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, JUNE 30, 1864. [VOL. XVII.—NO. 27

Buffalo & Lake Huron Railroad

TIME TABLE.

SUMMER ARRANGEMENT.

GOING EAST.	Mail.	Accom.
GODERICH, DEP.	7.45 A.M.	5.00 P.M.
CLINTON	8.24	5.55
HARPURHEY	8.46	6.15
SEAFORTH	8.52	6.21
CARRONBROOK	9.09	6.43
MITCHELL	9.26	7 00
STRATFORD ARR.	10.05	7.45

GOING WEST.	Accom.	Mail.
STRATFORD DEP.	8.10 A.M.	4.00 P.M.
MITCHELL	8.50	4.43
CARRONBROOK	9.12	5.01
SEAFORTH	9.32	5.20
HARPURHEY	9.38	5.27
CLINTON	9.58	5.50
GODERICH ARR.	10.40	6.30

Going East connects with Grand Trunk & Great Western.

Going West connects at Goderich on Tuesdays and Fridays with str Huron for Saginaw, and on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday with str Canadian for Southampton and intermediate ports. White's stages daily for Lucknow, &c.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, C. W., JUNE 24, 1864.

THE WAR.—We have not room for our regular synopsis to-day. Petersburg yet holds out. Gold up to 235. Sales in Buffalo yesterday as high as 250.

TERMINATION OF THE CRISIS.

IN another place, to the exclusion of other interesting matter, local and general, we give in full the document read to the House by Hon. J. S. McDonald, explanatory of the arrangement agreed to by a very large majority of the liberal members. Although it will be seen that the details o the scheme have yet to be embodied in a Bill to be submitted, we as reformers have sufficient to convince us that *at last*, after long, long weary years of waiting, the Reforms for which we have been contending are to be secured on peaceable terms, and in a manner which augurs well for the future prosperity of our country. We feel that it would have been a grander thing if the Reform party could have carried out its own views in its own way, but still, considering the imminent crisis in our history, we rejoice that there has been patriotism enough in our public men of both parties to sink minor differences, and prompt them in a spirit of mutual concession to seek emphatically "The greatest possible good for the greatest possible number." While we can look upon the new Ministry (that is to be) as sincere in their efforts to carry out the measures proposed, we, in common, we believe, with every true reformer, shall feel bound to do all in our power to strengthen its hands. Assuredly Huron and Bruce have reason above any other section to rejoice in the prospect of the future and to thank him who has been mainly instrumental in securing such a vast stride in advance.

COUNTIES' COUNCIL.

The United Counties' Council met in the Court House, Goderich, on Tuesday, 21st inst., at 3 o'clock, p. m., the Warden in the Chair. The following gentlemen were present, viz. Messrs. Mallough, Dalton, J. Whitehead, Spence, VanEvery, Piper, Churchill, P. M'Donald, A. M'Donald, Case, Brown, Morgan, Snell, Gibson, Strong, Govenlock, C. Whitehead, Perdue, Adamson, A. Johnston, Sweet, Parsons, Chesney, Sproat, Messer, Bishop, Creary, Mathers, Cook, Kribs, Lumsden, Esplin, Brocelbank, Smith, Gunn, McKinnon, Fisher, Hogg, A. McIntyre, Riter, Dobbin, Pinkerton, R. Johnston, Millar, J. P. McIntyre, Sutton, Chapman, Rowand, Adair and Gillies.

After routine, the Warden addressed the Council briefly on the nature of the business to come before it. In the Hodgins suit the plaintiff had got a verdict of $100 against the corporation, but by the advice of Mr. Cameron the case had been carried to the Court of Appeal with a good prospect of success. No important action had taken place in the Hawkins case.—The Equalization Committee had discharged its duties he believed, to the best of its ability. They had done their best to satisfy all, but of course it was not in the power of man to do so completely, especially when the great discrepencies on the face of the respective rolls was taken into consideration. He was satisfied each member in the committee had endeavored to do justice to his neighbor as well as himself.

Mr. Robert Brown, elected dep. reeve of Hay, in place of F. Knell, having presented his certificate was allowed to take his seat.

Memorial from the Council of the village of Southampton, was received and read, when the clerk was instructed to notify said Council that the Counties' Council can take no steps in the matter; having no jurisdiction in the premises.

Mr. Chester Chapman, elected Reeve of Kinloss, in place of Mr. Campbell, was allowed to take his seat at the Board.

Petiton of Wm. Lawson and others, of the township of Stephen, asking for certain road improvements was referred to the Gravel Road Com.

The Report of the Inspector of Weights and Measures was read and ordered to be fyled.

Reports from J. W. Simms, J Eckford, W. Fraser, Dr. Hawksworth, and W. C. Young.

Letter from Dr. Reeve referring to Dr Pritchard, was referred to Finance Committee.

A nnmber of accounts were referred to the Finance Committee.

Copy of By-Law passed by the township of Goderich to convey a road allowance to Chas. Middleton was received, and a By-Law of the County Council to confirm the same ordered to be prepared.

Letter from P. McPherson, tollgatekeeper, was referred to Gravel Road Committee, as was also petition of D. Moran asking extension of time to pay his indebtedness.

Petition from certain inhabitants of Goderich and Colborne townships was referred to Road and Bridge Committee.

Wednesday, 22nd.

The Council met at 9 o'clock, a. m.

Mr. Robert Martin, elected deputy Reeve of Huron in place of Mr. McLay, was allowed to take his seat.

Several accounts were received and referred.

Circular from G. R. Gregg of Toronto was read and referred.

Moved by Mr. Mathers seconded by Mr. Churchill, That the sum of $2000 be granted by the Council for the purpose of building a Bridge across the river Maitland between the 10th and 11th cons. of said township. Carried on a division by a majority of 10.

Moved by Mr. Spence, seconded by Mr. Churchill, That the township of Colborne be allowed to expend their boundary line appropriation in cutting down the hill leading to the village of Ben Miller.—Carried.

Report of the Equalization Committee was received, read and laid over till tomorrow.

Petition Mr. James Stratton was read and its prayer granted.

Moved by Mr Mathers, seconded by Mr Messer, That the Engineer be and is hereby instructed to make out a plan and specification of the Bridge to be made between the 10th and 11th cons., Wawanosh, and to let said bridge to the lowest tender before the next meeting of Council. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Adamson, sec. by Mr A Johnston, That the township of Stanley be credited by $1000 or such other sum from the interest accrued on the non-resident land fund, as may be deemed equitable by the committee who apportion the moneys, as it has been paying taxes to the Counties on the Bayfield estate for some ten years, and never realized from the sale of these unoccupied lands the amount the Municipality has paid for School tax, not to speak of the local and county taxes. Referred to committee on resident taxes.

Moved by Mr. Brocelbank, seconded by Mr Kribs, That a committee of five of the reeves of Bruce be balloted to consider and report on the advisability of voting a sufficient sum for the purpose of building and repairing the principal bridges on the leading roads in the County of Bruce.—Carried.

The committee consists of Messrs. Gunn, Gillies, A. M'Intyre, Brocelbank and R Johnson.

Report of the Counties' Engineer was referred to Gravel Road com.

Special Meeting.—(Wednesday.)

The Council met at 2 p. m., to consider the By-Law for raising $20,000 for gravelling the Ashfield and other roads. The By-Law, as published in the *Signal* for the last three months, was read, when, after a very brief debate, it was

Moved by Mr Govenlock, seconded by Mr Morgan, That the By-Law just read be not passed.

On the yeas and nays being taken, there voted;

YEA.—Messrs. Morgan, Piper, Perdue, C Whitehead, A McDonald, P McDonald, Churchill, Mathers, Cook, Chesney, Sproat, Adamson, Johnson, Snell, Govenlock.—15.

NAY.—Messrs Parsons, Bishop, Creary, Brown, Sweet, Messer, Case, VanEvery, J Whitehead, Dalton, Strong, Spence, Mallough, Gibson.—14.

The motion was carried by a majority of one, and the By-Law therefore falls to the ground.

The meeting then rose.

The Council met for transaction of general business at 4 p. m.

Moved by Mr Gibson, seconded by Mr Strong, That a committee of seven be balloted for the purpose of drafting a scheme of Gravel Roads for those townships which did not get a due proportion at the time when the present system of gravel roads was gone into, and report on the same at the next meeting of Council. *Carried.*

The committee consists of Messrs. Govenlock, Gibson, Chesney, J Whitehead, Bishop, VanEvery and Churchill.

A number of accounts were referred to committee and the Council adjourned.

Thursday.

After routine business, letter from the Clerk of the Peace was read and ordered to be fyled.

Letter from Mr. Robertson, gaoler, was received, read and referred to Finance Committee.

By-Law to authorize the Counties' Treasurer to pay over to certain municipalities, the surplus money in the non-resident land fund account was finally passed.

The Report of the Equalisation Committee was then read. The following table contains the most important portion of the Report:

Municipalities.	Acres.	Total ass. as given by ass'r.	Increase.	Decrease.	Equalized value
Tuckersmith	41326	650767	209690		$761457
Stanley	42531	492690	364522		752222
Goderich town'p	22305	738361	105455		841816
Usborne	43273	629526	95162		723392
Colborne	32740	377764	169181		546985
Hullett	33765	658960	127750		786440
Stephen	55593	413554	354407		768011
Hay	53386	549954	195380		745334
McKillop	49586	455489	262248		717747
Wawanosh	840 0	662439	341861		1024100
Ashfield	61454	403314	317770		720457
Morris	56097	290281	378922		669101
Grey	54972	226477	351025		61 6985
Howick	67166	328965	319047		647912
Turnberry	54599	201699	142225		350924
Goderich town		969830		329830	640000
Clinton village					225000
Total Huron					$11557946
Arran	54835	246422	312110		558349
Saugeen	35500	292307	99353		392660
Kincardine	60036	232541	264902		497734
Brant	70600	417277	290051		707428
Carrick	59920	299955	284385		584340
Culross	59095	266486	355507		622093
Bruce	66192	297913	260087		558000
Elderslie	55777	219707	273619		493326
Huron	56335	243156	250355		493511
Kinloss	44859	279000	117549		396549
Greenock	61595	190151	306576		496727
Amabel & Albemarle	14182	31849	44535		76398
Kincardine vill'ge		111115	31892		150000
Southampton "		83748	18252		102000
Total for Bruce					$6112305

Moved by Mr. C. Whitehead, seconded by Mr. Perdue, That the township of Morris be reduced in the equalized Assessment by the sum of $50,000. Lost on a division.

Moved by Mr. Messer, seconded by Mr. Mallough, That $30,000 be deducted from the township of Ashfield, and $10,000 from the township of Turnberry,—Lost.

Moved by Mr. Govenlock, seconded by Mr. Morgan, That the township of McKillop be reduced $40,000 on the equalized Assessment. Lost.

Moved by Mr. Brocklebank, seconded by Mr. Fisher, That the report of the Equalization Committee be referred back with instructions to alter the same by reducing the township of Brant and Carrick $25,000 each, and that the said amount be added to the townships of Kincardine, Huron and Bruce. Lost on a division.

The Report was again submitted to the Council and finally adopted.

Moved by Mr. Brocelbank, seconded by Mr. Gillies, That a committee of five of the Reeves of Bruce be appointed to consider and report on the legality of drafting a By-Law to be submitted to this Board during the session for the purpose of submitting the same to the ratepayers of Bruce to afford them an opportunity of voting upon a Railway bonus to be offered to any responsible company that may offer to construct a line of railway through the County of Bruce. Carried.

THE CRISIS TERMINATED.

The Result of the Negotiations.

QUEBEC, June 22.

Attorney-General Macdonald said that, on behalf of himself and his colleagues, he desired to lay before the House a full statement of the negotiations which, as the House was well aware, had been going on ever since the defeat of the Government on Tuesday week. To avoid misconception or mistake, a record of the proceedings, day by day, had been carefully prepared. This he proceeded to read as follows:—

"Immediately after the defeat of the Government, on Tuesday night, the 14th, and on the following morning, Mr. Brown spoke to several supporters of the Administration, strongly urging that the present crisis should be utilized in settling for ever the constitutional difficulties between Upper and Lower Canada, and assuring them that he was prepared to co operate with the existing or any other Administration that would deal with this question promptly and firmly, with a view to a final settlement. Messrs. Morris and Pope asked and obtained leave to communicate these conversations to Mr. John A. Macdonald and Mr. Galt. On Thursday, at 3 p. m., just before the Speaker took the chair, Mr. John A. Macdonald said to Mr. Brown, while standing in the centre of the Assembly-room, that he had been informed of what he (Mr. Brown) had stated, and he wished to know if Mr. Brown had any objection to meet Mr. Galt and discuss the matter. He replied, "certainly not." Mr. Morris accordingly arranged an interview with Mr. Brown; and on Friday, the 17th June, about 1 p. m., Messrs. Macdonald and Galt called on Mr. Brown at the St. Louis Hotel. Mr. Brown stated that nothing but the extreme urgency of the present crisis, and the hope of settling the sectional troubles of the Province forever, could in his opinion justify their meeting together with a view to common political action. Messrs. Macdonald and Galt were equally impressed with this, and stated that on that footing alone the present meeting had been invited. Mr. Brown asked in what position these gentlemen came to him—whether as deputed by the Administration, or simply as leading members of the Ministerial party. They replied that they were charged by their colleagues formally to invite his aid in strengthing the Administration with a view to the settlement of the sectional difficulties of Upper and Lower Canada. Mr. Brown then stated that, on grounds purely personal, it was quite impossible that he could be a member of any Administration at present; and that even had this been otherwise, he would have considered it highly objectionable that parties who had been so long and so strongly opposed to each other, as he and some members of the Administration had been, should enter the same Cabinet. He thought the public mind would be shocked by such an arrangement, but he felt very strongly that the present crisis present'd an opportunity of dealing with this question that might never occur again. Both political parties had tried in turn to govern the country, but without success, and repeated elections only arrayed sectional majorities against each other only more strongly than before. Another general election at this moment presented little hope of a much altered result; and he believed that both parties were much better prepared than they had ever been before to look the true cause of all the difficulty fairly in the face, and endeavor to settle the representation question on an equitable and permanent basis. Mr. Brown added that if the Administration were prepared to do this, and would pledge themselves, clearly and publicly, to bring in a measure next session that would be acceptable to Upper Canada, the basis to be settled and announced to Parliament, he would heartily co-operate with them, and try to induce his friends—in which he hoped to be successful—to sustain them until they had an opportunity of presenting their measure next session. Mr. Macdonald replied that he considered it would be essential that Mr. Brown himself should become a member of the Cabinet, with a view to giving a guarantee to the Opposition and to the country for the earnestness of the Government. Mr. Brown rejoined that other members of the Opposition could equally with himself give that guarantee to their party and the country, by entering the Government in the event of a satisfactory basis being arrived at. He felt that his position had been such for many years as to place a greater bar in the way of his entering the Government than in that of any other member of the Opposition. Mr. Macdonald then said that he thought it would be necessary that Mr. Brown himself should in any case be identified with the negotiation that would necessarily have to take place, and that if he did not himself enter the Cabinet, he might undertake a mission to the Lower Provinces or two England, or both, in order to identify himself with the action of the Canadian Government in carrying out the measure agreed upon. It was then suggested by Mr. Brown, and agreed to, that all questions of a personal character and the necessary guarantees should be waived for the present, and the discussion conducted with the view of ascertaining if a satisfactory solution of the sectional difficulty could be agreed upon.—Mr. Brown asked what the Government proposed as a remedy for the injustice complained of by Upper Canada as to a settlement of the sectional trouble. Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Galt replied, that their remedy was a federal union of all the British North American Provinces—local matters being committed to local bodies, and matters being common to all to a general legislature, constituted on the well understood principles of a federal government. Mr. Brown rejoined, that this would not be acceptable to the people of Upper Canada as a remedy for existing evils; that he believed the federation of all the Provinces ought to come, and would come about ere long, but it had not yet been thoroughly oonsidered by the people, and that even were this otherwise, there were so many parties to be consulted, that its adoption was uncertain.—Mr. Brown was then asked about his remedy, when he stated that the measure acceptable to Upper Canada would be Parliamentary Reform based on population, without regard to a separating line between Upper and Lower Canada. To this both Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Galt stated that it was impossible for them to accede, or for any Government to carry such a measure and that unless a basis in the federation principle suggested by the report of Mr. Brown's committee, it did not appear to them likely that anything could be settled. After much discussion on both sides, it was found that a compromise might probably be had in the adoption of the federal principle, either for all the British North American Provinces, as the larger question; or for Canada alone, with provision for the admission of the Maritime Provinces and the Northwest territory when they should express the desire. Mr. Brown contended that the Canadian Federation should be constituted first in order that such action might be taken in regard to the position of Upper Canada as would satisfy that section of the country that in the negotiations with the Lower Provinces the interests of Upper Canada would in no case be overlooked. Further conversation ensued, but as the hour for the meeting of the House had nearly arrived, an understanding was come to that the negotiations were such as to warrant the hope of an ultimate understanding, and it was agreed that the fact should be communicated to Parliament and an adjournment until Monday asked for. On Friday evening Mr. Galt saw Mr. Brown, and arranged for an interview next morning, at which Sir E. P. Tache and Mr. Cartier should be present. On Saturday, at 10 a.m., other engagements requiring a change in the hour appointed, Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Galt called on Mr. Brown, and after further discussion, a second appointment was made for 1 p.m., when the gentlemen named, with Mr. Cartier, met in the Provincial Secretary's room, Sir E. P. Tache being out of town.—The consideration of the steps most advisable for the final settlement of the sectional difficulties were then entered upon fully, and a general accord seemed to exist that, as the views of Upper Canada could not be met under our present system, the remedy must be sought in the adoption of the Federal principle. Mr. Brown then requested to have the views of the Administration, as expressed to him, committed to writing, for the purpose of being submitted confidentially to his friends. The following memorandum was then proposed, and having to be submitted to the Cabinet and to the Governor General, Mr Brown enquired whether any objection existed to his seeing His Excellency, whereupon he was informed that no objection whatever existed.—Mr Brown accordingly waited on the Governor General, and, on his return, the memorandum approved by Council and by the Governor General was handed to him, and another interview appointed for 6 p.m., Mr Brown stating that he did not feel at liberty either to accept or reject the proposition without consulting with his friends:—"Confidential memorandum.—The Government are prepared to state that immediately after the prorogation, they will address themselves in the most earnest manner to the negotiations for a Confederation of all the British North American Provinces, and that, waiting a successful issue to such negotiations, they are prepared to pledge themselves to legislation, during the next session of Parliament, for the purpose of remedying existing difficulties, by introducing the federal principle for Canada alone, coupled with such provisions as will permit the Maritime Provinces and the Northwest territory to be hereafter incorporated into the Canadian system. That for the purpose of carrying on the negotiations and settling the details of the proposed legislation, a Royal Commission shall be issued, to be composed of three members of the Government, and three members of the Opposition, of whom Mr. Brown shall be one; and the Government pledge themselves to give all the influence of the Administration to secure to the said commission the means of advancing the great object in view. That, subject to the House permitting the Government to carry through the public business no dissolution of Parliament shall take place, but the Administration will again meet the present house." Shortly after 6 p.m. the same parties met at the same place, when Mr. Brown stated, that without communicating the contents of the confidential paper entrusted to him, he had seen a sufficient number of his friends to warrant him in expressing his belief that the bulk of his friends would, as a compromise, accept a measure for the federal union of Canada, with provision for the future admission of the Maritime Provinces and Northwest territory. To this it was replied that the Administration could not consent to waive the larger question. But, after considerable discussion, an amendment to the original proposal was agreed to in the following terms, subject to the approval, on Monday, of the Cabinet and His Excellency:—"The "Government are prepared to pledge themselves to bring in a measure next session, "for the purpose of removing existing difficulties, by introducing the federal principle "into Canada, coupled with such provision "as will permit the Maritime Provinces and "the Northwest territory to be incorporated "into the same system of government. And "the Government will seek, by sending representatives to the Lower Provinces and "to England, to secure the assent of those "interests which are beyond the control of "our own Legislature, to such a measure as "will enable all British North America to "be united under a general legislature, based "upon the federal principle." Mr. Brown then stated, that having arrived at a basis which he believed would be generally acceptable to the great mass of his political friends, he had to add, that as the proposition was so general in its terms, and the advantage of the measure depended so entirely on the details that might finally be adopted, it was the very general feeling of his friends that security must be given for the fairness of these details and the good faith with which the whole movement should be prosecuted, by the introduction into the Cabinet of a fair representation of his political friends. Mr. Brown stated that he had not put this question directly to his friends, but that he perceived very clearly that this was the strong opinion of a large majority of them, and that his own personal opinion on this point, to which he still adhered, was participated in by only a small number. Messrs. Macdonald, Cartier and Galt replied that they had, of course, understood, in proposing that Mr Brown should enter the Government, that he would not come alone, but that the number of seats at his disposal had not been considered by their colleagues. Mr. Brown was requested to state his views on this point, and he replied that the Opposition were half the House, and ought to have an equal influence in the Government. Messrs. Macdonald, Cartier, and Galt said this was impossible, but they would see their colleagues and state their views on Monday. On Monday, at half-past ten a. m., Messrs. Macdonald, Cartier and Galt called on Mr. Brown, at the St. Louis Hotel, and stating that Sir E. P. Tache had returned to town, Mr. Brown accompanied them to the Provincial Secretary's room, when Mr. Brown having been asked to explain how he proposed to arrange equal representation in the Cabinet, replied that he desired to be understood as meaning four members for Upper Canada and two for Lower Canada, to be chosen by the Opposition. In reply, Messrs. Cartier and Galt stated that as far as related to the constitution of the Cabinet for Lower Canada, they believed it already afforded ample guarantee for their sincerity; that a change in its *personnel* would be more likely to produce embarrassment than assistance, as the majority of the people of Lower Canada, both French Canadians and English, had implicit confidence in their leaders, which it would not be desirable to shake in any way; and that in approaching the important question of settling the sectional difficulties, it appeared to them essential that the party led by Sir E. P. Tache should have ample assurance that their interests would be protected, which it was feared would not be strengthened by the introduction into the Cabinet of the Lower Canada Opposition. Mr. McDonald stated that as regarded Upper Canada, in his opinion the reduction to two of the number of gentlemen in the Cabinet who now represented Upper Canada would involve the withdrawal of the confidence of those who now support them in the House of Assembly, but that he would be prepared for the admission into the Cabinet of three gentlemen of the Opposition, on its being ascertained that they would bring with them a support equal to that now enjoyed by the Government from Upper Canada. Mr. Brown asked in what manner it was proposed the six Upper Canada Ministers should be selected—was each party to have *carte blanche* in suggesting to the head of the Government the names to be chosen? To which Mr. McDonald replied, that as a matter of course he would expect Mr. Brown to be himself a member of the Administration, as affording the best, if not the only guarantee for the adhesion of his friends; and that Mr. McDonald, on Mr. Brown giving his consent, would confer with him as to the selection of Upper Canada colleagues from both sides who should be most acceptable to their respective friends, and most likely to work harmoniously for the great object which alone could justify the arrangement proposed. Mr. Brown then enquired what Mr. McDonald proposed in regard to the Upper Canada leadership. Mr. McDonald said that, as far as he was concerned, he could not with propriety, or without diminishing his usefulness, alter his position; but that he was, as he had been for some time, anxious to retire from the Government, and would be quite ready to facilitate arrangements by doing so. Of course he could not retire from the Government without Sir E. P. Tache's consent. Mr. Brown then stated that without discussing the propriety or reasonableness of the proposition, he would consult his friends and give an early reply. On Tuesday the respective parties being occupied during the forenoon in consulting their friends, a meeting was held at 3 p. m., at which there were present Sir E. P. Tache, Mr. McDonald, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Galt and Mr. Brown. Mr. Brown stated that his friends had held a meeting, and approved of the course he had pursued and the basis arrived at, and authorized him to continue the negotiations. Messrs. McDonald and Cartier said that they had received satisfactory assurances from their friends. Mr. Brown then stated that it was now for him to consider what course he should pursue, entertaining, as he still did, the strongest repugnance to accepting office. A further meeting was appointed for half-past eight p. m., at which the details of the arrangements, in case Mr. Brown and his friends accepted office, were discussed at much length. Mr. Brown contenced strongly that the Government should concede a larger representation in the Cabinet than than three members, to which it was replied that the Administration believed it was quite impossible to satisfy their own friends with a different arrangement. Mr. Brown then asked whether he could be sworn in as an Executive Councillor, without a Department or salary, in addition to the three Departmental offices to be filled by his friends. Mr. McDonald replied that the principle of equality would in this case be destroyed, and he was satisfied it could not be done. Mr. Brown asked whether it was a *sine qua non* that he should himself enter the Cabinet, to which it was replied that, to secure a successful issue to the attempt at the settlement of the sectional difficulties, it was considered that Mr. Brown's acceptance of office was indispensable. A meeting was then appointed for the following day. On Wednesday, a little after 1 o'clock, the same parties met when Mr. Brown stated as his final decision that he would consent to the reconstruction of the Cabinet as proposed; but, inasmuch as he did not wish to assume the responsibility of the Government business before the House, he proposed leaving till after the prorogation the consideration of the acceptance of office by himself and the two gentlemen who might be selected to enter the Administration with him. Sir E. P. Tache and Mr. Macdonald thereon stated that after the prorogation they would be prepared to place the three seats in the Cabinet at the disposal of Mr. Brown.

(Signed)

"E. P. TACHE,
"GEORGE BROWN,
"J. A. MACDONALD,
"G. E. CARTIER,
"A. T. GALT."

Atty. Gen. Cartier then read a French version of the above document.

Mr. Holton wished to know what was meant by the expression "according to the well understood principles of Federal Government." Was it meant that in a Federal Legislature there should be representation according to numbers?

Mr. Cartier said the hon. gentleman knew quite well what was meant by the "principles of Federal Government," and so did his colleague Mr. Dorion, who had several times moved resolutions in favour of the federative system. The details had not been arranged, but he conceived that the principle of federation involved equality in one branch, and that both population and territory should be taken into account in the other branch.

Mr. Dorion thought that with reference to changes which were of the highest importance, and in a crisis like this, which was second to none since the Union of the Canadas, as to the results portended by it, everything which had been agreed upon should be fully stated. Was the House to understand that, as in the United States, there was to be equality in one branch, and representation according to population in the other?

Attorney General Macdonald—Yes: [Cheers.]

Mr. Dorion said that according to the explanation of the Attorney General East, in one branch there would be equality of representation proportionate to population and territory.

Mr. Cartier said he had already stated his opinion of what was involved in the federal principle.

Mr. Dorion said he had not asked the opinion of the Attorney General East, but wished to know what had been decided on by the Government. According to the Attorney General East's explanations, Lower Canada, having a smaller population but a larger territory than Upper Canada, would have an equal representation.

Mr. Galt—No, no.

Atty. Gen. Macdonald said Mr. Dorion surely did not need to be informed what "the well-understood principles of federal government" were. They were exemplified on this continent, and included—equally in the upper branch of the legislature and in the lower branch—representation based upon population. (Loud cheers.) The Atty. Gen. East, however, had properly guarded himself, for he and the member for South Oxford, and himself [Atty. Gen. Macdonald], were all equally opposed to making the assertion of representation by population as equivalent to universal suffrage.

Town & Counties.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—We have to acknowledge the receipt of an invitation to join an Excursion to be given by the New York Central Railway to New York city to the Press of the State and Canada, but owing to press of engagements have not been able to give ourselves the pleasure of being present. It will doubtless be a delightful trip.

☞ Prof. Hagarty, who has been lecturing for the past three or four evenings to very large audiences, lectures again to-night in the Victoria Hall. His teachings appear to give great public satisfaction.

EXCURSION TO SAGINAW.—The str. *Huron* gives an Excursion across the lake, leaving Goderich on Friday evening next. This will be a splendid opportunity for those who have never seen the Saginaw Valley. See advertisement.

EXCURSION TO BUFFALO 4TH JULY.—The B. & L. H. R. will give the cheapest excursion to Niagara Falls and Buffalo that was advertised from this place. For full particulars see adv.

MAITLAND LODGE G. L. C. 142.

At a meeting held on to-day, (24th) the following officers were duly installed:

M C Cameron	W M
J R Black	S W
B Trainer	J W
Wm Piper	Treasurer
G N Davis	Secretary
Rev Mr Kerr	Chaplain
E R Owen	S D
John Henry	J D
E Hosker	I G
C Vetter	Tyler.

☞ We are requested by the Town Treasurer to warn those whose Cemetery Notes are over due that if not paid in ten days, these notes will be put in suit.

THE AMERICAN WAR.

The Attack on Petersburg.

(From the Richmond Enquirer, June 15.)

Grant can now hardly be said to be making a desperate move. His desperation extended itself at Cold Harbor, and no better field will present itself hereafter. Certainly not on the south side. He begins now virtually a new campaign, and his flight is that of a defeated man, though, like McClellan, he will not acknowledge it. Various surmises are afloat as to his new course of operations. The most popular of which seems to be that he will make a grand attempt to advance in three columns, one on Petersburg from City Point, one upon Drury's Bluff from Bermuda Hundred, and one upon Richmond from Malvern Hill.

A gentleman from White House reports that fourteen steamers left that place on the night of the 13th, laden with negro soldiers, being the last of Grant's troops at that place. He reports Grant's troops greatly demoralized, wandering about in the neighborhood of Old Church, stealing provisions and jewellery and burning the houses of poor people. Some of the troops openly avow that Grant has no possible chance of capturing Richmond. Our informant heard one of the Yankees say that "Grant might as well try to take hell as Richmond." The slaughter of the enemy by our cavalry is said to be immense. Ross's cavalry alone have killed over fifty Yankee officers recently.

(From the Richmond Sentinel, June 13.)

It has already been told how Grant has again retreated and again changed his base. Grant is not only whipped, but confesses it. A little while ago he said he would fight it out on the Fredericksburg line if it took him all summer. He has since slunk away from Lee's front several times, afraid to fight him. He humiliated himself to look for McClellan's track on the Peninsula, but was not able to gain his position. He changed his base to the White House, and is now hunting for the James. "What is the matter with the man? Why does he run about in this manner?"

Grant is afraid of Lee's army. He has come to take Richmond, and is afraid to fight the army that defends it. A fine prospect of success, to be sure. The mere sight of the James river as a base of operations against Richmond is now a matter of interest. Will Grant improve his prospects of taking Richmond by that line? So far as authority can settle that question, its weight is all on one side. McClellan, the map before him, chose the Peninsula approach—Commander-in-Chief Lincoln, indeed, dissenting in favor of an advance from the Lower Rappahannock.—Burnside, with a like option, chose Fredericksburg as his base; Hooker acted on the same choice. Meade rejected the Rapidan, as Hope had done before him. Grant came to the command unembarrassed and unentrammeled by the precedents and comments of others. He hunted up the old roads to Richmond, through the Wilderness and Spottsylvania Court House, and avowed his unchangeable purpose to stick to that as his true line. What a reflection upon the judgment and military capacity of all these if the James be, after all, the best. It has been the last choice of all the men whose business it was to make the best choice. The strong inference is that it is the last and worst alternative. McClellan in his adversity, praised the James; Grant, who has spent eighty thousand men to get to the James, may also think it a beautiful river; but the world will understand. Grant may annoy us from the James, but is not dangerous there. He has been playing lion; he may turn gallinipper; he may raid upon a water-tank, and he may capture a barn—a pig-sty; but he cannot take cities. We have gates upon the James that he cannot carry and cannot pass. Grant, in short, lays down his high ambition, consults his safety and aims at small enterprises. The man of destiny proclaims his failure to the world. Who comes next in regard?

GENERAL KAUTZ'S RAID TO PETERSBURG.

(From the Petersburg Express, June 16.)

He did not penetrate the town, nor did he expect infantry support, else he would not have advanced to the hills opposite the reservoir without it. He fails to tell of his own losses, which were far heavier than ours.—(The *Express* also claims that two pieces of artillery were taken from Kautz.)

Railway Monopoly.

From the Hamilton Times.

When a railway company obtains from the Legislature the power to take the land on which it runs and receives all its exclusive privileges, the act on which it is formed clearly entitle the contracting parties to the carrying out of such railway in accordance with such act; and any attempt either on the part of the railway or the land owners to depart from such act, must, in equity, be considered a violation of the act on which the road was made.

We observe the people of Goderich, at the reception of the President and the officials of our Great Western Railway there, as reported in our columns, clearly prove that an amalgamation of this Road with the Grand Trunk Railway actually is a subversion of the Act of Parliament on which the Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway was passed. All the traffic is diverted by Stratford via Sarnia; and Goderich, (which may have contributed much to the obtaining of the Act) is, by the amalgamation, actually a doomed town. Under these circumstances, it is clear that such amalgamation is a breach of the existing law, and should not be permitted except by an Act of the same Legislature which created the company. We are, therefore, glad to see that his principle is about to be carried out, and an Act for that purpose, a portion of which we copy herewith, has been introduced by Mr. Dunkin, and has been read a second time. The country has been fairly aroused to the importance and necessity of such an Act, or we may, some day, find our hands bound by the subtle doings of such an agreement, as we recently published in our columns, between the Grand Trunk and Buffalo and Lake Huron Railways. This act of Mr. Dunkin's will forever prevent such a course, and must have spread consternation through the ranks of the Grand Trunk Ministry. We shall be curious to see how the Hon. Isaac Buchanan will act in the premises. We scarcely think even he will venture, should he be so long our member, to vote against it.

The following are the portions of the Act referred to:—

The Act passed in the sixteenth year of her Majesty's reign, and intituled, "An Act to empower any Railway Company, whose Railway forms part of the main trunk line of rail way throughout this Province, to unite with any other such company, or to purchase the property and rights of any such Company, and to repeal certain Acts therein mentioned in corporating Railway Companies," and also the Act passed in the same year, and intituled, "An Act to extend the provisions of the Railway Companies Union Act to companies whose railways intersect the main trunk line, or touch places, which the said line also touches," are hereby repealed.

But such repeal shall in no wise affect the validity, intepretation, or enforcement, of any agreement heretofore made, or of any matter or thing heretofore done, in terms of the said Acts, or of either thereof—or operate to revive the Acts thereby repealed.

Nothwithstanding anything to the contrary in any Act or Acts whatever, whether passed before or during this session, no contract or agreement whatever, hereafter to be entered into, between any two or more railway companies, unless in so far as the same may be thereafter expressly sanctioned by a special Act of Parliament in that behalf, shall avail to operate the union of any two or more railway companies as one company and one corporation—or the transfer (even for a limited term) to any railway company of the corporate franchises, rights or obligations, of any other railway company—or the lease (in whole or part) for any term exceeding ten years, to any railway company, of the railway property and effects, of any other railway company, or of the use thereof.

The one hundred and thirty first section of the Railway Act is hereby so amended as to limit the duration of all agreements or arrangements, hereafter to be made under authority thereof, to ten years, in place of twenty-one years, as thereby limited.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM—The annual accounts of the British Museum have been laid before Parliament. The entire expenditure last year was $95,000, ($477,500.) The total number of articles added to the library in the course of the year, including newspapers, broadsides, engravings, maps, and miscellaneous pieces, was 107,784. Of complete works 45,020 were purchased, 10,072 acquired by copyright, and 1,129 presented. In the natural history departments above 100,000 specimens have been added in the course of the year, and Professor Owen, reports that the progress of the additions is such as fully to verify the outlook on which the requirements of space have been estimated. The additions include specimens from the African expeditions and the North American boundary expedition, and contributions of great scientific value from the Linnean and Entomological Societies. The department of zoology has been enriched by a donation from Mr. J. Bowring of above 80,000 specimens of coleoptorous insects, the largest and most instructive accession to the entomological department ever presented by one individual. Very large additions have been made to the collection of fishes, among them may be mentioned a collection from the Lake of Galilee.

The Duke of Sutherland has been gazetted to the vacant garter. On his way home from Caprera where he safely landed his illustrious guest, Garibaldi, he called at Naples where he was received with acclamations by a grateful multitude, who serenaded him and really seemed to think he was the greatest English man alive. Regarding these harmless demonstrations as proofs of the affections entertained by the Neapolitans for their great deliverer, they possess a certain degree of positive interest; though most Englishmen will smile that the object of them should fit so easy a manner have acquired so great a weight of glory. It must be said in justice to his grace, however, that he appears thoroughly to relish the honors which are thrust upon him; and that he is almost as condescending to the crowd in Naples as Garibaldi himself was to the crowd in London.

AN HONEST OLD MAID.—We have heard many stories told at the expense of old maids; but the following is decidedly in favor of that much respected class of unfortunates:—At the time some half century ago—when Great Britain was threatened by invasion from Napoleon, great exertions were made to raise volunteers in every part of the kingdom. A person calling on an honest Scotch maiden, rather mature in years, to solicit a subscription to aid in organizing and clothing a corps of young men to act in def