THE GUIDE.

Dundalk, January 10, 1878.

THE PROTON CONTEST.

The municipal elections for this Province took place on Monday, and in many townships in the County of Grey considerable activity took place, and in none more so than in Proton. Now that the election s over, we intend to notice a few of the occurences that have taken place. At the nomination at Hopeville, the Clerk, Mr. John Vert, very kindly loaned the minute book to John Agnew, the *would be* Reeve, for a few minutes, while he read a few extracts from it. Mr. Vert, who at the best of times,, is not very stout, was just recovering from a severe spell of sickness, and so durst not risk his health by standing in the cold in the open air. When Mr. Agnew got the book how did he act? He opened it where there was a draft of a by-law, certainly, but one without either signature or seal, and began to ridicule the by-law for the necessary omissions. Now it is well known that there is not a more careful or correct Municipal Clerk in the County of Grey, or we might safely say the Province of Ontario, and Mr. Middleton did not just think at the time why the by-law was so left in that state, until he had spoken to the Clerk in reference to it, when Mr. Vert informed him that it was quite unnecessary to pass any by-law to grant the fines collected by the magistrates in Dundalk towards building sidewalks in this village, as the same could be granted by a motion in the Council, and that a motion to that effect had previously been passed and recorded in the minute book, and so the by-law was left purposely in an unfinished state and *not* by any neglect the part of either the Clerk or Reeve, as John Agnew tried his best to make the electors believe. Mr. Middleton held several meetings in the township last week, to counteract any prejudice that might be entertained against him by the electors, from reading the malicious slanders contained in three fly sheets that had been widely circulated through Proton, and would undoubtedly have prejudiced many against him if any reliance could be placed in the statements made, but from the well known character of those circulating the fly-sheets, as the result of the election shows, no reliance whatever could be placed in them. As we have referred briefly to two of the fly sheets already, we shall not say anything further in regard to them ourselves, but a third one has made its appearance, a very peculiar one, and very *characteristic* of the parties in whose interest it was circulated—that is one headed "Hear Both Sides." This fly-sheet purports to be a counter-affidavit of William McDonnel, contradicting the affidavit published in the Markdale *Expositor*, and which we copied into the GUIDE. Now the first affidavit was given in the presence of Messrs. J. J. Middleton, G. R. Middleton, James L. Johnston, and Mr. Johnston's son,—so that if this second affidavit is genuine, McDonnell is guilty of perjury, which is a very serious criminal offence, and for which he will have to answer, and at best can only destroy his own statements sworn to by himself. If the fly-sheet is not genuine, then it can only tend to damage the parties who got the fly-sheets printed and circulated, and lays them open to criminal actions at law. No doubt Mr. Middleton will institute a proper legal enquiry into the matter.

On Friday evening last, a meeting of the electors of this section was held in the Orange Hall, Dundalk. Mr. John Scott was appointed to the chair, and shortly after seven o'clock the Hall was well filled. Mr. J. J. Middleton was invited to address the meeting, and on rising said he would require considerable time, as he intended thoroughly to expose the mis-statements made in the fly-sheets, in regard to his public career as their Reeve, referred in a scathing manner to the pedler of the fly-sheets containing McDonnel's counter affidavit, and to the malicious persecution of himself and Mr. Graham, and said he would like to hear what the other candidates for municipal honors had to say. Mr. John Agnew, Councillor, and S. Fleming briefly addressed the audience, and there being no other candidate present, Mr. Middleton resumed his address, and in a masterly manner refuted each charge preferred against him in the fly-sheets, comparing the amounts paid in other years, when his opponents were in office, to township officials, as compared with what was paid since he was Reeve. When he had proceeded at some length with his address, John Agnew, (Old Survey) & Co., appeared at the meeting, evidently coming in at that time with the intention of having their say when Mr. Middleton got through with his. When Mr. Middleton was explaining in regard the Police fines by-law, John Agnew made a most pitiable exhibition of his stupidity by asking Mr. Middleton five times to repeat his explanation, before he comprehended his meaning, although it was perfectly plain to every one else in the room. It is needless for us to go over again the explanations given. Mr. Modeland explained how much money had been expended on 22nd Side Road, the explanation was accepted by Mr. Middleton. As the evening advanced it was most amusing to see the discomfit of Mr. Middleton's opponent's and their anxiety that he should come to a conclusion, but the more they interrupted him, of course the more he had to say, and about twelve o'clock although Mr. Middleton was not quite through the audience began to go away, and by half past twelve the meeting was brought to a close, when a note of thanks was moved to the chairman, and if ever a chairman deserved a hearty note of thanks, we think Mr. Scott did on this occasion.

On Monday the polling went on quietly as a general thing, until the poll closed. In the evening a large crowd collected in the village to learn the result of the contest in Proton, and there was a good deal of excitement on the subject, the hopes of the successful candidates and their friends gradually increasing, and a corresponding waning taking place in the aspirations of the defeated as the state of each poll was brought in. The crowd had assembled at McCullough's Hotel,, and about twelve o'clock the returns of each Division were brought in when the friends of Mr. Middleton gave a hearty cheer, as it was ascertained that he had been returned by 109 of a majority—41 more than the total vote of his two opponents. The cheer was too much for the defeated Agnew, and he wanted to fight somebody, and the state of excitement that was occasioned thereby is beyond our powers of description, but although a great deal of "loud" talk was indulged in, and some blows struck, we believe no blood was shed. And after several arrests had been made the riot was quelled. It is our opinion, and from the action of the electors in Proton on Monday, we believe their opinion too, that John Agnew (Old Survey) should stay at home and attend to his cattle, and not be making himself such a "busy body" as he has done during the past year, and no doubt when *his* services are required as chairman of the Municipal Council, that his *extraordinary* abilities will be duly appreciated by the Township. In regard to what we said in a former number of the GUIDE, of "the Company" being ashamed of receiving aid and support from Mr. S. L. M. Luke we take that all back again. Mr. Luke may have been unfortunate; and his misfortunes may cause him to do things that under more prosperous circumstances he would not do, but we do wonder that he himself is not ashamed of "The Company" he has recently been working for. Mr. McPhail, ex-Reeve, the third candidate for the Reeveship has hitherto been looked upon as an able man in municipal affairs, but the means he took to defeat Mr. Middleton only tended to his own rejection.

Mr. Page, of the Irish Settlement, has been elected Deputy Reeve. Mr. Page formerly lived in the Township of Minto, at Page's Flag Station, and is a well educated man, and being from the other side of the Township, will no doubt tend to equalize the representation at the County Council. We are sorry Mr. Page was unable to put in an appearance at the meeting held here last Friday evening. Mr. Fleming, would certainly have been a good man too, and have done what he believed would be for the best interests of the Township, but as we pointed out previously, Mr. McMurdo caused his defeat by running in opposition to him. Mr. Modeland would certainly have received a much better support, if he had not gone in with "The Company," as we believe Mr. Modeland is personally an honest, straight-forward man.

Messrs Agnew and Boyd were re-elected to the Council by very large majorities, and Mr. John Abbott, sr., makes the other one for the Council of Proton, for 1878.

Notice to Subscribers.

The first year of our publication of the GUIDE, has now nearly expired, and yet there are a good many subscribers who have not paid us. We beg to notify all such, that unless subscriptions are paid before the 1st of February, accounts will be placed in the Division Court for collection.

Local and Other Items.

MR. G. R. MIDDLETON has been re-elected School Trustee.

☞ R. G. Hall & Bro., Priceville, are selling goods far below cost now, and are sueing all old notes and accounts.

☞ For all styles of pictures and Motto frames, call at the Shelburne Art Gallery. Mr. T. Donaghy has also on hand a large number of Stereoscopic Views.

THE annual meeting of the members of East Grey Electoral District Agricultural Society will be held in the Town Hall, Flesherton, on Wednesday the 16th day of January, 1878, at one o'clock p. m., for the election of Officers, etc.

DUNDALK MONTHLY FAIR.—The regular Monthly Fair held here on Tuesday last was very poorly attended, very few cattle being present that were fit for the butcher, although well attended by buyers. All the cattle fairs held just now seem to be something similar.

At a convention of the Reformers of North Grey held on Tuesday, Mr. George Snider, the present member for the constituency in the House of Commons was unanimously selected as the Reform standard bearer in the riding at the next general election.

PRESBYTERIAN.—Mr. McKay, student, has been preaching in Dundalk and the Fraser Settlement for the past three Sabbaths, and has had good audiences each Sabbath. Mr. McKay discourses have given great satisfaction to those who have heard them, and we believe he would be gladly welcomed as pastor to any congregation, who had listened to him on these occasions. We are pleased to notice the progress now being made with the new church in this village.

SUDDEN DEATH.—On Saturday evening last a young man named Brooks, residing on the 7th line, St. Vincent, south, suddenly dropped dead after returning from church. An inquest, with *post mortem* by Dr. Maclean, was held by Coroner Albery on Tuesday, when it was found that death resulted from heart disease; the heart having been enlarged to twice the natural size, owing to valvular disease, proceeding probably from rheumatism originally. Diseased leaves a wife and two children.—*Meaford Monitor.*

THE case of T. A. Brown against George Turner for violation of the Dunkin Act was heard one day lately. The Mayor, W. D. Pollard, Esq., sat on the case, and granted an adjournment on the plea that it was *not proved* that the Dunkin Act was in force. Poor old Solomon of Israel, your laurels are all gone.—*Meaford Monitor.*

SINGHAMPTON.—A Social was held in the Presbyterian Church on New Year's Eve, and was well attended. New Year's Day passed off quietly. Jarvis Waites put his hand too near the edging saw in the saw mill, Christmas week, and it bit him. Fortunately no fingers were lost. Election times were lively.

ARTEMESIA GRANGE.—At the last regular meeting of Artemesia Grange, No. 259, the following officers were duly elected and installed for the year 1878, viz:—John Weber, Master; William Buchanan, sr., Overseer; William Night, Lecturer; John Graham, Steward; John Boland, Ass't Steward; William Buchanan, sr., Chaplain; Robert Shannon Treasurer; James Brodie, Secretary; John Rowe, Gatekeeper; Mrs. J. Rowe, Ceres; Mrs. J. Brodie, Pomona; Mrs. E. Carson, Flora; Miss. Marian Smith, Stewardess. The Grange is prospering, there are 51 members and they have purchased goods through the Grange during the year to the amount of $1,100, to the entire satisfaction of all concerned.

THE annual meeting for the election of officers and teachers in connection with the Flesherton Methodist Sabbath School was held on Monday evening, 31st Dec. 1877. Rev. Wm. Johnston in the chair. Officers elected for 1878 were as follows, viz:—Thomas Bolster, Superintendent; J. W. Armstrong, Ass't Sup.; J. W. Henderson, Secretary; R. Davis, Ass't Sec.; W. Clayton, Librarian; J. W. Large, Assistant Librarian; J. W. Armstrong, Treasurer; Female Teachers', Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. Leitch, Mrs. Bennet, Miss H. Bellamy, Miss Beecroft, Miss Flesher, Mrs. Merriam, Miss Heard, Miss C. Bellamy. Male Teachers, J. W. Armstrong, J. W. Leavens, J. Gillan, W. Wright, W. M. Clarke, J. Creeper, Mr. Richardson, M. E. Merriam, W. J. Bellamy, Mr. Moore.

ROBBERY.—It is quite evident that this neighborhood is infested with daring thieves. Only a week we reported a case of grain stealing from Mr. Mark Armstrong's barn, and now we have again to chronicle a repetition of the offense. Last Sunday night Mr. Armstrong's barn was entered and about 25 bushels of wheat stolen therefrom. The granary was not broken open, but an entrance was effected by unlocking the door, which must either have been done by means of a duplicate key or the parties in someway obtained possession of Mr. Armstrong's key of the granary in order to accomplish their object. Diligent efforts will be made to ascertain who the thieves are, and if caught we hope the most severe penalty of the law will be inflicted on them.—*Markdale Expositor.*

DISTRICT MEETING.—The members of the Loyal Orange Lodges in the District of Proton, held their annual meeting on Tuesday evening last, in the Hall of No. 797, Dundalk. The attendance was very good, each Lodge in the District being well represented. The following officers for the current year were duly elected and installed:—Bro. Thomas Lakings, Dis. Master; Bro. Robinson Haw, Deputy District Master; Bro. George Rutherford, Chaplain; Bro. C. Edgerton, D. Secretary; Bro. T. Hanbury, D. Treasurer; Bro. R. Kinnell, Director of Ceremonies. After the election of officers and other business of the meeting had been disposed of, a very pleasant supper was partaken of by the brethren present, and a happy time spent. The next meeting will be held on the 14th of June, in Edgerton's Hall, Proton.

EGREMONT REFORM ASSOCIATION.—At a meeting of the Egremont Reform Association, held at Holstein on the 20th ult., Mr. Henry McDougall was elected President, and Mr. Daniel Keith, Secretary. After the election of delegates to attend the South Grey Reform Convention, Mr. J. H. Hunter, M. P. P., was requested to address the meeting. He referred during the course of his remarks to some of the more important measures passed during the Mowat Administration, and impressed upon them the importance of thorough organization. At the conclusion of his speech a hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Hunter, and the following resolution passed unanimously:"This Association desires to express its entire confidence in the Mackenzie and Mowat Administration, and our representatives in the Dominion and Ontario Parliaments.—*Mount Forest Examiner.*

NORMANBY REFORM ASSOCIATION.—The Reform Association of the township of Normanby met at Ayton, on the 21st ult., for the election of officers and appointment of delegates to represent the township at the Reform Convention which met at Durham on the 28th ult., Notwithstanding the wretched state of the road, a large number of prominent Reformers were present. Mr. A. S. McEdward was re-elected President, and W. H. Ryan Secretary. Twelve delegates were elected to attend the County Convention. Dr. Landerkin, M. P., Mr. J. H. Hunter. M. P.P. and Dr. Niemier addressed the meeting and resolutions of confidence in the Reform Government at Ottawa and Toronto, and in both the representatives of the constituency, were passed. A vote of thanks to the President, three cheers for the Queen and three for the Mackenzie and Mowat Governments brought the meeting to a close.—*Examiner.*

Priceville Items.

At the close of Christmas holidays our school will be again resumed. The teachers recently engaged are Mr. Neil Kennedy and Miss Christina McMillan, are both natives, and it is to be hoped will do credit to themselves and the place of their nativity.

On Christmas evening a tea meeting, on behalf of the scholars attending the Baptist Sabbath School, was held in the Baptist Church. There was a large attendance of both old and young people, and with addresses, Christmas tree, and other good things, the evening passed off very enjoyably.

Victor Emmanuel, King of Italy, died yesterday.

Three illicit stills have been seized in the county of Huron.

Osprey Items.

The absence of snow, and consequent want of sleighing, have caused very dull times for some time past.

The Municipal Nomination took place on the appointed day at Maxwell, and passed off rather quietly compared with Proton. All the candidates that go to the County Council pledged themselves to oppose all further aid to the T. G. & B. Railway—Osprey will go to a man against any further aid in any shape to that enterprise.

An inquest was held on the 2nd inst., at Maxwell, on the body of David Hill, who took ill on the evening of the 25th, and died on the morning of the 27th, at McIntyre's Hotel, rumors having got afloat, and application having been made to Coroner Christoe, he considered it his duty to hold an inquest. The evidence of the medical gentlemen who made the *post mortem* examination, showed clearly that death was caused by the ulceration and perforation of the stomach, and the evidence given entirely cleared Mr. McIntyre of all blame in the matter.

The municipal election has just resulted in the return of McGirr for Reeve, and McIntyre for Deputy,—the old members.

FINIS.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

PROTON.

The following are the figures that we have received in regard to the municipal contest in this township. When we receive the official figures of each Division we shall publish them:—

For Reeve—	J. J. Middleton	258
	Alex. McPhail	149
	John Agnew (Old S.)	83
For D. Reeve—	John Page	160
	S. Fleming	126
	Joshua Modeland	113
	Wm. McMurdo	41
	D. McMillan	34
For Councillors—	Wm. Boyd	265
	John Agnew (New S.)	238
	John Abbot, sr,	181
	J. G. Peer	155
	John Wolf, jr,	94
	Robt. Ferris	93

EGREMONT.

The old Council were re-elected by acclamation:—Reeve—James Murdoch. Councillors—North-West Ward, Wm. Lawrence; North-East Ward, Dougal McCormack; South-East Ward, Wm. Caulfield; South-West Ward, N. D. McKenzie. The Council elects one Deputy Reeve.

DURHAM

Mayor, W. Hastie. Reeve—McKechnie. Councillors—West Ward, Hughson, Brown and Ball: East Ward, Story, Rose, and Gray; North Ward, Anderson, McFarline, and Jones.

HOLLAND.

Reeve, Wm. Hovey. Deputy Reeve—John Cameron. Councillors—John Deavill, James Gillespie, and Wm. Norton.

NORMANBY

Reeve, A. H. McEdwards. First Deputy Reeve—John Koenig. Second Deputy Reeve—Noah Wegner. Councillors—Andrew O'Farrel and Henry MacMahon.

ST. VINCENT

Reeve, C. R. Sing. Deputy Reeve—N. Read. Councillors—J. Bows, E. Clarke, and R. F. Street.

COLLINGWOOD TOWNSHIP

Reeve, Jas. Rorke. First Deputy Reeve, W. White. Second Deputy Reeve, W. Kerr. Councillors—T. McKenny and W. Brooks.

MOUNT FOREST.

Reeve, Jas. McMullan. Councillors—Thos. Swan, L. H. Yeomans, Jas Reid, and Jos Hampton.

MEAFORD.

Mayor, John D McGee. Reeve—Jas Cleland. Councillors—West Ward, A. Purdy, C Burn, and Robert Agnew; East Ward, C Watt, Elliott Thompson, and G P McIntosh; North Ward, M Robinson, David McCaan, and Thos Aris.

OWEN SOUND.

Mayor, R Netter. Reeve, A M Stephens. Both by acclamation. Deputy Reeve, Dr. C E Barnhart. Councillors—Bay Ward, John Fox, H Robinson, and J Coates; Centre Ward, W A McClean, T B Dowsley, and Jas Rowland; River Ward, David Wilson, Robt Malcom, and John Chisholm.

ORANGEVILLE.

Mayor, Joseph Pattullo. Reeve—S H McKitrick. Deputy Reeve—John Green. Councillors—North Ward, S Eastman and Geo Island; South Ward, Hugh Haley and H Flesher; West Ward, Dr. Carbert and Jas Bennett.

NOMINATION.

OSPREY.

The municipal nominations for the township of Osprey resulted as follows:—Reeve—Thomas Gamey and Andrew McGirr. Deputy Reeve—Archibald McIntyre and Wm. Heron. Councillors—John Speeres, J. Sing, John Inkster, A. Cameron, John Winters, John Little, John Hudson, and J. Tailor.

The Elora by-law for the exchange of bonds for Credit Valley Railway debentures was carried on Tuesday by a majority of 75.

Rev Dr. Ives, of Brooklin, at the opening of the Seaforth Methodist Church on Christmas Day, succeeded in raising $16,000, being 1,100 more than the church cost.

The Dominion Parliament has been summoned to meet for the despatch of business on the 7th prox. The Speech from the Throne will be delivered on the second day of the session.

Mr. Kingsford, Government engineer, was in Collingwood last week making a survey of the harbour with a view to having it dredged. We understand the channel is to be made sixteen feet, and that the work will probably be carried to completion next summer.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—In consequence of the removal of Rev. Mr. Yewens to Elora, Rev. R. Cordner, of Harriston, has been appointed to the charge of St. Paul's Church, Mount Forest, and Trinity Church, North Arthur. He will enter upon his duties on Sunday 20th January, on which day services will be held at the usual hours in both churches.

More on Missiles.

Mizzles, I'll hev a rap at yer canister, if yer tea costs a guinea an ounce!

DEAR MISTHUR EDITUR.—I daresay that whin ye see me own name at the bottom ov this letthur, ye'll be inclined to smile, and think that diggin' a well or a potay-tee wud be a more suitable divarshun for a boy ov my standin' in society, than to inter into the conthroversy that is gettin' so lively, atween Mr. Mizzles and Mr. Argus; —but still in all, Mr. Editur, I know the differ atween black and white; and in a pinch I can read Greek wid me right eye, an' thranslate it at the same time wid me left. Av coorse, I was not born wid an English Dixionary in wan cheek, a Latin grammer in the other, and a volume of Hinry Ward Becher on the top of me tongue, atween the two. But notwithstandin' this, I've a blackthorn shillelah that is well able to inforce a historikal truth, or bruise a Greek or Latin root. Now in order to be'onorable wid Mr. Mizzles, I shall dale wid him accordin' to *Euclid*,—that same must be a fine book intirely, to thim that undherstand it.

Billy Knuman and meself wint to the Social, the same evening that Mr. Mizzles wint. Mizzles sat wid Mr. Rutherford, on a seat forninst us. I tipped Mizzle a wink ov me left eye as I wint into me seat, but he niver let on he knew me, although, atwixt ourselves, he spint the afternoon wid me on the same day, trying to convince me, with the eloquence of a penny feather, that the buck-saw might slip a cog and shuffle off me mortal coil; and that by raison of this impendin' danger, I ought to get an inshoorance on me life.—Howan'ever, I did not mind the *insensibility* of Mizzles, inasmuch as Mr. Rutherford pressed me hand in a warm-hearted way, at the same time throwing me a mischievous glance which seemed to say "Niver mind, Michael, there's an appetite beside me that'll amuse ye in a minit or two."

Billy Knuman grinned, and so did I, and we both *reflectively* waited for devilopments.

Mizzles did not keep us long in suspinse, for a waiter quickly handed him a bag of jammy cake and a bowl of tea. Mizzles placed himself outside of the jammy cake in the twinkling of an eye, an' in a moment more the bowl of tea the jammy cake were residents of the same swamp. He instantly caught the eye of a passing waiter, whom he innocently axed for a bit of rare roast beef, and a bottle of "*af and 'af*." The waiter whispered in his ear that it couldn't be done for fifteen cints! whereupon Mizzles ordered another *coorse* of jammy and tea, muttering, "It's a jolly queer thing a fellah kaunt get anything to heat yeah!" The waiter, thrue to his word, returned wid a plate of sandwiches and a noggin o' tea, and two bags of jammy. Mizzles, with the injured air of a martyr, transferred the intire lot to his lap.

"Tare-an-ouns," exclaimed Billy Knuman, "is he an ostrich, or an eating saloon?"

"Howld yer whist," sed i, he's an itinerating green grocery, and he hez come to Dundalk to stock up."

Billy and meself, in our eagerness to keep account of Mizzles, forgot to order our own supply of jammy, and a waiter observing we were not attending to the inner man, axed us if we had anything agin the vittles. Not in particular, sez I, but no matther what we might have agin them, nayther William or myself would *run* them down in the same way as the gintleman in front ov us. I towld the waiter to bring Billy and I bags apiece ov jammy, with a noggin of tay for each ov us. He soon came forward, and as thrue as I'm chinwhacking this moment, Mizzles intercepted the whole cargo, and tuk it unto himself. Well, sez i, this bates Bannaher, and Bannaher bates the D——l.

William, like all young lads, had an appetite ov his own, and finding himself chated out ov his bill of fare, he became violent, and sed he had a great mind to swoop the face off Mizzle wid a quart jug.

Howld, William, sez i, dont be hasty, there's, there's more ways than wan, and suiting the acktion to the word, I shied a bit of soft jammy at the intherloper's left lug.

He gintly removed the provisions, and remarked to Mr. Rutherford that "This yeah was the straw which broke the camel's back; first to be refused roast beef, and 'af and 'af, and then to pelt a fellah on the year. I'll leave the 'all at once, altho' I 'ave not finished my tea." Mi friend, Mr. Rutherford, advised him to kontrol his emotions, and finish his male, and to consider the bit ov an *episode* as nothing more than a *striking illustration* of the kindness of Dundalk. But lave he would, and lave he did.

Afther he had gone, William assumed a pinsive expression, and turning upon me the gaze of his fine poetykal eye, he axed me the following konundrum:—

"Why is an agint looking for spoil,
At a fifteen-cint Orange soiree,
Eating jammy cake, the while,
And picking his teeth wid a rusty nail;
This 'blawsted fellah,' why is he,
Like the undiscovered source of the Nile?"

Och! Billy, sez i, ye amusin' craythur ye, ye'd make a fortune in the United States practising *poethry* as a Literary Bohemian. Yours Trooly,

MICHAEL O'HALLORAN,
Professor ov the Art ov Cuttin' Cord Wood.

At the Court of Queen's Bench for the Terrebonne district, which opened at Ste. Scholastique on Monday, the Grand Jury composed of twenty French Canadians and two English-speaking jurors, brought in true bills against the two Oka Indians charged with firing the Seminary Church and against the remainder, who are accused of being accessories.

A singular accident occurred on Friday last in the blacksmith shop of Ranton & Best, Pilkington. A young man, named Hedley, was standing with half a pound of gunpowder in his coat pocket, near to an anvil on which a workman was hammering a piece of hot iron, a spark from which entered the pocket, burnt through the paper and caused the gunpowder to explode. A hole was made in the coat, and the young man's pants were singed on the one leg, but no further injury resulted from the explosion.

Proton Show Again.

To the Editor of the Guide.

DEAR SIR,—I notice in your last week's issue a letter signed "Spectator," referring to the Directors of the Proton Agricultural Society, and also the judges of the past Fall Show. Now, sir, I do not think that "Spectator" has gone the right way to work. If he has had anything to grieve over, would it not have been better for him to have come boldly before the board that night, and charged those parties he complains of, before their face, and then and there stated the facts of the case, if he had any reasonable grounds of complaint, surely there was enough honest men there to give him an honorable hearing; and I have not the least doubt if he had he would have seen justice done; and not go and accuse parties through the columns of a newspaper, and state that one man interfered with the judges; "two others took prizes for animals he had no right to show, and another for showing his mother's ducks," &c. If such is the case, it is the first I have heard of it. Now, sir, I think the statements cannot be all true; if so I think "Spectator" would have had the honor of a man, and made his complaints at the right time and in the right place, and not waited for a long time and then publish them, over the signature of "Spectator," and allow the public to attach the blame to who they see fit. Now, sir, he speaks about rules and regulations being made to suit. If you or any parties interested will take the trouble to examine the bills of said show, you will see that they will compare very favorably with bills of any other show in the County; and you will also find that rule 17 reads thus:—"Members violating any of the foregoing rules will loose their prize money, and forfeit all privileges as members of the Society." For my part, I cannot see what fault "Spectator" has to that. If any, it is in himself not trying to have the rules carried out. I did not see "Observer's" letter, therefore I cannot say any thing about it, but if I am any good at guessing, "Observer" and "Spectator" are one and the same person; if not the same in person, the same in matter of fact. Perhaps, if "Spectator" would tell what he is grieved about, the public might find that it would tally very well with those he complains of in others. It is an old saying that it is hard to get a flock that has no black sheep in it; perhaps there is more than one in ours. But, Mr. Editor, I like to see children get milk when they cry for it, providing they cry straightforward. Now, if "Spectator" will yet come and bring his charges to me, and if he has any reasonable ground for complaint, I will, at the annual meeting, bring the matter before the electors of officers, and then they will see who is in fault; and if they find the present Directors guilty of any misconduct, no doubt but they will drop them at once, and also give "Spectator" a chance to help them to put in their place men that will do what is honest. If "Spectator" does not come forward in an honest way and substantiate his charges, I shall think they are bogus, and deserve the contempt of all right-thinking men; or if he has any more writing to do on the subject, I hope he will do it over the proper signature, and speak directly to the point, so that the public will know who he means. It is a bad practice to throw stones in the dark—no telling who they will hit. Perhaps it would be better to not throw stones at all, especially anybody living in glass houses.

Now, Mr. Editor, I must apologize for using so much of your valuable space.

Yours Truly,
J. G. PEER,
President of Proton Ag'l Society.
Proton, Dec. 24th, 1877.

Canadian Items.

The Pacific Railway is metalled for eight miles west of Red River.

A movement is on foot in Montreal for the migration to Manitoba of a band of Protestant settlars—forming a small community by themselves.

A severe snowstorm visited the Atlantic coast on Wednesday night. Among other casualities to shipping, it is reported that a St. John vessel went ashore off Cape Cod.

The store and dwelling-house of Mr G. H. Pugsley, Fisherville, Haldimand county was destroyed by fire on Tuesday morning, 1st inst. The entire contents of the store and dwelling were lost, and Mr. and Mrs. Pugsley having hearly time to escape. The origin of the fire is unknown. Loss about $8,000; insured for 3,600.

On Thursday evening the 27th ult., about 8:30 o'clock, the fire alarm was rung and it was discovered that the barns and stables of Wm. Foster, Hurontario street, were on fire, and although the steamer was throwing water on the burning buildings in less than 20 minutes after the alarm was given, the buildings and contents were destroyed. The total loss was about $2,200, insured for $1,300. Mr. Dudgeon got his face scorched in extricating some horses from the burning stable.—*Collingwood Enterprise.*

Mr. William Grant a former resident of Brussels, writing from Emerson, Manitoba says:—"After we get in better order, and Railroads are running, I think it will be a fine country. I have my land ploughed ready for spring, so that should next season be favorably, I will have a large crop. The Winters to be sure are very cold and long; still we manage very well, and expect the drawbacks to decrease year by year. I would not wish to go back to Ontario to farm, after seing such fine crops here. It is perfect pastime ploughing here. A neighbor of mine has 500 bushels of wheat on 16 acres; oats, I believe could be cultivated to reach 100 bushels to the acre. But betwen blackbirds, rains, and other influences, such yield are not always practicable. Certain it is the crops grow very well, whether they come to maturity without mishap or otherwise. The yield of potatoes and root crops in general is extraordinary. Several parties a short distance from here have, even this year, 2,800 bushels of wheat of 90 acres.

The Ontario Legislature.

The third session of the third Parliament of the Province of Ontario, which opens today with the Speech from the Throne, will, to all appearance, not differ very greatly in character from the two which have preceded it. No startling events have occurred during the year, and from the beginning to the end of it the Province has gone steadily forward on the road to increased prosperity. The harvest was more than usually abundant last year—so much so that the Lieutenant-Governor will in all probability make some allusion to the fact, and to the return of a more prosperous era as its direct consequence. One important indication of the change which is gradually taking place is the partial revival of the lumbering industry, as shown by the improvement of the home market for lumber and the high prices obtained for new timber limits sold by auction during the year.

As there has been no falling off in lumber operations, and as the abundant harvest has placed in the hands of many purchasers of Crown lands the means of clearing off arrears it is quite probable that the revenue derived from public lands and timber will be reported quite as buoyant as was expected when the estimates were framed last year.

The visit of the Lieutenant-Governor last summer to the district in process of settlement east of Georgian Bay will no doubt be alluded to in the Speech. That visit had the effect of calling attention more particularly to the district in question, the colonization roads which either traverse it or are under construction, and the class of settlers who are pouring into it with great rapidity from the older parts of the Province, their place being, to some extent, supplied by the influx of tenant farmers and farm labourers from England, who easily find excellent opportunities for investing their capital and abundance of remunerative employment.

One of the most important measures of last session was the ammended School Act, and it is highly probably that some reference will be made in the Speech to the radical changes which have taken place in the Public School system under its authority. The most important of these is the adoption of a very complete and at the same time economical method of supplying the province with trained teachers by means of County Model Schools, which have proved so successful in its operation that some specific allusion will no doubt be made to them, as well as to the asylums for the blind, the deaf, the dumb, and insane, all of which have, by means of aditionals and improvements been rendered much more serviceble than they fromerly were for the purpose they were intended to serve.

The unusual activity manifested in various ways during the year by the promoters of the temperance movement can hardly fail to be noticed in a speech addressed to a Legislature which has ever shown the utmost readiness to make such improvement in the laws regulating the liquor traffic as experience seemed to call for; and in connection with the public health the improved method of collecting vital statistics and the success attending its operation deserve and will probably receive more than a passing notice.

The unusually large drain on the capital of the province, by the way of payments to completed Railways under Railway Aid Acts, affords an opportunity for sounding a note of warning which will doubtless be taken advantage off, the more so as the ordinary demands on the revenue are annually increasing with the extension of the area of settlement. The arbitration between this Province and Quebec being still unsettled, some reference will probably be made to it, as well as to another long pending question—that of the northern and Western boundry of Ontario.

Since the close of last session the work of consolidating the statues of the Province has been completed, and the Assembly will no doubt be congratuled on the fact that the legislation of last year has been embodied in the code which will, as a matter of course, be submitted for confirmation.

It is not probable that much new legislation will be promised for this year. The regulation of the Civil Service is a matter demanding the attention of the Legislature and it will no doubt find a place in the list of proposed measures. The usual promise will also be given to lay before the Assembly as soon as possible a statement of the receipts and expenditures for the year just closed, and the estimated revenue and expenditure for the year on which we have entered.—*Globe of yesterday.*

Lord Rosebery is about to be married to the only daughter of Baron Rothschild, of London.

The American lumbermen claim that by the construction of the Fort Frances locks, facilities will be afforded for the cheap transportation of lumber from the American pine woods in the vicinity to the market at Winnipeg. The settlement at the locks is rapidly growing, and with the first of next year a paper will be started with the object of promoting the interests of the Rainy River district. Henceforth Fort Frances is to be known as Alberton.

Capt Hultman of the American barque *Roebuck* was recently bound over in United States Court for further trial for killing his steward, named Geo. Berlan. Witnesses state that the captain called the steward into the cabin. They then heard cries of murder, which they thought came from the steward, who came out of the cabin with his face bloody. The mate took him by the beard and dragged him to the cabin, the man crying, "For God's sake, don't lick me any more." Irons were placed upon his wrists, and he was triced up by the rigging for three hours, and then taken down and confined eight or ten days on bread and water. Some time after, when unable to labour, he was placed in the hold, and after a few week's confinement he died. The captain claims that the steward died from malarial fever.

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