NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

On no occasion will the names of Old Advertisements be inserted here.

James Hope—Scrap Books, Sealing Wax, and Stationery.

E. K. MacGillivray—Sheffield House.

A. M. Holt—Holt's Hotel.

TRAVELLERS' DIRECTORY.

DEPARTURE AND ARRIVAL OF TRAINS.

Mail Train leaves Ottawa at	8.00, a. m.
Do. arrives "	5.45, p. m.
Accommodation Train leaves at	1.30, p. m.
Do. do arrives at	11.45, a. m.

☞ These Trains connect at Prescott Junction with Trains on Grand Trunk Railway for the East and West, and at Prescott with Ferry for Ogdensburgh—again connecting with Railroads for all parts of the U. S.

THE POST OFFICE—OTTAWA.

DELIVERING AND CLOSING OF MAILS.

MAILS.	DELIV'RD.	CLOSED.
East and West, by Rail, Daily,	12.30 p. m. and 5.30 p. m.	7.30 p. m. and 1.00 p. m.
Pakenham and North Shore of the Ottawa, Daily,	8.00 a. m.	9.30 a. m.
Aylmer & N. Shore of Ottawa "	8.00 a. m.	12.00 M.
Do. do do "	12.00 M.	5.00 p. m.
Bell's Corners, Richmond, Perth, &c., "	5.30 p. m.	8.00 p. m.
Buckingham, Grenville and Lower Ottawa, *	8.00 a. m.	6.00 a. m.
Kemptville, Osgoode, &c., Daily	5.30 p. m.	7.30 a. m.
Chelsea and Wakefield, "	5.30 p. m.	8.00 p. m.
Templeton & E'st Templeton, †	12.00 M.	12.00 M.

*Mails Daily, except on Saturdays and Sundays.
†Mails every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

RATES OF POSTAGE.

To all parts of Canada, if pre-paid by Stamps, 5 cts. If unpaid, 7 cts. To British Columbia, 10 cts. Letters for British Columbia, Germany and Foreign Countries generally, MUST BE PREPAID.

To the United States, 10 cts—pre-payment optional.

English Mails, per H. & A. Allan's Canadian Steamships, via Portland, close at Noon every Friday—postage 12½ cts.; per Cunard Steamers, Noon, Mondays and Saturdays, (alternate weeks,) postage 17 cts.

REGISTERED LETTERS must be pre-paid, and posted thirty minutes prior to the closing of mail.

☞ Office hours—8 a. m. to 7 p. m.

G. P. BAKER, Postmaster.

The Ottawa Times

OTTAWA, DECEMBER 21, 1865.

OUR INAUGURAL.

We have made our bow: And it now becomes our duty to state the grounds upon which we lay claim to public favor.

It is not our intention to follow the hackneyed custom of apologising for the introduction of a new journal, and thus arrogating to ourselves a special mission for which we have some heaven-born inspiration. Were we so disposed we think the opportunity is not wanting to find sufficient reasons for the assumption of the office we propose to fill.

In offering to the notice and for the patronage of the citizens of Ottawa and the public generally a new daily paper under the designation of the OTTAWA TIMES, the proprietors venture to take the high ground of thorough independence. They launch their sheet upon the capricious waters of public opinion as the merchant his vessel upon the stormy billows of the ocean. Like him they rely upon the structure they have raised, and place their confidence of meriting a successful voyage in the ability of their pilotage and the able seamanship they have at their command.

The TIMES is simply and distinctly a commercial enterprise. But, as our new craft is bound to show its colors, it hoists the Constitution at the peak, places the British Lion at its prow, and carries at its main the Maple-Leaf and Beaver.

The conditions under which the city of Ottawa has risen to opulence and consideration are about to be greatly enhanced by its having become the metropolis of Canada; and, albeit there is no lack of respectable journals, there is manifestly room for one which proposes to extend the field of enterprise without a desire to poach upon the ground already occupied.

The TIMES will be neither sectarian nor sectional, but confessedly the exponent and unflinching advocate of those principles to which by party affinity it is attached, and by which the Constitution of the British empire is most securely upheld.

The political faith of the TIMES will be uncompromising Conservatism. But while resisting crude innovations and ill-considered changes, it will be foremost in the advocacy of all necessary reform, of every species of intellectual progress, and every scheme for the advancement of national prosperity.

The basis upon which it is established enables it to be thoroughly independent. It is indebted to none for favors or assistance, and represents no other interest but that of the country.

The leading topics of the day will be dealt with in a liberal and enlightened spirit; the current news will be gleaned from the most active and reliable sources, and neither energy nor expense will be spared to make the OTTAWA TIMES in character and position second to no newspaper in the Province.

We are convinced that, both in the city of Ottawa and the surrounding district, there is ample intelligence and patriotism to appreciate the labors of the journalist who shall conduct his sheet in the maintenance of the glorious constitution under which we live, in the bold advocacy of Canadian rights, and with the distinctive and defined character of that honest party allegiance which permits of no trimming or truckling expediency when private gain conflicts with public duty.

If these principles are such as may command the approval and support of the citizens of Ottawa and the general public the success of the TIMES is secured; for they are those upon which its career and policy will be based.

The Hon. Messrs. Howland, McGee, Langevin, Chapais, with Sir Narcisse Belleau, left last evening by special train.

The Ministers still in town are the Hon. J. A. Macdonald, Hon. Mr. Cartier, Hon. Mr. Galt, and the Hon. Mr. Campbell. A Cabinet Council meets at twelve o'clock to-day.

A special telegram, upon the subject of Mr. Brown's resignation, which we received from Toronto yesterday afternoon, informs us that the following announcement appeared in the *Globe* of yesterday:

SPECIAL TO THE "GLOBE."

"Ottawa, Dec. 20, 1865.

"Mr. Brown has resigned his seat in the Cabinet. It seems that a grave difference of opinion has arisen between him and his colleagues on an important public question, and that Mr. Brown declines to be responsible for the course adopted. Many surmises are made as to the question which has produced the rupture, but no hint on that point has transpired. It can well be supposed, however, that nothing but a matter of the utmost consequence would induce Mr. Brown to leave the Government at this moment."

We are requested to correct an error into which we had fallen, respecting the reduced fare to employees of the Government on the Grand Trunk and Prescott Railways, during the Christmas holidays. J. R. Audy, Esq., of the Finance Minister's Department, is appointed to give certificates of identity, in virtue of which tickets will be procurable. We previously stated that Mr. Audy would supply the tickets, which we find is a mistake; he certifies only as to the applicant being an employee.

The resignation of the Hon. George Brown of his seat in the Cabinet announced in the *Times* of yesterday has given rise to the usual amount of comment; speculations are as various as the prophets are numerous; in truth the *quid nunc*s have not had so lively a time since the events which preceded and called into being the present administration. The fact of Mr. Brown's secession from the government is in itself significant, especially so in connexion with the repeated, undenied and undeniable announcements in the Ottawa journals that the main subject which occupied, for the last week, the attention of the Cabinet was the possibility of delaying for the present, the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty with the United States, and of entering into negotiations for a new arrangement. The treaty under the present congressional notice expires on the seventeenth of March next, and the whole Agricultural as well as the whole Lumber interest of Canada is deeply involved in the result, be it what it may. It must be a source of gratulation to the country that the Cabinet have with so undivided and unanimous attention given their minds to this subject—a subject with which no personal considerations whatever ought to be allowed to intermingle. The matter which has thus wholly engrossed a large portion of the sittings of the Council is of the first importance to the commerce of the country, and the solicitude evinced to uphold the interests which the treaty and its abrogation affects is assurance that we are in safe hands and may rest in the confident trust that prudence and wisdom will not be wanting in in any future arrangements.

Mr. Brown proceeded homeward yesterday, and we think we can repeat with confidence the announcement we have already made that, with the single exception of leaving the Reciprocity negotiations in the preliminary stage in the hands of Messrs. Howland and Galt there was no other subject of difference between the late President of the Council and his colleagues. At the proper time and in the proper place, we will, no doubt, learn all about the details of Mr. Brown's resignation.

It is a most gratifying fact that our great Provincial Railway is fast realizing all that its friends, despite the calumnies and sneers of its detractors, have predicted. We borrow the following synopsis of the report of the proceedings at the half yearly meeting from a Montreal contemporary:—

The Ordinary Half-yearly General Meeting of the Grand Trunk Railway Company, postponed from the 26th of October, was held at the London Tavern on the 30th November. Mr. E. W. Watkin, M.P., presided. In submitting the Report, and asking for a confirmatory resolution, the President observed that, as he had been in Canada, his colleagues thought it best to postpone the meeting till his return. Now he could report up to the 28th of October; and he was happy to say that the traffic returns just received, showed a receipt of £30,829 for the week, being an increase of £9,000 over the corresponding week of last year. He stated that he found Canada in a state of panic, almost equal to a state of war; and that, combined with other events, had paralyzed business during the past half year; that during four years they had encountered a larger amount of difficulty, and had more exceptional circumstances to deal with than ever had fallen to the lot of any similar undertaking. Among these he enumerates, "two years of a Government in Canada which seemed determined to trample on its obligations, and to disregard good faith;" then there was a succession of bad crops; and worse than all, the American war, which entailed a large depreciation on the currency. Mr. Watkin contrasted their present condition with their former one,—"Now, the Government in Canada was disposed to do its duty. The postal question was settled, leaving no questions with the Government to be settled, except those of amount, which would soon be closed. Taking into account the abundant crop here, and the cessation of war in the States, the reduction of the army to a peace footing, they had cause for encouragement and hope in the future. Five years ago the net revenue of the Grand Trunk amounted to £72,000, this year he hoped it would touch £400,000. The increase was likely to continue, owing to the improved state of the Province, which promised to be permanent. They had sufficient means and rolling stock to increase the revenue to £40,000 a week instead of £30,000. The gross receipts of the half-year were £614,000, against £397,000,—leaving a balance of £217,000. Debiting the account with the charge for permanent way, the net balance was £132,600. The disagreeable feature in the account was the increase in the working expenses, which had risen from £361-000 to £397,000. This increase was owing partly because that they were now paying on the American sections as high for labour and materials as when gold was at a premium of 282. Mr. Watkin entered into a statement of the loss incurred on leased lines; but showed that although there was a loss when viewed alone, they contributed largely to the traffic of the main line. Hitherto, in Canada, there had not been much confidence in the undertaking; but the fact that the Company had been enabled to raise between £180,000 and £100,000 in that country, showed the people there were beginning to have more faith in the concern. After dwelling on the advantage of an extension of the line, on the one side to Halifax, and on the other to Chicago, so as to bring the Western traffic to the Grand Trunk line, without the cost and delay of transhipment caused by break of guage, Mr. Watkin mentioned a proposal made by parties locally interested, to spend a million in constructing—provided the Grand Trunk would spend a million for material for the purpose of building—a line on a guage that would take the whole of the Western traffic. This extension would give a line of 2000 miles of one unbroken guage,—having Halifax and Chicago for termini. Sir M. Peto, M. P., said the best policy was to put the entire line in the most efficent condition. Fifty-eight per cent of it was already re-laid fish-joined, and in an excellent state. He advised that no money be appropriated for dividends till the entire line was in the most efficient state. It is pleasant to find this great enterprise merging at last from its former difficulties, which at one period seemed insurmountable. One encouraging feature in the Report is that Mr. Watkin saw no reason, with a little help from the shareholders to get out of debt first and increase their capital, why they should not begin to divide from and after 31st December next. He also thought that if the Treaty of Reciprocity be abrogated, and its renewal refused; and that if England instead of the United States became the market for Canadian produce, the Company would be gainers.—*Transcript.*

RIFLE MATCH.—A Quebec correspondent, a member of the Victoria Rifle Company, in that city, writes us the following:—We, the Victorias, have challenged the best firing Company in Montreal, for a match between fifteen men from each Company. Match to come off between the 18th and 23rd of this month, and to be fired by each Company on its own range; 3 shot at 200, 3 shots 300, 4 at 400, and 5 at 500 yards, Enfield Rifle, Government Issue, Hythe position, six pounds pull of trigger, were taken up by Major McPherson, Brigade Major of Montreal, in the name of No. 1 Co. of the Royals, without dispute the best firing company in Montreal, and as three of our best men are laid up: two Shrapnels, and A. Frew, we are likely to have a hard time of it. We have been practising lately; my score stands:

	200	300	400	500	
9th	234	222	3344	004	—33
14th	234	333	3344	033	—39
16th	233	234	2244	233	—37

Only missing three shots in 39 rounds. We are to go out to-morrow, when I expect to do even better than before.

If the Shrapnels and Frew were able to go out, we should be sure of the match, but as it is, the fellows feel very doubtful.

LOCAL NEWS.

HURON AND BRUCE.—The Cabinet having broken up, no decision was arrived at in reference to the separation of those counties, and the appointment of certain officers therein. Mr. Dixon, the member for the United Counties, who had been here some days in relation to the above matters, left for home yesterday.

BOARD OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.—Yesterday the half-yearly examination of the County of Carleton Board of Instruction was held in the Model School on LeBreton's Flats. There were a large number of candidates for examination. The Rev. Messrs. Merritt, Petitt, Butler, Lochead, Whyte, and Emery composed the Board of Examiners. Rev. Mr. Godfrey was absent through illness.

MR. WEBSTER'S SCHOOL.—Yesterday evening the pupils of this school assembled in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute, to perform the announced exercises. The Hall was well filled by the scholars and their friends, and the manner in which the former acquitted themselves throughout the proceedings was creditable alike to them and their teachers. The philosophical experiments were an interesting feature of, what was to the spectators a very pleasant entertainment.

POLICE COURT.—The adjourned case of T. Lemay against Pierre Lariviere, for extortion was disposed of, the defendant being fined $21 and costs for charging more for bailiff's duties than the law allows. Farcisse Parent, for selling liquor without license, was fined $20. A woman, named Ellen Stuart, was sent to jail a month for stealing two picks and a shovel belonging to the City Gas Company. A hardened offender, named Wm. Carley, brought up charged with stealing two billiard balls, the property of one Cardidal. The prisoner had been playing at bagatelle, before yielding to the temptation. Case to be tried to-day.

RELEASED FROM THE PENITENTIARY.—The city member, Mr. Magill, received an intimation to-day from the office of the Provincial Secretary, to the effect that Francis Wandell, of Dundas, has been released from the Penitentiary. The liberation was accorded in response to a petition to that effect sent down by Mr. Magill and others. The offence for which Wardell was fined was forgery.

The above is from the Hamilton *Evening Times*, of Monday, and is rather interesting, as showing the first public exercise of patronage on the part of the member for Hamilton. It is to be hoped that his benevolent efforts in this direction will stop here, and that he will not fancy, as Don Quixote once did, on meeting a band of chained felons, that it is his mission to deliver every one in bonds, without regard to their deserts. We have heard of general jail delivery, but not of penitentiary delivery before.

CENTRAL CANADA OIL COMPANY.—We had an interview yesterday afternoon with some gentlemen connected with the above company, who were kind enough to show us some specimens of oil and oil bearing clay from their well in North Augusta. The Company have been boring about one month at that place and at the depth of 400 feet have obtained unmistakable evidence of a good show of oil. On Tuesday last they struck a strata of dark sand-stone, which, according to experience in Pennsylvania and Enniskillen, immediately precedes oil. A Mr. Lasure who has had some experience in Enniskillen, informs us that the indications in North Augusta are better than Enniskilleh. The Company have leased about 5,000 acres of land in the Township of North Augusta, also the same amount in North Gower. They are now working night and day, and from present appearances they hope to reach the "oil pockets" in a short time. The officers of the Company are as follows: TRUSTEES—Hon. Wm. C. Brown, Ogdensburg, N. Y.; M. K. Dickson, Esq., Ottawa, C. W.; John P. Wiser, Esq., Prescott, C. W.; J. K. Read, Esq., Burritt's Rapids, C. W.; D. W. C. Brown, Esq., Ogdensburg, N. Y.; A. W. Wooller, Esq., Ogdensburg, N. Y.; James M. Dew, Esq., Ogdensburg, N. Y. PRESIDENT—Hon. Wm. B Brown, Ogdensbug, N. Y. VICE PRESIDENT—Dr. Wm. H Brouse, Prescott, C. W. TREASURER—De Witt C. Brown, Esq., Ogdensburg, N. Y. SECRETARY—Horace Moody, Esq., Ogdensburg, N. Y. SUPERINTENDENT—J K. Read, Esq., Burritt's Rapids, C. W.

On Tuesday night last, two men, who had been chopping in the woods of the *Grand Coteau*, met on their way home with a magnificent bear, in the rear of the *Butte aux Renards* road. Having no fire-arms with them, they did not stop to contend with the animal. But, on the next morning, Friday, eight sportsmen went in search of his furred majesty, dividing themselves into small parties of two each. Messrs. Lapointe and Choquitte had the good luck to meet the wild beast, and to lodge each a ball in his body. The bear fell dead, and was carried in triumph through the village of Avenmee. Mc. Girard, proposes to purchase it.

A Paris correspondent writes:—"A celebrated character has arrived in Paris—the ex-Irish rebel, John Mitchel. I have not seen him, but I am told that he looks extremely ill, a consequence partly of his imprisonment, partly, it is said, of the severe domestic bereavments he has lately sustained. *Apropos* of Mitchel's presence here, it will be in your recollection that he was released by the American President at the instance of a Fenian deputation. Has he come over here as a Head Centre? I cannot say. But I own it would be rather curious if he were to meet in Paris with the escaped prisoner Stephens. There was a report on the Boulevards this afternoon that this political Jack Sheppard had landed on the French coast."—*Express.*

COUNTY COUNCIL

Owing to an unfortunate mistake for which, perhaps, the printer's devil is alone responsible, our report of Tuesday's proceeding was not published yesterday. We give both it and the report of Wednesday's session below.

TUESDAY.

Pursuant to adjournment from Monday, the members of the County Council met yesterday in the Court House, at 10 o'clock, a.m.

Present—John Holmes, Esq., Warden: Messrs. Graham, Bryson, Berry, Scott, Sykes, Cowan, Dow, Hubbell, Severight, Mackay, Story, Brown, Morgan, Dawson, and Hedley.

The clerk read a notice for tenders for furnishing Prison rations for the year 1866, and announced but one received, viz: that of Mr. John Graham, tendering as follows: Rations for males per diem 26 cents; Rations for females per diem 24 cents.

On the motion of Mr. Bryson, seconded by Mr. Morgan, the tender of Mr. Graham was accepted, and the Warden was authorized to enter into a contract with Mr. Graham for the year 1866.

Mr. Severight gave notice that on Thursday morning at ten o'clock he would bring in a motion for the reconsideration of the resolution granting the contract to Mr. Graham.

The clerk read a copy of the presentment of the Grand Jury at the last assizes.

On the motion of Mr. Sykes, the document was laid upon the table until to-morrow.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The clerk read a communication from W. Corbett, jr.; declining to accept the office of Inspector of weights and measures for the county.

A communication from the Rev. D. P. Merritt, A. B., accepting the office of Local Superintendent of Common Schools for the Township of North Gower.

A communication from the clerk of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville, stating that a grant had been made by that corporation, equivalent to the grant made by the corporation of this county in June last, to aid in the repairs of the bridge at Burritt's Rapids.

A communication from E. McGillivray, Esq., respecting Trustees of the County of Carleton Senior Grammar School.

A communication from the Chief Superintendent of Education U. C., respecting the Grammar School act passed at the last session of Parliament.

On the motion of Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Bryson, the resignation of Mr. Corbett of the office of Inspector of weights and measures was accepted, and Mr. Thos. Millar of Richmond village was appointed in his stead.

On the motion of Mr. Cowan, seconded by Mr. Dow the appointment of the Rev. D. P. Merritt as a Local Superintendant of Common Schools for the Township of North Gower, in the room of Rev. Mr. Sargent was confirmed by the Council.

On motion of Mr. Bryson, the Council adjourned until two o'clock p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

On the motion of Mr. Cowan, seconded by Mackay, the communication of the Chief Superintendent of Education for Upper Canada, was referred to the Committee on Education.

The clerk read a communication from R. Lees, Esq., Clerk of the Peace, transmitting presentment of Grand Jury of Fall Quarter Sessions, also said presentment.

A second communication from Clerk of the Peace, transmitting resolution of Magistrates in Quarter Sessions, increasing the salary of the county jailor, $200 per annum.

On the motion of Mr. Sykes, seconded by Mr. Dow, the presentment of the Grand Jury of the Quarter Sessions, together with the presentment of the Grand Jurors of the last assizes was ordered to be taken into consideration to-morrow.

Continuation of Tuesday's proceedings:—Petitions from the Reeves of the Townships of North Gower and Marlborough, praying on behalf of said Townships for a grant of $100 to repair the boundary line between said Municipalities.

From J. C. Bower and others, praying for a grant of $75 to construct bridges over the river Castor in the township of Osgoode, provided the Corporation of Dundas grant alike sum. From the Council of Simcoe to His Excellency the Governor-General on the manner of disposing of the Crown Lands of the Province. From the Council of the United Council of York and Peel to the three branches of the Legislature in reference to the impending abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty.

On motion of Mr. Morgan, seconded by Mr. Bryson, the petition respecting the building of a bridge over the Rideau, on the boundary line between Osgoode and Gloucester was received, and the Warden authorized to sign the same, to be transmitted to His Excellency the Governor General, on behalf of this Council.

On the motion of Mr. Hubbell, seconded by Mr. Cowan, the Collectors of the several Municipalities comprised within the County of Carleton were authorized to continue the levy and collection of the unpaid taxes from th 14th day of December 1865 to the 1st day of February 1866.

On the motion of Mr. Cowan, seconded by Mr. Mackay, the petition respecting an appropriation to boundary line and bridges was referred to the Committee on Roads and Bridges.

Mr. Mackay gave notice that he will introduce a By-law during the present session of the Council for the purpose of opening up the boundary line between the Township of Marlborough and the Township of Montague in the County of Lanark.

WEDNESDAY.

Wednesday, 20th December.

The Council met this morning at ten o'clock.

The Clerk read a petition from Jas. Quinlan and others, praying for assistance from County funds to open up the boundary line between the Township of Nepean and North Gower.

The clerk read a memorial from the Rev. R. Garvin, praying for the refunding of certain money expended by him in the purchase of lot 7, in the 8th concession of the Township of Marlboro, which was illegally sold for taxes in the year 1861.

On the motion of Mr. Severight, seconded by Mr. Brown, the memorial was referred to the finance committee.

On the motion of Mr. Cowan, seconded by Mr. Graham, the petition was referred to the committee on roads and bridges.

On the motion of Mr. Story, seconded by Mr. Dow, the council passed a by-law, confirming a by-law of the council of the Township of Fitzroy, granting an original allowance of road, specified in the same by-law.

A communication from Mr. Higgins, the County Jailor, transmitting a list of articles required for use in the county gaol, was read, and on the motion of Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Cowan, it was referred to the finance committee.

A petition, signed by Mr. Mackay and others, asking for an appropriation in favor of Peter Donovan, an old man in destitute circumstances, was read, and on Mr. Mackay's motion, seconded by Mr. Healy, was referred to the Finance Committee.

On the motion of Mr. Morgan, the presentment of the Grand Jury of the Assizes and Quarter Sessions, was referred to the building committee.

The council then adjourned until two p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Council met at 2 p.m.

The following petitions were read.

A petition from Jas. Harper & other ratepayers of the Township of Marlboro, and Montague, setting forth that the County of Lanark is as much interested in having the County line between the said County, and the said County of Carleton, opened up as the said County of Carleton.

On the motion of Mr. Mackey seconded by Mr. Cowan, the petition was referred to the Committee on Roads and Bridges,

A petition from Edward Thirley praying for a grant for the relief of one Timothy Kilmartin, was on the motion of Mr. Severight refered to the Finance Comittee.

On the motion of Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Beny the clerk of the Council was instructed to have the Russell By-Laws of the Corporation now in Press, bound in olive pressing instead of the usual paper cover binding, used for the minutes.

SCHOOL EXAMINATION

OTTAWA WARD SCHOOL.

The examination of this School took place on Tuesday, but mistaking the hour, our reporter was absent. The school is under the charge of Mr. S. Rathwell and Miss Langrell. We are informed that the Trustees and visitors present were well pleased with the manner in which the School is conducted. After the distribution of prizes the following address was presented to the teachers, accompanied by a suitable present to each:

OTTAWA, Dec. 19th, 1865.

DEAR TEACHERS—As we all feel very grateful to you for the many painful efforts which you have taken to instill into our young minds the "golden grain of learning," we thought we would make you a slight recompense; but a very slight one indeed it will be in comparison with the many weary days and hours which you have spent in trying to make us not only useful to ourselves, but also useful members of society when we have reached maturer years.

We will now conclude this address by wishing you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Signed in behalf of the School by Miss Sarah Walsh, Miss Eliza Sutherland, Miss Sarah Smith.

Mr. Rathwell then, in behalf of himself and Miss Lallgren, thanked the Scholars for this tangible proof of their respect, and assured them that they would spare no pains on their part to instruct them in those branches of education which would make them useful members of society.

YORK STREET SCHOOL.

The examination of this school took place yesterday afternoon. We were present during a portion of the time. This school is under the charge of Miss Langrell as principal, assisted by Miss Geddes, the scholars are chiefly of the juvenile class, the most trying to the patience and temper of the teacher. Mr. Geo. May, Trustee, presided at the distribution of the prizes, accompanying each by a few encouraging remarks to the lucky recipients. We were informed that the scholars have made great progress under the care of its able teachers, and that no school in the city is better managed. After the conclusion of the ceremonies one of the little girls read a very pretty address to Miss Langrell, accompanied by a present of a card basket. We are unable to give the list of prizes to-day, but will to-morrow.

SCHOOL EXHIBITION.

The St. George's Ward School—Mr. J. P. Robertson, Principal—gave their semi-annual exhibition in the school-room last night. The The programme consisted of dialogues, recitations, singing &c., &c., it was rather long and obliged the pupils to hurry through. The exercises commenced at seven o'clock, at which time a large audience had collected. The room was tastefully decorated with evergreens, mottoes and transparencies. The chair was occupied by R. Cunningham, Esq., we also observed the local superintendent and the Principal of the Grammar School, quite a number of the parents of the children were there, thus evincing an interest in the progress of the school. We are not able to give a detailed account of the excellencies of the various scholars, as space will not permit. The pieces were generally speaking delivered with fluency and good taste, which must have been highly pleasing to their parents and frends present. Mr. Robertson deserves great praise for the pains he has taken in putting his pupils through their rehearsals so successfully, thus bringing out the latent talent possessed by the children. At the close of the proceedings the following address, accompanied by a very nice writing desk was presented to Mr. Robertson by the pupils:—

(Copy)

To J. P. ROBERTSON, Esq.,

Principal of St. George's Ward School, City of Ottawa.

DEAR SIR:—We, the undersigned pupils in daily attendance at the school of which you have long been the Principal, desire most sincerely to express our grateful thanks to you, as our teacher, for the great benefits we have derived from your instructions.

The uniform kindness extended toward us by you, both in and out of the school-room, has been a source of great encouragement, whilst the patience manifested by you during the hours of study, has been the means of stimulating us to apply ourselves most diligently and cheerfully to master our several tasks.

As a further proof of our esteem, we beg to present you with the writing-desk which accompanies this address and pray that you may be long spared to test its usefulness.

Wishing you a happy Christmas, and sincerely trusting the approaching New Year may bring to you an increase of prosperity and happiness,

We remain, Dear Sir,

Your Grateful and Affectionate Pupils

Dear Pupils,—It is with no small degree of pleasure that I view your action towards me to-night as teacher and principal of this school, in presenting me with this pleasing address and valuable testimonial.

You are emphatic in the expression of your thanks for my kindness and courtesy to you, both in and out of school; and my patience from time to time has apparently been the means of stimulating you to diligence and exertion in the preparation of your lessons. I must say that obedience, discipline, and a moral bearing has been a characteristic feature amongst you all; and I never have had much reason to complain at the rehearsal of your various studies. I therefore consider my patience amply repaid in this respect, and I could not entertain any other than a kind and courteous feeling towards you.

I thank you sincerely for the unexpected address which you have presented to me, and also for the very useful testimonial accompanying it, which will no doubt daily bring to my recollection those for whom I have always entertained the most sincere respect.

I wish you the compliments of this season of the year, and hope that God may spare you to see many returns of the same.

I remain, dear pupils,

Your affectionate teacher,

J. P. ROBERTSON.

We have been favored by A. C. Buchanan, Esq., Chief Emigration agent for the Province, with the Annual Returns for this year, as contrasted with those of 1862. Comparative statement of Emigrants arrived during the seasons 1864 and 1865:—

Nationalities	1864	1865	Incr'se.	Decr.
English	3143	5070	1927	....
Irish	5084	6836	1752	....
Scotch	2320	2112	....	208
Germans	2362	2097	....	166
Swedes, Danes, & Norwegians	5525	4382	....	1143
Other countries not British	813	859	46	....
	19147	21355	3725	1517
			1517	
Increase			2208	

The total of deaths during the voyages and at quarantine was 50. There were 1560 cabin passengers. Of those landed in the colony, 21,355, Grand Trunk Railway carried to the Eastern Townships, of adults, 91½; to Montreal, 1266; to the Central district, 488½; to Toronto, 793; to places west of Toronto, in Canada, 843; Amprior, 5; and Ottawa, 164½; total, 3651½—which we may assume is the number who settled here; and that the remainder, or nearly so, amounting to 18,873 passed through into the United States.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Ottawa Times:

SIR,—Would you allow me space in your journal, and the liberty of correcting, or rather filling up some portions of your reports, such as relates to myself, of the proceedings of the City Council on the 18th instant, which I shall do as briefly as possible.

I would like to add, as the reasons I gave for not signing the finance report was: that it was irregular, as the accounts had never been presented to the Council, or there was no meeting of the committee, and that I did not believe in "promises;" and, further, that this was the second time I refused to sign reports of this kind, as I once before signed a report under similar circumstances, in which there was an item of $300, or thereabouts, for which I was afterwards upbraided by a gentleman for allowing it to pass, as there was not more than $150 value received.

Then, in the discussion that followed, it took a personal turn when I immediately disclaimed any intention of a personal allusion to any one; but the Council not being satisfied, and being pressed, I stated the account, when it was immediately admitted that a mistake had occurred, and my explanation was taken as perfectly satisfactory.

As to the Mayor's remarks: he was wrong when he stated that it was acting on unfounded street rumors, as it was an undeniable fact that a mistake had been made; and as to its being my "bounden duty in the protection of the public interest"—that duty was duly performed by me, and it had been neglected; but mark you, the mistake was made, and that statement of mine is unimpeachable, but the amount was brought to me exaggerated, and I will merely add, that if you had published the proceedings in length, in respect to the Sparks street crossing, a key might be found to the cause of the Mayor's remarks, and it would be seen I carried out my "bounden duty" in the protection of the public interest more implicitly than he desired.

By inserting this, it will fill up the hiatus in your report, and also place me properly before the public.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM MOSGROVE.

To the Editor of the Times:

DEAR SIR,—It being now fast approaching Christmas day, it is the intention of the St. George's Society to offer the poor the usual Christmas dinner.

But I am sorry to say the Society's funds are at a low rate, consequently they will find it rather a difficult undertaking, and I suppose any suggestion would be acceptable that would tend to remove the difficulties, therefore I have no hesitation in suggesting that a meeting of the city amateurs be called in order to devise the best plan for the success of a dramatic performance, to be given for the benefit of the charitable fund of the society, under its immediate patronage. By this means I am positive $100 or more could be added to the aforesaid fund. Every member would accept a number of tickets to dispose of, and therefore render the affair a success, in a pecuniary point of view.

As to the acting, I can safely assert we have in this city, without the assistance of a certain Shaksperian, as good an amateur company as may be found in the Province. I feel positive none of these gentlemen will decline playing when they know its object, and will give a good performance, well worthy of the price. I hope, now the affair is mentioned, the president will not allow this opportunity to pass. This kind of entertainment, for such objects, are invariably successful, and they ought to be so here also. From your paper, Mr. Editor, I expect great assistance, from the fact your first edition is very well received, as being *the* paper of Ottawa, exclusive of politics, and I hope this will receive a good word from you, as a possible idea.

Yours, respectfully,

AN ENGLISHMAN.

Ottawa, Dec. 19, 1865.

BY TELEGRAPH.

EXTENSIVE SMUGGLING ACROSS THE LINES.

REVENUE OFFICERS DEMAND MILITARY ASSISTANCE.

AFFAIRS GLOOMY AT SAVANNAH.

BOATS FROZEN UP IN THE MISSISSIPPI.

DESTRUCTION OF BOATS AT ST. LOUIS.

ST. LOUIS FENIANS PASSIVE.

RESOLUTION ON POLYGAMY.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20th.—The *Tribune's* Washington despatch contains the following:

Owing to the insufficiency of the force of Revenue Officers employed on the Canadian frontier, for the collection of customs, smuggling is still carried on to a considerable extent along the boundary.

The Commissioner of Customs to-day received several communications from officers stationed along the St. Lawrence, all of whom complain that in many instances officers have been personally assaulted by bands of smugglers while in the performance of their duties, and the communications recommend the posting of troops along the river to aid in the detection and arrest of these contraband traders. The communication refers to the fact that a large number of Canadian merchants are engaged in swindling the Government by means of false invoices, and by fraudulently withholding from the Government a considerable amount of taxes due under the general laws.

James T. Bay, a wealthy oil merchant, aged 45 years, doing business at 148 Front street, where he has been located for the last 25 years, committed suicide yesterday afternoon in his office by shooting himself with a pistol, while under temporary insanity, produced by recent heavy losses.

The *Tribune's* Washington despatch says Gen. Carlton, commanding the military district of New Mexico, has been designated by the War Department to command an expedition against that portion of the Apache Indians who have been for a long time hostile to our Government.

Gen. Mitchell has been appointed Governor of New Mexico by the President.

The *Herald's* Savannah correspondent says affairs in the country present a gloomy aspect. The country is represented as bare of provisions, and the roads nearly impassable.

It is extremely difficult to entice the negroes to labor for any length of time continuously, and both they and the whites are indulging freely in extensive marauding, thieving and other vices.

With the professed purpose of restoring order, bands of self-styled guerillas have been formed who are guilty of worse crimes than those they pretend to be engaged in suppressing. Their shooting and the hangings of the negroes are all of such common occurrence as scarcely to excite any remarks, and they seemed determined not to allow the settlement among them of northerners or any other persons who propose to pay the negroes wages.

Thanksgiving-day was a dismal affair, the people not clearly perceiving what they were to give thanks for.

The late elections in Florida are represented as having been attended with much excitement and frequent disturbances, between the citizens and colored troops.

St. Louis, 19th.—About a dozen boats are hard a ground or caught in the ice between here and Cairo, and much apprehension is felt for their safety.

The steamer *Commodore Farragut* laden with cotton sunk in the Alabama river on the 14th; boat and cargo total loss.

Washington, 18th.—Mr. Alley, of Mass., offered the following resolution:

Resolved—That Congress cordially concurs in the view of the Secretary of the Treasury in relation to the necessity of the construction of currency with a view to an early resumption of specie payment as the business interests of the country will permit, and we pledge co-operative legislation to that end as speedily as possible.

The resolution was agreed to by 46 to 56.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.—The British gunboat *Sparrowhawk*, from Van Couver's Island, arrived here last night.

ST. LOUIS, Dec 19.—The loss to steamboat property on Saturday, by the moving of an ice gorge, including their cargoes, is about a quarter of a million of dollars, of which about sixteen thousand dollars only is insured.

Weather very dull, and another crash is looked for at any moment, the ice having again gorged on Saturday night.

Steamboat men, underwriters and all others interested are taking active and energetic measures to save the boats in the harbor from further disaster.

The Fenians in this city, on Saturday night, voted to sustain Gen. Sweeney, the Fenian Secretary of War, and resolved to take no action in the present difficulties of the Brotherhood until the arrival in this country of Stephens, the Head Centre of Ireland.

FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 19.—The steamer *Gen. Sedgwick*, from Mobile, with a cargo of cotton for New York, has put in here, short of coal.

OMAHA, 19th.—The first forty miles of the Union Pacific Railway, Omaha West, was finished yesterday. The track to Fremont, 8 miles further west, will be finished at the end of this week.

Mr. Ward, of New York, introduced a resolution declaring that notwithstanding the law against polygamy, that abominable institution still exists and it is on the increase in Utah, and that it is the barbarian of our age and country, and like its twin sister slavery, it should be swept from the territories of this Republic, if it takes the whole power of the Government to do so, and to that end, be it resolved that the committee on territories take the whole subject into consideration and enquire into the conduct of the United States officials in that territory and report by bill or otherwise such law or remedy as the exigency of the case demands. No formal action was taken.

WASHINGTON, 19th.—Senate special.—Mr Anthony called up the resolution for the adjournment of Congress from Wednesday next to the 9th day of January, and moved to amend by inserting Thursday instead of Wednesday, and the third of January instead of the ninth.

Mr. Anthony's amendment was adopted and the resolution passed.

CEYLON, MAURITUS, AND JAMAICA.

Every year the Legislature of Jamaica votes money for the importation of labor, because the negroes prefer to squat and live on cassava and yams to that continuous labor which would enable them to live in comfort. Some of the negroes have become