Huron Signal.

WEEKLY EDITION.

W. T. COX, Editor and Proprietor.] "The Greatest Possible Good to the Greatest Possible Number."

$1.50 PER ANN. IN ADVANCE] GODERICH, C. W., THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1865. [VOL. XVIII.—NO 17.

Business Directory.

P. A. McDougall
CAN BE CONSULTED UP TO 10 A.M., at his residence on North Street, next door South of the residence of Rev. Mr. Elwood. 10:1

G. C. Shannon, M.D.,
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., &c., GODERICH, C. W. 13;40-1y

Thos. F. McLean, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., (Late House Surgeon, Kingston Hospital).—OFFICE—At Arthur's Boarding House, [sw60w9] Goderich, C. W.

Dr. Cole,
LATE OF STANLEY—CLINTON, HURON Road. (Mr. Thwaites's former Store July 1, '62.

DR. A. WORTHINGTON,
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., will attend, particularly, to diseases of and surgical operations upon the eye.
MOWICE VILLAGE, Dec. 15, 1862. [w47-1y

Ira Lewis,
BARRISTER AND ATTORNEY-AT-Law, and Solicitor-in-Chancery, County Crown Attorney, Goderich, Canada West. Office a Court House. y14n40

M. C. Cameron,
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY, CONVEYANCER, &c., Kingston street, Goderich, C.W.

J. S. Sinclair,
BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, CONVEYANCER, &c. Office, over the Store of J. V. Detlor & Son, Goderich.

Henry McDermot,
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW Notaries Public, &c., West Street, Goderich. 10:1

John Davison,
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR in Chancery, &c. Office, Market Square, Corner of Kingston Street, Goderich. 9:42

Lefroy & Patterson,
BARRISTERS, ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, Notaries, Conveyancers, &c. Office Mc Cay's corner, West Street, Goderich. 9:42

John B. Gordon,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, SOLICITOR IN Chancery, Notary Public, Conveyancer, &c., Goderich, C.W.—OFFICE: Up Stairs Watson's Block, West St.; entrance First Door west of Glasgow House.

Toms & Moore,
ATTORNIES, SOLICITORS, &c., Goderich, C. W. Office—GRABB'S NEW BLOCK
SAM'L TOMS. LEWIS C. MOORE.
Goderich, August 27th, 1864. sw103w31

B. L. Doyle,
ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR &c. OFFICE Crabb's New Block, Goderich, C. W. v15sw45ly

J. Y. Elwood,
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY, CONVEYANCER, &c., Clinton.
Office—A few doors north of the Post Office.
MONEY TO LEND.

William Fraser,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, SOLICITOR IN Chancery, Conveyancer, &c. Walkerton, C. W. of Bruce. v16n51ly

Frederick Proudfoot,
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, CONVEYANCER, NOTARY PUBLIC, &c. Southampton, C.W. Bruce. [w42-6m

Thomas Weatherald,
CIVIL ENGINEER AND PROVINCIAL Land Surveyor. Office and Residence, Hamilton Street, Goderich. v15n3

A. Bay,
PROVINCIAL LAND SURVEYOR AND Civil Engineer, Clinton. July 1, '61.

L. B. Hamlin,
CIVIL ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR Land Agent and Conveyancer, Kincardine 117

JAMES SMAILL,
ARCHITECT,
PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS of Buildings, &c., got up in a neat and correct style. Office at the Huron Auction Mart, King Street, Goderich. [sw v1n7lyly

G. M. TRUEMAN
LAND AGENT,
Market Square, Goderich.
Lands Cleared every Wednesday, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 81:10

THOMSON & HAZLEHURST,
(LATE SMAILL & THOMSON,)
Auction & Commission Merchants,
Cameron's Block, Kingston St., Goderich;
And next Door to Strong's Hotel
SEAFORTH.
SALES of Household Goods, Horses, Waggons, &c. at the mart, every Saturday at noon. Particular attention paid to the Sale of Bankrupt Stock, Farm Stock, &c. Cash advanced on goods left on Commission. Goods appraised, debts collected, landlord's warrant executed, mortgages foreclosed, houses rented. Division Court Business attended to. Sales at the Branch Auction Mart, Seaforth, every Thursday.
County Sales attended to on reasonable terms.
Goderich, July 12th, 1864. w22-1yr

D. McDougall,
LICENSED AUCTIONEER, BAYFIELD, County of Huron. Sales in village or country punctually attended to. w9-1yr

Alex. Findley,
LICENSED AUCTIONEER for HURON and BRUCE. Sales punctually attended to. Address, Bodwin P.O. w50-1yr

John Campbell,
GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT Commissioner in Queen's Bench, for taking Affidavits, Conveyancer, &c., &c. Office on Broadway, Village of Kincardine, C.W. 9:9

Peter M'Rae,
FORWARDER AND COMMISSION Merchant, INVERHURON, C. W. Notes and Accounts collected. Business of any kind entrusted to him will receive prompt attention. w40-1y

J. & J. SEEGMILLER,
TANNERS!
DEALERS IN
LEATHER FINDINGS!
&c., &c.
GODERICH, C. W.
February 12, 1864. w47w

Business Directory.

John Kane,
COMMISSIONER IN THE COURT OF Queen's Bench, Conveyancer, &c. A Registry kept of Farm and Town Lots for Sale; parties having lots for sale, or desiring to purchase will please send full particulars.
Dungannon, Feb. 20, 1857. 9:9

JOHN BRETT,
Tin, Sheet-Iron, and Copper Smith,
EGMONDVILLE, C. W.
Stoves, Cultivators, &c., for Sale.
Repairing Done at Short Notice.

MARINE INSURANCE.
British American Insurance Co
OF TORONTO,
Marine Department.
GEORGE RUMBALL, Agent.
Goderich, April 25th, 1865 w13tf

British American Assurance Co.
FIRE & MARINE.
JOHN ESSON Agent.
Bayfield, C. W., April 16, 1865. w12

D. Wilson Ross, B. A.,
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Solicitor-in-Chancery, Notary Public, General Land Agent, &c., &c., Kincardine, County Bruce. v18 w12-1y

MAITLAND HOTEL, GODERICH
E. HOSKER, PROPRIETOR. THE above is most pleasantly situated on an eminence 120 feet high, overlooking the Harbor and Lake Huron;—good Orchards, Gardens and Rural Walks attached. Board $1 per day; single Meals or Beds, 25 cents. v15n10ly

DAYS' HOTEL,
WROXETER
IS situated on the Gravel Road running from Seaforth to Southampton, one mile north of where it leads off to Wroxeter, and any one traveling to
Belmore, Walkerton, Southampton,
or any place in that direction, will find accommodation such as he only expects to find at first class city hotels, in all respects.
ICE ALWAYS ON HAND FOR HIS
Trout-Fishing Friends!
THE BUILDINGS COVER A LENGTH OF
A HUNDRED AND FIFTY FEET!
CHARLES DAYS,
w46-1. Proprietor.

Commercial Hotel, Mitchell C.W
JOHN HICKS, Proprietor. This is the largest and best Country Hotel in Western Canada, and charges as moderate as any House in Mitchell. Stage Proprietor. Good stabling for 100 Horses. Horses and Carriages for Hire, on the Shortest Notice 14-7

GODERICH
CABINET WAREHOUSE

(THE OLDEST IN THE COUNTY.
D. GORDON,
CABINET MAKER
AND UNDERTAKER,
Manufactures and has now on hand a complete assortment of Furniture, at his Warerooms,
WEST STREET, GODERICH,
SUCH AS
Sofas, Bureaus, Tables, Bedsteads, Hair, Cane and Wool-seated Chairs, Gilt Moulding and Looking Glasses, in variety, of
Home Manufacture and Imported!!
D. G. has always on hand a complete assortment of COFFINS. Also, HEARSES TO HIRE.
Lumber and Cordwood taken in exchange for Furniture.
Goderich, 27th Oct., 1863 w27

RIFLES, SHOT GUNS,
PISTOLS, &c., &c.

FOR SALE!
AND
MADE TO ORDER,
BY
J. C. M'INTOSH.
Opposite the Market.
All kinds of repairing done on most reasonable terms.
Goderich, August 2n 1864. sw94

FOR SALE.
LOTS 13, 67, to 13, 77, near the RAILWAY STATION, Goderich, for $150 each,
At Five Years Credit,
or longer if required. Apply to
M. C. CAMERON.
Goderich April 8th, 1864. sw62w11

A BEAUTIFUL ESTATE FOR SALE.
1000 Acres in One Block,
LARGELY IMPROVED and conveniently situated along the bank of the River Maitland, opposite the Town of Goderich and the Goderich Station of the Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway, C. W.
Apply if by letter post paid, to
J. B. GORDON, ESQ., Solicitor, Goderich C. W.
w49

NEW MARBLE WORKS
Main Street, Exeter.
D. & A. M'CONNELL.

MONUMENTS, TOMBSTONES, Posts, &c., of every description and style of workmanship, furnished on short notice, and at the lowest prices. Liberal reduction made for cash.
ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO
Designs of Monuments &c. may be seen at the shop.
Exeter, October 1st, 1864. w12-1y

Business Directory.

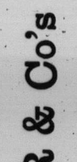
INSURANCE.
WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY, British America Assurance Company; Head Offices, Toronto. Marine, Fire and Life Insurances effected on favorable terms.
Office in Mr. J. B. GORDON's Law Chambers.
JOHN HALDAN, Jr., Agt.
Goderich, Nov. 24, 1866

ROYAL
Insurance Comp'ny
FIRE AND LIFE.
CAPITAL—TWO MILLION DOLLARS.
Accumulated Funds on hand, $5,000,000.
Annual Income Exceeds $2,500,000.
FIRE Insurances effected at the LOWEST RATES consistent with safety.
Life Insurance—Ample Security.
LARGE BONUS AND RATES LOWER THAN MOST ENGLISH OFFICES.
Losses Promptly Settled Without Reference to Board of Directors
CHARLES FLETCHER, Agent.
Goderich, May, 1864. w15

North British and Mercantile
Insurance Co.,
Office in Mr. Gordon's Law Chambers.
JOHN HALDAN, Jr., Agt.
Goderich, October 13, 1863. sw12-1yr

Money to Lend,
ON very reasonable terms. Apply to
B. L. DOYLE,
Crabb's new Block.
Goderich, 9th Jan. 1865. w50-1yr

THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON
FIRE & LIFE INSURANCE CO.
Capital, £2,000,000, Stg.; Accumulated Fund, $5,571,728.
Brittania Life Assurance Co. of London.
THE undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above highly respectable Companies, is prepared to accept both Fire and Life risks, at moderate rates of premium.
A. M. ROSS, Agent.
Goderich, July 1st 1859 w12n21

GODERICH
MARBLE WORKS,
W. C. TRELEAVEN
Monuments, Head-stones

Tombs, Tablets, Table-Tops, &c.
GODERICH, C. W.

HARDWARE AND GROCERIES
At H. GARDINER & Co's
Market Square, Goderich.
May 13th, 1864.
Who Free Store Kept on hand for Building purposes
Such as Caps, Sills, Bases, &c., Cheap for Cash.
w13

FARM FOR SALE
IN WAWANOSH
THE undersigned offers for sale the following premises, situated on the Gravel Road in the Township of Wawanosh.
Within 11 Miles of Goderich!
containing 100 acres, 50 of which are cleared. On the premises there is a good Frame Barn 36 by 52, a good Frame House, young orchard—bearing. A good creek running through the farm Apply to HUGH McMATH, Lot 3, 4th con.
Wawanosh, Jan. 30, 1865. w1-1m

FARM FOR SALE
LOT 3, Con. A, Township of Howick, ½ mile from Wroxeter, on
THE GRAVEL ROAD.
Log house and barn,
92 ACRES, 28 CLEARED
Apply to
F. W. THOMAS, Esq., B. M.
Goderich, Feb. 26, 1864. w5sw51-tf

A Vanishing Race.

The residence of Captain C. F. Hall in the artic regions, and his exploratrons among the solemn and majestic wastes surrounded by the 'hyperborean seas,' have invested the Esquimaux with a degree of interest which they had never previously excited. The savage inhabitants of the more beautiful and fertile regions of the earth have been observed by travellers with close and careful attention, which leads to hopeful efforts for their civilization. As the map of the world is opened up to our comprehension, new schemes and prospects for the advance of the human race are opened with it; *strvans*, artists, missionaries, merchants, gird themselves to the contest with the material and moral conditions of the peoples, yet, though the world's day has lasted so long, in their infancy, whose unknown future may contain histories as brilliant as those of the civilizations of the present and the past. But there is a race who have not excited such hopes, who have not given rise to such exertions—a race whose life of unimaginable hardship gives them a mysterious resemblance to the phantoms of mythological belief, and places them beyond the reach of the sympathies of civilization by its physical conditions, the amelioration of which is impossible. Beyond the stern barrier which Nature has set in the northermost part of her awful realm, behind the terrible rampart of snow and ice, and storm and darkness, these creatures of her wrath, rather than of her bounty, dwell. To reach their land, the traveller must leave behind him every familiar object, and abandon every habit or need of ordinary life. He must bid farewell to green trees, to fertile fields, to the crops which give food to man and beast, to the domestic animals, to every mode of conveyance, to every implement of common use, to food and clothing such as even the poorest and the roughest sons of a less terrible clime may command; to the thousand voices of Nature, even in its secluded nooks.

It is a mockery to speak of the arctic regions as the land of the Esquimaux, for no where on the earth is man less sovereign.—Here Nature is indeed grand beyond conception, but also terrible, implacable, and impenetrable. She sets man aside in her awful scorn; he is a thing of no moment, a cumberer of the ice-fields, learning the simple lessons whereby he supports his squalid existence from the brutes, which are lordlier than he, inasmuch as the ice slavery is no chain of servitude to them; and heedless of him, of his terrible hunger and destitution, of his hopeless isolation, she builds her ice-palaces upon the seas, and locks the land in her glittering ice chains, and flings her terrific banners of flame wide against the northern sky; and sends her voice abroad, without a tone of pity in its vibrations, sounding through the troubled depths of the waters, and the rent masses of the many-tinted icebergs.—Nature is indeed beautiful in her northern strongholds, but her beauty shews only its terrible aspects, its dread grandeur. The face of the mighty mother does not soften into a smile for the feebleness of her youngest-born offspring, but is fixed in its awful sublimity. There is no point of contact between this ice-kingdom and European civilization, and men of our race and tongue shrink from it with an appalled sadness, for has it not been the tomb of many of our brave and beloved? Three centuries ago, it earned that elementary state of geographical knowledge, and the general prevalence of superstition, assumed a weird and baleful form. It has but increased in degree, though differing in kind in our days, and we think of the Arctic Regions as the sepulchre of the beloved dead, the land towards which the heart of England yearned, and which kept pitiless silence through long years of hope deferred. But of its people we do not think; we are satisfied to have but a vague notion of them; to wonder, amid the many marvels of that mighty problem—the distribution of the human race—how human beings ever found their way to those dreadful fastnesses, more cruel in their exaction of human suffering than the desert or the forest. This indifference gives way when we learn what manner of people these are whom we call Esquimaux, a word which signifies 'eaters of raw food,' but who call themselves *Innuit*, or 'the people,' and explain their own origin by a story which is a pleasing testimony to the common possession of self-conceit by all nations.—They say that the Creator made white men first, but was dissatisfied with them, regarded them as worthless unfinished creatures, and straightway set about making the Innuit people, who proved perfectly satisfactory.

Captain Hall lived among this strange race for two years and a half, and he is about to return and prosecute his researches in Boothia and King William's Land. This time, his object is to trace the remnants of the Franklin expedition, which—as he finds the history of the few events which have ever marked the progress of time in that distant land handed down by oral tradition with extraordinary distinctness—he has no doubt of being able to do. His first journey was in search of relics of the Frobisher expedition, and was as successful as it was daring, patient, and persevering. His experiences were strange in all respects, and in many most revolting; but we owe much to this cheerful, courageous, simple-hearted American gentleman, who has revealed the Esquimaux to us, as Captain Grant has revealed the African tribes, and oriental tourists the dwellers in the deserts. There is poetical harmony in the conditions of life among the Innuits; there is the impress of sadness and sterility upon them all. Time itself changes its meaning in a land where

The sun starts redly up
To shine for half a year,

and dim wintry twilight lasts throughout the other half, and hunger is the normal state of the people. The traveller's route is to be traced on the map, which is mere guess-work hitherto, up the western side of Davis's Strait; and once away from Holsteinborg, the journey assumes all its savage features. The terrible icebergs rear their menacing masses in the track of the ship; the sun pours its beams upon them, and bathes them in golden light; they appear in fantastic shapes of Gothic cathedral, of battlemented tower, of clear single-pierced spire, of strong fenced city, of jewel-mountain, of vast crystal hills; and so, as the voyager leaves art and civilization behind, their most supreme form flash a mirage-like reminiscence upon him, intensifying the contrast of the prospect, and luring him to a frantic and futile regret.

A grand and terrible confusion reigns around; the voyager shrinks from the overwhelming scene, where ranges of mountains, islands, rocks, castles, huge formless masses, and gorgeous prismatic lights surround that laboring speck upon the mystic sea, of whose littleness he is so small an atom; and a strange sense, which is not fear, but awe, comes to him with the knowledge that nothing of this sublime confusion is real, on the horizon or beyond it. For all the time of his stay in the arctic regions he is to be surrounded by contradictions, by the sublimest manifestations of nature, by the lowest conditions of humanity, by gorgeous and majestic optical delusions, and by the hardest and most grovelling facts of daily existence; he must share, to their fullest extent, the relentless physical needs of the people, and live, if he would live at all, in close contact with with them, and yet his solitude must be inwardly profound and unapproachable; his purpose unintelligible to his associates; and their language, elementary in itself, dimly and scantily comprehended by him even in its most sparing forms. All this, without any of the alleviations of life among savages in southern countries—without the warmth, which, if sometimes oppressive, is ordinarily grateful—without the rich and genial beauties of nature—without the resources of sport—without the natural fruits of the earth—without the intellectual occupation of speculating upon development, of ascertaining capabilities, or of investigating sources of wealth.—The civilized dweller in arctic regions has none of these. He beholds, with admiration so solemn as to be painful, the unapproachable dignity and hard implacable stillness of Nature; but he never dreams of treasure to be wrested from the coils of the ice-prison: he seeks the dead—the dead of centuries ago—the dead of a decade since, to be found, it may be, incorporated with their frozen resting-place; for the fiat of Nature arrests decay in these terrible regions, where death and life are always at close gripes with one another. While the mind is ceaselessly impressed with sadness and solemnity, the body asserts its claim to superiority; it will not be forgotten or neglected, for cold encompasses it with unrelaxing menace of death, and hunger preys upon the vitals, whose heat wanes rapidly in the pitiless climate, and which crave for the nutriment so hard to procure, so repulsive when procured.

Toil is the law of the ice clad land—toil, not to wrest from the bosom of the earth her children's creatures, from whom they have learned how to shelter themselves from the cold, and whose skins cover them, the unctuous flesh, which they devour raw, in enormous quantities. The Innuit are, on the whole, a gentle people, driven by the relentless need and severity of their lives into close and peaceful companionship. They have no king, no government, no law, no defined religion, no property; they have, for all these, custom—the oldest law: they are animated by the same spirit that dictated the reply once made to One who sat by Jacob's well: 'Our fathers worshipped in this mountain, and we worship.' As 'the old lunuits' did, so do their successors. They have no bread, no medicine, no household furniture; they are poor human waits upon the wide white bosom of the frozen seas; and they have no help or resource but in the seal, the walrus, the white bear, the reindeer, and the wonderful Esquimaux dogs, which are by far the noblest living creatures in all those sterile wastes. From the seal they have learned to make the *igloo*, which is the house of the Innuit. They eat the flesh of this animal, and drink its fresh warm blood; they kill its young, and eagerly swallow the milk of the mother, found in the stomach of the baby seal. When the sudden summer comes, and the snow melts, and leaves the surface of the ice bare, they are houseless; the igloo melts away; their home is but of frozen water, and suddenly it disappears. Then they have recourse to the *tupic*, which is a huge sheet of skins hung across a horizontal pole, supported at either end. Their bed is a snow platform, strewn with the moss which is the reindeer's food, and covered with skins. Their choicest dainties are the fat of the *tukloo*, or reindeer, the marrow procured by mashing the bones of the legs, and the thick, white, unctuous lining of the whale-hide.

The interior of an igloo presents a picture more repulsive than that of any African hut or Indian wigwam, more distressing to human feelings, and degrading to human pride. The igloo is a dome shaped building, made of ice-blocks, with an aperture in the roof, and a rude doorway at one side, closed with ice-blocks, when the inmates are assembled.—The snow platform which forms the bed is occupied by the women and the stranger. Men and women are clad in skins, put together with neatness and ingenuity. The dress of the sexes differs only in two particulars: that of the women is furnished with a long tail, depending from the jacket, and has a sort of hood, in which loads and children are carried. The life of the infant is preserved by its naked body being kept in contact with that of the mother. One household implement they possess—it is a stone cut into a something like a trough, with a deep groove in it, in which the dried moss, used as wick, floats in the seal oil, expressed by the teeth of the women from lumps of blubber, which they patiently 'mill' until the precious unguent is all procured. But this lamp too often fails them, and darkness and hunger take frequent abode with the Innuit. Days and nights are passed by the men, sitting singly, in death like stillness and silence, by the hole which they have found, far under the snow, at which the seal will 'blow.' It is strange and terrible to think of those watches, in the midst of the desolation, under that arctic sky, with the cold dense fog now swooping, now lifting, in the enforced stillness, with famine gnawing the watcher, and famine at home in the igloo, and the chance of food depending on the sureness of one instantaneous stroke, down through the snow, through the narrow orifice in the ice, into the throat of the animal with the sleek skin, and the mournful human eyes, which vainly implore mercy from raging hunger.

When the Innuit brings the seal to the igloo, a crowd invades the narrow space, for the simplest hospitality prevails, and the long watch, the skilful stroke, do not constitute sole ownership of the prize. The skin is stripped off the huge unsightly carcass, and a horrible scene ensues. The flesh is torn or cut with the stone knives in large lumps, and having been first licked by the women, to remove any hairs or other adhesive matter, is distributed to the party, and devoured raw; the blood is drunk, the bones are mashed, the entrails are greedily eaten, the dogs sharing in all; and the blubber is made to yield its oil by the disgusting process already described. One turns aside from the picture; from the sights, and sounds, and scents; from the vision of dark faces, eager with gluttonous longing, gathered round the red, flaring light; from the skin-clothed bodies, reeking with grease and filth, and the foul exhalations of the mutilated animal; from the lumps of flesh torn by savage hands, and crammed dripping into distended mouths; from the steaming blood, and the human creatures who rapturously quaff it in the presence of the white man, who sits among them and feeds with them, whose heart yearns with dumb compassion for them, who has wonderful scientific instruments in his pockets, and his Bible in his breast. As the seal teaches the Innuits the art of housing themselves, so the white bear teaches them how to kill the walrus, their most plentiful and frequent food, when the ice is drifting, and the unwieldy creatures lie upon the blocks close inshore; then the bear climbs the overhanging precipice, and taking a heavy block in his deft forepaws, he hurls it with rare skill and nicety of aim upon the basking monster below. So brutes train men in those dreadful regions, and not men brutes. The life of the Innuits is full of such contradictions. And their deaths? From the contemplation of these one turns away appalled, for they die in utter solitude.

When Captain Hall first heard of this horrible custom, he started off at once to see its truth; and having removed the blocks with which the doorway had been built up, entered an igloo, and found a woman who had yet many days to linger thus fastened up in her living tomb. Again, hearing that a woman had been abandoned to die, at a great distance, he set forth, and having reached the spot with immense difficulty and danger, he managed to remove the snow and the block which closed the hole in the top of the igloo, lowered himself into it, and found the woman dead, and frozen as hard as her bier and her tomb, with a sweet serene smile upon the marble face. So this is the close of a life of toil and privation—the withdrawal of every kindred face, the fearful solitude of the ice-walls, the terrible arctic darkness and silence, and the frozen corpse lying unshrouded, naked, beneath the frozen skins, until the Resurrection. Surely the angel of death is an angel of mercy there, and does his errand gently, bearing away the lonely, terrified spirit to the city of gold, the gates of pearl, the jasper sea, the land where there is no darkness, physical or mental, for evermore. The earth, always pitiless to them, which never feeds them from her bosom, does not suffer her dead children of the Innuit people to sleep their last sleep in her lap. Their graves are only blocks of ice piled around and above the corpses, which remain unharmed, unless when the blocks melt, as they sometimes do, and the wolves, dogs, or bears gain access to the frozen remains. The Innuits are dying out; disease is making havoc among them; consumption, formerly unknown, is thinning their numbers by its slow, furtive, murderous advance; their children are few, and fewer still are reared; and the long story of awful desolation draws to a close. Who can regret it? Who can do aught but desire that the giant wastes of the arctic regions should be left to the soulless creatures of God; that the great discord between them and human life has ceased to trouble the harmony of creation; that the mystery of such an existence is quietly laid at rest, among the things which 'we know not now, but which we shall know hereafter.'

Disraeli's Speech on the Death of Abraham Lincoln.

In the House of Commons on the first of May, Mr. Disraeli seconded the resolution of sorrow and indignation at the assassination of the President of the United States in the following remarks:

There are rare instances when the sympathy of a nation approaches those tenderer feelings that, generally speaking, are supposed to be peculiar to the individual, and to form the happy privilege of private life, and I think this is one of them. [Hear, hear.] Under all circumstances we should have bewailed the catastrophe at Washington—under all circumstances we should have shuddered at the means by which it was accomplished. But in the character of the victim, and in the accessories of his almost latest moments, there is something so homely and so innocent that it takes the subject as it were, out of the pomp of history, and out of the ceremonial of diplomacy. It touches the heart of nations, and appeals to the domestic sentiments of mankind. [Hear, hear.] Sir, whatever may be the various and varying opinions of this House and country generally, of the policy of the late President of the United States of this I think all must be agreed, that in a trial which, perhaps more than any other, tested the moral quality of the man, he performed his duty with simplicity and strength. [Hear, hear.] Nor is it possible for the people of England to forget at this moment that he sprang from the same fatherland, and spoke the same mother tongue. [Hear, hear.] When crimes of this character are prepetrated the public mind is apt to fall into gloom and perplexity, and that has arisen because it is as ignorant of the causes as it is of the consequences of such an act. But it is our part, I think, to reassure them under any unreasoning panic or despondency. [Hear, hear.] Assassination has never changed the history of the world. I will not refer to instances of remote antiquity, although an accident has made the most memorable example of those times familiar at this moment to the mind and memory of most gentlemen present. But even the costly sacrifice of a Cæsar did not prop i tate the inevitable destiny of his country. But in more modern times, with whose feelings we are more familiar, who are animated and influenced by the same interests as ourselves. The violent deaths of two heroic men, Henry IV, of France and the Prince of Orange, are conspicuous illustrations of this great truth. Therefore at this moment, while I second the address to the crown, and express upon my own part, and I hope on the part of every member of the house, feelings of unaffected and profound sympathy with the citizens of the United States at the untimely end of their elected chief, I would not sanction any sentiments of depression. I would rather take this opportunity of expressing my fervent hope that from these awful years of trial the various populations of North America may come out elevated, chastened, rich in accumbitative wisdom, and strong in that disciplined energy which a young nation can only acquire in a protracted and perilous struggle. Then will be open to them again not mercy the same course of power and prosperity which they have heretofore pursued, but they will pursue that course of power and prosperity for the general happiness of mankind. [Hear, hear] It is with these feelings, sir, that I now second the address to the crown. [Loud and general cheering.)

The motion was then put by the speaker, and carried unanimously.

Oil at Selkirk.

GREAT EXCITEMENT!

[From the Hamilton Times.]

Selkirk is a village in the county of Haldimand, on the town-line between the townships of Walpole and Rainham, about eleven miles from the county town, and situated one mile from Lake Erie. The inhabitants have been excited for some time past by the strong indications of petroleum which have been discovered in the vicinity. The history of the excitement, as near as I can learn, is as follows:—About four years ago, one of the merchants in the village received a barrel of coal oil for the purpose of retailing to his customers, and as it was not as well deodorized then as now, it emitted a very disagreeable smell. A young man chancing to be in the store at the time, and noticing the peculiar odor, asked what it was. The merchant replied that it was coal oil. "Well" replied he, "if that is coal oil, there is lots of it on my father's farm. We were digging a well some time since, and after penetrating the rock a few feet, a quantity of black muddy stuff came to the surface, having just such a smell as that, and as we could not use the water, we were obliged to close the well." A few leading men in the vicinity took the matter up, and sunk several wells to the depth of about fifty feet, and then stopped because oil in Enniskillen had decreased in value to 12½ cents per barrel, thus rendering it no object to expend more capital. The matter here rested till within a short time past, when it was again taken up by a few enterprising individuals, and the probability is that the territory will now be speedily and thoroughly developed.

☞ Gen. Sherman's 'bummers' were death on digging for hidden treasures.—Different squads of them dug up a newly buried mule six times in succession, and the poor critter was not allowed to rest until his head and ears were left above ground as a sample of the kind of treasure below.

European News.

NEW YORK, May 16.

The steamer Cuba has arrived, from Liverpool on the 6th, via Queenstown on the 7th instant. The Kangaroo and Helvetia arrived out on the 5th. Political news unimportant. Breadstuffs—Flour quiet and steady. Wheat quiet and easier and partially 1d lower. Corn dull and 6d lower. Provisions—Beef active and firmer. Pork steady. Bacon and butter bare; season over. Lard easier.—Ashes firmer. Sugar active and 3d to 6d higher, closing quiet. Rice ditto. London Markets—Wheat firm and 1d higher on the week. Sugar easier. Coffee steady. Tea quiet and unchanged. Rice firmer. Petroleum steady. The bullion in the Bank of England increased £75,000. The steamer Sacramento, from Lisbon, arrived at Dover on the 2nd. Resolutions of sympathy with America continue to pour in. Almost every public body and place in England must have given an expression of its sympathy. Among the last demonstrations was a great meeting of working men in London, in addition to resolutions of condolence, they adopted one rejoicing at the Federal successes and the destruction of slavery. The Liverpool Chamber of Commerce voted an address expressing a hope that the calamity may not retard a speedy peace. The London Times has a friendly and hopeful editorial upon the speech of Sir F. Bruce and President Johnston, which it regards as a fresh earnest of amity. It says that Johnson's language is pacific and statesmanlike, and will meet with a response in England. The Times hopes that the idle words of provocation which have been employed by irresponsible persons, may be buried in the grave of Lincoln. The Queen's response to addresses from Parliament says that she entirely participates in the sentiments addressed to her on the assassination, and she has given directions to her Minister at Washington to make known the feelings entertained by Parliament in common with herself and the whole people. In the House of Lords, Lord Ravensworth questioned Lord Derby as to the meaning of his expression that Southerners, if connected with the assassination, committed worse than a crime—blunder. Lord Derby said he did not see how his expression could be wrongly interpreted. He used the well known political aphorism of Talleyrand to simply convey his meaning, that Southerners, by sanctioning what was not only immoral, would at the same time approve that which could do nothing but inflict most serious injury on their political cause. The House of Commons voted the leading provisions of Gladstone's Budget, but the reduction of the tea duty is postponed till the 1st of June. In the House of Lords, in reply to an enquiry relative to Canadian defences, Earl de Grey and Ripon said the Government had just commenced negotiations with the deputation from Canada, and would report as soon as negotiations were closed. Lord Palmerston has almost recovered. Constance Kent was fully committed for trial on her own confession that she committed the Road murder.

Napoleon was enthusiastically received in Algiers. The Government bill fixing a hundred thousand men as the contingent of 1866, passed the Corps Legislatif. The Bank of France gained 9,000,000 francs cash during the week. The Bourse was firm at 67f 55c. It is rumoured that the mission of Signor Vezezzi to Rome on the subject of religious matters in the Italian Kingdom, had failed.—The health of the King of the Belgians was more unsatisfactory. The Spanish Government published a decree ordering the evacuation of San Domingo. The Prussian Chamber of Deputies rejected the Government Military Bill paragraph by an overwhelming vote.

United States.

NEW YORK, MAY 16.—The Washington correspondent of the Post says that the next great trial will be that of Jeff. Davis, who will soon arrive here. It is rumoured here that he will have to stand his trial as an accomplice in the murder of Mr. Lincoln. If that charge against him should be abandoned, he will be tried for treason. It is difficult to see how he is to escape with his life, and his sympathizers here abandon all hopes of a pardon, as the President has repeatedly announced his intention to execute the laws upon the leaders. Of course, if Davis gets a pardon no one else will be executed.

The immense rule of 7-30 notes astonishes the Government.

Secretary McCulloch has taken great pains to prevent a tight money market, and is still confident of his ability to go on with the new and last issue of the 7 30 notes without seriously disturbing the market.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—Jeff. Davis is being brought to Washington as fast as steam can bring him. He will probably arrive by Saturday. It is said he will be tried as an accomplice of Booth and the other assassins.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—A general order has been issued from the War Department as follows:—"All the forces of the enemy east of the Mississippi river, having been duly surrendered by their proper commanding officers to the armies of the United States, under agreement of parole and disbandment, and there being now no authorized troops of the enemy east of the Mississippi river, it is ordered that from and after the first day of June, 1865, any and all persons found in arms against the United States or who may concoct hostilities against it east of the Mississippi river will be regarded as guerrillas, and punished with death. The strict enforcement and execution of this order is especially enjoined upon the commanding officers of all the United States forces, within the territorial limits to which it applies."

According to and order of the War Department the Adjutant General has been directed to commence mustering honorably out of service all general field and staff officers who are unemployed, or whose services are no longer needed.

The testimony taken in the assassination conspiracy case last Friday and now made public, shows that the conspiracy dates back to the summer of 1863, and that Booth was then engaged in it. The conspiracy contemplated the capture of, President Lincoln, his murder, the burning of Northern cities, creating dissatisfaction among the Northern people at the war, and the bringing about of a revolution in favor of the Confederacy. Booth was a leading agent in the matter, visiting various parts of the country and holding secret consultations in Canada with George N. Sanders, (who has since said he did not know Booth), Clay, 'Holcomb, Thompson and others. Booth was furnished with money from Richmond, and was the agent to hire others. An actor named Chester refused to have anything to do with the affair, though Booth promised him $2,500. He was only to see that the back door of Grover's theatre, where it was at first contemplated to perpetrate the assassination, was kept open for Booth for exit. Booth at first coaxed him and then threatened him with death if he divulged the plot.

The Times' special despatch says of the visit of the military commission to the theatre:—

"It was found that the assassin ran after falling on the stage to get out of the building, a distance of ninety feet. The passage was six feet wide and the floor unobstructed and upon a level with the ground in the rear of the building, so that the assassin had no steps to ascend or descend. There is a narrow hall leading from the stage on the south side of the theatre. It was at the front door of this hall that Booth, Spangler and another man, whose name is not yet in evidence, were engaged in the mysterious whispers and manœuvring which attracted the attention of Sergeant Jos. M. Dyer, as given by him in his testimony yesterday. Everything remains undisturbed inside the building, just as it was at the time of the assassination, except that the chair in which Mr. Lincoln sat when he was shot has been taken away, and a blue flag which hung in front of the box and in which Booth's spur caught, has been removed."

NEW YORK, May 17.—The Herald's Chester, S. C. correspondent says that the Confederate Governor Vance of N. C. was arrested in Buncombe County on last Friday by a detachment of Kilpatrick's cavalry, by orders from Washington, whither it is said he will be sent to stand his trial for treason. It was reported that another detachment of cavalry was in pursuit of Governor Magrath of S. C.

The Confederate General Joe Johnston is at Charlotte, N. C. It is said he applied for permission to be allowed to go to Canada, but it was refused.

Captain Semmes, with some companions, is endeavoring to reach the coast and make his escape out of the country by sea.

By way of Havana we learn that the Confederate leaders in Texas and Louisiana were still at the date of the latest accounts proclaiming by public meetings and addresses their determination to continue the war notwithstanding the failure of their cause east of the Mississippi.

General Magruder made a speech on the 24ult., in which he announced that he could see nothing discouraging for the Confederates in their military situation, and hinted that they had a neighbour near at hand regarding whom he did not feel at liberty to say anything further at that time.

From Vancouver Island.

We have received files of Victoria [V.I.] papers to date April 22. From them we make the following extracts:—

A number of companies were at work on the 9th Feb. at Leech River, between the mouth and Bacon Bar, with varied success, some taking out good pay. Three companies have commenced to cut a ditch for sluicing, which, when finished, will be a mile and a quarter long. Several new claims are staked out in various directions. Snow is fast disappearing; it was expected that in two weeks there would be little or none visible.

The weather in Victoria is lovely. The *Colonist* of the 11th April says:—We might safely challenge the world to produce more beautiful spring weather than has now set in, and vegetation is rapidly unfolding under the genial influence of the solar rays.

A discussion took place in the Legislative Assembly as to the advisability of sending delegates to England in order to bring about a more speedy settlement of the Union and Crown Lands questions. The expenses to be incurred [$5,000], seemed to act as a drag upon the movements of the Assembly. A deputation was elected to wait upon the Governor. The *Chronicle* states that the Hon. G. A