Huron Signal.

GODERICH, APRIL 26, 1866.

THE VOLUNTEER DINNER.

A GREAT SUCCESS.

200 Guest Present!

The Dinner given last night (19th) by the Corporation of the Town of Goderich to our returned Volunteers and the New Hamburg Co., was a splendid success.—To make the affair a reception it was, of course, necessary that no time should be lost, and the hasty manner in which it was got up prevented the elaboration of details that might have been possible under other circumstances. But the "Little Corporal" of the Huron Hotel was equal to the occasion. The task of providing for 200 men at about twenty-hours' notice, and preventing a failure, was a most serious one, and very few hotel-keepers would like to undertake it; yet is was undertaken in good faith and most successfully carried out. The tables used were three in number, running the full length of the large dining room, and the edibles provided were of the solid, substantial kind; just what a well worked soldier would wish for. At 8 o'clock, His Worship, Mayor Detlor, took the chair supported on the right by Major Ross and Ensign Smith, and on the left by Capts. Goodwin and Hays. M. C. Cameron, Esq., in the vice chair. At the table to the chairman's left, R. Runciman, Esq., presided, supported on the right by Ensign Seymour and on the left by Lieut. Davison; Mr. Clifford acting as croupier. The other table was under the direction of our respected Warden, Robt Gibbons, Esq., supported by Capt. Kirk and Ensign Horton, Mr. D. McKay being croupier.—The volunteers, as they entered and took seats, were purposely mingled, and while the arrangement gave the men an opportunity of getting acquainted, the effect produced by their varied uniforms was very fine.

The battalion then fell at the eatables, which disappeared in the most orthodox anti-dyspeptic fashion to the tune of about two hundred clattering knives and forks, and the ringing of as many glasses.—Amid the buz of conversation we could hear many remarks as to the handsome manner in which the demonstration had been got up. The guests having satisfied themselves, the cloth was removed, *pro forma*.

On rising to propose "The Queen," the chairman was greeted with deafening cheers. The toast was responded to right loyally—the company joining in the national anthem.

"The Governor General" was received with that new and popular air, "For he is a right good fellow." Song by Dixie Watson, "Red, White and Blue."

"The army and Navy" being proposed, Corporal Ring threw the guests into convulsions of laughter by singing a song, the verses of which ended with "My darling Dinah-Kitty-Annie-Marier." — Major Ross, on being called upon, responded briefly on behalf of the Army.

Capt. Crabb made a very good speech on behalf of the Navy, in the course of which he urged the placing of a number of gunboats on the upper lakes as one of the best means of keeping back invaders. His remarks on this subject were loudly cheered.

Commodore Ross (an aged veteran of the Royal Navy) was asked to respond, but he excused himself by calling upon his son, Capt. Ross, to fill his place. The Capt. made a few very sensible remarks, and wound up by expressing the pleasure he felt in the thought that Canada was able to turn out such a noble band of volunteers to defend their homes from invaders.

In proposing the next toast, the chairman spoke of the self-sacrificing spirit manifested by the Volunteers of Canada in coming forward as they had done at the first call of the Government. Nothing, in his opinion, could be better calculated to dispel the ideas sought to be inculcated by economists of the Goldwin Smith school. [Cheers.] We were now showing the people and authorities of the mother country that we were both able and willing to make every sacrifice in order to maintain inviolate the glorious institutions under which we lived. [Cheers.] Our educational institutions and our civil and religious privileges were second to those of no people in the world, and it was a duty devolving upon every Canadian to stand up in their defence, at all hazards. [Applause.] He had now great pleasure in proposing "The Volunteers of Canada." The civilians present, by straining their lungs a little, got up a very respectable cheer, and one gentleman startled the company by striking up the new and popular air we have already alluded to—"For they are, &c."

Capt. Goodwin, being called to his feet, said he came to Goderich not to make speeches, but to do a little fighting, if there was any to be done. He expressed himself warmly with regard to the kindly treatment he and those under his command, had received from the people of Goderich, but he feared they would break their hearts when they were called to leave the town. (Laughter and applause.) In some respects he was glad this Fenian excitement had taken place. The intention of the rascals was bad enough, no doubt, but the result would be a more thorough unity of feeling and action throughout the whole of British North America. (Cheers.)

Song by D. Watson, "Shout, shout, shout, ye Loyal Britons."

The next toast from the chair was "Our Guests." Major Ross, in response, said he coincided in the remark made by Capt. Goodwin that the present excitement would ultimately benefit the country.—Many had expressed a desire to have a brush with the Fenians, but in view of the horrible ravages of war, he sincerely hoped there would be no occasion for it. Some time ago, the opinion was prevalent in the United States that these Provinces were ready to drop like a ripe pear into the lap of the Great Republic, but the spirit manifested by the country during the past few weeks was sufficient to prove that annexationists in Canada might now be counted by twos and threes.—(Cheers.) A most beneficial influence would be exerted upon the minds of the home authorities, for in face of assertions that the Canadian people were indisposed to defend themselves, they would see that we were ready to turn out and meet an equal number of invaders. (Cheers.)

Capt. Hays said he felt proud of the manner in which Goderich had come forward in support of the Volunteer movement, and he felt proud also that he was honored with the command of what he considered the crack corps of the Province. (Laughter and applause.) When called to Sarnia so suddenly, they expected to be placed under fire at once, and although it was remarked that he turned very pale at the news, he thought he had got over that and could now lead his men where duty called with much more confidence then before they received such a thorough drilling under Col. Jarvis, than whom a better officer or more thorough gentleman was not to be found in the service.—(Cheers.) He hoped that, ere long, we should have not merely two companies on active service in Goderich, but ten.

Capt. Kirk said the companies sent from here to Sarnia had returned with whole skins, for which they were duly thankful, but if called away again they would show the same alacrity.

Capt. Yeomans, being called upon, arose and made a humorous speech. He said, amongst other things, that while it was creditable for Goderich to furnish two of such splendid Volunteer companies, it was also creditable that in the hour of supposed danger 95 good men had enrolled themselves as a home-guard. Out of the home-guard, to which he had been elected Capt. an Infantry company had been formed, and as Captain, he hoped to morrow to know whether they would be accepted by the Government.

Several capital songs were then given by Corp. Ring, Ensign Horton and the Glee Club.

Mr. Gibbons proposed Canada our home, and Mr. Cameron responded in his usual eloquent style, and wound up by proposing "the Land we left," coupled with the names of Judge Cooper and Mr. Crabb, both of whom made appropriate speeches.

Mr. Runciman proposed and Mr. Cox responded to, "The Press,"

Major Ross, in a very neat speech, proposed, "The Mayor and Carporation of Goderich."

The chairman responded in suitable terms.

Mr. Crabb proposed the health of Major Ross, and in doing so alluded to the former differences between the two companies, of which he hoped we had now heard the last.

In acknowledging the compliment paid him, the Major said he was not sorry Mr. Crabb had alluded to the trouble between the volunteer companies of Goderich, for he was happy to be able to state publicly that the differences mentioned had been settled, and that Capt. Hays and himself had shaken hands in token of future friendship. (cheers.) Capt Hays expressed the pleasure he had in burying the hatchet forever, and in seeing the good feeling that now existed between the officers and men of both companies.—(Continued cheering.)

The health of Ensign Seymour was proposed and duly responded to by that gentleman.

Mr. Runciman proposed the health of "Our host and hostess." Mr. Wright responded.

The company broke up about twelve o'clock, all present being delighted with the whole affair. We may mention that the volunteers behaved to the last in a most orderly and respectable manner.

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY DINNER.

The annual dinner in connection with the St. George's Society of this town was held at the Maitland Hotel, last night, 23rd. From some cause, chiefly we think a want of enterprise in disposing of tickets, the attendance was not so large as on former occasions, but still very few of the seats were empty. Besides the regular members of the Society, we noticed amongst those present Capt. Goodman, Capt. Hays, Sergt Phillips and other military gentlemen. The dinner itself—we mean the eating and drinking part—was got up in Mr. Hosker's best style, every article of the season being furnished, and served up in excellent style. The host deserves great praise for his exertions to render his guests comfortable in so far as an excellent repast could contribute to that happy result. After dinner the usual routine of loyal toasts was gone through with. Each, as proposed by the Chairman, C. Crabb, Esq., President elect of the Society, being received with cheers, and suitable songs. In proposing "The Day we Honor," the chairman rose to eloquence. He traced the history of England's tutelar saint, and showed that while he was adopted in that capacity by other countries, he was in a peculiar sense the "George of Merrie England." The speaker then recounted the heroic deeds of the British people—how they went on conquering and to conquer, until now England's mandate was listened to with awe and respect by the nations of the world. These sentiments were loudly cheered.

The vice chairman, Lieut. John Davison, in proposing "The Land we left," made a quiet but affective, sensible speech. Having attained her high position as a warlike power, England's mission was now one of peace—the advancement of science, literature and art, and the development of those vast commercial enterprises which tended to make her the richest, as she was the most powerful nation of the earth.

"Our Guests" was responded to in a suitable manner by James Watson, Esq., Capt. Goodman and Mr. W. T. Cox, all of whom bore testimony to the value of a society the main object of which was the alleviation of the sufferings and the supply of the wants of poor and distressed persons, not only English, but of British subjects generally.

To "The Land of our Adoption" Mr. Yeomans made a very good speech, in which he set forth the vast resources of Canada, and the high position she would inevitably take in future years amongst the nations of the earth.

Capt. Hays also responded in his usual off hand, happy style. He said he was proud of the land of his birth, and he believed it was the firm determination of the Canadian people to maintain their institutions against all who might wish to overthrow them.

On the toast of "the Canadian Volunteers" being proposed, Corporal J. J. Wright was called upon to make a speech in response, which he did. He lauded the spirit that actuated the volunteers to stand between their beloved country and a threatened invasion, and expressed his conviction that every man was prepared to do his duty unflinchingly. For his own part he would never regret the time he spent in Sarnia, and when he took his place amongst others on the banks of the St. Clair, he noticed that Col. Jarvis' face brightened with a smile as he gazed upon his (the corporal's) gigantic proportions. From that moment the Col. seemed to think that the country was perfectly safe. The very fact that the Fenians claimed to number themselves by the million, while their opponents numbered only fifteen thousand, and yet were afraid to attack, was proof positive that they had but little prospect of conquering Canada. The "Little Corporal's" remarks were listened to attentively and loudly cheered.

In response to volunteer toasts speeches were made by Judge Cooper, James Watson, Esq., and others.

Mr. Cox responded to "The Press."

Several capital songs were given by Sergt. Phillips, T. Andrews, B. Trainer and others, and during the evening the Glee Club entertained the company with some of their choicest vocal and instrumental music.

Altogether the evening passed very pleasantly.

☞ Volunteer Corps which had not completed the usual annual drills, previous to being placed on Service, will be allowed to return for drill pay the number of drills actually performed before that day, but no drills for the current year will be allowed to be returned for drill pay by any corps which were not performed previous to its being placed on Service or on the reduced duty of two days' weekly drill.

☞ Several instances have lately occurred on the railway cars, in which volunteers were travelling, having been injured in consequence of the men entering the cars with their bayonets fixed. The Commander-in-Chief, therefore, directs that in future volunteers will not be allowed to enter or to remain in the cars with fixed bayonets.

☞ We have received, from Mr. Moorhouse, Chambers Journal for the current month. The contents embrace a choice miscellany of useful and interesting reading.

LONDON SOCIETY.—Messrs. Chewett & Co., have furnished us with the April No of London Society. We consider it the spicicst book of the kind to be found, From the same source we have received the Churchman's Family Magazine.—Both may be obtained at this office.

☞ The weather is, at present, very spring-like and our farmers are busily at work. We are glad to hear that the fall wheat, generally, looks splendid.

RITCHIE ARRESTED.—Wilson Ritchie, the Indian who killed the old doctor on Saturday night last, was arrested by chief constable Trainer at daylight yesterday morning, about 20 miles above Saugeen. Mr. Trainer deserves great praise for the promptitude he displayed in effecting the capture. The prisoner will be in gaol here to await his trial.

THE EFFECT OF DEEP CULTIVATION.—Mr. John Hunter of Goderich tp., has shown us a plant of fall wheat the roots of which had penetrated the soil to a depth of about two feet. A cultivation that renders the subsoil so porous is based upon common sense principles and must be the best for a dry climate like ours.

☞ See the adv. of Mr. Pollock "Money to lend." The Huron and Erie Co. bears an excellent reputation.

☞ Volunteer officers who may have resigned their commissions for the purpose of entering the Military Schools may rejoin their companies, with their original rank, immediately on quitting the schools.

A PROSPEROUS FARMER.—A few days ago, at a homestead not a hundred miles north of this town, the wife of a farmer was scrubbing her floor in the morning, and at noon presented her lord with a fine son—early in the afternoon one of the farmers cows calved, an hour or so later another cow had *two* calves, and that night one of his ewes dropped *three* lambs! Beat this who can.

Goderich, April 23rd, 1866.

To the Editor of the Huron Signal:

SIR,—I beg leave to take this method of returning thanks to Henry S. Jones, interpreter, of the Saugeen band of Indians, for the valuable assistance rendered to me by him in the arrest of Wilson Ritchie, charged with the murder of the Indian Doctor. I hope Hugh Johnston Esq., will write to the Indian Department, and I think when the facts are represented, if the department will take the proper steps, it will encourage persons of that kind to assist officers in arresting criminals, and in a great measure prevent crime by impressing upon this unfortunate class the conviction that it cannot be committed with impunity. The insertion of this in your widely circulated journal will assist the ends of justice and oblige your humble servant.

BERNARD TRAINER.

Highly important from Nova Scotia.

CONFEDERATION RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY BOTH HOUSES.

HALIFAX, April 18.

A resolution in favor of the Confederation of the British North American Provinces, and appointing a delegation to go to England to arrange the details, has passed both houses of the Nova Scotian Parliament.

THE POETICAL MANIA.

The mania for writing doggerel verses offers for the consideration of the student of human nature a most interesting theme for speculative discussion. How are we to account for the fact (every brother editor will vouch for its being a fact) that people who have not the remotest idea of the grammatical construction of the English language are everlastingly writing wretched verses, upon every subject, from some great national excitement down to the death of a neighbor's baby? Sydney Smith, in one of his lectures on Moral Philosophy, mentions the delight of a batch of laborers when one of their numbers is lucky enough to strike upon a rhyme, and we see the same trait exhibited by our children almost daily. But rhyming is not poetry, and the mere faculty of torturing the language so that lines ends with words more or less rhythmical is no reason why people should send their effusions to the nearest newspaper office. We have, in our "rejected" drawers, more of such stuff than would make up a volume as large as the complete works of William Shakespeare, and still it comes, until we are bored beyond all endurance. For instance, we received, a day or two ago, the following, which is given entire:—

"When old Adam he first was created
He was lord of the universe crowned,
His happiness was not completed
Until that a helpmeet he found.
The alwise great Creator
Saw that he wanted a wife
So Adam was laid in a slumber
And which he lost part of his side
Then he awoke in great wonder,
And beheld his most darling bride
He had all things for food that was wanting
Which gives us content to our lives
He had horses and foxes for hunting
Which some men love more than their wives."

If anything more nonsensical than the above could be conceived, we think the following caps the climax. It is by the same author, who signs himself "Live Forever."

"Come all my loyal fellows
That wishes to be free,
Strike up your noble courage
And enter volunteers.
The Fenians they are saying,
They'll pull our courage down,
We are the boys that fears no noise
When the thundering cannons roar
Like hearts of steel
We'll make them bleed,
If they come upon our shore
The loyal men of Canada
We'll never be put down
We'll fight them ten to one
Like the battle of the Boyne
We'll hunt them back to Yankeetown,
Where they will cry oh hone
The protestants of Ireland
Was never yet beat down"

While we have received and published a few excellent songs based upon the Fenian agitation, the quotation just given is a fair sample of the quires of trash which have come to hand only to be consigned to the stove. The worst we wish this last contributor is that he *may* live until he is able to write better poetry, in which case the County of Huron will have at least *one* centenarian.

SEAFORTH.

MAGISTRATE'S COURT.

John Hickson and fifteen others were summoned to appear before his Worship Peter Ramsay, Esq., J. P., on Thursday last, to answer the charge of assaulting W H. Bullock *alias* Boddy, on the evening of the 13th, destroying property to the amount of $105.00, and endeavoring to upset his Photograph Car. This case created great excitement in Seaforth, every person being anxious to hear the trial, and long before its commencement anxious crowds might be seen wending their way towards Loyd's Hotel, where the trial was to be held. The defendants being all respectably connected, hired Dr. Oremas' stately carriage to convey them to court, on being seated, Tom West handled the ribands, and friend Porter kindly acted as footman. Fortunately they arrived safely at their destination, and found his Worship expounding the law to the crowd there assembled. Boddy being called on stepped forward which was the signal for a cheer for him—cries in court, "three cheers for Boddy," which were given with a will. Bullock caused great merriment, he being as usual "tight as a brick;" however he swore to all the parties being present assaulting him, and modestly laid the damages at $105.00. At this stage of the trial one of the defts wished to question the plaintiff, and quoted Blackstone as his authority, but his Worship overuled him, and said he did not care for Blackstone or any other man, that what he said was law, and to his law they must submit. The above decision caused a great uproar which could not be suppressed, until his Worship threatened to read the Riot act, which "settled their hash." Quiet being now restored, witnesses on behalf of Bullock were called upon, and their evidence amounted to this:—that they knew none of the defts, saw no assault, and that the damages done was the breaking of an empty bottle and three panes of glass 7 x 9. His Worship at once dismissed the case, and poor Boddy was muleted for costs, $9.00, and ordered to remove the Car off the street. Upon leaving court, Bullock being asked what he thought of Seaforth law replied, "Gad Boddy its what I call *one* eyed law."

☞ A Trot for $40 a side came off on Monday last in Seaforth between Messrs Forsyth and W. Fowler's fast Nags, a great amount of money changed hands on the event, we append the summary.

Maich for $80, mile stretch catch weights p. p.
1st Mr. G. Forsyth's g. c. Danial O. Rourke.
2nd Mr. W. Fowlers, s. c. Voltigeur.
Won with the greatest ease by ten lengths.

THE HARPURHEY SHOW.

Harpurhey, April 16th, 1866.

The Harpurhey Branch Spring Show was held at Taber's Hotel on Tuesday the 10th, the day was all that could be desired for the occasion, and the turn out was the largest and best that ever appeared on the Show ground, no less than eleven horses and seven bulls, the majority of which would have been no discredit to any Show in the Province, which augers well for the future Stock of this Section of the country, more especially as the Americans are clearing the country of all the mean scrubby animals. In fact, in my opinion there are too many *gone* for the good of the country, as there is not a shadow of doubt but that Stock will bring good prices for some years to come, as when Stock is reduced it is not like Grain with which one good crop will replenish the Storehouses, it will take some years to make Stock over abundant, but we trust it will be the means of increasing the standard of our Stock, and leading our Farmers to see the necessity of attending both to the protection and shelter of their Stock during Winter. A large amount of sustenance goes to the production and maintainence of animal heat, and where the Stock is exposed to the sleety storms and cutting winds of our rigorous Winter, nearly double the quantity of food is required to support animal life, and almost any amount will fail without shelter to keep them in proper condition. We can hardly overestimate the value of housing and warmth in Winter to our fattening animals, milch cows and Stock of every kind, but especially the young. The barns built by the Germans with an extensive range of stone foundation are admirably planned, and for convenience and shelter are in this particular a model to the county.

The Judges were John Hugill, Tuckersmith, William Bailly, Hallet, Robert Govenlock, McKillop, and the following was their award:

1st Best entire Draught Horse, Joseph Fisher.
2nd do George Standberry.
Best entire Horse for general purposes, Henry Lane.
2nd do Francis Fowler, Junr.
Best Bull over 2 years old, James Dickson, M. P. P.
2nd do R. H. Carnehan.
Best Bull under 2 years old, Walter Cowan.
2nd do William Sproat.

GODERICH TOWNSHIP.

A special meeting of the Freeholders and Householders of S. S. No 5 was held here on the 14th inst., for the purpose of considering the proposed alteration in the Common School Act. Mr. James Wilkinson, J. P., called to the chair. The chairman then proceeded to give a digest of the various changes proposed by the Rev. Dr. Ryerson; and invited the meeting to express their views on the subject. Mr. John Torrance spoke of the additional expense that must inevitably follow as a consequence, of the adoption of the Rev. Gentleman's plan. Mr. McPhail also disapproved of the proposed system, but thought that there might be a change in the time for holding our annual meeting from January to June; and referred to the difficulties that arose from the retiring Trustee not having a vote in the hiring of a Teacher.—Moved by Mr. James Torrance and seconded by Mr. Robt Porter, that this meeting after due consideration of the system and its legitimate effects, is of opinion that it is uncalled for, and would be an infringement of our rights, and would add greatly to our taxation, without a corresponding benefit, and that this section petition the Legislature against it, and that the form of petition now read be adopted and left with the Trustees to be signed by the ratepayers of the section, and forwarded to our Member. Carried.

Moved by Mr. McPhail seconded by Mr. J. Torrance that a vote of thanks be awarded to the Trustees for their zeal in matters relating to the section. Carried.

Moved by Mr. R. Porter seconded by Mr. McPhail, that this meeting consider that it would be for the interest of the province that the Rev. Dr. Ryerson be removed from his present office, and a successor appointed.—Carried.

JAMES WILKINSON, Chairman.

The following is the Petition addressed

To the Honorable, the Legislative Assembly of Canada, in Provincial Parliament Assembled:

The Petition of the Undersigned Freeholders in School Section No. 5, Township of Goderich, County of Huron,

HUMBLY SHEWETH:

That your Petitioners having seen, with the most profound regret, the introduction of sundry inovations upon our present School system, as propounded by the Chief Superintendent of Education, whereby many excellent features of the old system will be superseded. The proposed innovation has awakened a spirit of enquiry, and unwilling that any of our rights be trampled upon, we are, therefore, after mature consideration of the purport of the proposition enunciated, most thoroughly convinced of the pernicious tendency of the change proposed. The alteration contemplated in the School Law of the Province, suggested by the Chief Superintendent of Educational, is a subject of the deepest importance, and will greatly effect the Educational interests of the Province, in which every individual has much at stake. The School Conventions, which have carried a vote in their favor, have been composed principally of the inhabitants of Cities and Towns and School Teachers, who, however capable of judging of them in other respects, cannot be supposed to be acquainted with what is suitable for Rural Districts. Though, this system might answer well for Cities and Towns, they do not at all express the views and wants of the country.

And, further, your Petitioners are opposed to the abrogation of the present School Sections and placing whole Townships under one Board of Trustees for School purposes, it would be injurious to the interest of Education, productive of confusion, discontent, and strife, a glaring infringement upon our rights, in depriving us of the privilege of selecting our Teachers who pay for them, besides we clearly forsee that the new scheme would be difficult in the carrying of it out, if not impracticable; it would be more expensive, and less efficient than the present system.

And we would most emphatically express our approval of the Board of Public Instruction, as at present constituted, as having worked well, and great improvement has been realized from its opperation and should not be done away with.

Hoping that you will give the Prayer of this Petition your impartial consideration, and securing for us the maintainence of those rights of our present School System,

Your Petitioners will ever Pray.

STANLEY.

The Stanley Spring Show at Varna came off to day, the 19th. It is noteworthy, as something unusually agreeable, that the elements were propitious, so that we now can boast, that for once at least we have had a fine day for a Show at Varna. There was a large attendance of the Farmers of the Township and neighbourhood; who seemed to take a deep interest in the proceedings of the day; and many, and keen were the criticisms passed upon the animals exhibited.—There were eleven entire Horses upon the ground, and four Bulls. Four of the Horses were entered as "Heavy Draught"—the rest for general purposes. The Judges were Mathew Westlake and John Johnston, Senr., Esqrs. of Stanley, and Henry Chesney, Esq., of Tuckersmith. The first Prize for heavy draughts must have been easily decided; it was awarded to "Matchem" owned by George Cruthers, a powerful dark bay, standing over 17 hands high—the largest Horse I have seen in the County of Huron. The cry used to be amongst amateurs of Stallions at these Shows that the Horses were all "too light, too light," but on getting along side of this monster many shook their heads ominously and said "too big, too big"—so hard is it to satisfy human nature. The Second Prize was awarded to Somerville's "Prince of Wales," a Horse well known, and justly appreciated in these parts. "For general purposes," the first Prize was awarded to Lane's Prince of Wales, a fine looking light grey, with any quantity of muscle and activity. The Second Prize to R. Orr's "Rob Roy,"—a splendid 4 year old dark bay, raised in Markham, I expect good stock from this animal if he has luck, he is come of a good kind. Considerable interest was taken in three Colts "gets" of the "Bay Wallace" which died three years ago—it is doubtful if they will come up to the weight of their "Sire," but they are serviceable looking animals. It was the general expression that this was altogether the best show of Horses ever seen in Stanley.

There were only four Bulls shown—(Stanley should turn out twice that number at least) two "thorough breeds," and two "Grades." The "Grades" were but so-so, and the least said about them the better, G. Anderson's "Venture" a one year old Durham of great beauty and promise; and David Yale's Galloway, "Black Douglass." Douglass got the Prize; and we thought as we looked at him that our Government could not do better in the way of solving the North West question, than to drive off the Hudsons' Bay Company—purchase 5, or 6000 cattle of this Breed—send them on to the Red River and Saskatchewan Vallies to take the place of the Buffalo now becoming scarce,—they would soon make noble Buffalo.

HAY.

Zurich, April 20th, 1866.

The No. 2 Hay Branch A. A., held their first spring Exhibition, for Entire Horses and Bulls, this day, here. The day was favorable, and there was a good attendance. The number of animals shown, was not large, but under the circumstances, it was as good a commencement as could have been expected.—Six Horses and three Bulls put in an appearance. There was only one class of Horses, viz. for Agricultural purposes, and 3 prizes 7, 4, and 2 dollars. The first prize went to the "Prince of Wales," Henry Lane, owner Tuckersmith; the second, to Robert Orr's "Rob Roy," of Stanley; and the third, to another Prince of Wales, owned by R. Somerville of Bracefield. The Bulls; James Swinerton Esq., of Hay, got 1st prize for an aged Durham Bull, of good size and shape, purchased lately near London C. W., the 2nd prize to Wm. Rieth Esq., of Hay, for a Gallaway, from the stock of Millar of Markham. The Judges were Geo. Anderson Esq., of Stanley, John Beam Esq., of Stanley, and A. McLaren Esq., of Hay. Nothing unusual took place during the day, a stranger might have thought that there was an extraordinary amount of beer drunk, (enough to have drowned a few) but we who are used to it, think as little of moistening our insides at that rate, as the softening our outsides got by the fine thunder shower we had in the afternoon. By the way, we have had a few days of fine growing weather, vegetation is making a rapid start, fall wheat is gathering up well, and spring seeding may be fairly said to have commenced in this locality.

FRANCISTOWN.

Lately a young man called McTaggart, employed in the steam saw mill here, having occasion to make some repairs on the belt, by some means or other was caught, drawn in, spun round and round, torn limb from limb, the life knocked out of him in a moment, and was picked up a horrid mass.—This is the second accident resulting in death at this mill. Circular saws require careful handling—there is danger.

Cholera News.

NEW YORK, April 21.—Dr. D. H. Bissell, Deputy Health Officer, in charge of the hospital ship Falcon, in the lower bay, has made a report to-day from the lower quarantine.—The hospital ship Falcon came here yesterday morning. Immediately boarded the ship Virginia, anchored here, and removed the sick to the hospital—67 in number. Five new cases were received from the Virginia this morning. There were four deaths in the hospital last night; 10 from Liverpool were buried yesterday. 68 cases are now in the hospital of the arrival of the steamship England. Dr. Bissell says "the steamship England, Capt. Grace, from Liverpool by way of Halifax, arrived here to day. She reports a crew of 122 men with 16 cabin passengers and 1202 in the steerage. The number who died on the passage to Helifax fifty; at Halifax one hundred and fifty; last night one infant. The passengers and crew are all well. She will be quarantined in the lower bay." The report was made to Cyrus Curtiss, President of the Quarantine Commission.

Not for the Sake of Gold.

The noblest deeds which have been done on earth have not been done for gold. It was not for the sake of gold that the Lord came down and died, and the apostles went out and preached the good news to all the lands. The Spartans looked for no reward in money when they fought and died at Thermopylæ; and Socrates the wise, asked no pay from his countrymen, but lived poor and barefoot all his days, also those who do noble deeds, but not for gold. Our discoverers did not go to make themselves rich, when they sailed out, one after another, into the dreary frozen seas; nor did the ladies who went out last year to drudge in the hospitals of the East, making themselves poor, that they might be rich in noble works. And young men, too, whom you know, children, and some of them in your own kin, did they say to themselves, how much money shall I earn? when they went out to war, leaving wealth, and comfort, and a pleasant home, and all that money can give, to face hunger and thirst, and wounds and death, that they might fight for their country and their Queen?—No, children, there is a better thing on earth than wealth, a better thing than life itself; and that is to have done something before you die, for which good men may honor you and God your father smile upon your work.—*Charles Kingsley.*

BIRDS PREFER TO FLY AGAINST THE WIND.—However much it may be in opposition to received opinions, it appears to me that birds prefer to fly against the wind, and to dive against the stream. I am well aware, dear reader, how often you have read in "works of authority" that the very reverse of this is the case; but I ask you just for once to lay aside works of authority, and to observe for yourself. Every spring we have a long succession of biting winds from the north east, and my experience is that all our migrants select those biting winds for their passage from the shores of France to the shores of England, and fly in the very eye of the wind; when the current is abaft the wind or the water, it matters not which, gets under a bird's feathers in the most aggravating manner, and upsets his equilibrium and equanimity at the same time. This certainly is the case with quails; they almost invariably start on their passage of the Mediterranean with a head wind, and if it chops round and blows fresh from the south west, they are drowned by thousands, and their dead bodies are washed ashore for weeks afterwards.—*Professor Newman in the Field.*

MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS.—The only movement among the troops stationed here, during the past week, has been the return of the Goderich rifles to their homes, on Monday last, accompanied by the Hamburg Infantry Company, which is to be stationed at Goderich for a time lest the Chicago fillibusters should carry out their threat of sending a squadron to capture all the Lake Ports, Goderich being first in the way, will be apt to be first attacked; Sarnia, next, we suppose, and so on. The Goderich Rifles, like their townsmen, the Artillery Company, made many friends during their stay amongst us, having behaved, without exception, like gentlemen; and we are glad to learn, by a correspondent, that they are well satisfied with the treatment they received from the citizens of Sarnia.—Sarnia Observer.

The Toronto journals have further information from Eastport. The most important item is an act of incendiarism on the part of the Fenians. On Thursday night some of them crossed from Eastport to Indian Island and set fire to the Custom House there, inflicting damage to the extent of $10,000. This, and stealing a flag comprise the whole of their operations so far. Small squads of them are moving to Calais and other towns on the Maine frontier. Killian himself has retreated to Portland, and it is thought not improbable that he will strike for New York, where provisions and arms are of a much better description than can be obtained at Portland. His desertion of the grand army of freedom has not as yet produced any very great sensation.

Gen. Meade is determined to put down, with a strong hand any attempt to disturb the peace. With this view, he has called for more troops. Three more companies of United States soldiers arrived yesterday, and others are to follow. While this is going on on the American side, the arrival of another British man-of-war is announced.

HEART.—The best card in the chance game of Matrimony; sometimes overcome by diamonds and knaves; often won by trick; and occasionally treated in a trifling manner, and then cut altogether.

NIAGARA SHIP CANAL.

This project is now before Congress. The New York Legislature, some weeks ago, granted a charter for the construction of the canal; and Mr. Vanhorr, of New York, has reported a Bill to Congress, from the Committee on Roads and Canals, in its favour. Great strenuous efforts were brought to bear, in the State Legislature, both for and against the measure. Feeling ran high, and still runs high, among the commercial and railroad men of New York, on the subject. The main sources of the antagonistic influences are at Buffalo and Oswego. The scheme is represented by Buffalo men as a project in the interest chiefly, if not exclusively, of Oswego, while the others place their advocacy upon public grounds.

Although the Oswego men and their supporters were able to get a Bill though the New York Legislature, it appears that their opponents commanded influence enough to tack on a proviso which renders the fact almost useless. It was to the effect that, as a necessary preliminary to anything being done at the Niagara canal, the Erie should be enlarged. This is considered almost tantamount to killing the measure, and the friends of the new project will undoubtedly renew the fight at the next session of the Legislature, to secure the removal of this restriction from the charter. The tactics displayed by the Buffalo party in making the construction of the Niagara canal dependent upon the enlargement of the Erie, certainly show much shrewdness. By that arrangement the matter stands thus:—if the Niagara scheme be carried out, the enlargement of the other canal will have been secured; if the enlargement fails, the hated rival scheme will be impossible; and, again, if the enlargement be effected, it is supposed that the necessity for the other canal will thereby become so much less, that its friends will fail to command influence enough to carry out the original bargain.

Mr. Vanhorn's Bill recites, in addition to commercial reasons, that the construction of the Niagara Ship canal would be an important military measure, and it provides for its special appropriation by the Government. It is to be 150 feet wide on the surface, 90 at the bottom, with 14 feet depth of water, and locks not less than 275 feet in length and 46 in breath. It is to be free from toll for the transportation of military stores, &c., and the rates of toll on commercial vessels are not to exceed the rates charged on the Welland canal in 1864. The sum of $6,000,000 is to be loaned by the United States to the company, at the rate of $200,000 for every $300,000 actually expended; and 10 per cent of the receipts is to be paid annually into the treasury of the United States, to be applied to the payment of the principal of the loan.—[Globe.

HOW TO ARM OUR VOLUNTEERS.

Should our Volunteers be armed with breech loading repeating rifles, and the Enfield be displaced? This is a question quite as pertinent for us as for the Imperial Government in the way in which it was put by Mr. Watkin, in the House of Commons, the other day. The Canadian Government have in fact, partily answered it by distributing some of these weapons among the Volunteers, in our judgement—and we have bestowed from time to time carefull study upon it—the consideration of the question, as we have stated it, is one of vital interest for the people of this country. The possession of their deadly arms is still a vistal question for all nations as they exist to-day; for there is a point at which no valor can stand against superior arms are yet the ultimate resort to determine the *status* of nations. Governments are naturally slow to make changes which involve serious expense, and military officials are proverbially slow to step out of their darling routine. Yet the world does move forward, and the progress at least in mechanical ingenuity, can only be described as wonderful. People who have made themselves acquainted with the great contests that followed the first French Revolution, know how Napoleon the first condemned rifles for the use of soldiers declaring that the time and trouble of loading them more than counterpaised their superior precision and greater range, and rendered them valueless for the actual business of war. Then again there was the enormous weight of the great crow-bars, formerly deemed so effective in the United States service. Consideration of such nature kept the old smooth bore musket in the hands of European soldiers up to the time of the Crimean war. The discovery of the expending ballet did away with the old objections to the use of rifles by soldiers, and the Enfield became the king of weapons.—The best appointed armies threw aside their old muskets to adopt it; and it, or rifles on its principle, was the great weapon in the recent American war of secession. But in that war a new and seven times more formidable weapon began to make its appearance, and by its partial use among the Federal soldiers, made the turning point in several important contests. This was the spencer repeating rifle. At the battle of Chicamauga for instance, the most desperate valour of the prime of the Confederate soldiers was wholly unable to withstand its deadly effects.

It has been the boast of the Enfield that it can be loaded in as short a time as the old musket. But look at the motions required: 1st. Cartridges have to be taken out of the box, singly, the end bit off and dropt down in the barrel.—2nd. The ramrod has to be drawn, and the cartridge rammed home. 3rd. The ramrod has to be replaced. 4th. A cap has to be taken out of a pouch and put on the nipple before the peace is ready to fire. All these motions take time, and, in a very low temperature in this country, they could not be at all performed. In the Spencer, in common with many other breech-loading weapons the cartridge contains the whole charge—ball and powder, and detonating powder, carefully cased in a brass tube, made on the principle of a common gun cap. In loading the muzzel is pointed downwards, and a tube in the butt withdrawn. Seven catridges may be taken in the hand at once, and one after another dropt into the hole or "magazine," as it is technically called.—They might all be dropped in at once if kept in paper tubes. The tube is again inserted; a catch turned, and the piece is loaded and capped for seven shots, to fire one after the other, like a revolver pistol. The whole operation of loading for the seven shots would not take more time then drawing and replacing the ramrod of the Enfield rifle. It could be performed, too, in the lowest temperature in this country. And with ammunition of this kind, moreover, the old Furian maxim of keeping the powder dry simultaneously with trust in God, loses its point; for the piece might be left in water all night, and fired the same as if kept quite dry, in the morning. In fact we are informed by a gentleman who went deer hunting up the Ottawa with one of these weapons, that he fell into the river with his rifle, just at the moment of firing, got up, poured the water out of his gun, and fired without the slightest difference. There is still a further important consideration. The way in which the charge of powder is secured in the brass tube, secures its perfect combustion under the most favorable circumstances, and therefore a less quantity is really used, while the ball is made a little larger than the bore of the barrel, which ensues its perfect fitting in the grooves. The effect of all this is, that while the utmost precision is secured, the force with which the bullet is propelled is prodigious. Mr. Watkins mentioned in the House of Commons a range of 2,000 yards.

These advantages being established, they are so decisive as to leave no room for controversy. But then come two other questions. Is the Spencer repeating as free from liability to get out of repair as the Enfield? Will it stand the same wear and tear in the actual business of a campaign? For answers to these questions we must go to American testimony; and this, on official authority, is that it is very greatly superior in both respects.—[Montreal Gazette.

How should a poet resent a false charge—By striking the *lyre* (liar), of course.

☞ The prospects of war between Austria and Prussia were increasing. The crisis was imminent.

Ship Navigation for the Gulf Ports.

Mr. Finlay, agent of the Quebec and Montreal firms concerned in originating an inter-Colonial line of steamers adds to the information before the public, some further particulars, in a letter to the Halifax *Chronicle*. He says:

"Besides the line of mixed passengers and freight steamers from Quebec to Shediac and Picton, it is proposed that there shall be a line of freight boats from Montreal to Halifax. The heavy trade between Canada and Nova Scotia must be chiefly between the cities of Montreal and Halifax, in breadstuffs and provisions down and in fish and West Indies produce up. As regards all these articles, and especially sugar, it is of the utmost importance to avoid transhipment, and this can only be avoided by establishing a through freight line, as water carriage is not to be bad at present on reasonable terms from Halifax to Montreal. The merchants on the At