

Agents for the Grey Review.
G. R. Middleton,
Alexander Webster,
G. W. McMillan,
Donald Keith,
Alexander Taylor,
Dundalk,
Greenfield,
Bromore.

THE REVIEW.

Durham, January 27, 1881.

Dr. Christie has been elected Warden of the County. We have to congratulate the Doctor on the distinguished honor thus conferred upon him, knowing that the dignity of the office will be well sustained in his hands.

The state of Ireland can scarcely be said to have improved. Agrarian outrages are not so common nor so brutal as they have been, but the peasantry are still in a state of chronic agitation and discontent. To add to the misery of the situation, want of food and clothing and fuel is beginning to be felt in many districts. In the Imperial Parliament Mr. Forster, Secretary for Ireland, in accordance with Mr. Gladstone's policy, that order must precede any reform of the land laws, has introduced a coercion act—the forty-ninth of the kind within the last thirty years. Whether this will be more successful than former bills of the same kind it is impossible to say. The majority of the House have resolved to oppose it, and urge that nothing will satisfy Ireland, and restore peace but a Liberal Land Reform Act, embodying the three P's—fair rents, free sale of land, and fixity of tenure, with expropriation of the landlords, or purchase of the land of Ireland by the Government and a sale of it to the peasantry on reasonable terms. To most of these, the landlords entirely object, so, as the spirit of compromise is entirely wanting on both sides, it is idle to speculate as to results.

In another column we make room for a communication on unequal assessments in this town, and we do so, because of the importance of the subject. Complaints of this sort are not of recent origin, but on the contrary, like other complaints, they are of old standing. Indeed ever since the incorporation of the town, complaints have been quite as frequent as to unfair assessments, and many of our readers who are quite conversant with the facts will at once perceive whether they are well or ill-founded. It is possible that there may be no reasonable grounds for such complaints, but as our local contemporary, whom we must admit to be an authority on municipal doings, admits the justice of the complaint in the present instance, we can come to no other conclusion, than that the allegations of our correspondent are true. If so, who is to blame? Possibly the assessor in the first place, but it is the Town Council who must be held responsible for such irregularities. The assessor is simply the officer of the Council, and if he fails to do his work as it ought to be done, then the people should call their representatives at the Council house to account for any errors that may appear on the assessment roll.

The burgess entered into by Sir John with the St. Paul Syndicate will no doubt be forced through Parliament. The interests of the country have never been allowed to stand in the way of a party victory by the Conservative party, but never before has such a gross outrage been perpetrated by a weak-kneed majority as in the present instance. It was of no consequence to Sir John and his adherents following that a purely Canadian Company, composed of men of the highest character and of undoubted financial ability, had offered to build the Pacific railway at a much reduced cost, and without claiming any of the ruinous concessions exacted by the American Syndicate. The Government had agreed to the terms of the old Syndicate and would not listen to the offers of any others. However, a day of reckoning will come. The electors are now thoroughly alive to the character of the men who have been entrusted with the reins of power, men who for party purposes never hesitate to sacrifice the interests of the country. They have enacted a retrograde fiscal system, except a National Policy, which has failed to develop the industrial resources of the country, but has succeeded in increasing the cost of living to the great body of the people, and now they have created in the North West a huge land and railway monopoly which for generations will stunt the growth of the country and hinder the prosperity of its people. As we go to press we learn that Mr. Blake's amendment has been defeated—virtually carrying the bargain with the American Syndicate—by a majority of over 80. Thus the last straw has been added to the burdens of a long suffering people.

THE REPORT ON EDUCATION.
We have received the Educational Report for 1879, just laid on the table of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario by the Minister of Education. A very cursory examination of this report will show the high degree of perfection attained by the system of Education pursued in the Public and High Schools of the Province. Year by year the standard of proficiency of teachers in literary subjects has been raised so that now a first or second class examination or even a Third-class has the professional qualifications of teachers been overlooked. Normal Schools are provided for First and Second class teachers, and the County Model Schools as at present organized on our better Public Schools, are doing excellent work in training Third class teachers, at a minimum of cost and as efficiently as could be expected. On this point the report says, that after three years experience "it is admitted on all hands that these County Model Schools have been a decided success." Certain suggestions are made for their further improvement, such as the lengthening of the term from two to three months; the making of all Public grants compulsory; and the appointment of an assistant during the Model School

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We would notice several local matters, but want of space prevents us from doing so.
H. W. Moeckler is selling Ladies' Mantles and Coats at cost, also men's Over-Coats and Caps at cost.
The Sirens at Pricewell on Tuesday evening last was quite a success, the attendance being very good. The receipts amounted to \$80.
Mr. Robert Laidlaw, of the firm of Messrs Laidlaw, Inglis, & Co., Publishers of the *Weekend Sentinel-Review*, has retired from the firm.
TEACHERS are advertised for by the Presbyterian of Yorkville for the erection of a new Brick Church on Lot 20, Con. 17, of that Township.

The mails coming to Durham from Toronto have been often delayed of late, the people very often not getting their mail matter until next morning.
ON the night of Jan. 1st while skating on the Pricewell rink, Mr. George Simpson, slipped and broke his leg, which was attended to by Dr. Glegg. He was able to walk unaided in two weeks. The great credit on the surgeon in attendance.
THE Masonic Assembly held in the Town Hall, on the evening of the 21st, was a decided success, though it is a matter of regret that so few of our townsmen were present. A large number of ladies and gentlemen were present from Mount Forest, Warkton and Pricewell. The Hall was tastefully decorated. The music was excellent, and the dancing was kept up to a late hour. Every one seemed to enjoy themselves to the full.
A PROMISED TREAT.—On Friday evening, Feb. 4th, a Grand Concert will be held in the Town Hall, Durham. The services more than local report, have been secured from Mount Forest, Warkton and Pricewell and this town have also promised their assistance and it is expected that a most enjoyable entertainment will be offered to those who have the good fortune to attend.
The annual meeting of East Grey agricultural society, was held in the Town Hall, Pricewell, according to notice on the 19th inst. The annual report was read. The officers are as follows:—President, Thos. Kelly; 1st Vice, Dr. R. Byles; 2nd Vice, Dr. McGeorge; Secretary, S. Dundas; A. Manshew; Wm. Burnett; Josiah Ganey; R. Y. Burk; D. R. Ellis; E. Ruffen; J. Abbott; E. Shaw. Delegate, Thos. Kelly.—*Markdale Standard.*

The annual meeting of Glegg's Township Agricultural Society was held, according to notice, in Dufferin Hall, on Thursday, Jan. 13th, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Wm. Douglas; Vice-Presidents, Jas. Struthers; Secretary, A. Butter; Directors, Edward Kottelger; Edward Davis, Benjamin Coleman, William Brown, Thomas Davis, Sheppard Boyce, Robert Walker, James Lawler, and Adam Shibley; Auditors, A. Turner and Wm. McDougall.—*Markdale Standard.*

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