

At W. S. GORDON'S Grocery, Princess St., will be found all kinds of Groceries and Provisions on the close cutting cash principle.

The Daily British Whig.

SATURDAY EVENING, DEC. 7, 1878.

REMINISCENCES. MONDAY. SALE OF BEER at 10 a.m. CITY COURTS—Regular at 8 p.m.

Those taxpayers who have not yet paid their City Taxes are reminded to do so at once and save costs.

ONTARIO PARLIAMENT. The Legislature of Ontario will meet the despatch of business on Thursday, 9th January.

MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS.

Canada is sufficiently behind the age in the matter of juvenile music culture, but why is Kingston in this respect so far in the rear of other places not more favourably circumstanced? No one who knows anything about it denies the early aptitude of children for music. Ordinarily the taste for music will develop itself ahead of the power of speech. It is one of those things that come from nature. All the training in creation will not supply the natural deficiency of 'voice,' 'time,' 'tone' and 'key,' which are in some instances denied to those who are nevertheless tantalized with a strong desire to excel in this divine art. Such cases, however, where the wish is not accompanied by the capacity to gratify it are happily rare, and few there are who if 'caught early enough' are not susceptible to the proverbial charms of the concourse of sweet sounds. When the musical powers are at all marked they are likewise very early in their development. For this reason, though all forced instruction is to be deprecated in childhood, yet the musical culture of children may begin at least contemporaneously with other branches of instruction. The surgeon to the British National training school for music declares that a pupil should be taught to sing as soon as he can read. The lessons should be short—not exceeding fifteen or twenty minutes in duration, but this precaution is equally applicable to the lessons imparted to young children in every branch of their mental culture. The singing of hymns and school songs, in our juvenile departments, serves as a welcome relief from the ordinary class exercises, though it is to be feared that this very relaxation, when carelessly conducted, is responsible for the drawing and other bad musical habits which have to be encountered and corrected when the musical education is begun in earnest by some one who appreciates the importance of the task. In many places in Canada the school authorities are awaking to the importance of this subject, and are insisting on regular attention to the music culture of children as one of the most indispensable of the branches of a public school education. Very wisely a knowledge of the elements of music is now exacted from candidates for all public school certificates that are worth the holding; and our local school authorities should see to it that this provision in the education Act should not lapse into a dead letter, but that all public school teachers should be required to impart what the law in regard to their qualifications expects them to know.

FRATERNITY. A movement has been suggested by a correspondent of one of the Toronto dailies, which cannot but command cordial and universal sympathy. It is suggested that a Reconciliation Society be inaugurated, whose object shall be to heal the dissensions and disruptions of the Irish race in Canada. The membership material for the Society is proposed to be drawn from the Orange and the Green sections of our population, and its object is to be the complete burial of the dead past, with all its faction and heart-bendings, and to promote a spirit of tolerance and good will among all Irish Canadians. The only thing we object to in the Society is the proposed name for it. To dub it a "Reconciliation Society" while it would keep before the minds of its members the commendable object of its existence, would also be a perpetual reminder of the feuds which rendered that existence a necessity. This is by no means a desirable hope for success the very memory of the past with all its bickering would be obliterated. If Irishmen wish to effect this great Reform, a better plan could not be adopted than to regard themselves as Canadians, pure and simple, whether by birth or adoption. If, however, Irishmen must constantly remember the dear old land of their extraction and no one will blame them if they do, then let the question of religion be eliminated entirely in their national reunion, for this certainly is the rock on which they have so often split. To combine all the excellencies and to exclude all the dangers and disadvantages of a movement of this kind, an "Irish Canadian" Association might succeed under some such designation as we have just employed, with, of course, the sectarian element most reluctantly excluded. Such a Society would cherish all the memories of the old land that are dear to the hearts of all Irishmen and their sons, while a true Canadian sentiment could at the same time be cultivated, especially by the sons of Irishmen, who are to our Canadian manor born. Whether fraternal unity such as we have referred to is possible the experiment would soon demonstrate. It is well worth a trial. If men who have been accustomed—may I say—to think of each other with aversion, and often with contempt and hate, would thus get together, each party would find that the opposite one had been unduly disparaged and that there was much more to admire and much less to dislike than either had ever dreamt of as possible. Whether the proposed experiment be tried or not, it is high time to welcome anything and everything that will extinguish the demon of sectarian faction from the land and promote the spirit of fraternity among all classes of Canadian people.

THE OPPOSITION. No one disputes the necessity for a strong and efficient opposition in the House of Commons. It is one of the safeguards of popular liberty, and the great preventive of the degeneracy of popular Government into oligarchical tyranny. There is a very great danger ever a popular ministry to drift into corruption and tyranny when not held in check by a vigilant and vigorous Opposition. Never was this danger more imminent than at the present moment. If of the men at present in power have but lately obtained their 'ticket of leave' from a sentence of punishment and banishment for the perpetration of one of the grossest of political crimes, or perpetrated in fine, in the grandest job ever perpetrated in the British Empire, and the other half shared their political exile, either for the reason that the receiver was as bad as the thief, or as consenting accomplices of the fact. In short the band of Pacific Railway conspirators has been restored to power, not, it is claimed by some, as a condonation of the crime for which five years ago the people punished them with political ostracism, but to carry out a fiscal policy which the people have been made to believe will conduce to the general interest and restore prosperity to the languishing country. Admitting that the stigma of condemnation for their past corruption is not removed by their restoration to power, and that they are placed where they are merely to give effect to that protective system which they found it to their party interest to advocate, what guarantee is there that the carnival of corruption will not be revived now that the restoration of these dangerous men has placed them again within the range of temptation to repeat the political villainies for which they were once expelled from power by a long suffering, but at length indignant, people. None whiter except the guarantee of an efficient Opposition in the House of Commons. No more than that the leper can change his spots, have we any faith whatever in the conversation of the Pacific Scandal offenders to political purity, honesty, and economy. The chief conspirator in that dark plot, glim promiser as he is, has not even promised amendment, but rather gloried in his shame, unblushingly repudiates his crime and brazenly tells the people they have cancelled it by putting him in power again. Under such peculiar circumstances the necessity of the safeguard of a strong and efficient opposition to the dangerous regime will be almost universally recognized. We say 'almost' because there are already strong indications that the ultra Tories have already shown their dread of such a thing by pitilessly and bitterly opposing Hon. Mr. Cartwright in his victorious endeavour to regain, in Centre Huron, the parliamentary status which over confidence cost him in Lennox. The same party which fought to the last ditch to keep the ex-Finance Minister out of Parliament is just now indulging in the expressions of a cheap and hollow desire to see Hon. Mr. Blake back again in Parliament! Such men as he, say they, can all be spared from public life. Quite true, in itself, is this statement, but very far from true when taken as an expression of Tory desire to see him back again in the House. At the last election they showed how intense was their desire to see him in this Parliament by opposing him in his sickness and absence and by compassing his defeat to the eternal shame of the riding he had repeatedly honored with his representation when he might easily have sat in Parliament for another year many another constituency. That they would oppose him again is clearly enough indicated by their recent opposition to Hon. Mr. Cartwright under precisely similar circumstances. But as that opposition proved perfectly futile, so will it in the case of the Hon. Mr. Blake. The utmost efforts of the Tories will not keep him out of Parliament. With Hon. Messrs. Blake, Mackenzie, Cartwright, Mills, and other leading Liberals in the van of a compact and sturdy Opposition the country will have some guarantee at least that the rampant corruptionists, who, to their own surprise, have been floated into power, will not have it all their own way, and that they will be forced to pay some respect to the decencies of political rectitude and also be speedily relegated again to the cold shades of opposition. The great political necessity of the hour is a strong Opposition, and the prospect is good that the Liberal party in the House will very shortly furnish the desideratum.

THE INSPECTORS' DISPUTE. To the Editor of the British Whig. Sir.—Would you kindly permit me to reply to a communication from Mr. Kidd, City School Inspector, which appeared in your issue of the 27th ult., in answer to one from me in the Daily News of the 25th.

The printed form of notice for the examination of candidates for second-class certificates sent me from the Education Department in October last was headed as follows, viz:—"Examinations for Second Class Certificates as Public School Teachers," December, 1878.

In accordance with the Statute and the General Regulations, the semi-annual examination of Candidates for Public School Teachers' Second-Class Certificates will be held in each County of Ontario, commencing on Monday, 16th Dec., at 1 p.m.

All previous notices for these examinations received by me stated "that they must be held at the County town." In consequence of the change in the notice sent me in October last, understanding that Mr. Kidd intended to object to the holding of the examinations in connection with the Intermediate Examination of the County High School.

When Mr. Kidd called upon me on the 13th ultimo, I stated to him that I could not alter the examinations, and that the city teachers must go to Sydenham according to the terms of the advertisement. After he left my office I sent the following letter to the Deputy Minister of Education for information.

Will you please inform me, per telegraph, if the teachers of the City of Kingston can write for a second-class certificate at the Intermediate Examination of the Kingston Collegiate Institute, on the 16th proximo, the examination of the candidates for the County of Frontenac and City of Kingston having been advertised by me, to be held in the County High School Building, village of Sydenham.

As acted towards him, and I desire to know who it was who said "who have done to assert their opinions."

In July, 1877, some eleven or more of the city teachers, whose certificates had then expired, appeared before the County Board for examination and were unsuccessful. In order that the County Board might legally continue teaching, it was necessary that their expired third-class certificates should be extended by the Honorable the Minister of Education for a longer or shorter period, through my recommendation. In September of that year, while visiting in Toronto, I called upon the Minister of Education to consult with him about these expired certificates, and to request him to recommend the holders of them as I knew nothing about them as teachers, and requested that Mr. Kidd's recommendation in their behalf should be extended by stating that "they do not recognize City Inspectors as Government school officers," and that the recommendations in their behalf should come through me as County Inspector, and then incorporate it into my report to him.

On my return to Kingston, not then having time to see Mr. Kidd, I called on Mr. Horsey, Chairman of Queen Street School, as I was on my way to attend an appointment in Falmouth, in the Township of Hinchinbrooke, and requested him to call on Mr. Kidd and get from him the information required by me to assist in filing up my report to the Minister of Education. Three days after Mr. Horsey called on me, and I called on Mr. Horsey for the said information, which Mr. Kidd promised to give Mr. Horsey on that day for me. I did not get it, nor have I yet received the information, and consequently none of the City teachers at present teaching without certificates of qualification. I received no information from Professor Bannister, previous City Inspector, on behalf of two of the City teachers, and I reported the same to the Department, and obtained a renewal of their certificates.

I have been censured by some of the city trustees and teachers, for those teachers who do not have certificates, but I cannot see why I should be so censured, when I was willing to recommend the renewal of their certificates for a limited time as soon as I should receive the requisite information from Mr. Kidd, and I have endeavored to give it to me. A number of the city trustees and teachers can corroborate my statements with references to these statements.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for your kind notice, and consequently none of the City teachers at present teaching without certificates of qualification. I received no information from Professor Bannister, previous City Inspector, on behalf of two of the City teachers, and I reported the same to the Department, and obtained a renewal of their certificates.

Mr. Kidd states in his communication that "there are now five applicants for certificates, and the expense of their examination will be something less than two dollars." It was never intended that those teachers should appear under the examination of the City of Kingston. The application they were told that I would not be the presiding examiner, but that one would be appointed.

Mr. Kidd did not intend to provide for the examination of the candidates for the approval of the Minister or Deputy, not later than the 17th ult., in compliance with the official regulations, but he had not done this up to the 21st, the date of the letter sent him by Dr. Hodgins, which stated that "unless a substitute be appointed to preside at the examination none of the persons who have received instruction from you as reported can be permitted to attend the examination to be held at Kingston." Further, if Mr. Kidd had not intended to preside, the expense of the examination would have been exclusive of stationery, fifteen dollars for a substitute, instead of being nothing less than three dollars as stated by him.

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT. An Opposition Motion to be Made on Monday—Opposition Disagreement.

London, Dec. 6.—In the House of Commons this afternoon, Mr. Whitbread (Liberal) gave notice that he would offer a resolution approving of the Afghan war, and asking for the appointment of a day for its discussion.

Mr. Chamberlain (Radical) gave notice of an addition to Mr. Whitbread's resolution, and the alleged unconstitutionality of the Government's proceedings relative to Afghanistan.

Mr. Chamberlain (Radical) gave notice of an addition to Mr. Whitbread's resolution, and the alleged unconstitutionality of the Government's proceedings relative to Afghanistan.

Mr. Chamberlain (Radical) gave notice of an addition to Mr. Whitbread's resolution, and the alleged unconstitutionality of the Government's proceedings relative to Afghanistan.

Mr. Chamberlain (Radical) gave notice of an addition to Mr. Whitbread's resolution, and the alleged unconstitutionality of the Government's proceedings relative to Afghanistan.

Mr. Chamberlain (Radical) gave notice of an addition to Mr. Whitbread's resolution, and the alleged unconstitutionality of the Government's proceedings relative to Afghanistan.

AMERICAN DESPATCHES. Railroad Agreement—Grant's Travels—Dunrobin's War Against the South.

New York, Dec. 7.—It appears from a Montreal special that Commodore Garrison's visit to the President of the Washington and Annapolis Railroad, and Mr. Hickman's visit to the Grand Trunk of Canada, in their way against Vanderbilt, have made, or intend to make, certain arrangements whereby the Wash shall gain a through route from Kansas City to Montreal for all its grain shipments to the seaboard. It is thought this action, if it should be accomplished, may settle all the points agreed upon at the Saratoga Conference, held in August last, to which both roads were parties, and bring on another general railroad war.

The Tribune's Washington special says the friends of General Grant credit him with the intention of organizing a new Democratic party, which shall be made the special champion of human rights.

Another Washington special to the Tribune says General Grant has finally concluded to visit Asia before he returns to the United States. A cable despatch has been received from him in connection with his intended voyage on the U.S. steamer Richmond to India, China and Japan. This will prolong Grant's absence from the country for about a year.

New York, Dec. 7.—The anticipated decision of the Supreme Court is said to have just caused Prince Harry's flight from the city. Henry was convicted during a major's impasse which led to the prosecution of all the men concerned in cheating the city of New York. His own particular fraud was the duplication of bills for the building of Harlem Court House. He was under \$25,000 bail for his arrest.

New York, Dec. 7.—The Boston special says the fact that Republican leaders at Washington are preparing to make war upon the South because of alleged interference with right suffrage, brings into prominence a number of cases in Boston where negroes have been expelled by their employers and compelled to vote the ticket put in their hands by the employers.

New York, Dec. 7.—The Boston special says the fact that Republican leaders at Washington are preparing to make war upon the South because of alleged interference with right suffrage, brings into prominence a number of cases in Boston where negroes have been expelled by their employers and compelled to vote the ticket put in their hands by the employers.

EUROPEAN. Heavy Snow—Recognition of Service—Reception of Kaiser.

Paris, Dec. 7.—There were heavy snow falls and avalanches on the line between Turin and Bardonecchia. The snow was three feet high and communications were stopped for three days.

Berlin, Dec. 6.—The Emperor has conferred the order of Hogo of Hohenzollern upon Herr Hallfur, as recognition for his bravery in his attempt to arrest Dr. Nobling, the would-be assassin of the Emperor. It will be remembered that when the enraged populace broke into the Nobling's apartment he discharged two chambers of the revolver at them. Herr Hallfur was shot and severely wounded. The crowd seeing him bleeding supposed he was the assassin and fell upon him with great fury. He was roughly handled before the people discovered their mistake that his life was despaired of.

Berlin, Dec. 6.—Kaiser visited the Opera at Royal Theatre this evening and met with a grand ovation at each place.

London, Dec. 7.—A St. Petersburg despatch says it is generally believed that the Emperor has succeeded in the war with Persia. The Emperor has succeeded in the war with Persia. The Emperor has succeeded in the war with Persia.

London, Dec. 7.—All newspapers this morning refer to the unwrappings of Joint Stock Bank in West England, but don't mention any name. A report has seriously affected business and banks are again strengthening themselves.

London, Dec. 7.—The strike at the Stock Yards continues. This morning Armour & Co., learning that their men proposed to quit work, immediately discharged them and hired others. There are 750 men at the yards. The Stock Yards Transit Company have notified all railroads to take no more goods at their places of consignment until further notice, there being no accommodation for them at the present unprecedentedly high prices of the old rates. The Packing Company has arranged to send its goods to its home in East St. Louis if the strike continues.

SPECIAL BARGAINS TONIGHT AT THE Hamilton Bankrupt Stock WE WILL SELL

Madras' Felt Shirts at 80c. Black Reversible Lustré at 13c. Ladies' Wool Vests at 65c, worth \$1. Ladies' Kid Gloves from 25c per pair. Ladies' White Frills at 2 cents each. Fifty pairs more of those White Blankets at \$1.50 per pair.

R. J. BOWES & CO., Managers. MONTREAL. Burglary—Obituary—Fire. Montreal, Dec. 7.—Dunrobin and Moggan store has been broken into and over 6,000 Havana cigars stolen.

THE NEW BOOK-STORE. British Juvenile, Canadian Almanac, Children's Prize, boards and cloth Day of Rest. The Prize. Good Words. Leisure Hour in cloth gilt and hlf calf. Sunday at Home in cloth gilt and hlf calf. Maid Ellice, 425 of Senaids. Bow Bells. Young Ladies' Journal. Christmas Cards. Christmas Goods, OF ALL KINDS. S. WOODS. Dec. 7th, 1878.

Y. M. C. A. ON MONDAY EVENING NEXT, AT 8 O'CLOCK. THE AFGHAN WAR. Address by REV. DR. JARDINE, late of India, now of Queen's College. Subject—ON THE KHIVESH PASS. The public are invited. W. OSBORNE, Hon. Sec'y. Dec. 5th.

NEW GOODS! JUST RECEIVED BY GAGE BROS PRINCESS STREET. House Furnishing Goods. R. & J. GARDINER HAVE RECEIVED A Very Large Stock of Goods. In the above department, which they offer at EXTREMELY LOW PRICES.

White Cottons, very good quality, 36 inches wide, at 8c per yard. White Cottons, superior quality, 36 in. wide, at 10c per yard. Half Bleached White Cottons, very heavy, at 13c and 15c per yard. Unbleached Cottons, full yard wide, at 7c, 8c, 9c, and 10c per yard. Full Bleached Sheetings, two yards wide, at 20c and 25c per yard. Full Bleached Sheetings, two and a quarter yards wide, at 30c and 35c per yard. Plain and Twilled Unbleached Sheetings, at 25c, 30c and 35c per yard. Pillow Cottons in various widths, at 10c, 12c, and 15c. Feather Tickings, at 15c, 20c, and 25c per yard. Also, a large and cheap stock of Table Napkins, Table Linens, Towelling, Lace and Muslin Curtains. Every description of Dry Goods are now being sold at low prices. R. & J. GARDINER Dec. 7th, 1878.