

THE HURON SIGNAL  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1880.

A DISHONEST CRITIC.

Sir Richard Cartwright is at loggerheads with himself. In his speech to his constituents the other day he denounced the sale of land to Mr. Brassey, and then admitted that he had made a similar purchase himself. Referring to the North-West territory, the clever knight declared in one breath that he held a high opinion of it, and in the next breath expressed his disbelief in the agricultural capabilities of the country. —Toronto Mail.

ANOTHER RAILROAD.

Our friends in Bayfield and vicinity have opened up an agitation on the railway question. A couple of weeks ago a "Ratepayer" addressed to us a letter, crying down the contemplated Bayfield and Clinton road. In another column of this issue will be found a reply in favor of a railroad by "Ratepayer No. 2," which gives facts and figures favoring the construction of a new road. Our own opinion is that a compromise between the belligerents could be adopted by throwing overboard the proposed Clinton & Bayfield line, and adopting a route from Goderich to Bayfield and tapping the London Huron & Bruce R. R. at Brucefield or Exeter. This would connect Bayfield with the G. T. R. and G. W. R., and would place in the hands of Bayfield a popular route which would more likely suit all parties, and for which the necessary bonuses could be more readily obtained than the line under contemplation between Bayfield and Clinton.

WEDNESDAY next will be Thanksgiving Day. As we have before said, we have much cause for thanksgiving in this Canada of ours. Having the day, it is good that it should be well spent. Some will go shooting, and return home gameless and as limp as an unarched shirt-front. Others will loaf around home, and yawn away the time over the papers or the latest humorous book. Some will get drunk, and make fools of themselves. Not a few, we hope, will go to church, and remember the special occasion of gathering together; and all should, out of their own store, supply the need of some starving family, and so give proof of their gratitude for the blessings of the year. In the language of quaint Matthew Henry, "thanksgiving is better than thanksgiving."

The Guelph Herald thinks itself witty when it is vulgar. Here is a sample of its style: "Sir Richard Cartwright is about to take the stump in Centre Huron and give an account of his stewardship. The hall has been hired, the band has been engaged, and reserved seat tickets have been distributed free gratis among the 'unco guid.' Arrangements have been made for a liberal supply of Hot Scotch in order to get up the requisite amount of enthusiasm. Taking it altogether, the meeting will be a success, i. e.—if the whisky holds out."

We have grown tired of reading articles in our exchanges about the fall show business being overdone. They are all written in the same strain, for it is never suggested by any of them to begin the "thinning out" process at home. Each place would like to see its neighbor give up its show. When one of the papers comes out boldly, and declares against its local fair as unnecessary, we will believe it to be sincere in its desire to lessen the number of exhibitions.

The Biddulph murder case will probably be tried by a special commission, Hon. Mr. Mowat being favorable to that course of procedure. It is hardly probable that the prisoners will be allowed out on bail. It is to be hoped that the case will be speedily settled, for the prisoners have been about eight months in gaol.

The town bell which was placed in the Court House on Thursday last, refutes the theory that the producer pays the duty. Goderich, which gave a majority vote for the N. P., has now \$70 worth of experience in the matter.

Written for THE SIGNAL.

Farmer Gray Endorses Himself.  
I have been thinkin', Betsy Jane, about this here N. P.  
And I've been tryin' to calculate what it has done for me;  
For when I voted for it, in the fall of '78,  
I really b'lieved 'twould put our land in a much better state.  
I wasn't much at readin', and them chaps that hunted votes,  
Told us we'd get a bigger price for lambs and wheat and oats;  
That in this growing country great factories would rise,  
And make up goods so wondrous cheap, 'twould fill us with surprise,  
So I voted for it, Betsy, and I've waited for the "bum";  
And for the better times and that, but yet they haven't come;  
And I've come to the conclusion that they've fooled us pretty slick;  
But they musn't blame us farmers if they find that we will kick.  
That new frame barn I built last year, used up And oh, the price I paid for them! I tell you language falls,  
T'express my indignation at the way them cussed "rings" Have hoisted up the price of nails, and screws and bolts and things.  
And the coal oil that I burn at night when my day's work is o'er  
Has gone as high as fifty cents, and perhaps 'twill go up more;  
So, you'll make them "tallers," Betsy Jane, as in the good old days  
When greedy "rings" could not get gain from the evening candle's rays.  
Now what I sell goes pretty cheap, and what I buy is dear.  
I've really soured on sugar, for it's mighty high this year.  
And when I think it over it really puzzles me  
How I was ever fool enough to vote for the N. P.  
Goderich, Oct. 26, 1880.

MEDICAL etiquette may be a very nice thing, but should we unfortunately require the services of a modern Esculapius, we hope he will leave that commodity at home in his drawing-room when he comes to see us. And this is our reason: A man required medical attendance at Montreal and by mistake two doctors were summoned, a dispute arose as to which would prescribe, and, disgusted with the unseemly rumpus, the man died, without the assistance of either. But if the dead man wished to "preserve peace and quietness," by his self-sacrificing act, his intention miscarried, for a fresh dispute arose as to which medico should fill out the necessary certificate of death, and the corpse could not be buried until the matter was satisfactorily settled.

Let us bow down reverently and pay devotion to the N. P., as the Hindoos prostrate themselves before Juggernaut's car, which crushes them under its wheels. Great is thy power, oh N. P., thy might is of the mightiest! Let us sing thy praises, oh, N. P! and chant thy victories in the great field of industry.—Mitchell Safe Works, closed; Brussels Fire Engine Works, in the sweet long ago; Oshawa Cabinet Works, resting; Joseph Hall Works, Oshawa, averaging one hour's work in twenty-four; Thomson & Williams, Stratford, 40c on the dollar, &c., &c., and thine, oh, N. P! be the glory, thou promoter of hums!

The U. S. Postmaster-General has issued an order forbidding the payment of postal orders and the delivery of registered letters to R. C. Wintersmith, Louisville, Ky., or A. W. Harris & Co., New York, agents or representatives of the Frankfort School Fund lottery. This action on the part of the Postmaster-General has been necessitated owing to the fact that the fools are not yet all dead, and many there are who would prefer to risk their last dollar in a lottery, than to fairly and squarely and honestly attempt to earn a livelihood.

The Stratford Herald endeavors to point out that we published a jeremiad from Sir Richard Cartwright, and at the same time showed that Goderich was feeling the effects of better times. We deny the "soft impeachment," so far as the latter part of the sentence is concerned. What we endeavored to do was to show that Goderich's industries "were doing as well as could be expected under the circumstances," as the doctors sometimes say in doubtful cases.

If "a nod is as good as a wink to a blind horse," a good deal can be construed from the following extract from a temperance lecture, recently delivered by a County of Kerry parish priest:—"Drink," said he, "is a curse; it makes a man 'bate' his wife, starve his children, go shoot at his landlord, and miss him, too."

The Stratford Times canonizes Sir Tupper in its last issue. The way the gentleman of "Spring Hill notoriety" is plastered with "taffy" by our confere at the "Hub," is highly suggestive of a hankering after railway advertisements at 10c. per line. Ahem!

Grip very properly rebukes the new Toronto weekly, Truth, for its tendency to dabble in filth. Grip itself is a model of pure wit. It has all the excellencies of a comic paper, without any of the uncleanness that too frequently crops out in journals of that class.

Two men in Hamilton were fined \$5 and \$2 respectively, for setting a couple of dogs fighting. We suppose the \$5 man said, "Seek him, Towser," to the bigger dog.

THE preaching of Dr. Wild is far from being tame. —Grip.  
That's a barbarous pun.

CONTEMPORARY OPINION.

Of the election in Indiana the Republican leaders may well say, in the words of a successful American politician regarding another close political fight:—"The tactics of the enemy, sir, were infamous—simply infamous; but, d—n them, we beat them at their own weapons." —Seaforth Sun.

There can be no doubt that there is a great deal of useless flummery connected with the office of Lieutenant-Governor, and that the present incumbent is not worth more than \$1,200 a year. The people are beginning to think that an office which is so easily filled is scarcely needed at all, or, at least, should not cost the country so much. —Woodstock Sentinel Review.

Canadian banking institutions generally are reducing their rate of interest. In Toronto and Montreal the rate on deposits "on call" has been reduced to three per cent., and in almost all the interior towns four per cent is the highest interest paid, with restricting conditions. The conditions are that savings bank accounts will be limited to a certain amount in one person's name. Larger sums must be placed on three months' deposit, subject to fifteen days' notice, interest to cease when notice is given. Plenty of cheap money ought to stimulate enterprise. —Stratford Beacon.

The proper thing to do with the title of Queen's Counsel is to abolish it altogether. A correspondent of the Kingston Whip points out another course, which is to allow every barrister of ten or fifteen years' good standing to take the silk if he choose. The appointment has now lost its significance, as others than Q. Cs. frequently represent the Crown, and Q. Cs. very often appear on behalf of prisoners. But the most damaging argument against the title is that nine times out of ten it is not bestowed on the grounds of merit, but on account of politics. The odd tenth time it is given to a political opponent, as a make-believe. —Telegram.

The Irish landlords are at present in any but an enviable position. Parliament is not in session, and they cannot find much to do in London. They might go home and hunt on their estates, only that the tenants have an unpleasant habit of hunting them, the landlord being the only species of game in Ireland for which there is no close season. If an Irish landlord lives in England he is abused for spending the revenue of his estate out of his country, and if he lives at home he is in imminent danger of some of his tenants taking a shot at him. But shooting landlords is like killing mosquitoes: the moment you dispose of one there is another ready to take his place, for no heir was ever known to decline an estate on the ground that he might get shot, just as no mosquito was ever known to be warned by the fate of a defunct fellow. Yet it is a question if the possession of land in Ireland ought to be an offence deserving of capital punishment at the hands of the masses, like horse-stealing in Texas. —Telegram.

COMMUNICATIONS.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents. Contributors to this department must confine themselves to public questions, and be brief.

BAYFIELD RAILWAY.

To the Editor of The Huron Signal.  
SIR:—My attention has been directed to a communication which appeared in THE SIGNAL of the 16th inst., signed "Ratepayer," professing to report the proceedings which took place at the last meeting of the Goderich township Council, with reference to submitting to the electors a By-law granting a bonus of \$7,500 in aid of the projected Bayfield and South Huron Railway. Your correspondent seems highly pleased with the action of the Council, in refusing to submit this by-law. It is, however, very questionable whether the 200 ratepayers who signed the petition, and many others to whom it was not submitted for signature, will be equally pleased with the decision arrived at. However that may be, I am not disposed to censure the Council for refusing to comply with the request of the petitioners. I am bound to suppose that they were actuated by their sense of duty to their constituents; but they might have been liberal enough, without damaging their position as public men, to have allowed their constituents the opportunity of expressing their opinion on the point.

Your correspondent, in his report of the proceedings, should have avoided casting so grave a stigma upon the members of the Council as he has done when he says, "it was stated to them (the gentlemen who presented the petition) that a number of the names attached to the petition had not been signed by the proprietaries, and that said parties had never seen the petition. In fact, that a number of the signatures were 'bogus.' I cannot believe it possible that any five men, or any one man worthy of holding a position at the Council Board, should be so devoid of that courtesy expected from gentlemen acting in their official capacity, as to charge the two gentlemen who presented the petition (Messrs. Connor and Rutledge, whose characters stand so high in the County of Huron,) with the presentation of a surreptitious and bogus document. Your correspondent says they did. I cannot believe him. This "Ratepayer" tells the people of

Goderich Township "that they have had a bitter experience of railway bonuses, and it has paid for much for their whistle" in days gone by—referring to the township having granted a bonus of \$15,000 to the London, Huron and Bruce Railway. Let us see how he explains this "bitter experience." Does he try to show that no value was obtained for the money? By no means. He himself has given the most conclusive testimony that it was money well spent, and no "bitter experience" at all. He tells us "that it was of advantage to the grain buyers of Clinton and, to some extent, benefited the farming community." Does this look like a "bitter experience"? I should say that this road benefited the farming community, not only to "some extent," but to a very great extent; for the line of railway that made Clinton a good grain buying mart, as he says it did, and afforded ready access to the eastern market, could not possibly fail to be of immense advantage to the farmers of the surrounding country. But he tells us; moreover, by way of elucidating this "bitter experience," that this line of railway (the London, Huron and Bruce,) gave them "a competing line" with the Grand Trunk. Now, a competing line is generally regarded as of great value from its tendency to keep down freights and prevent the overcharges of which monopolists are often accused. In short, upon "Ratepayer's" own showing the "bitter experience" of which he complains, is about the most valuable that could befall the township he speaks of, and the best investment of \$15,000 it has ever made.

Your correspondent towards the end of his letter, founds his opposition to the granting of the bonus chiefly upon financial considerations. He tells the ratepayers that "should they, by squandering something worse, allow the by-law for \$7,500 to pass, they will feel it in their pockets—the surest way to make any man feel." Well, let us see how much they would feel it in their pockets. I think I can show that the amount which would fall upon each ratepayer would scarcely be enough to make even the selfish soul of your correspondent tremble for his pocket.

The bonus of \$7,500 asked for would be given in the form of debentures, maturing at the expiration of 20 years, to which would be attached coupons, bearing interest at 6 per cent. an annum, payable half yearly. A sinking fund of 2 per cent. per annum upon the principal would be laid up to liquidate the debt when the debentures become due. Now, the interest of \$7,500 at 6 per cent. amounts to \$450; and the 2 per cent. reserved for the sinking fund amounts to \$150, thus making an annual charge upon the township of \$600. Now, let us extend this small amount over the ratepayers of the extensive and prosperous township of Goderich, in proportion to the several amounts for which they are assessed, and we shall see that they would not be very seriously affected in their pockets. The assessed value of the real and personal property of the township, as shown by the report of the County Council for the present year, 1880, is \$1,734,480. Now, by dividing the \$600, annually required to be raised by the township, by the assessed value of its property, we find that it amounts to .0346 of a cent upon the dollar. It is not possible to represent this decimal by a vulgar fraction of absolutely equal value, but it is within the slightest shade of being its equivalent. That the rate upon the dollar thus struck is a substantially correct admit of neither doubt nor cavil, for by multiplying the assessed value of the property of the township by the decimal .0346 of a cent of the dollar, it realizes exactly \$600.13. For practical purposes, however, three points of decimals will serve us and be more convenient for calculation. I shall therefore take .035 of a cent on the dollar as the basis of our calculation. It will realize just \$7 more than the sum required. Now, every man who can multiply decimal fractions, and every advanced school-boy, when he knows the amount for which he is assessed, can calculate for himself how much this railway tax would cost him, simply by multiplying his assessment by .035.

On the collector's roll it would stand thus:—

Total value of Real and Personal property.	Railway Tax.
\$1,000	\$0.35
1,500	0.53
2,000	0.70
2,500	0.88
3,000	1.05
3,500	1.23
4,000	1.40
4,500	1.58
5,000	1.75 &c.

From the above statement, the correctness of which I think cannot be disputed, it will appear very evident to the ratepayers that they would not feel the pressure upon their pockets so heavily as "your correspondent, in his ignorance, I presume, would lead you to believe; and that the bonus of \$7,500 to the railway would be but a very small matter to them. The length to which I have extended this communication prevents me from referring to the advantages that this railway would confer, but I think it could be clearly shown that, both at the present time and prospectively, it would contribute much to the convenience and advantage of all the farming community residing at a reasonable distance from this village.

Your correspondent, I think, might have forborne the sneer about Bayfield "accepting the situation" and "contenting itself with being merely a fishing village," for he should know that it is only the characteristic of a very low cast of mind to add insult to injury.

RATEPAYER No. 2.  
Nile.

RELIGIOUS.—The quarterly services in connection with the Dunganon circuit, of the Methodist church, will be held in the Nile church, next Sunday morning, 31st., at 10 a. m.

REPAIRS.—The steam saw-mill owned by Mr. McWhinney is undergoing repairs. As they were raising the smoke pipe of the mill last Friday, the ropes in connection with the pulley used for raising it broke when the pipe was raised quite a distance up, and Mr. McWhinney had a very narrow escape from being hurt badly.

APPLES

2,000 Barrels  
OF CHOICE APPLES  
Wanted at Once!

Private Families supplied with choice hand-picked apples for winter at LOW RATES.

James McNair,

Hamilton Street,  
Goderich, Oct. 26, 1880. 1758

HARNESS SHOP REMOVED.

C. F. STRAUBEL,

In thanking the inhabitants of Goderich and surrounding country for the very liberal patronage which has been shown him for the past seven years, wishes to inform them that he has REMOVED to his new premises, Nearly Opposite the Colborne Hotel Stables,  
Where he is showing a very fine assortment of light and heavy Harness, Saddles, Trunks, Valises, Whips, Horse Clothing, Combs, Brushes, Bells and every other article usually found in a first-class Harness Shop. All work warranted, as I use only the very best material and employ none but FIRST-CLASS workmen. Repairing done on short notice and at moderate rates.  
Remember the place—  
Hamilton Street, Goderich.

1880 NEW FRUITS. 1880

NEW VALENCIAS,  
NEW LAYERS,  
NEW CURRANTS,  
S. S. ALMONDS,  
WALNUTS,  
FILBERTS,  
CHESSNUTS.

LAKE SUPERIOR  
TROUT, WHITE FISH & HERRING.

SALT WATER  
HERRING AND CODFISH.

ALSO, A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF

Teas, Sugars,

And General Groceries;  
CROCKERY, GLASSWARE, AND CHINA.

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder.

Dr. Price's Lupulin Yeast Gems.

Chas. A. Nairn,

THE SQUARE. 1758

"Chicago House."

A carefully selected Stock of  
BEAVER, FELT & STRAW HATS,  
In all the Newest Styles.

NEW CIGARETTE HAT,

Pretty, and the very Latest. A splendid assortment of  
Black, White and Colored Plumes, Extra Value.

Ladies' Fashionable Hair Nets and Pins.  
Novelties in Hats, Gloves—Kids and Woolen, Children's Kid Mitts, Children's Fur Caps.  
STYLISH AND CHEAP!

Crape and Mourning Goods.

Flowers, Feathers and Ribbons, in great variety.  
Call and see my stock before purchasing elsewhere.  
Ordered Work a Specialty.  
Agent for Butterick's Patterns and for Parker's Steam Dye Works.

E. J. COPELAND, Chicago House,

Miss Jessie Wilson,

MILLINE!

And Dealer in Fancy Goods.  
Just in, a new and carefully chosen stock of  
Millinery, Flowers, Feathers & Laces!

I have recently purchased a large supply of Berlin Wools and Flungings, which I will offer at prices that will suit. Hats and Bonnets trimmed in the latest styles. Call and see.  
MISS JESSIE WILSON, Square, Goderich.  
One or two Apprentices wanted immediately. 1753

Books and Stationery.

75,000 ENVELOPES!

Wall Papers, Fancy Goods, Toys, &c

Toilet Sets, China and Ivory Goods, Cups, Flower Pots and Vases, Work Boxes, Desks, Purses, Albums, Newspapers and Magazines kept on hand or ordered.  
Merscham and Brier Pipes, Cigar Holders, Miscellaneous Books, Novels, Toy Books, Blank and Memo. Books.

At BUTLER'S.

Please call at 27 Corner of West Street and Square. Dominion Telegraph and Postage Stamp Office. 1751

"Dominion Carriage Works," Goderich.

MORTON & CRESSMAN,

MANUFACTURERS OF  
BUGGIES, CUTTERS,  
SLEIGHS, &c.

We will sell cheap for the balance of the season, to make room for winter work. A few second-hand Rigs for sale Cheap. A few good Horses will be taken in exchange for Rigs.

Opposite Colborne Hotel, Goderich.