

The HURON SIGNAL

DEVOTED TO COUNTY NEWS AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

GODERICH, ONT., FRIDAY, NOV. 27, 1885.

THE HURON SIGNAL

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FRIDAY, NOV. 27TH, 1885.

PLAIN TALK TO "URIAH."

This Star last week tried to deny that the editor of that journal had given his correspondence columns into the hands of "blackguard correspondents" for the purpose of personally abusing the editors of THE SIGNAL and others whom he dare not comment on editorially.

Will the Star go over its Bayfield correspondence for the past year or two and take the responsibility for the personal references there made to us by a wretched being whom we never saw or our knowledge, and to whom we never referred but once in our columns?

And again, will the Star assume the responsibility of the "blackguard's" letter that appeared in that sheet on February 6th last, signed "A Listener" and which abused in the lowest language the proprietors of this paper and the chairman of the School Board—Mr. Crabb?

The editor of the Star says he does not seek to "shift the responsibility from his shoulders" in these matters;—in which event we know who is the blackguard, and henceforth we will treat him as such.

The editor of the Star endeavors to assume an air of superiority. He doesn't remember ever having occupied his time on a platform or elsewhere in kindly reference to Mr. Thos. McGillivuddy. It's a pity Mr. Mitchell's memory is so bad, for there are hundreds of people who know that in making that statement he uttered a falsehood. For some three years Messrs. Mitchell and T. McGillivuddy were closely associated in Sunday-school work, and during those years they each had on many occasions to refer in a kindly manner to the other. But that was before Mr. Mitchell had to bend his neck to the yoke of the oligue who now control the Star. As to his assumed air of superiority, we can afford to laugh at that, for even his best friends find fault with him as a slow-coach journalist. He is unknown outside the corporation limits, and is not so bright a star in the social or business firmament that his twinkling should dazzle ordinary folk.

Some five years ago he came to Goderich, and assumed editorial charge of the Tory paper. He had no political opinions, and the political complexion of the paper had been clear Grit. He would have taken hold of the concern with equal zest. He never polled a Tory vote until he came to Goderich, and he wouldn't do so now, if his bread and butter were not involved. The consequence was that his political columns had to be run by every volunteer scribe in the local Tory ranks who thought he could put pen to paper, and the result has been that "too many cooks have spoiled the broth."

Mr. Mitchell also speaks about making himself too conspicuous. Well, Mr. Mitchell ought to be the last man in town to refer to the subject. As we said before, he knew nothing about Conservative politics until he came to Goderich, yet he was here but a short time until he got himself pitched into the position of secretary of the West Huron Conservative association. His effort to make himself seen and heard at the Blake meeting on the courthouse square on June 19, 1882, showed that he had a mania for notoriety, and on no occasion during the past five years has he lost an opportunity of sounding his own trumpet. In his last effusion he says the editor of the Star is a "public man," well, no one would have thought it if he himself hadn't said it. We are of opinion that he is a *marionette*, and jumps every time the wire-pullers pull the string. If he is a public man, let him act like one, and not go sneaking behind blackguard correspondents if he has anything to say derogatory to a business rival. And if he knows anything about conducting a newspaper he should know that an editor should not allow language to go into his correspondence columns that he would not place in

NAILING LIES.

On the 30th of October the Star copied from the Hamilton Spectator the following item:—

"As late as October 23 the Goderich Signal prints the statement that Sir John Macdonald is about to proceed to England, and tells its readers all about the reasons for the tricky politician's visit. The publication of that article is at so late a date."

Well, a month has not elapsed since that item appeared, and Sir John has gone to England. The Spectator on Monday last, has the following item, which the Goderich Tory echo of a newspaper will copy, we presume, forgetful of the fact that not many days ago it characterized the statement that Sir John would go to England as an "old Grit lie."

"Again Sir John Macdonald has gone to England without consulting the Grits."

Now, who has lied?

Again, a month ago the Star had the following:—

"The Mail of Tuesday last gives publicity to what seems to be a well-founded statement to the effect that Hon. Edward Blake has formally tendered his resignation of the leadership of the Reform party; and that he will henceforth reside in England to conduct cases of appeal to the Privy Council. The feeble reference to the matter which appeared in the Globe next morning rather strengthens than weakens the statement."

Mr. Blake has not retired. What about that "well-founded statement"?

The Blyth Advocate says:—

"We are indebted to Mr. James Harrison, of Belgrave, for a quantity of nice turnips suitable for table use."

If some one would furnish the Blyth editor with a quota of potatoes, he would be well-fitted for root crops during the coming winter, as his list of back subscribers will supply him with "beats."

SIXTY JONAH incontinently took ship from Tarshish to flee from the presence of God, no man ever trod the deck of a vessel with a more miserable conscience than the one whose gross mismanagement of the affairs of the country led to a bloody intestine strife in Canada. But unlike Jonah, Sir John A. Macdonald will find no place for repentance, in a political sense.

OUR Tory friends around town and throughout the Province are in a terrible way lest the Dominion will hereafter be subjected to French domination. Bless their innocent hearts! but are they not conscious of the fact that we in Ontario have always been subject to French domination, and that it was in the vain effort to get rid of French domination that George Brown and his Reform colleagues took up the scheme of Confederation. Our Tory friends have the blues, because they now think they haven't the blues.

"We must admit the force of the remark made by a lady reader that it was a good deal of space and fine English to devote to so small a subject as the editor of the Signal—Star, on Embury's letter."

We pity that poor woman from the bottom of our heart. Her education has evidently been neglected. She would no doubt go into ecstasies listening to a jaw-breaking discourse by Rev. Solomon Peter Hale, D.D.—darkey divine. Last week's Star exhibits a falling off in "fine English." The "lady reader" of the Star, who is such a lover of "fine English," will have to betake herself to the sensational novel once more.

The Huron Signal says:—

"Two Scott Act violators are putting in a term in the Barrie Jail, and yet their friends in Huron say the Act is a prohibitory law which doesn't prohibit."

Well, to put one or two men in jail does not prohibit. It only illustrates the absurdity of a law which makes a penal offence in one county of a business which is perfectly legal and authorized in another.—London Free Press.

Our esteemed contemporary has fallen into a common mistake. It is absurd to say that the selling of liquor without a license in a license law municipality is not a penal offence. The offence is practically the same whether it is committed in a Scott Act or Crooks' Act county or city. Men have been fined and sent to gaol in London for selling liquor without a license.

Most of our Reform contemporaries appear to be very angry because the people of Canada had cause to give thanks.—Hamilton Spectator.

The Reform papers have not been very angry over the matter of thanksgiving. However, a bloody uprising in the North-west, caused by the mal-administration of affairs by a Tory Minister of the Interior who afterwards was driven from office, and a deficit of two and a half millions which crushed the heart of the Tory finance minister and caused him to resign his position, are not reasons for special thanksgiving by Grit or Tory. There is reason for thanksgiving that the Tory night of miracle is far spent, and the day of Liberalism and good government is at hand.

THE SCOTT ACT.

A Large Meeting Held on Friday Night.

A Memorial to the License Commissioners.—Plain Speaking About the Inspectors.

The temperance hall was filled on Friday evening to hear addresses on the present aspect of the Scott Act in Huron. Mr. Stephen Yates, the veteran temperance man, occupied the chair. Mrs. Toms sang two songs in a very acceptable style. Miss and Master Rines sang a duet in a most pleasing manner, and E. Becher in his bass solo went up another rung in popular estimation as a vocalist. All the singers were deservedly applauded. Miss A. Henderson and Mr. Jos. Williams each gave good readings bearing on temperance. There were three speakers:

Rev. T. E. Calvert, M.A., the first speaker, said that all the threats and purposes of the Scott Act in the County of Huron was a dead letter. It was well known that there were places where strong drink was for sale, and that certain men could always buy it there. In Goderich the drunkard was sometimes seen reeling to and fro, and young men with a chuckle will tell you that they can get a glass of beer whenever they want it. The arm of the law was out of joint. It was not the law that was the question before the meeting. There were two ways of getting men to walk in a certain path; one was that of brute force, and the other was moral suasion. For his own part he preferred the latter. However a vocalist he declared the will done by intemperance, he did not feel like taking too narrow or prescribed a method of dealing with his fellow man. If a man is a total abstainer because he is weak, we have no right to flaunt him with his weakness. On the other hand if a man is strong, and like the old warriors could carry the weight of a brass helmet and steel armor and feel it no weight, the speaker had no right to say he was not setting contrary to conscience. Some might say, but does not this open the door to the objection, "What right, then, have you to close public houses, and so far prescribe what I shall drink?" This is a common objection, but it would not hold water. As well might the soldier say, why enforce me with rules of discipline; the lawyer, why force me along certain lines of study, or keep me in certain lines in pleading; or the clergyman, why make me submit to a course of confession of faith? Society, like the army, the courts, and the church has certain fixed laws, and if society is to be a cosmos and not a chaos it must obey the law, and obey it just because it is the law. By what right might he be asked. By the right of manly discipline. Then there was the objection, "It is an oppressive law. The rich man can have his barrels in his cellar, and the poor man cannot buy his glass of beer." The majority comprise rich and poor, and the majority have a right to remove public houses, because they are an eyesore to our own dear ones. They enter our youth at the most critical time of life. The very smell of liquor in tap rooms is a sore temptation to many. The objection was a selfish one. To disobey the temperance laws, was as bad as to disobey any of the other laws of the land. If a man was honest and a true subject he should honor and keep this law, and a master of loyalty, conscience and religion. No man need wipe his mouth and say that he had done no wrong after assisting in the breaking of the law by drinking in a hole-and-corner fashion.

The following memorial was then read by Mr. Thos. McGillivuddy, and carried:—

To the Board of License Commissioners for the County of Huron.

The memorial of electors of the town of Goderich, in public meeting assembled, respectfully shew:

1. That it is a notorious fact that provisions of the "Canada Temperance Act, 1878," and amending acts, have been and are being grossly violated by many of the holders of licenses issued by your honorable board under the provisions of the 99th section of the said Act, and that the conduct of such persons in the premises constitutes one of the greatest stumbling blocks to the observance and enforcement of that law in this county.

2. That the difficulties which stand in the way of legal proof by legal evidence of the particular facts and instances of such violation are such as we are satisfied your honorable board will at once understand and appreciate.

3. That the granting of such licenses to hotel keepers and former liquor vendors (instead of to druggists whenever available) for the sale of intoxicating liquors for medicinal, sacramental and manufacturing purposes, is in the opinion of your memorialists, not in accordance with the true spirit and intention of the law, and is highly pernicious and prejudicial to the enforcement of that law, which, with other laws of the land, it is the earnest desire of every law-abiding citizen of all classes should be respected and obeyed.

4. That your memorialists are of the strong opinion that if such licenses were granted only to respectable druggists whenever available, the which avenue to the breach of the law would be closed, and that unless that policy be adopted by your honorable board the Act will continue to be violated and put to defiance, and cannot be fully enforced, to the great scandal and discredit of all law, order and authority.

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from Sets should call on me
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SHOW GOODS
Top of the Earth.
est Street.