...ning.

For the Signal.

HABBIE COCKBAIN.

In the highlands o' Perth mang the braes o' Ballbether,
Where a' sorts o' wild looking creatures are born,
In a hut built o' divots and thackit wi' heather—
Whar peat reek gi'es a' things an aspect forlorn
Dame Nature ae time wi' her wark rather hurried,
Unconscious or careless what model she'd ta'en,
Frae her pairings o' clay made a form semi-human—
Fat brats on't and christen'd it *Habbie Cockbain.*

The creature grew up wi' the growth o' the darnel,
As a' noxious weeds are the quickest to grow,
As busey's a burdock, as sly as a badger—
As yellow's a frog and as fleet as a roe!
He forded the stream wi' the stem o' a kelpie!
He clamb where a footing the grey gyte had nane;
He denned where nae weasel or polecat could harbie—
A bores had a biding for Habbie Cockbain!

Tho' Nature had made him baith crafty and soople,
And fashion'd him near to her pattern o' man,
She somehow o'erlooked the design in her hurry,
Or may-be it had ne'er been a part o' her plan
To fit him for use wi' some mental endowment—
Some token o' soul wi' his body to lend;
For barren o' a' that a man should be proud o'—
Nor bravery nor brainforce has Habbie Cockbain!

When the Lord raised a hunting wi' grey-hounds and beagle,
Wi' the first in the pack he could scent out the game;
Could smoak wi' the spaniel—grub wi' the terrier—
Fill the laird's wallet, and carry it hame.
When the gauger cam seeking the smuggler's wee kettle,
To seize on't, and smash it wi' hammer or stane,
'Twas rightly jalousied he was always behadden
For some information to Habbie Cockbain.

Yet look'd he sae sturdy wi' grace-lengthened visage,
Sae arch brow'd and gothic his kirk-window leer,
That many simple bodies believed he was pious
And spak in grave tones it he chanced to be near.
He was aft at the Manse on some lickspittle errand—
As aft at the elders some flaw to explain;
When weak erring neighbors fell shoot o' some virtue
The session had aye wark for Habbie Cockbain.

At length when lang years brought the dawn o' discernment
To eyes that were bookish'd or glamoured before,
They harried him off frae the braes o' Ballbiether,
To ply his mean pranks on Lake Huron's far shore.
He's doubtless a boon to whae'er may need him,
For conscience—depend on't—the Satrap has nane;
But pliant and crouching, an I servile and selfish—
A tool for a' tyrants is Habbie Cockbain.

O a' sorts o' grubworms that prey on your cabbage,
O a' kinds o' reptiles that creep in your soil,
There's name to be fear'd like the wolf in lamb clecding—
The serpent rowd up in the sanctified coil;
Wha sneaks like meek innocence fawning and craven—
You'd deem his heart spotless o' flaw or of stain,
Yet void o' a gratitude—mean and inhuman,
Can gloat on your ruin like Habbie Cockbain.

I've ae wee bit pray'r, and I often repeat it,
"That Virtue and Merit may ne'er meet a Knave;"
I've a leal advice by which mankind may profit:
"Ne'er trust to an aspect are piously drave."
The wretch wha like Esau his birthright would barter
For brose or for brochan not a bit his vile wame
May stammer thro' life wi' the shrand on his conscience—
He's just the meet emblem o' Habbie Cockbain.

"THE MAN WITHOUT THE HEAD."

Ashfield, Jan. 16th, 1865.

☞ The petition of the Detroit Board of Trade, asking for the passage of a bill to make a ship canal around Niagara Falls, was presented to the Senate, at Washington, on the 18th inst.

☞ On Friday morning last, says the St. Louis *Democrat*, two soldiers named Purvis and Richardson, aged respectively sixteen and seventeen years, were hung in that city, for highway robbery and murder.

☞ The Montreal *Gazette* says the bulk of the service militia will devolve on the second class or married men between the ages of 18 and 45 years, as the necessities did not arise for a general return as required by the Act, and all young men not householders, will consequently be exempted.

☞ A letter has been received in Quebec from the Governor of British Columbia, concerning the Confederation scheme, and saying that British Columbia was ready to be included.

☞ About seven thousand passports have been issued since Mr. Seward's order was enforced. Seven hundred have been sold in Toronto. Yet few are required on the Lower Canada roads.

☞ The young men of Quebec now wear "clouds," hitherto regarded as articles of female apparel exclusively. The ladies cannot grumble. They have been encroaching on male apparel for some years.

☞ A steamer from Havanna brings advices from Mexico to the 17th.

☞ The celebrated speech of Sir Boyle Roche: 'Mr. Speaker. I smell a rat; I see him floating in the air; but mark me, I shall yet nip him in the bud,' was evidently the model upon which a writer in Kansas framed, the other day, some remarks upon the recent election. The Leavenworth *Conservative* says that by the result of that election, "the fall of corruption has been dispelled, and the wheels of the state government will no longer be trammeled by sharks that have beset the public prosperity like locusts."

Insolvent Act of 1864.

ANDREW ROBERTSON, *Plaintiff,*
vs.
CHARLES WILLIAM PICKFORD, *Defendant.*

UPON Reading the Writ of Attachment herein, the return thereto, and the affidavits and papers filed, I do order, that the creditors of the defendant be and they hereby are notified to meet at my chambers in the Court House, in the County of Huron, on WEDNESDAY the Twenty-Fifth day of JANUARY, A. D. 1865, at Ten o'clock, a. m., for the purpose of giving their advice upon the appointment of an official assignee.

30c F.F. 2 Law Stp 5

Dated the 6th January, A. D. 1865.

(Signed) R. COOPER,
Judge Huron & Bruce.

CHARLES WILLIAM PICKFORD, Leaenville, Co. Huron.
T. HENRY INCE, Toronto, } Plaintiff's Attorney. } w 37 w30 2 s

NOTICE.

IS HEREBY GIVEN, That a meeting of the Municipal Electors of the Municipality of Tuckersmith will be held in School House No 5, Varna on from ordinary.

ON FRIDAY, THE 10th DAY OF FEBRUARY NEXT,

at the hour of 10 o'clock, a. m., for the purpose of voting Yea or Nay to the by-laws or no following By Law be adopted by the electors

WM. MUIR,
Tp Clerk.

Tuckersmith, Jan. 10th, 1865.

Copy of Requisition and By-Law.

THE undersigned qualified Municipal Electors of the Municipality of the Township of Tuckersmith hereby require That a By-Law in terms of the Temperance Act of 1864, to determine whether or not the sparrited manufacture of or sale in the said municipality will shall under authority and for enforcement of said Act, the By-Law following which we hereby propose for three a bopsion, to wit:

The sale of intoxicating spirituous and fermented liquors shall not by or by a By-Law prohibited, within the Municipality of the Township of Tuckersmith, otherwise than and for exempt of the Temperance Act of 1864.

Witness our hands this 8th day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty four.

(Signed) ROBERT LANG, and 38 other Electors.

A True Copy.
WILLIAM MUIR,
Tp Clerk.

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SHERIFF'S SALE OF LANDS.

United Counties of Huron and Bruce, } To Wit:

BY virtue of a writ of Fieri Facias issued out of Her Majesty's Court of Common Pleas and to me directed against the lands and tenements of John Wright, farmer, at the suit of James Smith Hawkins, I have seized and taken in execution all the right, title and interest of the said defendant in and to lots Numbers 17 and 18, Forest's Survey, in the Township of Hay, saving, excepting and reserving out of the number fourteen in the said survey one hundred and fifty acres more or less, which were sold and conveyed by the said defendant to one Thomas Hawkins, and also excepting and reserving out of the number fourteen in the said survey one hundred