton, m.s.c. .... 1.40

Adam Cook, c.r.e. .... 9.12

Thos. Elliott, w.k.t Park .... 1.50

Wm. J. Campbell, work on streets .... 5.25

Thos. Eaton, wood .... 4.30

Christopher Cook, .... 4.30

John McLean, .... 4.30

On motion the report was adopted.

The electric light meter was referred to and the question was general as to what had become of the Ball Electric Light Co., and their contract.

The explanation was to the effect that the Company and Meares, Boardmore & Co., who were expected to supply the power for the dynamo, had failed to come to terms, and negotiations were consequently off for the present.

Some member made the statement that it was just as well anyway for he had ascertained that 1,000 c.p. lights were also sufficient to illuminate Action satisfactorily; and the others claimed that they believed so too.

Looks just a trifle like "sour grapes" though doesn't it?

Messrs. J. B. Pearce, Geo. Havill, John Harvey and James Matthews, representing the Park Committee, formed a delegation to the Council to request that body to take into consideration the master of the removal of the Drill Shed to the Park.

A French paper says there is too much drinking in the Quebec Provincial Parliament, and demands the abolition of the Park.

George Staples, a farmer of East Wawa, township, near St. Helen's, Ont., died yesterday by shooting on Thursday evening.

A society girl in Brantwick, Ga., refused six offers of marriage last week because one of her sisters was a total abstainer.

Mr. Nicholas Meyer, of Wilmett township, while driving to Phillipsburg, fell from his wagon and was run over and killed.

Councillor Speight—What would the moving rot?

Councillor Smith—Ed. Dykes will do for \$150 and that amount can be got for the lot where the Drill Shed stands, so that its removal would cost the Council nothing.

Mr. Harvey—Another contractor moved the Drill Shed at Georgetown for less money than Dykes asked.

Councillor Smith—What did George Town pay?

Mr. Harvey—\$200. If \$150 is too much for this job the work could be let by tender.

Dr. Lowry—I think a committee of the Council should be appointed to confer with the Government with a view to securing permission for the transfer, and then the master of moving it again.

Moved by J. A. Spiegel, seconded by W. E. Smith, that Councillors Lowry and the mover and seconder be a committee to ascertain if the Government will permit the removal of the Drill Shed and exchange the lot on which it stands for a similar portion in the Park.

After some desultory conversation with regard to the completion of the park improvements Council adjourned about 9.20 o'clock.

STABBING AFFRAY.

On Nov. 17th—A stabbing affray took place here last night between two young men attending the Salvation Army meeting. Bob Kenyon, the young man who did the stabbing, claims that Longford, the victim of the knife, had torn the lining out of his hat. The Longford denied, but Kenyon was bound to have satisfaction.

He left the barracks and walked outside till Longford came out. A fight ensued in which Kenyon was knocked down. He jumped on Longford with the knife in his hand and cut an ugly gash in the muscle of his right arm, narrowly escaping severing one of the main arteries. Kenyon was arrested on a charge of shooting with intent to kill George D. Damon near Tavistock last week. Damon is not yet out of danger.

Mr. Wm. Stickey, of Winfield, some evenings ago, while stabbing the stable after dark, frightened some cats who jumped at Longford with the knife in the mouth, knocking 7 teeth out and breaking the under jaw.

All soldiers who lost limbs during the war can have artificial ones supplied by the United States government if they will ask for them. They can get a new one every five years, or if they prefer, they can pay cash value instead. Legs cost \$75 and arms \$50 each.

Shoe by a Companion.

On Nov. 17th—Two unknown drunken men got into a dispute at the G. R. Dept. Friday night shortly before the east-bound express arrived, when one of them drew a revolver and fired, the ball entering the arm of the other, lodging in the flesh. The point drew a large crowd to the scene, but the fellow had vanished and could not be found. The wounded man was carried into the waiting room and a doctor was summoned, but he claims that he did not even know the name of the man who shot him.

Burglars at Markham.

Markham, Nov. 17.—The G.T.R. station here was broken into Saturday night last.

The burglars, who left no clue, got a few souvenirs from the till, \$50 or two of clothes, some tobacco, raisins and sardines. They were evidently disturbed for they left the tools, taken from Barber's shingle mill close by. The safe was drilled, but not opened. A while ago a freight car biller here from the south was broken into, contents rifled, and only noticed when opened here.

A Pug Pulled the Trigger.

Woodstock, Nov. 17.—Archie Nichol, aged 21 years, leapt from a window in the fourth floor, was hunting rabbits in North Easthope and placed his gun butt down on the ground and his hands crossed over the muzzle. A pop was played around Mr. Nichol and by some means touched the trigger, discharging the weapon. The shot passed through Mr. Nichol's right hand and shattered the left.

FIRE TRAP Around the World.

Via Nellie Boy's post, or its equivalent in gold, is given by *Bell's Magazine* for the largest list of words constructed out of the words "Bell's Magazine." Also Piano, Organ, Parlor Drills, Gold Watches, Silver Tea Sets, Parlor Coal Stoves, etc., all positively given away. Every one sending not less than twenty words will get a present. Send 12 cents in stamp, mentioning the *Acton Free Press*, for rules, illustrated catalogues and copy of paper to *Bell's Magazine*, Toronto, Ont.

TALK OF THE DAY:

An Epitome of the World's Doings During the Week.

The census discloses 6,300 Indians in the State of Washington.

Die HE MAKE A CONFESSION.

Winnipeg, Nov. 14.—Birchall was arrested at 8.30 this morning, the association being Thos. Bailey, the steward of the Sunnyside yacht club, Toronto. There were several the sheriff, and other officers, besides a number of press representatives, and very few others. The execution took place inside the jail yard, and there were no bidders.

Premier Mercier is having a private altar built in his house at Montreal.

HAMILTON grocers are petitioning for the abolition of Christmas bakes.

Aluminum can be made in Newport, Kentucky, for nine cents a pound.

Kingston wants to spend \$45,000 in street improvement, and will submit a bill.

England and Portugal have signed a series of laws over their East African differences.

Mario Van Zandt will receive \$100 a night for a tour through all the great cities of Russia.

The British census of April 4th next will be the largest and most complete ever taken in England.

In the Gasparin hatchery 1,200,000 eggs have been laid down, being an increase of 400,000 over last year.

A. J. Cosoli has been arrested at Niagara Falls, Ont., on suspicion of having set fire to his darkroom.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

A. J. Cosoli has been arrested at Niagara Falls, Ont., on suspicion of having set fire to his darkroom.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.

At a secret session of the city council, Brazil, Ind., Jacob Luer was deposed from his office.