

There will be no Gleaner next week. It will appear as usual on Thursday, January 10, 1901. Next week, instead of the Gleaner, subscribers in the district will receive a copy of the Gleaner almanac. Subscribers outside the district will receive the almanac wrapped in the paper of the 10th of January.

**NOTES OF THE WEEK**

A private circular from the Liberal organizer for Ontario has got into print. It advises that the politics of candidates for municipal honors be looked to, and that an effort be made to return Liberals. This is partyism run mad, for a man's capacity to pass on the building of bridges, the repair of roads, and the opening of ditches has no relation to his political opinions. There will inevitably come a revolt among sensible people against the dictation of party leaders.

Were Pascal alive he would find in the decision on the Masson-Prevost case matter for an additional epistle to his Provincial Letters. The finding is a far-reaching one. Every year French Canadians who have not established rights of domicile in the United States are married by American priests. Unless it can be proved the priest in each case had the authority of his ordinary to marry persons who were not "vagabonds," these marriages can be annulled.

The reception given to Col. Otter and his men, on their arrival in Montreal Monday evening, was so tame that the city papers have been explaining the cause in different ways. No fine-drawn explanations are needed. These men a year ago professed to be impelled to go to Africa by the ardor of the patriotism that burned within them. When their brief term of engagement was up, although they saw the British cause was far from being won and that there was urgent need for their continued help, no feeling of patriotism caused them to re-engage as Gen. Roberts asked them to do. We are told of one Canadian battery which never saw the enemy, having been detailed to garrison a town in Cape Colony, refusing to stay a day longer than their term. Canadians who had doubts as to the wisdom of these young men going to Africa, have no difficulty in estimating their conduct in leaving Africa when there was urgent call for their services.

Dr. Lefebvre of Montreal sued Mr. Fortin, dentist, for \$138, amount claimed for professional services. Four members of Fortin's family had been ill with measles, and the doctor had visited the house a number of times. In his bill the doctor had charged for each of the children separately, although he had seen them all at same time. The doctor said he was entitled to regard each one as the subject of a separate visit. Judge Langelier decided that the \$50 deposited in court by Fortin was sufficient remuneration, and dismissed the action as to the surplus. At a subsequent meeting of the medical association the judge's decision was denounced, the doctors present contending the courts had no power to regulate their fees! The exceptional privileges claimed by lawyers and doctors in their charges will some day lead to the privileges they enjoy as close corporations being taken away from them. In their own interests, the doctors who endorse Lefebvre are acting imprudently.

The official returns of the Beauharnois election increase Mr. Bergevin's majority to 31, which lessens the encouragement to apply for a recount. A singular feature of the election, and which is ominous of Mr. Bergeron's standing in the county, is that Mr. Plante received 31 more votes than he did. As in the Dominion election, Valleyfield decided the result.

One of those irritating and disagreeable cases, which crop up at intervals as a result of there being an established church in this province, is attracting attention. It is known as the Delpit case, and the facts were given in the Gleaner when it was before the superior court. In brief

they are: Mr. Delpit, a native of France and secretary of the late lieutenant-governor Chapleau, asked a Miss Cote of Montreal to become his wife. She consented and they were married by a Protestant minister, for she was a Protestant. After living together for a number of years, during which several children were born, Delpit wearied of his wife and asked the courts to declare the marriage null on the ground that it is the law of this province that a Protestant minister cannot marry two Catholics. The judge referred the point as to whether Mrs. Delpit was a Protestant to an ecclesiastical court, which sat at Quebec, and which declared she was not legally a Protestant at the time of her marriage, because her father had not sent in a declaration to the parish priest stating he had ceased to be a Catholic. The finding of the Quebec priests was sent to Rome and word came the other day that it had been confirmed there. When this decision is produced in court, the judge has no other alternative than to declare the marriage illegal, null and void, and release Delpit from the obligations he assumed. The vital point in the case is, referring the question as to whether Mrs. Delpit was a Protestant at the time of the marriage to an ecclesiastical tribunal instead of to the civil courts. There are those who hold the opinion that the articles enacting this are unconstitutional, and want an appeal to England. Such an appeal would cost a considerable sum of money, which would have to be raised by subscription, as Mrs. Delpit is without means.

During the federal election Clarke Wallace, speaking on the stump, declared Mr. Fullford of Brockville, the pink pill man, had paid \$50,000 for the seat he had got in the senate. Instead of solacing himself by taking a dose of his own pills, Mr. Fullford sued the head of the Orange society for libel, and the case will soon be heard. Neither the pink pill concoctor nor the grand sovereign will be as much on trial as the Laurier administration, which will have to justify to the people of the Dominion its elevation of a peddler of patent pills to the senate. The appointment was so extraordinary that it is no wonder Clarke Wallace tried to explain its cause. His guess may be erroneous, but no jury can say it was unreasonable in him to try and account for so monstrous an act.

On Thursday the U. S. senate refused to ratify the canal treaty as it stood and added three amendments. The vote was decisive, 55 to 18. Judging from what the English papers say, there is no prospect of the Imperial government accepting the amendments, so the proposed treaty will lapse and the Clayton-Bulwer treaty remain in force. It was at President McKinley's suggestion the new treaty was drafted. Britain granted all Secretary Hay asked, yet the senate flings back England's concessions and asks for more. The president and Mr. Hay are placed in an unpleasant position by the conduct of the senate, while the canal project has got a hoist for a number of years, which is, probably, what the senators and the Pacific railway magnates wanted.

One of the wealthiest Irishmen in the States is Edward A. Cudaby of Omaha. On the evening of the 14th his son, 15 years old, went to visit a boy friend and give him some books. His failure to return did not excite alarm, it being supposed he had stayed with his companion overnight, but next morning a man came galloping up the street, and as he passed the front gate threw a letter into the yard. It stated the boy was kidnapped and unless his father came that night with \$25,000 in gold coins his captors would burn out the boy's eyes with acid and send him back in a condition that would frighten other millionaires into yielding to his demands for sons the writer proposed to kidnap. The father, believing the villain would carry out his threat, drove to the spot designated, which was outside the city, dropped the bag of gold, and drove home as ordered. An hour or so later the lost boy appeared at his father's door. His story is, that while on his way back from his companion's house, two men approached him and said: "We are sheriffs from

Sarpy county, and arrest you as Eddie McGee, who escaped from the reform school." Indignantly denying that was his name, the men lifted him into a buggy, blindfolded him, and drove a long way. On stopping, he was carried into a house, placed in a room, and chained, with one of his captors staying near as guard. At night, the two men came, unfastened him, and, saying "We are going to take you home," led him to a back, which drove him into the city, when he was bundled out and left to walk home. Cudaby offers \$25,000 reward for the capture of the two men, which has started detectives to work. The story is an extraordinary one, and adds a new terror to the lives of millionaires with children.

The news from South Africa continues to be disquieting. It is now plain to be seen the Boers, some time ago, made elaborate preparations for the invasion of Cape Colony, in the hope of causing a rising there among the 3 million Dutch who inhabit it. To conceal their purpose and to cause the British to draw their forces northwards, Delarey attacked Clements and DeWet assailed Knox. Ignorant of what the Boers were aiming at, British columns hastened to surround these raiders and while so engaged, two large bodies of Boers slipped past, crossed the Orange river, and raised the standard of revolt in Cape Colony. So little news is allowed to filter through, that it is uncertain what reception the invaders have met. One report is, the Dutch welcomed them and joined their ranks; another, that they got a cool reception from their countrymen, who refused to help them. One fact is undoubted, that if the Boers have not got reinforcements, they have obtained large quantities of supplies—horses, provisions, clothing, and some arms and ammunition. General Kitchener, on realizing the plans of the enemy, left Pretoria and hastened to Cape Colony, where he is directing the movements to prevent the Dutch from rising and to drive back the invaders. There is an uncommanded report, that the Boer commando which took the western route has been compelled to retrace its steps, and it is to be hoped that is the case. Should De Wet manage to reach Cape Colony, it is admitted he would be welcomed by a rising, for the Dutch settlers have unbounded confidence in his ability as a general. Kitchener is painfully hampered by want of men. He dare not draw on the forces holding Orange colony and the Transvaal, for that would lose all that has been gained, so he has to depend on the troops he can gather in the south. Reinforcements are on the way from England, whence every cavalryman who can be spared is being sent. Until the danger of a Dutch rising in Cape Colony is past, much anxiety will be felt as to the issue. Should there be a rising in Cape Colony, the war will have to be fought over again.

The Great Powers having agreed on the terms to be demanded from China, they were handed to the Chinese government on Monday. The terms are humiliating in the extreme, some of the details, especially those dictated by Germany, being exasperatingly offensive. China is, indeed, far reduced if she accepts the terms proposed. If the Powers were courting war, they could not have demanded more.

So far as regards Europe the century ends badly. It sees six million men withdrawn from the ranks of industry to be fashioned into complicated machines for the shedding of human blood. To support these machines the laboring classes are so heavily taxed that they are being driven to desperation by their sufferings. Whether the reign of militarism is going to be ended by mutual destruction of the rulers by their warring upon one another, or by a rising of the oppressed peoples, the coming century will show. It is subject for infinite regret that the motherland has, of late, become infected by the lust of war, and that she is wasting her resources on armies and navies, so weakening her strength and embittering the discontent of the lower classes. When the prevailing military spirit has died away, the folly will be realized of having been deceived by high-sounding phrases about patriotism, Imperial unity, Imperial duties, and fulfillment of destiny.

**ORMSTOWN**  
The anniversary of the opening of MacDougall hall was held on the 19th Dec. The evening was stormy and the attendance was smaller than usual on that account. The entertainment was a success, and for two hours the audience were delighted with the talent displayed by our young people, who spent much effort in preparation. A supper and oysters closed an enjoyable evening. Receipts were \$44. The admission was only 10c.

**HOWICK**  
The commissioners report of the 4 schools under their jurisdiction is generally favorable. Riverfield school excelled in reading whilst Howick shewed general proficiency and a more advanced stage in many subjects. New teachers were recently engaged temporarily at Fertile Creek and Chateauguay owing to the sudden resignation of the old ones. Miss Wright of Chateauguay, who is highly recommended, has been engaged for the Tullochgorum school. Miss Cameron of Riverfield was the recipient of a handsome present from her scholars and Miss Campbell of Howick received \$10, accompanied by a very complimentary address.

The officers of the Royal Templar society here are:  
S. C., J. C. Shanks  
P. C., John Brown  
V. C., Mrs. J. Brown  
R. S., Lola Peddie  
F. S., Gracie McClenaghan  
Treasurer, Thos. Logan  
Herald, Robert Roy  
Guard, Josie McClenaghan  
Sentinel, William Crawford

The Christmas tree festival at Riverfield was a success in every respect, the attendance being large and the program varied and interesting. It was a pretty sight that greeted the eye as one entered the body of the church and saw the evergreen trees artistically connected by an arch and motto and gorgeously decorated with numerous presents, whilst festoons and chains hung gracefully overhead. An excellent choir furnished fine music, Miss Cameron of Norton Creek presiding at the organ. The children acquitted themselves splendidly in the choruses, dialogues, and recitations. The pastor, Rev. J. W. McLeod, ably presided, and at the close of the program received a purse from his congregation of some \$55. Miss Johnson of Norton Creek school also received a present from her day school, whilst all the children were made happy with a variety of gifts. The meeting was brought to a close with the National anthem; \$42 being the proceeds of the evening.

**STE MARTINE**  
We are enjoying good roads and our storekeepers have been doing a large business, on account of so many people coming to the village. The scarcity of coal and wood is over now, for 2 car-loads have been received, and green maple is plentiful at \$4.25 a cord and \$5 for dry maple, which is scarce at that price.

The farmers' club of this parish rejected the old board of directors except Louis Quevillon, who was elected in place of Gilbert Gervais, who declined to serve longer. It is the intention of the directors to buy two yearling Holstein bulls for the benefit of the members. The club has done a great deal to improve stock by its buying Ayrshire bulls, Yorkshire boars, and Leicester rams. Last year some money was invested in pipes, pumps, and the necessary tools to sink drilled wells, but only 2 members tried it. They struck rock and got discouraged. The drill works splendidly in clay, and more members should try it, for many have succeeded and struck running streams of water.

On Sunday, after mass, Mr. Edouard McGowan was unanimously elected church-warden and Christmas night he entertained all the old church-wardens and those now in charge at his residence. There was a large gathering.

**CHATEAUGUAY**  
A Christmas tree, given by the V. C. T. U., took place on Thursday evening, at the residence of Miss Macfarlane and passed off most agreeably to all. The Rev. J. D. Anderson was in the chair. Recitations and music were rendered by the Sabbath school children, and at the close presents were distributed. The chairman was quite surprised by the kindness of the people of this part of his congregation, for he was presented with a 1000-mile ticket of the N.Y.C., to be used in visiting them when the roads are too bad for driving, and a small sum of money beside. These he was able to take home with him, but on Saturday they drew to the manse and presented him with 30 bushels of oats. His surprise was so great that Mr. Anderson experienced some difficulty in giving expression to his thanks. Little acts like these cement the good feeling existing between pastor and congregation. Long may it continue.

Several here are agitating the contesting of the election of Mr. Dupuis. It seems too bad that the choice of the Liberal convention should have been fixed on an outsider when there

were so many good men and true in the county. This is not said in depreciation of Mr. Dupuis, who has worked himself well up the ladder where he is. Wishing your readers one and all the compliments of the season. Do not forget to write a 1 instead of a cipher after January 1st.

**ST LOUIS DE GONZAGUE**  
The new Presbyterian church is completed, and the dedicatory services take place on Sunday forenoon. The pews are now in place, and all agree the interior is bright, comfortable, and attractive, and would do credit to a city church. To complete all, it is to be lighted by acetylene gas, which will be used for the first time on Sunday evening. A social will take place Monday evening, when the old year will be parted with and the new century welcomed, and it is hoped the voluntary contributions will wipe out the small balance of debt. The ladies are to spread their tables in the old church and will make all welcome, free of charge.

**VALLEYFIELD**  
The most popular tree at this time of the year is without doubt the Christmas tree. From the lordly mansion of the millionaire down to the shack of the poorest it is held in high esteem, and its coming is anxiously looked for, from the small tot to the dame in her teens, in varied anticipations of the good and pleasant things it will bear for them. Where the tree makes default the stocking is the favorite substitute. To imagine a Christmas without trees and stockings, is as great a stretch of imagination as to picture a city without dwellings. All classes, kinds and conditions, find enjoyment and delight in the fragrant gaily-trimmed Xmas tree. In some sections of the country trees are easily to be had, in other sections they are more scarce, and to get them a considerable amount of trouble and expense are often incurred. As a rule, they must be had, and in this spirit three young Valleyfielders, wishing to have the traditional tree figure prominently at a Christmas festival, decided to secure one which would outdo all others in the magnificent specimen they would procure. So arming themselves with battle-axes, they set forth to tramp over the surrounding country to secure a tree that would do honor to the festival, cast a glamor of lustrous glow over themselves, knock rival entertainments into insignificance, and be, at same time, the admiration of all. After roaming over mount and valley, their hearts were made glad by coming across two beautiful specimens, which, in a short time, were felled, the trio congratulating themselves on their happy find, which would make other Christmas trees hang their boughs in very shame. But, alas, they had overlooked the fact that they had trespassed and poached on another man's preserve, who had the primary claim of proprietorship, and who had more practical than poetical views on the subject of trees. He considered that the two trees were more valuable to him as a sun-shade to his livestock in his field, than that they would be when used as a screen for sheep's eyes by devoted young swains. The consequence was that Santa Claus, attired in the garb of the chief of police, made a summary visit to the property-destroyers. Result: A monetary consideration sufficient to purchase enough geese-gaws to decorate a Yosemite valley gigantic pine. Moral: The fractious farmer who can mock and avoid the cop's unpleasant shock for Christmas you keep in stock! A whole-heeled last year's sock.

Mr. G. H. Phillips, the successful grain speculator of Chicago, was in Valleyfield a few days ago, the guest of his uncle, Mr. G. H. Phillips. There was a large meeting of the labor union Thursday night in the market hall, which was addressed by two Montreal delegates of the order. We would draw the attention of the council to the electric lamp at Buntin's bridge, which has not been lit for 5 or 6 consecutive nights. This looks a good deal like wanton neglect, and should be enquired into.

Both market days last week were well attended. There was a large supply of dressed beef, hogs and poultry, which met with ready sale at fair prices. Cordwood is coming in more freely and is selling well. A young man, aged 19, named Albert Lampert, met with a terrible death on Saturday on the Grande Isle middle road. The unfortunate young man had been out gunning, and was passed on the road by a man named Sauve driving a double team. When within a short distance the latter heard the report of a gun and turning around he saw the victim fall to the ground. He immediately called for assistance, and when this arrived they found the young man lying in a pool of blood, shot through the throat. Death must have been instantaneous. The body was moved to the central police station, and Coroner Lefebvre was called in. After questioning a few witnesses he decided that an inquest was not necessary. The general opinion is, that the young man attempted to overtake Sauve's sleigh

and tripped, when the gun went off, he receiving the full charge in the throat. This is the second member of the family which has come to an untimely death within 3 years. A younger brother died from stroke while bathing in the bay.

The Beauharnois correspondent of Le Progrès in last week's issue gives the Valleyfield correspondent of the Gleaner some attention and claims that our notes are fit subject for his serious reflection. We hope they will be of some profit to him. He has also discovered that we are of a deep cerulean hue. We trust he will lose no sleep over this: no more than we do over the fact that he is of a deep crimson tinge.

A closing entertainment was given by the pupils of the Gault institute Friday evening. The hall was packed with an appreciative audience. Mr. Jas. A. Robb occupied the chair. The opening number was "The Maple Leaf," sang by the whole school, which was followed by a recitation, "Old St. Nick," by Miss Nuttal, which received great applause. This was followed by a song, "Hush, my Baby," with mandolin accompaniment, and was exceedingly well rendered by Miss Flossie Mills, who, like her predecessor, was recalled. The kindergarten class gave two well-executed motion songs and made the hearts of their parents tingle with pride at the successful evolutions of the tots. Young ladies of Professor Messenger's class went through a well-executed bar-bell exercise. Miss Lawrence was presented with a handsome Christmas box by the scholars of Prof. Messenger's class, as a small token of appreciation of her good work in connection with the musical development of the pupils in general. The evening closed with God Save the Queen. We are convinced that the present success of the school, which daily increases in attendance, will, before long, compel the committee of management to enlarge the present buildings.

The labor union has decided to take up the defense of its members now under trial in connection with the late strike. This was decided at a meeting some days ago, when all the old officers of the union were re-elected to their different offices.

The hockey match Saturday, the first of the season, turned out a winner in favor of Valleyfield vs. Montreal. The game was well contested throughout, and at the final stood 9 to 8. The first half was a little slow, but the second half was lively, and some fine hockey was played. There was a fair attendance and we hope that this first success of the V.H.C. will encourage the public to give them good patronage.

Mr. Norman McGregor met with a serious accident on Saturday. He was driving home towards town. While crossing the canal bridge he was seized with a fainting spell, and fell out of the sleigh. He was taken into Madden's store in an unconscious state and then driven home. He did not recover his senses until Sunday noon. At one time his life was despaired of. It is now supposed he is on the way to a speedy recovery.

Christmas passed off very quietly. The door-to-door visiting is gradually disappearing, and the celebration is getting yearly more confined to home festivities and family reunions. Every church had special services for the occasion, and were all well attended by their respective congregations. Christmas trees were greatly favored by Santa Claus in the Presbyterian, Methodist, and English churches, and there were a good many in private houses.

Mrs. St. Onge, who died at St. Timothy last week, had she lived till the 4th of January, would have been a centenarian. Papers contesting his election have been served on Mr. Loy.

These being our last notes before the new year, we wish all and every one a very prosperous and happy new year.

**HEMINGFORD**  
The meeting of the patrons of Fournier & Hebert's creamery was held in the office of the secretary, Robert Ellerton, Dec. 20, and was fairly well attended. The November milk was paid for the same evening. The patrons expressed their satisfaction with the season's operations, the milk averaging a little over 78c per 100lb. The season's work was, however, unfavorable for the proprietors, there being a net loss on drawing of \$488.86, another example of the evil of multiplying factories to suit the whims of interested or dissatisfied patrons, where there is no legitimate opening, or prospect of patronage.

A public meeting of the Hemmingford Mutual Protective society was held in the office of the secretary Dec. 20th, when rule 7 was rescinded and the following adopted: "Every member of this society shall, on or before the annual meeting, commencing in Dec. 1901, pay an annual fee of 25c." The annual meeting was fixed for the second Wednesday in each year.

on the Weir farm, south of Cleland's corners, were destroyed by fire on the night of Dec. 18th; supposed to be from the explosion of a lantern. Mr. Clarke lost a horse, three cows, a calf, two pigs, and six sheep, besides produce and implements. He was insured in the Mutual. A. Philips was here on Monday last and adjusted the loss for \$625.

**COVEY HILL**  
At the closing of the school for the Christmas holidays in district No. 1, the scholars presented their teacher, Miss Russell, with a handsome photo album and mirror, who, in turn, presented the scholars with books and cards as rewards of merit.

**FRANKLIN CENTRE**  
A circuit social was held at the Methodist parsonage on the evening of the 12th. An enjoyable time was spent by those present. Proceeds about \$20.

Christmas eve the Sunday school scholars with their friends met in the basement of the Methodist church. After partaking of supper, a short program was given, consisting of carols and recitations. A button was given to each scholar, also a card or book.

The patrons received 95c per 100lb of milk for last month.

**TROUT RIVER**  
On Thursday evening the members of St. Andrew's church Bible class gave an enjoyable entertainment in Riverbank school (Stark's). A pleasing program was presented, well worthy of a larger audience, which they would have had, had longer notice been given. The class is persevering in their efforts to raise funds to help a weaker congregation.

**LAGUERRE**  
The scholars of both Sabbath and day schools held their annual entertainment on Christmas eve, when the church was comfortably filled. The Rev. Mr. Stewart discharged the duties of the chair in his usual courteous manner, and his address was both eloquent and pathetic. He took a retrospective view of the wonderfully progressive 19th century, dwelling largely on its inventions and discoveries. He deplored that its closing days were being marred by the noise of battle and with garments rolled in blood. Then followed a program of well selected readings, recitations, dialogues and music, by the pupils and several others, much to the credit of all concerned. A nicely decorated tree stood on the platform, which deservedly attracted the attention of the youngsters. The good friends of Port Lewis turned out in force, both old and young. The exercises of the evening would have been rather tame without the part of the bright girls and boys of Port Lewis took. A most enjoyable entertainment was brought to a close by singing God save the Queen. A few rowdies, well primed with bad whiskey, caused some disturbance at the door, but were met by true British Canadian pluck, and forced to beat a hasty retreat.

**DUNDEE**  
The election of officers for Aurora lodge 383, F. & A. M., Fort Covington, N. Y., took place on the 19th Dec. The following were elected: Jas. F. Farquhar, W. M.; F. O. Forbes, S.W.; Isaac N. Lyons, J.W.; W. G. Cushman, treas.; M. M. Smith, secy.; G. C. Anderson, S. D.; Geo. S. Henry, J. D.; Geo. S. Millar, S.M.C.; William Cruickshank, J. M. C.; A. W. Cushman, marshal, and Wm. Crangle, tyler.

The ladies of the Presbyterian church, Fort Covington, held their annual bazaar and chicken pie supper on the evening of the 19th inst. It was successful, realizing \$115. There was no program, singing and social converse occupying the intervals. The bell of the Presbyterian church having become cracked, a new one has been purchased, and is to be put in place today (24th). It weighs about 1300lb.

The firemen of Fort Covington village are holding what they call a rummage sale. Articles of every kind are donated, and sold for what they will bring. They took in about \$30 last week.

The newly elected officers of Aurora lodge No. 383, F. & A. M., of Fort Covington were installed Saturday evening, after which they partook of a supper at the American house, which has been newly opened.

Dundee's record for litigation is not what it was once upon a time. This year, in the commissioners court, there were only 2 summonses issued; one was settled before court day and the other was called and adjourned, and was settled before next court day. Two writs of attachment before trial were issued, but neither were executed. One writ of re-vestigation was executed, but settled before court day—clerk's fees \$3.70. The criminal calendar is larger. Two warrants were issued for Indians selling liquor, which were not served. One warrant for theft was settled out of court. Three search warrants were granted but no property was found. Four warrants for assault;

one not executed (Indian). The other 3 were brought into court, when one case was dismissed and the other 2 were fined \$1 and costs. One of the latter 2 was an Indian.

**THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES**  
HUNTINGDON DIV. B.  
The annual meeting of the directors of agricultural society, Div. B, was held at Havelock Dec. 19th. Present: J. McCanse, president, and directors R. McDiarmid, A. Waddell, William Sample, and A. Cleland.

On motion of R. McDiarmid, seconded by A. Cleland, all the prizes taken on wheat the past season were forfeited to the society, as the competitors had not complied with the regulations of the society. The entry fee to be returned to them.

On motion of R. McDiarmid, seconded by A. Waddell, the first prize on aged boars, awarded W. H. McDowell, was ordered to be withheld, as the animal was not registered.

On motion of W. Sample, seconded by A. Cleland, the following bills were accepted:  
J. McCanse, expenses to Quebec, \$11.00  
A. Waddell, cleaning snow, 2.50  
Gazette, printing, 1.50

The annual financial statement, shewing a net debt due by the society of \$212, was on motion of R. McDiarmid, seconded by A. Cleland, adopted.

The annual meeting of the members was held at 2 p.m. the same day. The attendance was good, though not so large as in former years. There were present besides the directors above mentioned, R. C. Manning, Thomas Hanna, James E. Burke, George B. Edwards, George Bustard, James Mannagh, W. H. McDowell, Joseph McDowell, John G. Ellerton, John Keddy, and Thomas J. Robson.

On motion of R. McDiarmid, seconded by G. B. Edwards, Robert Ellerton was appointed chairman. The financial statement was presented and, on motion of Geo. Bustard, seconded by G. B. Edwards, was adopted. It was decided, on the ground of economy, advisable not to incur the expense of having it published.

Moved by George Bustard, seconded by J. G. Ellerton, that the directors for 1901 be:  
Franklin—Thomas Hanna, Thos. E. Graves, and Alex. McMillan.  
Havelock—R. McDiarmid, C. McDiarmid, and Alex. Waddell.  
Hemmingford, J. McCanse, Wm. Sample, and A. Cleland.

This motion was carried unanimously.

The board will meet later in the winter, when the question of rebuilding the dining-hall, which collapsed with the weight of snow on the roof, will be taken up.

**BEAUHARNOIS**  
There was a fair attendance at St. Louis de Gonzague on the 29th. The financial statement was unexpectedly favorable, for the bad weather on show day had reduced the receipts. Despite that, the balance on hand is \$44 more than last year. The old board was re-elected with two changes: Leandre Leduc in place of M. Julien and D. D. McBain in place of Jas. A. Robb.

**THE OFFICIAL RETURNS**  
BEAUHARNOIS

BEAUHARNOIS	Bergevin	Plante
Beauharnois	111	220
St. Clement	126	185
St. Etienne	66	96
Valleyfield	851	780
St. Cecile	96	99
St. Louis	247	142
St. Timothy	161	154
St. Stanislas	133	84
	1791	1760
	1760	

Bergevin's majority.... 31

The majorities by municipalities were as follows:

Town of Beauharnois	Bergevin	Plante
Town of Beauharnois	109	109
St. Clement	59	59
St. Etienne	30	30
Valleyfield	71	71
St. Cecile	3	3
St. Louis de Gonzague	105	105
St. Timothy	7	7
St. Stanislas	49	49
	282	201

Majority for Bergevin 31

**WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.**  
Reports of Gen. French's engagement with the Boers say that on Wednesday he attacked a force numbering 2,500, with 5 guns. They are believed to have been the burghers who defeated the British at Nooitgedacht a few days ago. The engagement took place 16 miles northwest of Krugersdorp. More than 40 of the Boers were killed, and the remainder were routed. The British lost 14 wounded.

During Gen. Clements' retreat the Boer fire was so heavy that the British were forced to abandon a quantity of ammunition. The Boers mistook the nature of the ammunition and set fire to it. A terrific explosion followed, killing and wounding a number of Boers.

Cape Town, Dec. 18—Commandant Herzog, who last week tried to break through the British lines at Springkants nek, reinforced by the commando of Gen. Detfl, has cut his way through at Enukbit nek. He attacked the outposts at dawn, killed 15,

