

# The HURON SIGNAL

DEVOTED TO COUNTY NEWS AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

HURON SIGNAL  
FRIDAY, APRIL 24th, 1885.

GODERICH, ONT., FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1885.

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HAY is high in Goderich—so high, indeed, that some of the cows of the poor folks can reach very little of it.

THERE is no truth in the rumor that the sudden warmth of the weather was caused by the bouffe of spring poetry made by our "imp" on Friday.

THE McCarthy Act has, on motion of our member, M. C. Cameron, been suspended. Mr. Cameron deserves the thanks of the country for forcing the Government to this sound conclusion. Sir John is getting sadly knocked out on constitutional law.

WE hope the Star will have the honesty to insert jurymen West's explanation of the verdict in the conspiracy case. It misrepresented the jurymen so greatly that common decency requires the insertion of the letter of the man who wrote the historical verdict.

PUBLIC OPINION appears to be in favor of the town council giving the usual grant to the Mechanics Institute. It will be too bad if we lose the \$400 offered by the Ontario Government, or even half that sum, through any mistaken notion of "economy." Let us have 19th century action.

THE Mail states that the cost of the Northwest expedition is \$40,000 per day, and that the expense already incurred amounts to \$800,000. It is to be hoped that this is an over-estimate, for if it is correct the Rial rebellion will involve a substantial addition to the public debt before the end of the season.—[Hamilton Times.]

EL MAHDI appears to have met with an enemy who can stand the heat, and make it sultry for him in more ways than one, as will be seen by the following despatch:—

Cairo, April 21.—It is reported that the rival Mahdis have met in battle, and that the original Mahdi was defeated, losing two Governments. It is also reported that El Obaid has been plundered and burned.

In an interview with a reporter for the Montreal Witness, Hon. Wm. Macdougall said he was made the scapegoat for the blundering in 1869 and 1870, and he predicts that two men will be made the scapegoats in the present instance. He says further:—

"I have no hesitation in condemning the present Indian policy of the Government, and the present disastrous state of affairs might have been averted by employing those who had experience among the Indians and half-breeds of the Northwest."

THE Globe has so far "scoped" the other Canadian dailies every time in the matter of important and reliable news from the Northwest. It was the first daily to correctly "size" the uprising; it gave the first account of the Duck Lake fight, and also gave the earliest news of the Frog Lake massacre. The Globe's work is a credit to Canadian journalism, more especially as it is not an organ of the government, and has had to collect its news without any special favors from the Minister of Militia.

BROTHER PASSMORE, of the Blyth Review, recently put on his warpaint, and winds up a vigorous onslaught upon the village council in the following fashion:—

"It is not often that we are compelled to criticize on such actions of the council, but when necessity compels us, we can wield the editorial pen with a vengeance, and if the 'boyotters' are going to hide the 'nigger in the fence' we can soon find him."

THE Government have been neglecting the Indians, until it was too late. That the Indians who have risen have been starving to death, the following extract from Indian Agent McRae's report for 1884, respecting the Indians near Duck Lake shows:—

As the staple food of the Indians—the musk rat—will be most scarce, and as the crop promises to badly, their principal dependence during the coming winter will be upon rabbits. Destitution is sure to occur, and will be felt more than at any time since treaty, for, in former years, some property was owned that could be disposed of for the alleviation of their misery, but this recourse being no longer left to them, they have now only the government assistance to depend on.

## THE "SIGNAL" VINDICATED.

E. King Dodds is a thorough-paced Tory, and has run for Parliament in the interest of that party, but he has come to the sound conclusion that Dewdney is the person who is responsible for the deplorable state of affairs in the Northwest. We last week quoted an opinion from Mr. Dodds's paper, and this week we call the attention of the same journal, the Canadian Sportsman. It will be seen that the language used by this true blue Tory is almost identical with that of the article in THE SIGNAL, which a fortnight ago caused the Star to grow hysterical:—

"The evidence on every hand is overwhelming that to Dewdney, the Governor of the Northwest, is Canada indebted for the horrible slaughter that has taken place. Party feeling must have no influence when judging this man. He has proved a miserable traitor to the interests of his country, and if not a thoroughly dishonest official he is utterly incapable. Every loyal citizen should demand of the Government that he be at once dismissed from the public service. The important office he has disgraced requires neither a knife nor a fool as its incumbent."

THE "intelligent" compositor has turned up in Clinton, and holds a frame on the New Era, if we can judge from the following foot note to an article in our readable column last week:—

CONNECTION.—In letter No. 7 (Issue April 21) signed "Palmetto," near middle of second column, where occurs the words "notorious English lawyers"—it should read "notorious English lawyers." This was an error of our types in reading the manuscript, who was not aware that our southern correspondent was a Canadian lawyer himself, and of course would not write about his English brethren in that way.

THE Wingham Times last week had a scorching article on the Vidette and its ostensible manager, in the course of which Mitchell and his paper got a fearful handling. We must protest, however, against the Vidette being classed a Reform journal, for it is not one. The Times closes its column of hard hitting with the following:—

"Summed up in a few words, the whole career of the Vidette has been one of vacillating imbecility, of contemptible slander, of powers prostituted for pecuniary gain, of falsehood and deceit, and a disgrace to journalism in this county."

## MORE DYNAMITE.

The British Admiralty Building Blown Up

Severe Damage to the Building Officially Injured.

The following telegraph despatch was received by us as we were "making up" to go to press:—

LONDON, Eng., April 23, 1885.

Great excitement was caused today by an explosion in the Secretary department of the Admiralty office. Assistant Secretary Swainson's room was completely wrecked, and the adjacent corridors much damaged, while all the windows fronting on Horse Guards parade were blown out.

The building took fire, but the flames were soon extinguished.

Swainson received a severe scalp wound. Several other officials were injured, but none as seriously as Swainson.

The police were promptly summoned, and all the gates closed. No person was allowed to enter or depart until a thorough examination was made. A large force of detectives were also posted around the buildings, but no arrests have yet been made. The authorities are very reticent about the affair, but the general opinion is that it is the work of dynamite.

It is certain that either gun cotton or dynamite was used.

## Beating at Brandon.

Private T. E. Elliott gives the following graphic description of the Brandon kissing business: The concert was just nicely over and we were getting settled down for the night, when we ran into Brandon. The people stormed the train, and a spring of about forty girls swarmed into the train with estates and coffee. I believe every soul in Brandon must have passed through the train. The boys were uproarious after the day's tear in Winnipeg and the fun of the concert and were seized with a sort of spontaneous combustion, for every one seemed to start at the same time to kiss and hug the girls. And the girls were just as keen for it as we were, and kissed us as often as we kissed them. It was something terrific! The boys yelling and hugging, the girls screaming, and the men of Brandon looking black in the face. Numbers of them, both men and women, were crying. The deuce only knows what for. When they came into the train they were as steady and quiet as any crowd ever were, for they say there has not been the least excitement in Brandon over the affair. One such night as that is worth half a dozen such trips as this. After that there was not much sleep for the boys.

## ON THE WING.

Commercial Men Talk—What Constitutes a Luxury and What is a Necessity.

Saturday evening brings the commercial travellers home. The drummers who leave on Monday morning to do their week's work are usually fagged out by Saturday, and have the coming of the day of rest—the Sabbath—with joy; not perhaps, because they are any more pious than the rest of mankind, but because the worry of business and the constant strain upon their vital forces absolutely demand the recuperative quiet and the freedom from excitement which the tenets of religion attach to the Seventh Day, and which the statutes of the realm, made and provided, duly compel the observance of. Under these circumstances all who are within access of "Home Sweet Home" avail themselves of the necessary conveniences for getting there on Saturday night, and as a natural consequence the trains on the occasion are usually well loaded with bagmen, homeward bound. Taking all in all, they are a sharp, intelligent lot of fellows, who in addition to natural shrewdness and fair educational advantages, possess a knowledge of men and matters born of experience and constant contact with change of scene and diversity of circumstances. When half a dozen of these fellows congregate in a smoking car, the matters of public importance; the science, art and history of the day; the wars and rumors of wars, the political doings, undings and wrongdoings of the world at large; the blisses and blisters of courtship and marriage; the fashions and the foibles of frail humanity; music and the drama; in fact all subjects that can be thought of between the cradle and the tomb are argued and re-argued, contended for and objected to, upheld and knocked down, put together and dissected, annihilated and resurrected, galvanized into death, begotten and destroyed, praised and depreciated by the travelling men gathered in the smoking coach. The latest novel, sentimental song, grand opera, pithy epigram, wise saw, absurd story, pathetic sketch, interspersed with banter, railery, drollery, solid reasoning and philosophical deduction, come out in discussion between whites of smoke from fragrant cigars, or tobacco pipes ranging from the costly meerschaum to the humble clay-dab. There's a mine of wealth untold for the novelist who can successfully re-produce the wit and wisdom, the philosophy and the folly, the solid deductions and the devil-may-care badinage of a railway carriage stormed by homeward bound commercial travellers on a Saturday evening train, for they run the gamut from end to end; they range from grave to gay, from lively to severe. And when all other subjects are exhausted, when the thousand and one topics that warp daily the minds and consciences of the teeming millions of this poor old earth of ours have been duly placed upon the griddle of criticism, and roasted to their hearts content of the drummers in the smoking car; when tatters have been made of the great themes, and the minor matters have been duly pulverized between the upper and nether millstone—the argument and irony of the contentions drummers—then, and not until then, does the business instinct regain its position, and every one begins to ask his neighbor about the state of trade, the condition of business, the possibilities of future trips on the road—in other words, having exhausted all other subjects, they begin to talk "shop." Talking "shop" is never of great interest except to those engaged in the special line under discussion, and, as a consequence, there is a diversity of opinion regarding the relative merits of the respective classes of business amongst those engaged in that particular line. And I know of no reason why such should not be the case. The grocery man, the drygoods man, the millinery man, the undertaker's traveller and the ubiquitous insurance man each has a mission, and their contentions regarding the importance of the lines for which they travel, if a little more earnest and better argued, are, after all, but parallel with the religious differences which are occasionally ventilated in pulpit on platform, on the highways and down the byways. If, for instance, instead of half-a-dozen drummers there had been the same number of good Christians of diverse denominations, although all would agree on the fundamental principles, yet the Baptist, the Anglican, the Methodist, the Catholic, the Presbyterian, and the Unitarian would each differ from one and all of his

neighbors, and would claim that his line was the best, and all others, though good in their way, as stepping stones over the River, were not the safe and sure boat by which the troubled waters of life were to be crossed to the great haven of rest. The only difference in the two discussions would be that the goodnatured banter of the one would be exchanged for the acrimonious attacks of the other. But, I find that I am sermonizing, and as that is not in my line, I will close by giving a sample of how the drummers talk when "shop" is the topic.

The grocery man in answer to a question as to the state of trade from the dry goods man said: "Well, as to that, I find business fair, and I think the trade will continue to improve. You see, groceries are staples and they are different from luxuries, and the business done is after all, regulated by the population; I see by the Mail that there is no exodus, and the natural increase of population, together with the great flow of immigration hither will necessarily keep up the demand."

"Oh! oh! oh!" broke in the dry goods man, "You don't mean to tell us that groceries are not luxuries. Why a man could live comfortably and never get within a dog's bark of a grocery store. Look at the nations of the earth and their standard dishes: English, bread, cheese and ale; Irish, potatoes and buttermilk; Scotch, parritch and milk; French, frogs a la gridiron; Dutch, saurkraut and lager; Italian, oil, wine and snails; Hindoo, rice; Equimaux, walrus and seal steaks carved off the living animal, and boiled while the blood is warm; the Tartars, horse-flesh; while the Digger Indians, on our western plains, are even less fastidious in their tastes, and load themselves up with damp earth, which strengthens the digestion, clears the blood and induces longevity to such an extent that the life insurance man is an unknown factor in the community. Sonney, you're not travelling with a line of necessities—you're dealing in luxuries. If necessities are wanted, I've got 'em—dry goods."

"You're a dandy," observed the millinery man to the dry goods man, as the latter stopped to take breath. "I thought you were wound up for twenty-four hours, and were not going to give any of the rest of us a show. If there's one in the party who is travelling in the luxury business you're the man. Dry goods are a comparatively recent invention, and when I say comparatively, I mean comparatively. The poet has written

Man wants but little here below,  
But wants that little long.  
or words to that effect. In the sweet long ago tailor-made suits were not in vogue, and the ancients' aspirations were little, but they wanted that little, long. Hence the flowing robe and girdle of the East. In the west the local residents went to the other extreme and were satisfied with a tuft of feathers in the hair, a scalp lock or two at the belt, and a few straws of paint on the skin. The late captain Jack considered that he was dressed for company when he had on a paper collar tied with a string, and a circlet of panther's teeth around his right wrist. For the sake of argument that the last costume is a little airy for our winter season, but notwithstanding that admission, I have this to say that tailor-made clothes are not necessities, but luxuries, and few of us are as happy now as we were when our mothers made our jackets and trousers, and our sisters knitted our socks and woolen ties. But I've got a line that's an absolute necessity—millinery."

As he ceased speaking, and struck a match to relight his fragrant three-for-a-nickel Havana cigar, a heavy-drawn, unmistakably grave-yard sign broke from the undertaker's traveller, who, after thus giving vent to his pent up feelings, remarked: "The wise man, who had tried all enjoyments that wealth could purchase, and found that in them was nothing but emptiness, summed up his experience in the brief sentence: 'Vanity of vanities, all is vanity and vexation of spirit.' And the wise man was right. We today eat, drink and are merry, and tomorrow we die; we bedeck ourselves in purple and fine linen, regardless of the fact that the Great Leveller, Death, is stalking around seeking whom he may cut off. We look not on the fashion plate for our last ornaments, we shrink from choosing that most necessary of all things,—a casket in which those who have loved us in life will carry our remains to the tomb when our spirit has departed, upheld by golden

winged angels, to the realms of bliss. I have listened to your arguments, gentlemen, and have noticed the points dwelt upon, but upon close analysis I find that you all deal in luxuries, and that I, and I only, deal in a line which is absolutely necessary,—caskets of all kinds, makes and shapes, from the costly mahogany and rosewood to the humble pine case; all warranted of the material specified; trimmings, handles and plates to suit; with or without transparent, as the tastes of the relatives of deceased may dictate; terms to the trade liberal, viz., 6 months on good marks, if cash is paid inside of 30 days a discount of 5 per cent. will be allowed on invoice rates; catalogues containing cuts of caskets, sizes, and prices, furnished by return mail by—"

The roar of laughter that broke in at this point from the rest of the party hindered the coffin man from giving the name of the firm, the number of the street, and the post office address of the casket builders. He had started off in good shape, and had actually thrown a feeling of awe—an awning of awe, so to speak—over the subject, but he got on the downgrade and before he was aware of the fact was working up trade in his best vein, to the amusement of his auditors.

The insurance man, after feeling his ribs to see that none of them had been rattled by the double-acted narrative of the casket man, said: "Old Mortality is correct in some respects, but not in all. He is right in saying that provision should not only be made for ourselves and our friends while living, but that we should always bear in mind our end—Death and taxes are sure to catch all of us, and none can dodge either of these calamities. Under these circumstances I would mildly remark that it behooves every man who loves his dear ones, whose affections have centred around his own fireside, who has sworn at the altar to love, to cherish and protect her—you all know of whom I speak; who has gathered around his knees when at home the little curly heads who lip "Father" in loving accents; I say it is the duty of such men to not only labor well and earnestly to make provision for these dear ones while health and vigor is his portion, but it is also his duty—and I say duty advisedly—to look to it that in the event of his being called away suddenly or in nature's course to see that the mother's fond heart will not be forced to break with the double work which has thus fallen upon her, by the taking off of the chief support of the once happy home. This is where the necessity for life insurance comes in; this is where—

"Clinton; change cars for Goderich going west, and for Seaford, Dublin, Mitchell, Sebringville and Stratford east, at the latter point connection with the main line of the G. T. R. to all points east and west," broke in the brakeman, and the discussion was abruptly terminated.

## THE BRIBERY PLOT.

Letter from the Foreman of the Jury—The Jury Unanimously of Opinion that the Defendants were Guilty of Bribery.

We have long felt that the ordinary run of Conservatives have necessarily for a good while past ceased to be astonished or ashamed of anything their Toronto organ could either do or say. They have stood so much that it might naturally be supposed they could stand anything. If however, they are capable of either restiveness or shame, they will feel anything but comfortable when they read the letter from one of the jurymen on the Bribery trial which appears in our columns this morning, and to which it is to be hoped the editor of the Mail will have the manliness and courage to give equal publicity in his.

It is to be noted that the writer of the letter though he was not chosen foreman acted as such, and not only pronounced and drafted the finding of the jury after the whole case had been carefully considered and discussed, and the opinions of all the twelve frankly and fully stated. No man could have had better opportunities for understanding whereof he spoke, and therefore if his verdict of this jury is as valuable and decisive as the whole Tory press of the Dominion has declared it to be, we must naturally take the meaning of that verdict as given by the man who drafted it and as understood by all who endorsed it as their own.

To the Editor of the Mail.  
Sir,—The letter published in your issue of today, headed "A Legal View of the Verdict," and signed "J. P., of York," forces from me an explanation which

would have been given to the public through the medium of the press last week, but for the solicitation of friends and well-wishers, who feared that anything I might say or any motives for writing would be as falsely construed by one or both of the party organs to suit their own views, as this verdict has been by the Mail. Of course if the wording of the verdict can honestly and fairly be made to bear the construction you have given it, viz., that of branding all the witnesses for the prosecution and the Ministers and others of the Reform party who took any part in the prosecution, as "liars and perjurers," then the jury may be blamed, and their intention to do justice.

## HAS SAIDLY MISAPPROPRIATED.

I do not, however, hesitate to assert that if viewed with a non-partisan spirit it is simply impossible to draw from the verdict any such meaning. Moreover, the fact that the non-party paper of our city, the Telegram, has from the first given to the verdict the meaning the jury intended it to have, goes to prove it is not so vague as to be justly worthy of the construction you have given it in your columns. If I am correct in this, it is manifestly unjust of you to persist in whipping your political opponents over the back of the jury or to call them "liars and perjurers" under cover of protection in publicly proclaiming these gentlemen as "liars and perjurers." It is far enough to say boldly that such are the views and opinions of the Mail, and

## NOT PUT THE RESPONSIBILITY UPON THE JURY.

or their verdict, as it is absolutely false to say that the jury entertained any such opinion of the parties engaged in the prosecution, and it is equally false to say that this verdict, which distinctly states the jury "feel compelled" to acquit simply because they had "doubts" on a most essential part of the evidence which was the connection of the defendants together in a pre-arranged "conspiracy to bribe." If I say, this verdict can be construed into branding the prosecutors as "liars and perjurers" surely then every verdict rendered in our courts also brands one of the contestants in the same manner, but this I take it no honest person will admit.

As the writer of this letter also penned the verdict and selected the wording of it, so as to embody as briefly as possible the unanimous views of the jury, it being then carefully discussed and adopted by them, you will perhaps accept my

EXPLANATION OF ITS MEANING: as coming from good authority; it is this. First, it must be distinctly borne in mind that the charge was not whether bribery had been attempted—I presume that both Conservatives and Reformers are agreed on that point, and certainly the jury were—but whether the defendants had "conspired together to bribe." Now, the "principal evidence" referred to in the verdict was that portion only which have connected Messrs. Bunting and Meek with Wilkinson, and the cash transactions. This important point in the so-called "principal evidence," and was necessary to prove a conspiracy. In the minds of the jury—sworn to deal justly with the evidence of every witness—that point was made questionable by the sworn evidence of Mr. Meek's clerk as to the dates of meeting. Thence arose a doubt in their minds as to the connection of the several defendants. Now the law and British justice is such—and properly so—that the accused shall always receive the benefit of a doubt, so on this ground the jury, after careful consideration and discussion used the words

"FEEL COMPELLED" to give the defendants the benefit and pronounce them acquitted. We are desirous of leaving no stain upon the character of either of the defendants more than the evidence warranted, and certainly not one of the jury intended for a moment to go out of their way to cast even a reflection upon any person taking part in the prosecution. I think moreover, it is safe to say that if either the judge or counsel for the prosecution had considered the verdict to be a reflection upon the characters of the prosecutors, the Court would not have hesitated to remind us that we had not been asked to pass judgment upon any one but the defendants. You will understand from this that if "J. P., of York," thinks there would be no trouble in obtaining the "evidence of the 12 intelligent jurors" to prove that the prosecutors were guilty of "witness and corrupt perjury," he is certainly.

## MISTAKEN IN HIS MIND.

unless they have changed their views and reversed their opinion since leaving the jury room. As I have no party purposes to serve in giving this explanation, but simply to place the meaning of the verdict truthfully before the public, and to clear myself and fellow-jurors from a charge which I feel to be a gross injustice. I trust you will in a spirit of fairness to the jurors give this letter a place in your columns, and I shall also give a copy to THE GLOBE, and Telegram for insertion. I am, sir, yours respectfully,

THOMAS WEST,  
One of the Jurors.

Toronto, 12th April.

Cunningham and Burton Indicted.

LONDON, April 21.—The grand jury have indicted Cunningham and Burton for treason-felony.

The Scott Act will come into force on Friday next.

## STORE.

ISON  
TWO-POINT  
Barb  
Wire  
PENSIBLE  
Mfg Co.  
Goods and Prices.

Hardware,  
DAGE, VESSEL  
See our Silver  
als.

ISON,  
to R. McLean's Meat Market.

Cigars,  
Cigarettes & Tobaccos.  
CALL AND SEE THEM.

Call, Goderich.  
Chemicals, Sponges, Dye Stuffs,  
Prescriptions a Specialty.

## SEEDS 1885.

JUST ARRIVED  
& Timothy Seed  
Red Top, Blue Grass, Lucerne,  
Tares,  
Peas, Oats & Barley,  
Ground Oil Cake, Mangold and  
all descriptions of Garden  
Seed. You to give me a call.  
SAMUEL SLOANE,  
Milton Street, Goderich.  
Feb. 26th, 1885. 1884-4th

re money than at anything else by  
blank an agency for the best selling  
k. out. Beginners succeed grand.  
Name fail. Terms free. HALLIST  
Portland, Maine.

## t Received!

re assortment of the various  
and CLOVER SEEDS  
Permanent pastures, as well as  
FIELD AND GARDEN

## SEEDS

AND TRUE TO NATURE.  
GRAIN OF ALL KINDS, as  
for the celebrated TUNICAN  
LIV, the very best in the market.

## ES PRICE,

Grain Depot, opposite Town Hall,  
h. 1885. 1886-2m

## RNITURE.

of tariff has caused great excite-  
ment; so has

## BROPHY

—IN THE—  
OF LOUNGES.

res, on Sets, \$3 75  
Wire Beds, 5 00  
Sion Tables, 6 50  
Sards, 8 00  
seated Chairs, 4 doz, 4 25  
soaked Chairs, 4 doz, 4 25  
frames below cost. 2 25  
is undersold by any dealer on the  
earth.

J. BROPHY,  
next door to D. Cantelon's bak-  
ery, Bank of Montreal,  
March 26th, 1885. 1886-3m