Huron Signal.

GODERICH, C. W., SEPT. 8, 1863.

WEEKLY "SIGNAL."

The Weekly *Signal*, printed on extra-fine paper, to be issued to-morrow morning, will contain a full report of the Brantford Review. Military men and others wishing copies in wrappers for transmission abroad will please hand in their orders early.

THE NEW MILITIA BILL.

The Militia Bill proposed to be brought forward by the present Government was introduced on Friday last by the Premier It is admitted that it is full time that active steps were taken to place the province in an efficient state of defence, and we are pleased to see that the subject is to be brought thus early before the attention of the House. But that any proposed change or reorganization of this kind will be objected to by the opposition on some ground or other is a foregone conclusion. The question is to be divided, it seems; one Bill being devoted to the Militia and the other to the Volunteering system, although in the practical working the two will be combined. The idea in reference to the Militia, is that the officers, in the first place, must fit themselves for the proper discharge of their duties. In order to do this, Military Schools will be established at the expense of the Government, to which the officers may have easy access. This plan is doubtless a good one, and will be the means of disseminating military knowledge throughout the rural districts, while at the same time it will raise the officers to a higher standard than they have at any former time occupied. It will be seen from the report of the premier's speech, which we copy elsewhere, it is expected that the Militia force of the Province when properly organised will number about 400,000 men. Whether this aggregate includes the total of the Volunteer force or is exclusive of it, we cannot at the present moment say, but as the Bill respecting Volunteers will be introduced to-day, we shall not remain long in the dark. As far as we can judge, and until we receive the Militia Bill itself, we cannot see that it contains anything to which Canadians should seriously object. It asks for no cumbrous or intricate machinery—it is comparatively economical, and yet it is framed in such a manner as to call for an exercise of patriotism on the part of the people. If the Bill had been made so as to involve an immense outlay of money, it might be at once objected to as too heavy for the country to bear; if, on the other hand, it provides ample machinery, but dependent upon the hearty good will of the people for its operation, they will be responsible for *working* it.

After all, however, it seems to us that the Militia will be looked upon more as a reserve that can be looked to and counted upon in any emergency, and that the Volunteer Movement will be encouraged to the greatest possible extent. That Movement has been eminently successful. At a moderate expenditure it has provided us with 25,000 well-drilled, energetic, loyal soldiers, men who have already sacrificed much of their time and money for the good of their country, and who, we feel persuaded, will never flinch when duty calls them to the field. It has met with some opposition, and many have been the predictions of failure. But the last objection has been swept away, on the fields of Picton and Brantford. On those review grounds it has been demonstrated that thousands of men can be concentrated at any given point inside of twenty-four hours, and better still, that isolated companies can be thrown into battallions, with the precision almost of regulars. We hope the premier will provide for the acceptance of 10,000 fresh volunteers, and that the country will not begrudge the paltry expense. This arm is destined to be the nucleus around which the whole military strength of Canada will concentrate.

THE LATE REVIEW.

We are sorry to observe that most of our contemporaries in their reports of the Review overlook the 6th Brigade altogether. This was owing to the fact that it was marched upon the ground without stopping to report to the Secretary, and the reporters finding it more convenient to take their lists from the books of that gentleman than to go down the whole line, were led into the error. It is true our volunteers were noticed in one or two papers, Capt. Ross's company, specially, in the *Globe*, *Spectator*, and London *Free Press*, but it would have been more satisfactory if the reports were systematically correct. The *Free Press*, speaking of the troops as they passed, terms our boys the Goderich Garrison Battalion—mistaking them, perhaps, for regulars. We, ourselves, made the mistake of classing Capt. Seymour's Rifles as No. 2—it should have been Co. No. 5, as drawn up on the field. On the whole, we are happy to congratulate the Volunteers of Goderich on their success. The Huron Rifles have had a good many difficulties to contend with—formed at a time of excitement, many joined who soon retired, and up to the present time the corps has been compelled to take in recruits to fill up the places of able and well-drilled men, whose avocations have demanded their presence elsewhere. This has been a serious drawback, and yet the company was enabled to pass a very creditable examination on the 3rd, having, together with the artillery drawn a commending "Well done!" from General Napier, as they marched past him. We hope the company will now endeavor to keep up its credit, and, aided by the zealous efforts of Capt. Seymour and Sergeant McLean, go ahead until it reaches the efficiency of the regular service. This, we believe, can only be done by steadiness, good disciple, and great attention to drill. By these means, it may at any time, take a position beside the best corps in the Province. Of the artillery company we will only say that its laurels have been fairly and honorably won, and it should see to it that they are retained. When the great guns arrive it will be able to make a good "report." Success to our Goderich Volunteers, and may they never come off worse, on review or battle-field!

THE WAR

Drags along as slowly as ever. Several assaults upon Wagner and Sumpter have been repulsed. The Federals claim that they are sure of capturing Charleston. There has been no important movement made by either army in Virginia.

BOOK NOTICES.

It is at all times pleasant to turn from the turmoil and bother of journalistic life to the delightful shades of philosophy and solid literature. These in all their purity are to be found in the pages of the Edinburgh Reviews as reprinted and placed within the reach of every man, from the mechanic upwards, by Messrs. L. Scott & Co of New York. There is a peculiar charm to the thinking in these reviews. Given, a long autumn evening, a bright fire, a good light, and one of these Reviews in one's hand, and if that is not the *ne plus ultra* of literary felicity, then we are no judges. We have here a medium between the light and the solid of reading, emanating from the most richly stored minds in Europe, and comprising a a glorious compendium of the world's progress in science, literature and art.

The North British and London Quarterly for the present quarter are superb numbers, embracing every subject that is of special interest. For sale by Mr. Moorhouse.

British American Mag.—We have received through Mr. Moorhouse (the agent) from the publishers the number of this monthly for Sept. It is fully equal to its predecessors, and, we are happy to hear, is meeting with a ready sale in Goderich. Purchase a number by all means.

Arrival of the "City of New York."

New York, Sept. 6.

The steamship *City of New York*, from Liverpool on the 26th, and Queenstown on the 27th, arrived this morning.

It was reported that a rebel man-of-war was repairing at Brest.

The *Globe's* Paris correspondent says it is reported that sundry vessel modelled after the *Alabama*, are quietly building in French ports. He also alluded to the *canard* that instructions had been sent to Mr. Mercer to protest against the continued recognition, at Washington, of the Juarez Mexican representative.

A committee of the Emancipation Society, on the 26th, memorialized Earl Russell to stop the departure of two steamers designed for the Confederate service, constructed by the builders of the *Alabama*, and ready to sail from the Mersey. They allege that one was to sail on or about the 28th of August, and be received by the *Florida*, which was hovering on the coast for the purpose. They also allege that another iron-clad is approaching completion on the Clyde, and call upon the Government to promptly interfere and apply the law with vigor.

The *Daily News* backs up the memorial.

Mr. Seward, in responding to the address of the Anti-Slavery Conference at Manchester to President Lincoln, say their arguments furnish the President with additional motives to put down the insurrection.

Nothing New in the Polish or Mexican question.

It is reported that the conference of German Princes has adopted the most important recommendations of Austria.

Liverpool, Aug 26., p.m.—Flour dull and a shade easier. Wheat in moderate demand but partially at 1d to 2d per cental lower for winter red western; old 8s 3d to 8s 4d.—Corn very quiet and 3d lower; mixed western 29s 6d per 480 lbs. Beef quiet but steady. Pork firm and steady. Bacon rather favours the buyers.

London Markets.—Breadstuffs dull, and wheat 1d to 2d lower than on Friday. Sugar active and firm. Coffee firm.

Terrific Gunpowder Explosion.

On Wednesday, 19th August, a tremendous gunpowder explosion took place on board the United States steamer 'City of Madison,' which was a the time loaded with ammunition at Vicksburg:—

The boat was lying at the wharf immediately in front of the city, ready to receive the cargo. In order to expediate the loading, a heavy detail of soldiers, numbering 160, was made at noon from one of the regiments in the city. As an augmentation of the number, about twenty negroes were also engaged in the work.

During the entire afternoon the work went on with unabating vigor. One continuous train of men could be seen, like so many industrious ants, moving to and from the boat laden, or returning unladen, as then happened.

In order to hasten the work, the party was divided into two bodies, one of which carried the ammunition to the hatch, and the other in the hold, deposited it in its proper place. At the time of the fatal slip a negro was standing in the hatch to receive the ammunition and pass it to one below, the weight being too much for one man. A shell was being passed. The soldier had given it into the hands of the negro, and was walking away in the train of many others preceding him, who were returning to bring a fresh load. At the same time pressing along the gangway was a crowd of the laden, hastening to deliver their loads into the hands of those below. In the hold the men were no less active, and quickly disposed of the crowding and accumulation of business in store for them. Unfortunately the negro standing below failed to properly secure in his hands the shell handed him from the one in the hatch above. It slipped, he made an effort to regain his grasp, but it had already struck. The shock sustained by the fall ignited the irresistible power within. No sooner came the flash than followed the report. In an instant, as if the first were merely the premonitions of the great terrors to succeed, the very city shook to its foundation, window panes fell in with the terrible concussion with a deafening crash, the river boiled violently and spasmodically, and its very bottom was ploughed up by the immense rush of the element.

Now followed all the horrors which ever mutilated the human form and wound it in the writhing of most painful and shocking tortures. The boat in the explosion had parted; the hull fortunately was forced immediately to the bottom of the river, going down bow first, thus lessening the immensity of power involved in the large quantity of ammunition on board, for the rushing of the water in a measure checked the violence of a greater explosion which otherwise would have followed As the hull of the boat went down, the cabin, texas, pilot-house, chimneys and everything above the deck, shot into the air, over one hundred feet, in one confusion of timber, furniture, machinery and bodies, and fell into the surging, hissing ruin below.

The picture that now presented itself may thus be briefly summed up The boat was a total wreck. The buildings in the vicinity were wrenched almost from their foundations There was an almost total absence of window panes. The boats in the vicinity were shattered or blackened. The steamer 'Ed. Walsh' lay with her whole side torn from her.

Men and animals were flying scattered here and there on the levee, dead, dying or suffering, powder-burned or internally injured by the intense force of the concussion. The water could be seen presenting spots of earthly substance upon its surface, and here and there small circles of blood, which plainly marked the end of some fallen victim. Then again bodies could be seen amidst the rubbish of the catastrophe, occasionally one popping out of the water, blackened and bloated, remaining poised on the surface a moment and then for the last time to sink to rise no more. In other places it seemed as if some still breathing body might be seen in its last paroxysm of death gasp, throw out its arms for help and then fall back into the watery depths, its death couch and its grave.

The Vanderbilt Sunk by the Georgia.

(From the Tallahassee Floridian, Aug. 22)

We are happy to state that the despatch received by Mr. Pettes some days since, announcing that the Federal steamer Vanderbilt had been sunk by the Confederate steamer Georgia, Captain Semmes, has been confirmed by a passenger, who recently arrived at a Confederate port from Havana. It seems that the Vanderbilt chased the Georgia for some hours, and upon nearing hailed her, with a demand to surrender, which was answered by a broadside from the Georgia, which disabled and finally sunk the Federal steamer. Her crew consisting of about five hundred men were drowned except thirty. One thing only was wanting to make this victory a complete success. The notorious Commodore Wilkes was not on board the Vanderbilt when she sunk, he having been removed from the command some time previous, and consequently was not drowned. The Vanderbilt was the fastest and most dangerous vessel of her description in the Federal navy.

[Note—The above will require further confirmation. Letters from Havana state that the Vanderbilt was in Port Rio de Janeiro on the 16th of July; while the Navy Department has no advices of her loss, as reported by Richmond papers.]

The New Militia Bill.

Mr. J. S. Macdonald in introducing his Militia Bill, spoke about an hour in explanation of its provisions. He said the country must depend on its militia as the main guarantee for its security. The volunteers were to be regarded as a valuable auxiliary force, but quite inadequate of itself for the defence of the country in time of danger.—He acknowledged the difficulty of dealing with the question of the proper organization of the militia which had pressed itself on the attention of many Administrations, without anything satisfactory being done. It was evident that the time had now come when we should bestir ourselves to provide for the proper defence of our country, this being called for, not only by our own necessities, but in consequence of the demand made by the mother country, which had heretofore borne the main share of our defence. He had set himself, therefore, earnestly to the task of preparing such a measure as would at once be making provision for the safety of the country, and at the same time not to interfere with the feelings and prejudices of the people. The Bill he introduced last session proposed to do away with the militia organization which had existed since 1854, and which was admitted on all hands to be defective, and to provide machinery by which the Governor General, who is Commander in Chief of the Militia, should be able, on very short notice, to call out the whole available forces of the country. The difficulty was as to having competent officers for that force.—He then thought the volunteer force, which he was glad to see still sustained with a degree of spirit, very creditable to the feelings of the people of this country, and drill associations would be the means of efficiently officering the militia. He must say, however, that his anticipations on that head had not been realized, and it was necessary that other means should be adopted which would secure brave and loyal men in Canada who, when called out to defend their country, would be led by men trained and fit to command them. Then, again, the Bill of last session was found great fault with because it ignored the existence of the old organization, which had 468 battalions, thirteen thousand officers, and an equal number of non-commissioned officers. This was very distasteful to a large class, who claimed to have done some good service to the country, and who disliked being reduced to merely honorary officers in regimental divisions which were to be formed.—That feeling had been pressed so strongly on the Government that he came to the conclusion that the old organization should be permitted to remain. The competent officers of that old organization, however it was intended should be available for the new organization to be formed in a way which he would proceed to point out. According to the present returns, only 285,000 men, rank and file, were on the roll of the militia in both sections of the Province. When the returns were properly made he believed that the total would be shown to be 350,000, or 400,000, between the ages of 18 and 45. We proposed, as under the existing law, to divide the militia into three classes; first class service men, comprising unmarried men and widowers without children, between 18 and 45.—Second class service, married and widowers with children, between same ages. And third class, reserve men, those between 45 and 60. The first question then to be dealt with was, to provide machinery under which the people of this country could best be called out in time of danger. The next was the training of officers who were to command them. Assessors would each year prepare Militia rolls, distinguishing the three classes. A transcript of these rolls for each county would be transmitted by the Clerk of the County Council to the Clerk of the Peace, and when the Governor called for such a number of service men as he might see fit—say 50,000 first-class and 50,000 second-class—the Warden, Sheriff, and County Judge would meet, and ballot for the number required from their respective counties. In Lower Canada, in cases where the assessment system was not in operation, the Militia census would be made by Militia officers appointed for the purpose. The ballot would take place for three years, and in the balloting, the number of battalions required from counties and townships, would furnish their respective quotas according to population.—Those ballotted would be exempt from muster in non-service battalions. In appointing officers for the service battalions, the Governor might select those who had qualified themselves by volunteer service or by means of drill associations, or who showed themselves qualified by examination before boards of examiners to be appointed for each county or union of adjacent counties. If a sufficient number of competent officers cannot from the outset be obtained, the Governor may grant personal commissions, to be withdrawn within a certain time if those to whom they are issued do not qualify themselves. The officers now in command will have the preference in receiving these provisional commissions.—The House would be asked to appropriate a certain sum towards the education of officers. A school of military instruction would be established in each section of the Province in connection with some regiment of Her Majesty's forces, a certain number of whose officers and non-commissioned officers would be asked to assist in the work of instruction, and who would be paid a certain allowance for the extra duties they had to perform. From among officers who applied to receive instruction enabling them to receive a certificate of qualification, the Governor could select as many as could be received at one time, and others would be taken in their turn. If two months diligently employed in school instruction were sufficient, at the end of that period those first received would go out, and others would take their places.—The Government proposed to defray the expenses of travelling and maintenance of those who received instruction, and would ask $100,000 for that purpose, of which $12,000 or $15,000 would be to pay instructors, and the balance to meet travelling expenses and the subsistence of those instructed. He had no doubt the Imperial authorities would provide every facility for establishing these schools of instruction in connection with regiments of the line. The officers so instructed, it was believed, when returned to their respective localities, would be the means of diffusing the military knowledge they had acquired, and would display a spirit of emulation and zeal in organizing volunteer companies &c. He proposed that the Governor might at his discretion call out service battalions for drill, for a period not exceeding six days in one year. It was not intended to make any allowance for pay, as he hoped the people of this country would see the necessity, when ballotted, to make the sacrifice of time required to organize themselves for drill. For such period—the six days of drill would not be necessarily consecutive, but the commander-in-chief would appoint drill to take place at such times in each as he deemed most convenient. These were the main features of the Bill. The particulars of the volunteer system he could explain when he introduced his Bill respecting the Volunteer Militia. The Government proposed to deal with the question of defence in no niggardly spirit, and he trusted they would be sustained by the House in the measures they deemed it necessary to adopt.—(Cheers.)

Town & Counties.

☞ We are requested to announce to our Northern readers that on the 1st of October next the time-table of the Str. Bruce will be changed, and that meantime the trips to Sarnia will be discontinued.—Attention to this notice may prevent disappointments.

☞ Remember the Concert to be given by Mr. Ferguson in the Victoria Hall, on Thursday evening, under the patronage of the Goderich Volunteers. A pianist, and other musicians, have kindly consented to assist on the occasion.

☞ A New Store.—In our last we had not time to notice the opening of a new store in town by Messrs. D. Kerr Jr. & Co. The firm is a highly respectable one, and, therefore, will be entitled to a full share of the patronage of the public. See adv. in another column.

☞ A Nose Lost.—One day last week two navvies got into a fight on the flats, when one of the combatants had his nose bitten clean off. One of the ways to fight!

BATTALION DRILL.

We understand that arrangements are being made for having the Volunteers of this portion of the District assembled at Goderich for battalion drill on the 21st inst. Nine or ten companies are expected.

New Temperance Order.—Through the influence of Mr. Ralph Stephenson and others of the Village of Kinburn, in the township of Hullett, a new Temperance organization has been established in that village. We cannot as yet give any account of the progress it is making.

Melancholy Accident.—As the Rev. W. J. Hunter, Wesleyan Minister of Clinton, was returning from the performance of his pastoral duties on Sunday the 23rd ult., his horse took fright and ran away, upon which he was speedily thrown from his carriage. His left arm catching amongst the spokes of the wheel was broken above the elbow and otherwise mangled. His head was also bruised in a most shocking manner, and when the account reached us was very much swollen. It is to be hoped, however, that the calamity may not prove fatal. Rev. Mr. Hunter is a very pious, earnest and zealous minister of the Gospel; his loss therefore would be very much felt and deeply regretted by his hearers and the public generally.

Narrow Escape.—It is rather remarkable, in addition to the above, that as the Rev. D. E. Brownell, Wesleyan Minister, was proceeding to discharge his duties as pastor in the village of Kinburn, on Sabbath, August 30th, he had a narrow escape of his life. On going over a rough part of the road pretty briskly, the sulky or gig in which he was riding gave a severe jolt, upon which he was immediately thrown out between the side of the seat and the wheel. His horse being very gentle, at once stopped, otherwise the injury done might have been incalculable.

Scarlet Fever.—This disease is quite prevalent in parts of the township of Morris. It has caused quite a number of deaths.

THE APPROACHING EXHIBITION.

As the time selected for the Annual Show in connection with the Co. Huron A. S. is close at hand, it will be necessary for all interested to prepare without delay. At a meeting of the Directors on the 11th inst., James Torrance and Wm. McKay, Esqs., were appointed Judges at the Harpurhey Show.

James Biggings, L. R., Clinton, was appointed as judge of Draught Horses at Provincial Exhibition, and George Sproat as judge for long-wooled sheep. Mr. N. T. Custead was appointed to take charge of the in-door exhibition of the County Show, to be held in the Drill Room, Goderich, on the 17th and 18th insts. The choice was a most judicious one, and we have no doubt Mr. C., from his thorough horticultural experience, combined with his talent for hard work, will bring the department under his charge up to the mark as far as preparation can do so. We hope his efforts will be cordially backed up by every person interested in the success of the exhibition.

The show of last year was better than anticipated, but we hope to see a much better one this year. The room selected is a capital one, and if properly arranged, will be very favorable to display. The competition in the fruit line is expected to be unusually keen, and we confidently look for a fine turn out.

The following parties were selected to act as Judges at the forthcoming exhibition of the society to be held at Goderich, Sept. 17th and 18th.

On stock, sheep, cattle and pigs, Clinton and Wawanosh branches be requested to send one judge each.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

Amos Martin, Wm. Shaw, and Mr. Cleghorn.

On poultry, corn, dairy produce and manufactures: R. W. Wallace, J. Y. S. Kirk and John Kay.

FANCY NEEDLEWORK.

Mrs. Ross, sen., Mrs. Ross Robinson, and Mrs. Rich.

On fruits, Charles McGregor, Peter Robertson, and L. Peck.

Flowers, A. Guthrie, Mr. Fair, and Mr. Nichol.

Vegetables, Thomas Sloan, E. R. Owen, and Robert Little, sen.

James Thompson was appointed by the directors to sell tickets during the exhibition, at the Hall.

COUNTY COURT AND QUARTER SESSIONS.

The Courts opened Tuesday at the usual hour. The civil business is small, but we are sorry to say that the calendar is rather larger than usual.

The following magistrates were present, Judge Cooper, Chairman, R. Gibbons, W. Hayes, and H. Johnston, Esqs.

The following charge was delivered to the Grand Jury, of whom James Sloan was chosen foreman.

Mr. Foreman and Gentlemen—There are several cases of importance in the calendar requiring your consideration, but I believe that every diligence will be used to enable you to dispose of them with such promptness that you may not be detained from your homes at this season, when farm work requires your attention, any longer than is plainly necessary. The Court, it may as well be understood by the profession, will sit (after to-day) until a late hour each evening; so that as few days as possible may be occupied.

The first case is a charge of firing a loaded gun at a party, or an assembly of parties. If you find that the gun was fired as if with intent, you may present the accused, whatever provocation he may have received. That may be a question for the petty jury. And, should you have any doubt about the precise nature of any prosecution you may think should be proceeded with, you may bring in a presentment in your own language, leaving the Crown officer to frame such indictment and take such steps as justice requires. I make this observation because it is said that there was something in the nature of a riotous assemblage at the time the gun was discharged, and until you hear the evidence, it is not easy to say in what form or against whom the prosecution should be conducted.

Two serious accusations of larceny appear. One is of an ox, and the other a valuable watch. You know well what consitutes the offence of stealing, and I am certain you will deal carefully with these cases. The owners of the property, and probably other witnesses, will explain the facts to you. You will only hear the witnesses for the Crown, and it is only for you to say whether the accused should or not be put upon his trial; or if he is, any defence he may have will come out before the petty jury.

Two cases of assault, of a very atrocious character, if the statements of the prosecutors have any truth in them, will be laid before you. In one of these cases the party complaining appears with his nose horribly bitten, as he says by the accused. In civilized countries, even, unfortunately men often fight; but it takes much from the credit of a community like this, that fighting, bad as it is at best, should degenerate into downright brutality. It will be competent for you to say, in these cases, whether you find bills—if at all—for assault with intent to kill or to do bodily harm, or for common assault. But it is not *necessary* for you to make the distinction, for that can be done by the petty jury afterwards, although your bill may be for the higher offence.

You will find in the gaol some prisoners for other offences murder, arson and forgery But the gaol cannot be delivered of them at this Court. They must remain until the assizes. As to others within the prison, such as for default of bail and the like, you may in some cases wish to make some recommendation to the Bench, and if so, your opinions will receive every attention.

Besides visiting the gaol, you may, if you see fit, inspect the Court House, and the accommodations for public officers, one of whom, the Clerk of the Peace, informs me that he has something respecting his office to bring to your notice.

THE REVIEWER REVIEWED.

Mr. Editor,—I wish to call attention to an article in your issue of the 20th of August, professing to be a review of a very sensible and sober article, which appeared in the *Signal* of the 23rd of July. Now sir, I put it to any competent judge whether or not, a more paltry and significant piece of criticism ever appeared in print. The writer must be very fond of gazing at his own little productions, for according to his own account he has shown some experience in that way—though I am sure no one would think so from the character of his last piece of composition. The first remark of this eminent reviewer refers to the number of persons present. Now, it must have been evident to any man possessed of a grain of sense, that the mistake arose from a typographical error on the part of the printer. The number intended was, of course, 1,000, which would have been much nearer the mark than 1,200. The second criticism refers to the object of the meeting. The writer of the 23rd of July stated that it was the anniversary of 1690, by which he evidently meant not only the crowning of William and Mary, but all the benefits accruing from their reign, including as a matter of course the victory of the Boyne; this must have been clear to any reflective mind. The third criticism has reference to the order of the assembly. Now, as regards the respectability an' order of the assembly in Howick, there could be but one opinion, yet at the same time it is universally known that the general character and conduct of those gatherings has been such as to damage the true interests of Protestantism, and deeply, to pain the mind of every respectable Orangeman. The next in order of the review relates to the number and intention of the cheers. This, however, is beneath notice—only I should like to know what the Reviewer means by solemn cheers? And now one word with regard to the Speakers. Your writer of the 20th of August must indeed be a very poor judge of the merits of an address, and very unfit to write an article. He persists in stating that Mr. Ekins' speech was an intelligent one. Mr. Ekins may be a good man, but he certainly has a coarse and uncultivated mind. His speech on that occasion was characterized by slang phrases, rash statements, and vulgar appeals to the passions of his audience. What the writer of the 23rd of July meant by the term 'extreme,' must have been very clear to any intelligent mind, for in the addresses of several of the Speakers, there was a marked want of that moderation which ought always to characterize the speeches delivered on such an occasion.

In conclusion, I would say with the writer of the 23rd of July—the speeches on the main were good. The addresses delivered by Mr. Kelly and Mr. Alexander were good, and the one delivered by the fourth speaker, the Rev. Mr Cragg, was, though short, a most pleasing and admirable speech.

AN OBSERVER.

Examination of School Teachers.

At the examination of School Teachers in Goderich on the 13th and 14th of August, the following received licenses,

1st Class.—Lucy Dulmage, James McCartney, David Stoddart, Duncan McGregor, James Brick, Patrick DeCantelon, William Montgomery, James McAndrew.

2nd Class.—Mary Smith, Eliza Densmore, Christina Rodgers, Ann E. Hore, Caroline Haliday, Isabella Green, Elizabeth Woodman, Barbara Smith, Eliza Welsh, Susan Dixon, Thomas Curry, Samuel Hutchinson, Patrick Murphey, James R. Cummings, Wellington McVetty, Richard Encrett, Dugald Strachan, David R. Gordon, Robert Deachman David O'Brien, James Newcome, Andrew Fletcher, Thomas Meddleton, James Richmond, John Vares, William H. Brown, George Wright, Samual McIlvany, George Fluker, Felix Hauratty.

3rd Class.—Jane Taylor, Margaret Walker, Ann Taylor, Delphina Parent, Janet McCarther, Ann Smith, Margaret Thomson, Marinda Clarke, Mary Ann White, Emily Morgan, Clara Morgan, Sarah Aunlay, Lavinia Morris, William Wilson, Jeremiah O'Mera John, Fletcher, Benjamin Darcy, Cornelius Coughlin, Malcolm Campbell, Joseph Halkirck, Daniel Stevenson, David Jacques, Anson Dulmage, Richard Meddleton.

Teetoalism Right or Wrong?

R. D. WADSWORTH, the pioneer temperance lecturer, will visit the following places (D. V.) at the dates specified, of the present month, and deliver Lectures on Total Abstinence principles. Mr. W. hopes a harmonious and united effort will be made to circulate the notice, and secure a large attendance. Wednesday, 9th, Carthage, Lecture; Thursday, 10th, Listowell, do; Friday, 11th, Donegal, do; Saturday, 12th, Mitchell, do; Sabbath, 13th, Egmondville, Sermon, Morning; Sabbath, 13th, Seaforth, Sermon, Afternoon; Sabbath, 13th, Roxbury, Sermon, Evening; Monday, 14th, Harpurhey, Lecture; Tuesday, 15th, Clinton, do; Wednesday, 16th, Blythe, do; Thursday, 17th, Holmesville, do; Friday, 18th, Goderich, do; Saturday, 19th, Bayfield, do; Sabbath, 20th, Brucefield, Sermon, Morning; Sabbath, 20th, Brucefield, Sermon, Afternoon; Sabbath, 20th, Rogerville, Evening; Monday, 21st, Exeter, Lecture; Tuesday 22nd, Devon, do; Wednesday, 23rd, McGillivray, do; Thursday, 24th, St. Mary's, do; Friday, 25th, Lakeside, do; Saturday, 26th, Embro, do.—Donations or Collections thankfully received.

THE CHALLENGE ACCEPTED.

To the Editor of the Huron Signal;

Sir,—In your last issue I perceived a challenge from my friend Mr. Wm. McDougall, of Goderich township, for a friendly match at Binding for a stake of $10. I beg to say that I will meet him next season at a like match, and having taken the prize this year I feel quite confident that I am capable to do so again; after which I am willing to accommodate him with a stake of $10, $20, or $30 dollars, to bind one or more acres, and if he is very anxious to lose money, I will leave it to him to name the sum by giving this insertion in your next issue, you will much oblige

Your obedient servant,
HUGH SIMPSON.

Stanley, August 31st, 1863.

A shrewd trick was recently practised in London. A dandy, dressed up in the most faultless style, called at a large jewelry store, and after a short examination, bought a gold watch for £20, and he handed the rejoiced salesman a £100 note. He examined it carefully, and finding it to be genuine, he gave him back the required change, £80. Just as he was stepping out of the store, he was met by another dandy, equally as well dressed, and whom he seemed to recognise. He exhibited his newly bought watch to his friend and was very profuse in his praises about it and its very fine finish. Both stepped back into the store, and a short persuasion on the part of the first dandy induced the new comer to buy a similar watch for the same price.—He also paid for his watch with £100 note (the English dandies do not trouble themselves with small change, after the experienced dealer had satisfied himself that the note was genuine. But just as the last dandy was in the act of pocketing the money and watch, both dandies suddenly appeared much agitated; they looked into the street, whispered to each other, then suddenly made a dash for the door. But to the dismay and discomfiture of both, a constable jumped out of the carriage, collared them both, and with a triumphant "I have got you at last, you scoundrels," led them back into the store. Here he informs the dealer that the two gentlemen are two of the sharpest swindlers in London (which is saying a good deal), and asked the jeweler what business he had with them.—"These gentleman have bought two gold watches for fifty pounds, and paid for them in good money," said the now frightened dealer. The constable laughed right out, and asked him if he had not been paid in hundred pound notes. The jeweler said he had, a fearful light beginning to dawn upon him. The constable then demanded to see the notes.—The *Corpor; delicii* were produced, and the constable informed the now thunderstruck dealer that the notes were forged, and the culprits overwhelmed with the weight of their guilt, silently acknowledged the deed. The vigilant officer, jubilant over the important catch seizes watches, money and prisoners and summoning the jeweler to attend the police bureau in an hour, puts the prisoners in a carriage and drives off on a gallop. Just as the last sound of the carriage had died away in the distance, the jeweler recovered from his surprise. It now occurred to him that perhaps it would have been better if he had accompanied the expedition. Breathless he dashed out, but the cab had vanished. He made inquiries at the bureau, but the trio had vanished, and neither cab nor men were ever seen again. Deeply hurt at the immorality of the times, which even made the sacred uniforms of the police serve them in their nefarious schemes, the compatriot of the great McDonald returned home a sadder but a wiser man.

An Execution in Ireland.

On Tuesday morning, August 4th, about half-past eight o'clock, Charles McCormack, who had been convicted at the last assizes for the murder of a young man named Michael Belgan, at Drinanbridge, on the 21st of November, suffered the last penalty of the law in front of the Longford Gaol. The cap having been drawn over his eyes, he walked forward with a firm step on the drop. The rope having been adjusted, the executioner with disgusting solicitude, called with a loud voice to those who stood near the doomed and the dying to "stand clear of the drop." The wretch himself withdrew, and there stood Charles McCormack alone. After a fearful pause of about a minute, which seemed an hour, the body of the unfortunate man fell heavily, and disappeared from the view of the crowd behind the constabulary who guarded the approach to the gaol. What a sight of appalling horror now presented itself. The rope being too long, the wretched man fell on his knees on the steps in front of the entrance to the gaol. Pinioned and half stunned, he strove to rise to his feet, and as he writhed about, the attention of the executioner was directed to the spectacle calculated to make the life-blood freeze in the heart. Two of the constabulary fainted at the soul sickening sight, and all within now closed their eyes in horror. The mode by which the executioner mended his blunder was even more terrible. The wretched man was winched up by the neck until his feet were clear of the steps, and then he was left suspended in fearful convulsions for fully three minutes, till death, apparently by strangulation, put an end to the poor wretch's bitter sufferings. The body having hung for 40 minutes, was lowered into a coffin placed on the steps, and the rope having been cut by the executioner, the two brothers and the uncle of the deceased came forward and wept bitterly as they placed the lid on the remains of him who had just paid a terrible penalty for his crime.

The wife of James Wemys, Esq., Mayor of Brantford, committed suicide, on Tuesday last, by drowning herself in the Grand River. Domestic troubles are supposed to have been the cause of her committing this rash act.

It Can be Done.

Rev. J. P. Tustin, Charleston, S. C., writes—"By the use of Mrs. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer and Zylobalsamum my white hair is changed to its original color, and new hair coming in. I consider them very valuable preparations. Sold by Druggists everywhere. Depot, 193 Greenwich st., New York.

Wm. Baker the Young Patriot.

I

"No, William Baker, you cannot have my daughter's hand in marriage until you are her equal in wealth and social position."

The speaker was a haughty old man of some sixty years, and the person whom he addressed was a fine looking young man of twenty five.

With a sad aspect the young man withdrew from the stately mansion.

II

Six months later the young man stood in the presence of the haughty old man.

"What! you here again? angrily cried the old man.

"Ah, old man," proudly exclaimed William Baker, "I am here, your daughter's equal and yours!"

The old man's lip curled with scorn. A derisive smile lit up his cold features; when, casting violently upon the marble center table an enormous roll of green backs, William Baker cried:

"See! Look at this wealth. And I've tenfold more! Listen old man! You spurned me from your door but I did not despair. I secured a contract for furnishing the army of the——with beef."

"Yes, yes!" eagerly exclaimed the old man.

——"And I bought up all the disabled cavalry horses I could find"—

"I see! I see!" cried the old man. "And good beef they make too."

"They do! they do! and the profits are immense."

"I should say so!"

"And now, sir, I claim your daughter's fair hand."

"Boy, she is yours. But hold! Look me in the eye. Throughout all this have you been loyal?"

"To the core!" cried William Baker.

"And," continued the old man, in a voice husky with emotion, "are you in favour of a vigorous prosecution of the war?"

"I am, I am!"

"Then, boy, take her! Maria, child, come hither. Your William claims thee. Be happy my children! And whatever your lot in life may be, let us all support the government?"—*Artemus Ward.*

Hard on the Minister.

A minister was travelling in the back woods and espying a cabin, entered on his mission of mercy. The lady of the house (she being alone and rightly judging his errand) when she perceived him approaching seized the Bible, and when he entered, was all intent busily engaged in perusing the volume. He noticed, however, that she held the book with the letters reversed, or, in other words upside down. After the usual courtesies, the minister inquired what she was reading.

"Ou, 'bout the ole prophete," was the evident self satisfactory reply.

"It is very edifying to read of the suffering and death of Christ," said the minister.

"And so that good man is dead—is he?" asked the matron, geting interested.

"Certainly he is."

"Well, that's just the way. I've been at John a long time to take the papers, but he won't. Everybody in the world might die and we would not hear a bit 'bout it," said the woman in a rapid tone.

"Ah, woman you are in the dark," said the preacher with elongated face

"Yes I know we are, I've been at John a long time to put a window in the far end of the house, but he wont do that nuther."

"I perceive you are weak in knowledge?"

"Know I am weak, but I guess if you'd had the billious fever an' takin' sasafrax and cataract pills as long as I have you'd be weak too!" replied the woman in rather an angry tone of voice, and half an octave higher than usual.

An Unexpected Marriage.

Old Governor Soltonstall of Connecticut, who flourished about a half century ago, was a man of some humor as well as perseverance in affecting the ends desired. Among other anecdotes told of him by the New London people, the place where he resided, is the following:

Of the various sects that have flourished for a day and then ceased to exist, was one known as the Rogerites, so called from their founder, a Tom, or a John, or some other Rogers.

The distinguished tenet of the sect was the denial of the propriety of the form of the marriage tie. They believed it was not good for a man to be alone, and also that one wife only should cleave to her husband, but then this should be a matter of agreement merely, and the couple should come together, live as man and wife, dispensing with all forms of marriage covenant. The old Governor used often to visit Rogers and talk the matter over with him, and seek to convince him of the impropriety of living with Sarah as he did. But neither John nor Sarah would give up the argument.

It was a matter of conscience with them: they were happy as they were—of what use could mere form be—suppose they did thereby invite scandal—were they not bound to take up the cross, and live according to the rules they professed? The Governor's logic was powerless to convict them.

'Now, John,' said the Governor, after a debate of the point, 'why will you not marry Sarah? Have you not taken her to be your lawful wife?'

'Yes, certainly,' replied John; 'but my conscience will not permit me to marry her in the form of the world's people.'

'Very well. But you love her?' 'Yes.' 'And respect her?' 'Yes.' 'And cherish her as the bone of your bone and flesh of your flesh?' 'Yes, certainly I do.' 'And will?' 'Yes.'

Then turning to Sarah, the Governor said: 'And respect and cherish him?' 'Certainly I do.' 'And will?' 'Yes.'

'Then,' said the Governor, rising, 'in the name of the laws of God and the Commonwealth of Connecticut, I pronounce you man and wife.'

The rage of John and Sarah was of no avail. The knot was tied by the highest authority of the state.

The Story of Two Bullets.—The Vicksburg correspondent of the Missouri *Republican* narrates the following singular incident:

"I lately saw at the headquarters of Col. Slack's brigade, two Minie bullets, which had once told a history. One was a rebel bullet of English manufacture. The other was a national ball, of the Springfield rifle type.—The former was fired from a rifle pit at Jackson, at our skirmishers. The latter was from our line of skirmishers at the rifle pit. They met midway through the air, were wielded by the compact, and fell harmlessly to the ground. They are now firm friends, sticking each to the other closer than a brother or a lover.

Railways in India.—There are nearly three thousand miles of railway in India—all laid by the British within the last ten years. Last year these roads carried six million of passengers. Some of the works surpass in magnitude anything in England. The bridges on the Baroda line, constructed of wrought-iron girders