Huron Signal.

"The Greatest Possible Good to the Greatest Possible Number."

VOL. XXVI. NO. 11. GODERICH, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 1873. WHOLE NO. 1363.

The Huron Signal,

(ESTABLISHED 1848,)

One of the Largest Papers published in Canada, printed and published at Goderich, Ontario, every

WEDNESDAY MORNING,

at the Office, Montreal Street, adjoining the Market Square, by

J. J. BELL,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS—$1.50 per annum, in advance, $2 if credit is given. No paper discontinued till all arrears are paid, except at the option of the publisher.

RATES OF ADVERTISING:

Eight cents per line for the first insertion, and two cents per line for each subsequent insertion.

Business cards not exceeding 6 lines, $4 per annum, from 6 to 10 lines $5.

The number of lines to be reckoned by the space occupied measured by a scale of solid Nonpareil.

Advertisements without specific directions, will be inserted until forbid, and charged accordingly.

YEARLY AGREEMENTS:

The following rates will be charged to merchants and others who advertise by the year,—

One Column	1 year		$60
"	"	6 months	35
"	"	3 months	25
Half "	1 year		35
"	"	6 months	25
"	"	3 months	15
Quarter "	1 year		20
"	"	6 months	12
"	"	3 months	8
Eighth "	1 year		12
"	"	6 months	8
"	"	3 months	5

This agreement is to be confined to the ordinary business of commercial houses, and for such it will not be held to include Auction Sales, Generals, Co-Partnership Notices, Private Advertisements of Individual members of firms, Houses to let or for Sale, &c.

☞ The above rates will in all cases be strictly adhered to.

Advertisements intended for insertion in any particular issue should reach the office by noon on Tuesday.

The large circulation of the SIGNAL makes it an unsurpassed advertising medium.

JOB WORK OF ALL KINDS

Executed with neatness and despatch. Bills printed while you wait. Orders by mail punctually attended to.

Business Directory.

Dr. P. A. McDougall

WILL be at home for Consultation up to 11 o'clock, a.m., every day. Will visit patients at any hour afterwards, night or day. 4r

G. C. Shannon M.D.

PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., &c., Goderich, Ont. 1240-1y

DR. McLEAN,

PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, CORONER &c. Office and Residence third door east of Central School.

Dr. Cassady,

McGILL College

PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., Office, Hamilton Street, Goderich, Ontario. 1w192

J. Campbell, M. D., C. M.

(Graduate of McGill University, Montreal.)

PHYSICIAN, SURGEON AND ACCOUCHEUR. Corner for the County, Office and residence over the "Farmer's Store," (old post office building) Main Street, Seaforth. 1308-1y

Ira Lewis

BARRISTER AND ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, and Solicitor-in-Chancery, County Crown Attorney, Goderich, Ont., Office in Court House.

Cameron & Garrow.

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, CHANCERY, &c. Office, Kingston street, Goderich.
M. C. CAMERON w52 J. T. GARROW.

B. L. DOYLE,

BARRISTER AND ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR, &c.-Chancery, &c., Goderich, Ont. 1247

Toms & Elliott

BARRISTERS, ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, SOLICITORS in Chancery, &c., Goderich.

Sinclair & Seager

BARRISTERS, &c., Goderich.
J. S. SINCLAIR CHAS. SEAGER, Jr
Goderich, Dec. 1st, 1871. 1y.

W. R. SQUIER.

BARRISTER, ATTORNEY AT LAW, SOLICITOR in Chancery, &c., Goderich, Ont. Office, over J. C. Detlor & Co's Emporium, Market Square, Goderich. 1353

G. CAMPAIGNE

LAW CHANCERY AND CONVEYANCING. Office at Dixie Witson's, Official Assignee.
sw7-tf Goderich, Ont.

S. Malcomson,

BARRISTER, ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR &c.&c., Clinton, Ont. w35

JAMES SMAILL,

ARCHITECT, &c., &c., COURTHOUSE SQUARE Goderich. Plans and Specifications drawn correctly. Carpenters', Plasterers' and Masons' work measured and valued. 1307-1y.

Buchanan, Lawson & Robinson

HAVE on hand all kinds of Sashes, Doors, Blinds, Mouldings, and Dressed Timber, at the Goderich Planing Mill. 1309

M. NICHOLSON,

SURGEON DENTIST.

Office and residence, West Street. Three doors below Bank of Montreal, Goderich. 1311-1y

A. M. CAMPBELL

Veterinary Surgeon,

FORMERLY of Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, Graduate of Ontario Veterinary College. RESIDENCE, VARNA. Will visit Bayfield every Saturday. 1313 3m.*

J. T. DUNCAN, V. S.

GRADUATE OF ONTARIO VETERINARY COLLEGE.

OFFICE AND STABLES,

Newgate Street, Fifth House East of Colborne Hotel.

N. B.—Horses examined as to soundness. 1313

PATENTS

FOR INVENTIONS

EXPEDITIOUSLY & PROPERLY

Secured in Canada, the United States and Europe.

PATENT guaranteed or no charge. Send for printed instructions. Agency in operation ten years.

HENRY BRIST

Ottawa, Canada,

Mechanical Engineer, Solicitor of Patents and Draughtsman.

Feb. 11th 1871. w-ly—

GODERICH AGENCY

OF THE

Trust and Loan Company of CANADA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

CAPITAL—ONE MILLION POUNDS STERLING.

Funds for Investment.

LOANS made on the Security of approved Farm or City or Town Property for periods of Five years or to suit the convenience of borrowers, and either repayable at expiry of time or by annual instalments. Payments in reduction of Loans will be accepted at any time on favorable terms.

☞ Approved Mortgages purchased.

G. M. TRUEMAN,

1317 Agent

Goderich Harness Shop

W. A. MARTIN

HAS pleasure in announcing to the public generally and Country that he has purchased the Stock in Trade of Mr. James Holliday, on the Hill St., and that having served his apprenticeship with Messrs W. & R. Marton, Goderich, Mr. A. Martin worked for the last three years in the best Harness Shops in Chicago, and is now prepared to make up

LIGHT AND HEAVY HARNESS,

Horse-Clothing and Scotch Collars

in first-class style and with despatch. Orders promptly attended to.

Trunks, Whips, Curry-Combs, &c.

N. B. Try Sheets constantly on hand throughout the year. 1307

Goderich, June 26th 1871.

DIVORCES.

ABSOLUTE divorces legally obtained in Different States. Legal everywhere. Adultery, cruelty, desertion, habitual drunkenness, general misconduct, &c., sufficient cause; publicity required—no charge until divorce secured—advice free. Call on or address

JOHN F. FULTON,

Counsellor at Law,

No. 180 Broadway, New York City.

1346-2m

Meetings.

GODERICH LODGE NO. 33

G. R. C., A. F. & A. M.

THE REGULAR COMMUNICATION is held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30 p. m. Visiting brethren cordially invited.

A. M. ROSS,

W. DICKSON, Sec. Agent at Goderich.

Goderich, 4th May, 1871. sw73-1y

Hotels.

BRITISH EXCHANGE HOTEL,

MARKET SQUARE GODERICH.

CAPT. W. COX, - PROPRIETOR

LATE OF THE HURON HOTEL.

A continuance of the favor and support of the Commercial and Travelling public that was accorded before the fire, respectfully solicited. 1334

COLBORNE HOTEL,

GODERICH.

E. MARTIN Proprietor.

Good Accommodation. Ample Stable Room.

☞ This is admitted to be a First class House kept in Good Style.

August 15th, 1870

Insurance.

THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON AND GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Available Assets. $27,000,000

Losses paid in the course of Thirty-five years exceed

FORTY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS!

Claims by CHICAGO FIRE estimated at nearly $8,000,000, are being liquidated as fast as adjusted without discount. Security, Prompt Payment, and Liberality in adjustment of its losses are the prominent features of this wealthy company.

FIRE and LIFE POLICIES issued with very liberal conditions.

Head Office, Canada Branch, MONTREAL

G. F. C. SMITH, Resident Secretary, MONTREAL

A. M. ROSS, Agent for Goderich

Toronto Life Assurance and Tontine Company.

HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO, ONT.

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED BY CHARTER.....$100,000

With liberty to increase to half a million

Amount called in, 25 per cent.—all paid up.

INVESTMENTS LIMITED BY CHARTER TO MORTGAGES AND DEBENTURES.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President: The Hon. JOHN HILYARD CAMERON, M. P., Q. C., &c. &c. Toronto.

Vice President: LAWIS MOFFATT, Esq. Secretary to the Commissioners of the Government Loan Fund.

GEO. DUGGAN, Esq. Judge of the County of York.

W. H. BROOM, Esq., M. D., M. P., Toronto.

ARCH. CAMERON, Esq., Cashier Merchants' Bank, Toronto.

WM. J. MACDONELL, Esq., Manager Toronto Savings Bank, Toronto.

ANGUS MORRISON, Esq., M. P.

Secretary and Treasurer: ARTHUR HARVEY, Esq.

Applications for Insurance in this first class Company received by

J. J. BELL

1342 Agent at Goderich.

WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.

HEAD OFFICE TORONTO.

CAPITAL STOCK.....$400,000

SURPLUS FUNDS.....208,369.60

RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30th 1871. 357,858.26

HON. J. McMURRICH President.

B. HALDAN Managing Director.

FIRE & MARINE INSURANCE AT Lowest Current Rates.

SPECIAL LOW TARIFF RATES, COVERING Insurance for one or three years on detached Dwellings, Churches and Schools with contents, in Cities, Towns and Country places. These rates and terms of policy particularly favorable to the Farming Community.

First Class man wanted for a travelling Agency for the township of Goderich and this Town. Apply in writing with references to the undersigned for transmission to the Head Office.

D. WATSON, Local Agent.

Goderich, 12th Sept. 1872 y.

GODERICH PUMP FACTORY

THE SUBSCRIBER IS PREPARED TO FILL TALL orders for,

PUMPS

and give satisfaction; Parties sending orders by mail will please give depth of well from platform, naming Township, No. of Concession and Lot. He has also on hand

REVERSIBLE MOLEBOARD ROOT SCUFFLERS, CHURNS AND STRAW CUTTERS.

☞ All sold on liberal terms, and order promptly attended to.

Stand previously occupied by Mr. H. Dodd.

J. D. ARMSTRONG,

Goderich March 6th 7 w sw4-tf

IMPORTANT NOTICE

F. R. MANN,

House Sign & Carriage Painter

DESIRES TO ACQUAINT THE PUBLIC THAT he has fitted up a Shop in North street next to the Wesleyan Methodist Church, with varnish room attached where he is prepared to fill all orders promptly and at reasonable rates. Thankful for the patronage of the last 7 years solicits a continuance of the same.

Now is the time to Paint your Cutters Sleighs, and Carriages.

☞ Orders from country Carriage shops attended to with despatch.

Painting, Graining, Gilding, Glazing, Paper Hanging, &c. &c.

F. R. MANN

Goderich, Aug. 15, 1872 sw1

THURBER'S ROYAL ANTI-FRICTION BABBITT METAL.

PARTICULARS,

THURBER METAL, No. 1, is for Heavy Bearings and Journals, such as Locomotive and Railway Car Journals.

No. 2, is for Pulsing Bearings and Journals running at high velocity, such as Machinery, Shafting, &c.

No. 3, is for Ordinary and General purposes, as per in Circular.

CANADIAN METAL, is for Ordinary Bearings, and is a very good Metal.

PHILADELPHIA METAL, is a very fine Metal at the Price, recommended for Ordinary Bearings.

Large quantities of the Thurber Metals have been used during the past Two years on Railways, Steamers, Mills, and Factories, and have given satisfaction, and have proved themselves decidedly the best Metals for the purpose, as shown by the Testimonials in my possession, which will be produced when required.

The Thurber Metals have been used on the following Railways, viz: Great Western Railway, Grand Trunk Railway, Toronto, Grey & Bruce, Credit Valley, Buffalo, Brantford & Goderich, Northern Railway, Buffalo & Lake Huron, Quebec & Gosfort, Montreal & Champlain, Montreal & Boston, Montreal Mills, &c. &c. as well as in all the Principal Factories, Mills and Manufactories, Railway Shops, Steamboats, Propellers, &c.

☞ For Sale everywhere in the Dominion at the above Prices.

F. P. G. TAYLOR & CO.,

Toronto

For sale by H. GARDINER & CO., Agents for Goderich.

Nov. 15th, 1872. 1341

Money to Lend.

MONEY TO LOAN AT LOW RATES OF INTEREST.

FREEHOLD Permanent Building and Savings Society of Toronto.

For particulars apply to

A. M. ROSS,

Agent at Goderich.

Secretary and Treasurer,

CHAS. ROBERTON,

Toronto. 1343.

MONEY TO LEND

At Greatly reduced Rates of Interest

THE undersigned has any amount of money to Loan from two to fifteen years, at a low rate of interest and favorable terms of repayment, payable by yearly instalments; rate of expenses will defy competition.

HORACE HORTON

Appraiser for the Canada Permanent Building & Savings Society, of Toronto.

INSURANCE CARD.

The Subscriber is agent for the following first-class Insurance Companies

PHOENIX of London, England.

HARTFORD of Hartford.

PROVINCIAL of Toronto.

BRITISH AMERICA, of Toronto.

Fire & Marine business done at the lowest possible rates

HORACE HORTON

Office Market Square, Goderich

Oct. 29th 1870. w34-1y.

$25,000

TO Loan on Farm or Town property at 7 per cent. Apply to

G. CAMPAIGNE, Solicitor, &c.,

Oct. 30th, 1872 41tf Goderich.

MONEY TO LEND.

AT EIGHT PER CENT. SIMPLE INTEREST for 5 or 10 years. Interest repayable either early or half yearly. Apply to

HENRY MATHERS,

St. Helens.

1309-tf.

MONEY TO LEND.

ON IMPROVED FARM PROPERTY, at 8 per cent simple interest per annum. Apply to

SAMUEL SLOAN,

Colborne Hotel.

Goderich, 8th Oct., 1872. 1338

ANCHOR LINE.

Steamers sail Every Wednesday and Saturday.

TO AND FROM NEW YORK AND GLASGOW, Calling at Londonderry to land Mails and Passengers.

☞ Passengers booked and forwarded to and from all Railway stations in Great Britain, Ireland, Germany, Norway, Sweden or Denmark and America, as safely, speedily, comfortably and cheaply, as by any other Route or Line.

THE NEW DEPARTURES.

From Glasgow.	From New York.
Sat., Sept. 28th.....IOWA..	Mon., Oct. 7th.
Sat., Sept. 30th.....CALEDONIA..	Sat., Oct. 21st
Sat., Oct. 7th.....ANGLIA.....	Sat., Oct. 28th
Sat., Oct. 14th.....COLUMBIA.....	Sat., Nov. 4th

And every Wednesday and Saturday thereafter from Pier 20, North River, at noon.

RATES OF PASSAGE PAYABLE IN CURRENCY.

To Liverpool, Glasgow or Derry:

First Cabin, $60 and $70, according to location. Cabin Excursion Tickets (good for 12 months) securing best accomodation, $130.

Intermediate, $35. Steerage, $28.

Certificates at LOWEST RATES can be bought here by those wishing to send for their friends. Drafts issued payable on presentation.

Apply at the Company's Offices or to

MESS WARNOCK,

West St. Goderich, Ont.

Goderich, 6 1872.

MONTREAL OCEAN

STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR TICKETS to and from Liverpool, Londonderry, or Glasgow by the above Steamships, apply to

P. H. CARTER,

Agent Grand Trunk Railway

Goderich, Aug. 15, 1870. w30

NEW Drug Store.

JOHN BOND,

CHEMIST & DRUGGIST

OF 25 YEARS PRACTICE.

NOTED FOR PURE DRUGS.

ARE YOU SICK

with Dyspepsia, Constipation, Head Ache, Indigestion, Palpitation of the Heart, Bilious Diseases and General Debility? If so call at J. Bond's, East Market Square, and get his Renowned Vegetable Tonic Bitters which has completely cured thousands throughout Canada as well as 200 in Goderich and vicinity.

CERTIFICATES.

This is to testify that I have derived a beneficial effect from Bond's Tonic Bitters and found it to be by far the best article in use for Dyspepsia and Liver Complaints, &c., &c.

JOSEPH SHIPLEY,

Wesleyan Minister,

Aurora, January 1564. Goderich, Aug. 27 1872.

Mr. John Bond,

Dear Sir,

I have great pleasure in recommending your Tonic Bitters as an excellent thing for giving a tone to the stomach and strengthening the system generally. I have found it a very beneficial thing in my own and several cases, and have known others to use it with the like satisfaction.

Yours &c.

J. E. KAY,

M. N. C. Minister

Aurora, May 30th, 1864.

I feel perfectly free to testify to the benefit I have derived from the use of Mr. Bond's Tonic Bitters. They have relieved repeated attacks of Dyspepsia, in my case from their Tonic and aperient properties.

DAVID SAVAGE,

New Connexion Minister.

And 50 others.

Bond begs to introduce his Pulmonic Syrup for Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Whooping Cough, Hoarseness, Bronchitis &c., &c., the best Cough Medicine ever introduced to Goderich. It has saved the lives of many from an early grave.

Goderich, 2nd Sept. 1872.

Goderich Marble works

Scott, Vanstone & Co.,

BEG TO INTIMATE THAT THEY HAVE opened a branch of their business in

MARBLE-CUTTING WORKS,

in the old stand of Mr. A. M. Johnston Victoria st., Goderich, and will be able to supply

Tombstones, Mantlepieces, Window Sills, &c., &c., &c.

in the best style of workmanship and on reasonable terms.

GAVIN STUTHERS, Agent.

Goderich 17th July, 1872. 1307-1

Poetry.

Written for the Signal.

The City of the Dead.

BY WM. BANNATYNE.

There is a city, down yon vale,
Where balmy fragrance scents the gale,
Where first the dewy crocus springs,
And first the homely redbreast sings,
Where first the pearly tints of morn
Fall twinkling on the flowery thorn,
And the wild rose, with simplest grace,
Folds in the bower-tree's close embrace:
Where 'neath the yew's umbrageous gloom,
The daisy, meek, and primrose bloom;
And where the thrifty spider weaves
Its web, among the burdock leaves;
Where first the bee his rapture tells
Within the honeyed foxglove bells;
Where sweet, at noontide sings the wren
As safe within her briery den
She views with pride, her tender brood,
Secure from hawk, or magpie rude;
Whilst, to the brook that murmurs by,
Faint echoes yield a quaint reply;
And sweetly pensive, breathes the gale
O'er yonder city in the vale.

Who are the citizens whose homes
Comprise those rows of grassy domes?
Who, whilst without, the vital world
In passions vortex vast, is whirl'd!
Whilst commerce, science, art, and creed,
The ire of rival factions feed!
While raging, riot, lust, and crime
Deface the chronicles of time!
Who, whilst in jubilation loud,
Exultant shouts the giddy crowd,
In hero homage, round the car
That bears the demigod of war!
Unmoved by all the mad acclaim,
Heed not the blatant trump of fame;
And all unconscious of the blast,
See not, the pageant hurrying past?
Who, whilst in sorrows wild alarm,
O'ervanquish'd Freedom's mangled form,
When hot war-steeds incarnadine land river,
No more can woo the breeze of Heaven!
Are trampled midst a nations gore,
Can hear the patriot forth no more!
Whilst rending mean and terrified pray'r
Swell the dire tumult of despair,
Till Nature, in her caves below,
Reverberates with excess of woe!
All unmoved, respond no wail,
In that city down the vale?
"What are they?"—no mortal knows,
In that city still and low
Stand memorials old and new:
Some are false, and some are true!
Graven there, on stone or brass:
Note each record as you pass!
Each brief inscription, tell a tale—
"There the past and future meet!"
What the *past*—it boots not now:
They perchance have been as thou!
What the *future*—none may say
Till the final judgment day!
Note the *present* we tread
Round that city of the dead!
How still!—oh! how serenely still!
No ring of anvil, clack of mill!
No strain of pipe or harp they hear!
No colour of glorious war!
No din of trade's tumultuous crowd!
No thrill of war's fell clangour loud!
No jar of wealth's proud chariot wheel!
No hissing storm, no thunder peal!
No shriek, no groan, no yell of strife!
No sound that shakes the halls of life!
No voice of sorrow, no of wail,
Disturbs that city in the vale!
No selfish want, no wild desire!
No scowl of ruthless tyrant's ire!
No festering wound by malice given!
No sigh from crushed and crouching riven!
No galling probe of mental pain!
No grief that battens on the brain!
Nor penury's accursed form!
Nor fell remorse's canker-worm!
Nor vile seducer's dastard art
Can there profane the human heart!
Vain fashion's fluctuating whim,
The wretched miser's sordid dream,
The lecher's lust, the coward's fear,
The coxcomb's vaunt, the scoffer's sneer,
The slanderer's dart, the grin of hate,
The blight of scorn, the gossip's prate,
The hapless maniac's phrenzied gaze,
The mad blasphemer's reckless phrase!
The conscience-smitten murderer's stare!
The haggard aspect of despair!
Gaunt superstition's goblin train;
Can never haunt their homes again;
Free from mortal fear and ail,
In that city down the vale!
Let howling storms the forests tear!
And bellowing thunders rend the air!
Let prone magnetic billows roll,
And shake the earth from pole to pole!
Let rude ambition's impous aim
Life's holiest altars wrap in flame!
Let fierce contending factions rage
And wreck the world from age to age!

In that city down the vale
Throbs no pulse of conflict, toil and dread;
Each within his silent bed
Lull'd in nature's dreamless rest;
Wrongs, nor cares, nor fears molest!
Oh! how tranquil! how sublime!
O'er them glides the stream of time!
Where—with passion's banner furl'd;
And at truce with all the world,
In the womb of mother earth
Calmly, they wait their second birth.

Ashfield, March 12th, 1873.

West Wawanosh.

COUNCIL MEETING.—The Council met in their Hall, this day (15th March) pursuant to adjournment. Present—Chas Girvin, Reeve, Edwin Gaunt, Deputy Reeve; Wm. Kinnahan, Joseph McIlwain, and Chas. Durnin, Council lors. Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The following officers were duly appointed:—FENCE VIEWERS—Jas Fagan, Jas Rose, John Johnson, Geo. Campbell, Duncan McPherson, Malcolm McDonald. John Hamlin, Joseph Radcliff, and John Cameron. POUND KEEPER—J. W. Jackman, John Robinson, Wm Humphray. Alex Rose, P. G. White, Alex. Cameron, Charles Wilson, and John Forshen, Sen. The Pathmasters were also appointed. Application was made by McPherson Kennedy, Lucknow, for shop license, which was granted. Petition read from John Riles and others, praying a grant from Council to out river bank where 4th and 5th con. line crosses Maitland river. The Council granted double the amount the petitioners could raise by subscription. Mrs. Welsh received a grant of $50 per year to be paid quarterly. Thos McLochlin received $20 up for keeping foundling from 1st Oct. 1872 to 1st of April, 1873. The Council ordered the following to be struck off the County Treasurer's books, as they could not be collected viz:—Lot 22, 2nd con. Kinloss, W. F. 13, 10th con. $6.36; lot 12, 11th con. $39.84, W. F. 13, 11th con., $14.38; N. 15, 12th con., $19.70. The Council adjourned to meet again on Tuesday the 3rd day of May, as Court of Revision, which was ordered to be advertised in the Goderich Star.

ROBERT MURRAY, Tp Clerk.

Ecclesiastical Appointment.—The Rev J. W. Marsh, M. A. Secretary of the Church Society of the Diocese of Huron, has been appointed by his Lordship the Bishop of Huron, to the Archdeaconry of London, and the Rectory of St. John's, rendered vacant by the decease of the late Venable Archdeacon Hellmuth. It is intended, we believe, to appoint two additional Archdeacons for the more complete supervision of all parts of the Diocese.

Jose Martin Coutinho, a resident of Cape Frio, in the province of Rio Janeiro, Brazil, is said to be the oldest man in the world. He was born May 40, 1694, and is therefore nearly 179 years old.

ASSUAGING SORROW.

HOW THE OBITUARY POET CHEERED AFFLICTED FAMILIES.

(*Max Adeler in Philadelphia Dispatch.*)

J. Alfred Brimmer, Esq., editor and proprietor of *The Morning Glory*, having observed the disposition of persons who have been bereaved of their relatives to give expression to their feelings in a poetical form, reflected that it might be perhaps a good thing to introduce to his paper a department of obituary poetry. He considered whether if, when an individual inserted a dollar's worth of death notices, the establishment should contribute gratuitously a dollar's worth of mortality stanzas, his paper would not at once become the most popular vehicle for the conveyance of that peculiar form of melancholy intelligence to the public. And Mr. Brimmer rightly estimated that, as most newspaper readers seem to take a deeper interest in such sepulchral news than information of any other kind, the journal containing the largest supply would have the greatest number of subscribers.

So Mr. Brimmer determined that he would, as an experiment at any rate, engage an obituary poet for a short time, with the purpose to give him permanent employment if the plan seemed to take with the public. Accordingly he sent for Mr. Remington Ott, a constructor of verses, who had frequently contributed to the columns of *The Morning Glory*, poems of what would have been considered by the fastidious student of English literature of an appalling and revolutionary character.

Mr Brimmer soon effected an arrangement with the bard, by which it was agreed that Mr. Ott should take a position in the office for a short time, and whenever a death notice arrived he should immediately endeavor to grind out some verses expressive of the situation.

"You understand, Mr. Ott," explained Brimmer, "that when the death of an individual is announced, I want you, as it were, to cheer the afflicted family with the resonorous lyre of your lofty art. I wish you to throw yourself, you may say, into the situation, and to give them a verse or two about the corpse which will seem to be the expression of the emotion of the hearts of the living."

"To lighten the gloom, in a certain sense, I suppose," said Mr. Ott.

"Precisely! Lighten the gloom. Do not mourn over the departed; but rather take a joyous view of death, which after all, Mr. Ott, is, as it were, but the entrance to a better life. Therefore, I would advise you to touch the heart-strings of the afflicted with a tender hand, and endeavour, for instance, to divert their minds from contemplation of the horrors of the tomb."

"Refrain from despondency, I suppose, and lift their thoughts to——"

"Just so! And at the same time combine elevating sentiment with such practical information as you can obtain from the advertisement. Throw a glamour of poesy for instance, over the commonplace details of the every-day life of the deceased. People are fond of minute description. Some facts useful for this purpose may be obtained from the man who brings the notice to the office; others you may readily amply from your imagination."

"I'll throw off stanzas," said Mr. Ott, "in such a manner that people will want their friends to die for the sake of the poetry."

"But above all," continued the editor, "take a bright view of the matter always. Make the sunshine of smiles burst through the clouds of tears; and, if we don't make *The Morning Glory* hum around among the mourners of this town, my name is not Brimmer."

He was right. It did hum.

The next day Remington Ott went on duty, and Brimmer ran down to the sea shore for a breath of fresh air. All through the day death notices came pouring in, and, when one would reach Ott he would seize it and study it up to ascertain particulars. Then he would rush up stairs, lock himself in his room, take down his rhyming dictionary, run his fingers through his hair, and hack away half an hour at a piece of paper until he considered that he had that poetry in a shape which would make that family feel proud of the corpse. When his day's work was done, Ott went home with a conviction that *The Morning Glory* had finally robbed death of its terrors, and made life comparatively valueless. trial.

In the morning Mr. Ott proceeded calmly to the office, for the purpose of embalming in sympathetic verses the memories of their departed ones. As he came near the establishment he observed a crowd of five or six thousand people in front of it, struggling to get into the door. Climbing a tree, he overlooked the crowd, and could see within the office the clerks selling papers as fast as they could handle them, while the mob pushed and jammed, and yelled, in frantic efforts to obtain copies—the presses in the cellar meanwhile clanging away like mad. Upon the curbstone in front of him there was a fine stre ching down the street for four squares, each man engaged in reading *The Morning Glory* with an earnestness that Mr Ott had never before seen displayed by the patrons of that sheet. The bard computed that his poetry had touched a sympathetic chord in the popular heart, or that an appalling disaster had occurred in some quarter of the globe.

He went around to the back of the office and ascended to the editorial rooms. As he approached the sanctum loud voices were heard within. Mr. Ott determined to ascertain the cause before entering. He obtained a chair, and placing it by the side door, he mounted and peeped over the door through the transom. There sat J. Alfred Brimmer holding the *Morning Glory* in both hands, while the fringe which grew in a fringe around the edge of his bald head moved straight out, until he seemed to resemble a figurative gay cuttle. Two of the persons stated in front of him in the attitude of listening. On hard one of them he knew to be McGue, sir—William I am a brother of the late Alexander McGue, I picked up your paper this morning, and I perceived an outrageous insult to my deceased relative, and I have come around to demand sir, what do you mean by the following infamous language?

"The death angel smote Alexander McGue,
He was a checker player and a smoker and then
And by just a just verse on his sepulchre
Shall be inscribed the words that an honest man
Never can be a pilgrim."

Pausing at quarter just enough to take breath.

"This is simply diabolical! My late brother lies no warm upon his nose, sir. He had upon his nose rather a pink wart; now a green wart, now a green-coloured wart, now a wart of any other colour. It is a disgraceful piece of insulting to my family, and I want to know what you mean by such conduct?"

"Really, sir," said Mr. Brimmer, "it is substituting. This is the highest tribute of an incensing nature to which I am entrusted as a brother. He shall be punished by my own hand for this outrage. A pink wart! Awful, sir—awful! The miserable scoundrel shall suffer for this—he shall indeed!"

"How could I know," murmured Ott, out there by himself, "that the corpse had a pink wart? I wish I had one, and I thought that all the McGues had. This comes of irregularities in families."

"And who," said another man, addressing the editor, "authorised you to print this hideous stuff about my deceased son? Do you mean to say that it was not with your authority that your low comedian inserted with my advertisement the following scandalous burlesque? Listen to this:

"While had a purple monkey climbing on a yellow stick,
And when he sucked the paint all off, it made him deathly sick;
And in his latest hours he clasped that monkey in his hand,
And bid good-bye to earth and went unto a better land.

Oh! no more he'll shoot his sister with his little wooden gun;
And no more he'll twist the pussy's tail, and make her yowl for fun.
The pussy's tail now stands out straight, the gun is laid aside;
The monkey doesn't jump around since little Willie died."

The utterly atrocious character of this balderdash will appear when I say that William was twenty years old; that he never had a monkey, and never sucked such a thing, that he never fooled with cats, and that he died of the liver complaint."

"Infamous!!—utterly infamous!" groaned the editor, as he cast his eyes over the lines. "And the wretch who did this still lives! It is too much!"

"And yet," whispered Ott to himself, "he told me to lighten the gloom and to cheer the afflicted family with the resources of my noble art; and I certainly thought the idea about the monkey would have that effect, somehow. It is ungrateful."

Just then there was a knock at the door, and a woman entered crying.

"Are you the editor?" she inquired of Brimmer.

Brimmer said he was.

"W-a-well" she said in a voice broken by sobs, "wh-what d'you mean by publishing this kind of poetry about my Johnny? He died last week in Smith's, and wh-when I looked this m-morning for the notice of Johnny's death in y-your paper, I saw this awful, wicked, wicked verse:

"Four doctors tackled Johnny Smith—
They blistered and they bled him:
With squills and anti billious pills
And ipecac they fed him.
They stirred him up with calomel,
And tried to move his liver;
But all in vain—his little soul
Was wafted o'er the river."

It is false! false! that's what it is. Johnny only had one doctor, and they didn't peep much about his liver, and they didn't bleed and b-blister him. It's a wicked falsehood, and you are a hard-hearted brute f-for p-printing it!"

"Madam, I shall go crazy if you continue," exclaimed Brimmer. "This is not my work. It is the work of a serpent whom I warmed in my bosom, and whom I will slay with my own hand as he comes in. Madam, the miserable outcast shall die!"

"Stop—stop—strange!" mused Ott. "And this man told me to combine elevating sentiment with practical information. If the information concerning the squills and ipecac is not practical, I have misunderstood the use of that word. And if young Smith hadn't four doctors it was a disgraceful thing. He ought to have had them, and they ought to have excited his liver." Thus it is thought Ott, "that human life is sacrificed to carelessness."

At this juncture the sheriff entered, his brow clothed with thunder. He had a copy of the *Morning Glory* in his hand. He approached the editor, and pointed to a paragraph of lenas; and, said:

"Read that horrible mockery of my woe, and tell me the name of the writer, so that I can chastise him."

The editor read as follows:

We have lost our little Hannah in a very painful manner.

And we often asked, 'how can her harsh sufferings be borne?'

When her death was first reported her aunt got up and snorted

With the grief that she had supported, for it made her feel folorn,

She was such a sensitive sprite, that her father was the sheriff.

Really doesn't seem to care if he never smiles in life again.

She has gone, we hope, to Heaven, at the early age of seven,

(Funeral starts off at eleven,) where she'll never more have pain."

"As a consequence of this infamy I withdraw all the county advertising from your paper. A man who could trifle in this manner with the feelings of a parent is a savage and a scoundrel!"

As the sheriff went out Brimmer placed his head upon the table and groaned.

"Really," Mr. Ott reflected, "that poem must be deranged. I tried in this case to put myself in this place, and to write as if I was one of the family, according to instructions. The verses are beautiful. That allusion to the grief of her aunt, particularly, seemed to me to be very happy. It expresses violent emotion with a felicitous combination of pathos and force. These people have no soul—no appreciation of the beautiful in art."

While the poet mused, hurried steps were heard upon the stairs, and in a moment a middle-aged man dashed in abruptly, and, seizing Brimmer's scattered hair, bumped his prostrate head against the table three or four times with considerable force. Having expended the violence of his emotion in this manner, he held the editor's head down with one hand, shaking it occasionally by way of emphasis and with the other hand seized the paper and said:

"You disgraceful old reprobate! You unsympathetic and disgusting vampire! You long-headed old ghoul! What do you mean by putting such stuff as this in your tile sheet about my deceased son? What do you mean by printing such awful doggerel as this, you depraved and disconsolate inkslinger—you imbecile old quill driver you:

"Oh! here Bartholomew out in the woods,
In a beautiful hole in the ground,
Where the birds and the squirrels and the wood-peckers sing,
Have covered his last little bed.
The brother Artemas came out with Jane
And visit the place with his sled.

I'll teach you to talk about straddle-legs! I'll instruct you about slush! I'll enlighten your insane old intellect on the subject of singing woodpeckers. What do you know about Jane and Artemas, you wretched buccaneer, you despicable butcher of the English language! Go out with a sled! I'll carry you out in a hearse before I'm done with you, you deplorable lunatic!"

At the end of every phrase the visitor gave a violent bump of his head against the table. When the exercise was ended, Mr. Brimmer explained and apologized in the humblest manner, promising at the same time to give his assailant a chance to pummel Ott.

"The treachery of the man," murmured the poet to himself. "Didn't he distinctly request me to throw a glamour of poetry over common place details? But for that I should never have thought of alluding to woodpeckers and bugs and the children of the dead. The man objects to the remarks about the sled. Can's the idiot know that it was necessary to have a rhyme for bed? Can he suppose that I could write poetry without rhymes? The man is lunatic! He ought not to be at large."

Hardly had the indignant and energetic parent of Bartholomew departed, when Mr. Ott was startled and ferocious glare in his eyes entered, carrying a club and accompanied by a savage looking dog.

"I want to see the editor," he shouted.

A ghastly pallor o'erspread Brimmer's face, and he said:

"The editor is not in."

"Well, when will he be in?"

"Not for a week—a month—a year—forever! He will never come in any more!" screamed Brimmer. "He has gone to South America, with the intention of remaining there during the balance of his life. He has departed—he has fled. If you want to see him you had better follow him to the equator. He will be glad to see you. I would advise you, as a friend, to take the next boat and start at once."

"That is unfortunate," said the man with the golden locks; "I called for the purpose of battering him up a l