CHAPTER II.

Was Mrs. Evans sorry? Who can say? Those Meredithes and Ap-Meredithes, who call themselves Celtic, yet are as Norse as they can look at you out of their two eyes, have a singularly un-Celtic trick of concealing emotion. Eleanor could not say whether her mother was sorry or glad.

It was not the custom, in families of that class, for the mother to allude, even in the most distant way, to her daughters on any points regarding marriage relations. Mrs. Evans broke through this rule once and when her daughter and she were alone. said, very quietly, "That child of Gray, the soldier's is growing strong and hearty. You are old enough to understand that if things had gone right, that child would have called you aunt. His father is the brother of the woman whom you should have called sister, had it not been for the incalculable villainy of Charles."

"Mother, leave Charles alone. I will not have Charles abused.'

"A most maidenly, daughterly speech," said Mrs. Evans, scornfully.

"Mother, I mean all duty; but circumstances alter cases."—

"This is well,' said Mrs. Evans. "This is uncommonly well. There is some old cross of the Evans blood coming out here. This is the Duchess of N——'s blood, I doubt, which is now defying her own flesh and blood."

'Don't talk like that, mother."

"I will not," replied Mrs. Evans; but allow me to tell you that if Lord Hemerton had heard you utter such atrocious sentiments, he would at once cease his visits, and would not propose.'

"Oh, he has proposed,' said Eleanor. "He proposed yesterday."

'What did he say?' said Mrs. Evans, eagerly.

'Well,' said Eleanor, coolly, 'he merely, as I believe men do (and dreadful fools they look when they do it), asked me if he might consider himself engaged to be married to me?'

'And what did you say?' asked Mrs. Evans.

'I said that I was at a loss to conceive what he had seen in my conduct which induced him to take such an unwarrantable liberty.'

"Good heavens!' said Mrs. Evans. 'Then are you off with him?'

'I never was on with him that I know of,' said Eleanor. 'He is a good fellow, and I like him well; but I don't see why I should marry him. We shouldn't get on. He is not religious, and does not care for his estate.'

'Your influence would have made him care for both his estate and his religion,' said Mrs. Evans.

'Not a bit of it,' replied Eleanor. 'George is a man, although we never hit it off together.'

'Is it hopeless?' said Mrs. Evans. 'How did you dismiss him?'

'Well, I kissed him, and as he went out of the room, I gave him a pat on the back, and I said, 'Go on, George; go off to Greenwood. There is a girl there, worth fifty of me, who is dying for you. You would never have made such a fool of yourself about me, if it had not been for our two families.' And then he wanted to kiss me again, but I would not stand that. And so he rode off to Greenwood, and I think you will find that Laura Mostyn will be announced as Lady Hemerton next [illegible]'

'[illegible] never be married, at this rate,' [illegible] Evans, biting her lip.

'[illegible] to make such a fool of myself,' [illegible] Eleanor.

'Lovely, [illegible] marry to get position' [illegible] Mrs. Evans, looking radiant [illegible]

'I have [illegible] manner, on this Pulverbatch [illegible] in £500 a year, of eighteen.

'I tell you that I [illegible] nor. 'I have the husband but one, and that will bring me Charles. Let us drop all my time. conversation, and tell me [illegible] have any done about this child.' [illegible] brother

Mrs. Evans was beaten by [illegible] able, beautiful face. She said, [illegible] want pause, 'I wish you quietly to be [illegible] it, and when I am dead, to look [illegible] We have done evil enough to that [illegible] as it is.

'Is it to be brought up as a gentleman?' she asked.

'Certainly not,' said her mother; "only respectably. I wish you would undertake it for me, for the sight of the child and of the whole of that family is distasteful to me.'

Eleanor said, 'Yes,' wondering. But when she said yes she meant yes, and she did what was desired of her.

CHAPTER III.

The sudden and very lamentable death of Squire James Evans in the hunting-field threw a gloom, not in the mere newspaper acceptation of the term, but in reality, over that part of Shropshire, for nearly a week. He was a most deservedly popular man, and what they wrote on his tomb was every word of it true. He was a good son, a good husband, a good father, a good landlord, a pious churchman, a firm friend, and he died without one single enemy. One little fact was omitted from his tombstone: he died without being reconciled to his son, at least formally. There may have been a reconciliation at heart, and those low, inarticulate moans as he lay dying in his groom's arms in the ditch, may have been the attempted expression of it; but the mouth was loose in death before they were ever uttered.

Mrs. Evans was not long after him. She was aged and worried, and she moped and brooded until she died. The old clergyman who attended her at the last, left her at the very last with a dissatisfied and rather puzzled face. Eleanor she would not see for the last four days.

Well, she died. And it took nearly six months to communicate to Squire Charles his most sudden and unexpected succession. He came home at the end of a year, and found Eleanor, his sister, in possession, keeping all things square for him: receiving rents, bullying attorneys, walking up and down among the farms, in a dress which was considered remarkable even in those times, and attending to the wants of the tenantry. She had practically given one of the family livings away, quite ill-guilty, though the young curate to whom she gave it, took possession, as a matter of course. On the other hand, she had been rather tight with the tenants on the subject of rents; and, it is reported, used the word 'damnably,' just then coming into fashion, on more than one occasion. They tell an odd tale, those Shropshire folks. They say that she and the steward were standing together on the terrace, when Sir Charles came up, on his arrival from India; that the steward said, 'Thank heaven, he has come at last' And that Aunt Eleanor said, 'I quite agree. Now you and he take the reins in hand, for I am sick of it. And the mess you will make of it together, poor fools.'

They did nothing of the kind however. The property did rather better under the liberal rule of Squire Charles than under the close, the close rule of his sister Eleanor. Women are apt to be very near and mean in business. They will *give* as few men will *give*, but they will haggle about sixpence, while that was irritating a good tenant. Was not the Antiquary, as near a man as another, upbraided by his usually submissive womankind for "raising the price of fish on them?"

Eleanor the beautiful whisked away from her brother's establishment at once, leaving him to manage his somewhat irritated tenants, and retired to her own farm at Pulverbatch. She marched off with her young child Gray.

The scandal about Charles Evans and Elsie Gray was known to very few persons, and was now almost forgotten even by those few; scarcely half a dozen all told. As for the county, they had never heard of it, and even if they had, would have taken small note it, for there were plenty of scandals of the same kind in any one of *their* families. If it had got wind, the more ill-natured of them would have been pleased at such a fiasco occurring in such a saint-like family as the Evanses. But then it never did get wind, and Charles Evans was welcomed to his ancestral halls by the county generally, with lute, sack but, psaltery, culcimer, and all manner of musical instruments. He lied a little, I doubt, at the very first reception, to a question being inquired of by the county, where was his sister Eleanor, he replied, that she was not well, and having been overpowered by his sudden return, had gone home to her farm at Pulverbatch; whereas the truth was that she was perfectly well, and had told him, the day before that she was not in sufficient temper to meet all these idiots, and walked off to Pulverbatch, promising to come back to him as soon as he had got rid of his fools.

Yet they had had a pleasant meeting these two: worth giving perhaps. He took her in his arms, and she wound her fingers in his hair. And he said:

"Love all the same, sister?"

And she said. "Not all the same, but more."

"Has any body been?" said her brother.

"I should like to see them," said the sister. "My dear, I must marry you. No other arrangement is possible. Get rid of these fools, and find yourself a good wife, and I will come back and marry the pair of you."

"But who is to marry you?" said the brother.

"You," said the sister.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, OCT. 27th, 1870.

THE VIEWS OF THE COMING MAN.

On the 13th inst, over 3000 of the reformers of East Elgin assembled at Aylmer to hear Alexander Mackenzie speak. Uncompromising and unpurchaseable, he has not become rich on the spoils of office, though tempted by all manner of wiles to sacrifice his independence and sit down in the high but filthy places of coalition He can say with modest pride:—'He might now have been speaking from a Ministerial point of view if he had chosen. It was simply because he looked at such a Coalition as being disastrous to his own reputation, to the best interests of the country, and disastrous from every point of view to that political morality that every public man was bound to maintain, that he had acted in the manner he had done.' If the warm affection, honest admiration and universal respect of his fellow subjects are treasures of price, there breathes no wealthier citizen to-day than Alexander Mackenzie

Unlike the "Saint of Cornwall," who at Belleville a few days ago with characteristic irreverence entreated his hearers 'for God's sake to get rid of as much party feeling as they could,' Alexander Mackenzie is a warm admirer of party government and an honest hater of the 'burking' of principle implied by Coalition. So are we. Reformers will not be hoodwinked again by any 'no party' cry. Those who suffered the wool to be drawn over their eyes at last election, have found out ere this that what the government, which has now for nearly four years maintained its usurped authority, means by 'no party' is no party but the Conservative party, 'no party' but combination of the advocates of retrogressive sectional legislation, denominational education and copious feeding at the public crib. So long as men hold their divine principles, which can no more tarnish right and darkness, so long, unfortunate will it be for our country when a mutual agreement to ignore principles. Unfortunate indeed for our country when a political place. We must ignore political principles, or we must be content to be demarcation clearly to ignore political principles, or we must be content to be they be now, when the time of securing election is drawing near. the lines of

Mr. Mackenzie accused a new Macdonald of breaking the pledge he gave at last election that three should sit in his cabinet. And A. ignored his pledge. There is McDougall, shamefully betrayed into taking office to make room for the antiquated adventurer from the "Windward Isles" who is constantly doing his best to land our finances in inextricable confusion. Thus John A keeps his promises to reformers by giving the portfolio of Finance to Sir Francis Hincks, on more than one occasion, guilty of the deepest treachery to the liberal party. Then there is Mr. Morris aptly described as "a Tory dyed in the wool, a conservative from his birth if not before.' Then "poor Aikins who, sitting in the senate represented nobody." Verily John A. has redeemed his pledge by shamelessly pretending that such creatures as these were taken into his cabinet as representatives of liberalism. We scarcely think one solitary reformer will again give one solitary vote to raise the minions of the present premier into the Dominion parliament from a "no party" platform, and enable them, when they get there, to stifle reform and wallow in all manner of corruption.

What a sink of jobbery, for example, is the Intercolonial Railway! The scheme was entered into in obedience to the nod of Sir George Cartier, and is to be run through hundreds of miles of barren country to foster the interests and aid the political intrigues of the master-spirit of French domination. The only advantages the other ministers gain from it being the opportunity of giving to Colonel Gray and some of their lean and hungry hangers on a Commissionership of $3000 or $4000 per ann. to other sharks legal fees galore, and to themselves a chance of a long lease of power; in which last expectation they will be mightily disappointed. Meantime, in a period of peace and prosperity, they are running the country into debt at the rate of $7 or $8,000,000 per annum.

We shall only at this time notice one other point and we heartily endorse Mr. Mackenzies' sentiments in connection with it. He said:—"the Manitoba Bill was framed entirely in the interests of Riel and his friends, and the ruffians, Scott and Richot, were received by the Government as if they were upright men, representing the people of the Territory, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the people, properly conveyed to them. In the passage of that Bill, and in every thing connected with that country, he felt that the Canadian people had suffered an amount of degradation never equalled; and this was one of the results of the Coalition of 1867.'

In his struggles against this Bill, he earned the praises of the whole of loyal Ontario, and many an honest Conservative is prepared at next election to support Mr Mackenzie on this ground.

Ontario must be up and doing. Sandfield Macdonald, by his votes or absence at the voting, has given in his adhesion to the policy of the other Macdonald and we hold him responsible for his action. 'Tis all very fine to point to the Ontario surplus and say: Here is the evidence of good government. We all know that this surplus originates from our improved local position in consequence of Confederation, the credit of which belongs entirely to the opponents of the present Governments.

The London *Free Press* urges Mackenzie, Blake and McKellar to address themselves at future meetings to practical questions and show what they can do "In overthrowing the government of a clique and placing it in the hands of the people. In abolishing sectarian supremacy." If there is anything these men are engaged in it is this. But the *Free Press* in its innocence cannot see that we are now the victims of "the government of a clique", as debased, unscrupulous and corrupt a "clique" as ever misgoverned us. And we suppose the *Free Press* is equally blind to the "sectarian supremacy" which was the ruling spirit of the Manitoba Bill; which received its last apotheosis in the grant of 1,400,000 acres of land in that territory exclusively for the use of a section of the people claiming a certain nationality and religion, highly favored by Sir George Cartier; and which showed its cloven hoof at every stage of the Dominion Arbitration. The sweet simplicity of the *Free Press* is extremely touching.

We appeal to the Liberals of Huron as Alexander Mackenzie is appealing to the Liberals of the Dominion, particularly of Ontario, "to join earnestly and heartily together in re-establishing the supremacy of pure government." In a few months the only opportunity, for four long years, of remodelling the Local Government will be in your own hands. Don't let the occasion slip.

PURCHASE OF THE NORTHERN ROAD and ABOLITION of TOLLS

In another column we publish a By-Law having for its object the purchase, by the County from the Company, of the Northern Gravel Road, in contemplation of the abolition of tolls throughout Huron On this By-Law, the ratepayers are called to give their verdict at the polls on the 14th November next. Whatever that verdict may be we shall not complain; because we expect every voter to decide conscientiously, uninfluenced by sectional bias and having in view the advantage of the whole County.

Mr. Bay, the County Engineer, values the road at $43,000. The construction of it cost the company $77,000, and the County can now purchase it for $40,000. With the exception of a culvert or two, it is just in about as good a state of repair as the County Gravel Roads which cost over $3000 per mile; so that there can scarcely be two opinions but that $1600 a mile is a reasonable rate. The By Law, if passed, proposes to raise the amount on debentures at 20 years. To comply with the statute, the sum to be raised yearly to pay interest, repay principal and provide 5 per cent of a sinking fund, would be $4430. This, on the current equalization, would require an assessment of seventeen-fiftieths of one mill on the dollar. Out of this rate the County will be yearly investing $1200, of sinking fund and at the end of 20 years have the Debentures paid up, and an investment of $24,000 with accumulated interest On this basis every property of the assessed value of $1000 would have to pay a yearly tax of 34 cents; by no means a deadly burden.

For three years past, the 19 toll-gates, on the County Gravel Roads, rented as follows:—

To 31st December	1867	$11271.00
" "	1868	10231.00
" "	1869	10186.00

For the same period, the expenditure for repairs has been:—

To 31st Debember	1867	$14586.54
" "	1868	10007 10
" "	1869	12006.85

Taking the average of these three years, which is a toterably fair criterion, we find that the County realizes yearly from rents of toll-gates $10,563.00
and expends yearly on gravel roads 12,200.00

The expenditure exceeding the revenue $1637.00

We presume it will not be considered an extravagant estimate to say that toll-keepers manage to average a yearly profit of $365.00, which multiplied by 19 (the number of gates) shows us that the gatekeepers retain $6935 00 or about 40 per cent of the total amount collected. The receipts at gates would, therefore, be

Rent paid Treasurer $10,563
Gatekeepers' emoluments 6,935
..... $17,493

ing that 5 per cent of this ...s from foreign travel and it is the outside), deduct ... travel ..... .875

are paid $16,623
the County ..... that
563 of which.
so that the travelling ratepayers of ... taxed for the use of toll; only $10,.. cover the expenditure County Treasury, system resembles very ... $1637 00 to a man taking 10 cents ... handing it to an officious ... This no earthly purpose but ... satisfaction of receiving back from him ... pocket, putting it into his other pocket. for

The repairs required for the 67 miles of County Gravel have been on an average of three years to cost $ 20. Supposing the 25 miles of Northern Gravel Road are acquired from the company, the repairs to that section would be in about the same proportion; as, with the exception of a culvert or two, the present state of repair all round is about similar. One-fourth, the relative proportion of mileage, added would make the cost of keeping the whole in order $15,250, or about $1400 less than the amount at present paid by ratepayers at the toll-gates.

G, says some one, but these should pay who use the road, and those who use it most should pay the most! This is a short-sighted and narrow-minded view to take of the question. What is the equalization principle good for, if it does not do away with the seeming injustice? Is not the farmer on the gravel or near a market assessed at a higher rate than the farmer more distant from it? And would not this principle apply to the tax for gravel road purposes as well as to other taxes; so that the rate-payer who is away from the road certainly would, as he desires, pay less than those he would call more highly-favored. How is it that the County of Huron is so much ahead of counties far East of it? Just on account of its early-made and unusually excellent gravel roads. If the Company had not made this Northern Road, the County would have had to do so ere this; and now the County should be only too glad to give half-price for it, after what it did to open up the Northern Townships and benefit the whole, years earlier than might otherwise have been.

That is the reason we have now countless excellent markets studding all parts of the County, a privilege for which no one should grudge to contribute. A good road in any part of the County, by increasing the value of property in its vicinity, leading to the settlement of bush lands, widening the area of taxation and thus reducing the rate of assessment, is a boon to every other section of the County, and we should like to see ratepayers of Huron take a broad and liberal view of this question.

Really the toll-gate system is a relic of barbarism, a species of black-mail for the gatekeeper's benefit, that only enthinking prejudice could have kept alive so long in this enlightened age. Let Huron follow the example of other progressive counties, buy the Northern Road and abolish tolls.

Still, after all, it is jolly when the train is pelting, or the snow drifting to the tune of a "frosty nor' wester confoundedly nipping," to be suddenly brought up at a toll-gate and with numbed fingers undo your wraps to hunt for the "pence" that will pass you through the portal—legal tender or 10 per cent discount; and specially jolly in sleighing time when a dozen teams are hunting for change at once. We have tried the experiment and we like it immensely.—Don't you?

Seriously, in inclement weather, there is no more aggravating, oath-provoking and uncomfortable impost than the toll-gate system; there is no more foolish and unprofitable system in any weather; and we fervently trust the bell that *tolls* out this year will *toll* the last of the *tolls* in Huron.

Goderich Harbor Works.

A DRY DOCK A NECESSITY ON THE UPPER LAKES.

Goderich is now positively fixed on as the point at which Government is to construct one of the Harbors of Refuge for Lake Huron. As such a Harbor can never be complete without facilities for repairing the damage done to shipping by storms and other casualties incidental to navigation, we desire to point out to all interested the necessity for establishing a Dry Dock on the upper lakes and the eligibility of Goderich Harbor for that purpose.

Last spring, the *Prince Alfred* gunboat required some slight repairs to her hull and machinery. These necessitated her removal to Port Robinson, on the Welland Canal, some 500 miles from Goderich, there being no dock on Canadian Territory, either on the Georgian Bay, or on Lakes Huron, St. Clair or Erie, on which the vessel could be placed. The Dry Dock at Port Robinson is merely a ditch with improvised gates, which have to be put on and taken off every time a vessel is docked and undocked, and is positively dangerous when full of water, on account of the instability of its mud surroundings.

Detroit is now the only place where the necessary repairs are done on Canadian vessels hailing from the ports on our chain of lakes. Many thousand dollars of Canadian money are yearly expended there, through Dry Dock facilities. In former years, the *Bonnie* and *Silver Spray*, trading from this port, were compelled to proceed thither for repairs on several occasions. This season alone, the *Algoma* remained in Detroit over four months rebuilding; and the *William Seymour*, *Waubuno*, *Wenona*, *Ocknona* and numberless other Canadian steam and sailing vessels had to go into dock there. Now, in the event of a war or any unpleasantness of that sort with our belligerent neighbors, what would become of our shipping up here? We know not.

The eligibility of Goderich for such a dock cannot be questioned. Its geographical position, midway between the lines of communication, its splendid natural advantages as a Harbor, its unequalled defensive position where a few earth-works and heavy guns would make it impregnable as Gibraltar, and its water facilities for the purpose of locking and docking vessels all point it out as THE SITE FOR A DRY DOCK. While, as we said before, a Harbor of Refuge would be incomplete if it did not afford to disabled vessels the best and speediest means of refitting.

The dry dock or docks could be so constructed that no steam or other pumping power would be required. The large volume of water passing down the Maitland River could be brought at little cost at an elevation of 18 feet over the mean water line in the Harbor, which would be more than required by any vessels at present navigating our lakes, while a still greater elevation could be got if necessary, as the river falls very rapidly between the Harbor and bridge.

The cost of the works would be moderate in view of the advantages accruing from them and we trust the idea will be taken up by parties competent to deal with it, and not allowed to drop until it is fully carried out.

The other day at Belleville, Sandfield Macdonald said the Ontario "government, having a large surplus, was to-day in the position of men possessing a white elephant—they did not know what to do with it." It is competent for the local government to aid what are called "mixed" Harbors and it is very possible, if the matter were properly represented, that the Ontario government might see fit, after due enquiry, to grant an appropriation for the purpose of carrying out a work of such public utility. The attempt is worth making.

At all events, we think every one will acknowledge that with or without Government aid a Dry Dock should be constructed here next summer. We shall recur to this subject by and bye, meantime we would say:—"There is a tide in the affairs of men which taken at the flood leads on to fortune." Such a "tide" seems now beginning to flow, as far as Goderich and vicinity are concerned, and if our business men do not show themselves ready and anxious, with energy and public spirit, to 'take occasion by the beard," we will deserve to lie in the mud for ever.

The Gravel Road Purchase

AN EXPLANATION.—We have been asked what we meant when we wrote:—"Out of this rate (of $440) the county will be yearly investing $1200 of sinking fund and at the end of 20 years have the Debentures paid and an investment of $24000 with accumulated interest." All we desired to be understood as meaning was that it would take an annual rate of $1400, 20 years to wipe out the debt. This amount would pay off the County Debt in about 14½ years; but, if, or, over the 20 years allowed, we be making an annual payment of $1200 for the sinking fund, $24,000 at its credit at the end of 1200.

OUR LUMINOUS CONTEMPORARY. — If the *Star* can boast of no other virtue it pretends to be blessed with a good memory. Instead of fighting shy of criticism of ours, on its own merits it always endeavors to shelter itself behind something that occurred six months ago. Instead of confessing that, last week, it built its tangent editoral on a fictitious foundation, it is pleased to say:—"Were the *Signal* given less to sneering, the gunboat would not be removed from Goderich this winter by the unmanly and uncalled for attack made on Mr Wyatt last spring in regard to it. The town has lost the handling of large sums of money which were annually spent here through having this the gunboat's headquarters."

We have yet to find out that the *Prince Alfred is* to be removed from Goderich, or, if so, that such action is the result of the *Signal's* remarks on the unseaworthiness of the *Rescue*. Should the *Star* have official information that such is the case, we desire to know it. Things will have come to a pretty pass if the servants of the public are to consider themselves and their acts above criticism by honest and outspoken journals. We have not been accustomed to secure the "handling of large sums of money" by fawning on government officials and do not intend to begin now. Give us your authority Mr. *Star* for saying that the *Prince Alfred* is to be removed from Goderich on account of the sneering" of the *Signal* at Mr. Wyatt. We want to get at the facts of the case and then we shall have something to say on the subject.

Town Talk.

A WARNING TO FARMERS.—On Thursday evening, Mr. Wm. Humphrey, from near St. Helens, was brought before Christopher Crabb Esq J. P. on a charge of selling a load of grain to Mr. Wells, without having, in accordance with the market By-Law, first exhibited it at the market and paid the fee. Mr. Crabb imposed a nominal fine of 20 cents and costs, a conviction being all that was wanted. Whether market fees be a grievance or not, we consider it very mean to attempt to evade them, when a respectable man like Mr. Young, willing to do everything to assist the farmer, has rented them from the town. We think, too, now that there is a good deal of competition among the buyers on the market, that farmers stand in their own light, if they sell their produce all over town.

NEW CONNECTION SOCIAL.—The young men of this congregation intend to give a social in the basement on Thursday, 27th Oct, at 7.30 p.m. Speeches and music after Tea.

WINTER CLOTHS AND CLOTHING.—Abraham Smith has now on hand a full assortment of winter goods. How much "poetry" there is in his new Advertisement may be a debateable point, but that there is a good deal of "truth" in it will be readily acknowledged.

W. & J. KAY are now fully assorted for the winter trade, in all kinds of Dry Goods. They are men who "mean what they say and say what they mean" and their goods can be relied on

RUSHED UP.—On Wednesday last, by the eager competition of buyers, wheat rose in an hour or two from $1.05 to $1.17 and still remains quite close to the latter figure.

ANOTHER WHEAT BUYER.—We are glad to welcome Mr Whitehead, of Clinton, to our market in the person of his agent Mr. Stephen Yates.

DITTO.—The popular drink with some of the young men about town is known as "the same" It never fails to produce the desired result.

A SWEET SONG by W Bannatyne on "Bonnie Lochgair," will appear next week.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE for November is a splendid number. We intended to reproduce parts of an article on "Canada—the Fenian Raid and the Colonial office," but want of space compels us to defer it.

THE DOMINION MONTHLY for November is full of varied and interesting reading matter, and as the price is only $1.50 per annum the people should encourage home-manufacture in literature as in other departments.

PENNY READINGS.—This entertainment, on Friday evening last, was very much appreciated by a large and intelligent audience. Dr and Mrs Thompson delighted the meeting with an old English ballad and the Dr himself brought down the house with an Irish song which elicited an enthusiastic *encore*. It was unnecessary for Dr T. to apologize by saying that he "had never seen the Emerald Isle," his brogue being as fresh and racy as if he had come over "in the last boat." Rev E L Elwood favored the company with two recitations which were warmly received. Miss Trainer and Miss Bertha Trainer sang well and sweetly and we hope to hear them again. Miss Skimmings volunteered "Annie Laurie," and we trust the services of this talented lady will be given on another occasion when she has an opportunity of preparing. The readers were Messrs. J T Garrow, McMullen and Howard. This entertainment is, every meeting, getting more and more popular.

A WARNING TO BUYERS.—As a caution to parties to prevent them buying produce before ascertaining whether the seller has paid the market fees, a storekeeper was brought before C. Crabb, Esq., J. P., on Friday last and fined 20 cents and costs. The Market-clerk marks each waggon on which the fee has been paid with white chalk, giving the day of the month, so that buyers must look out.

RECOVERING.—We are glad that Mr P Barry, whose hand was seriously mutilated last week, is doing well though suffering considerable pain

SOMETHING NEW.—Mr Amos Martin has hung out something quite new in the line of signs. The ground is a light green and the letters painted in bright vermilion. The workmanship is Mr Mann's but the design and selection of colors are, we believe, Mr Martin's own taste.

DEATH OF A WATERLOO VETERAN.—Chas. Cheesman, who died here (near Maitnoch East Wawanosh) on the 17th inst. had been a soldier in the English army and was at the battle of Waterloo in 1815. And when "Napoleon" was confined to the Island of St. Helena, Mr. Cheesman was one of his guards during his residence there. He was stationed for several years in Ireland, and was for some time at the Cape of Good Hope, and lastly in Canada where he got his discharge and a grant of land instead of a yearly pension. Like many others of his class he sold the land for a mere trifle, and being unfortunately fond of liquor, he soon left himself, and his wife who survives him, depending on his labour for support. He died in extreme poverty at the age of 75 years.

SHOCKING.—The first experience of Goderich in the earthquake line occurred on Thursday last, about 11 o'clock in the forenoon. The sensation was not felt on the ground floors, but every upper story vibrated for 2 minutes as if the walls were about to topple over. Such a getting down stairs and spontaneous ringing of hotel bells was never before heard. Housewives' cheeks, grew pale tailors rushed out in search of a firmer 'seat' and even lawyers were startled out of their practised equanimity. The vibration went as it came without explanation. Nervous and prophetic souls are asking What does this portend?

UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday last, while Mr P. Barry was sawing some boards at one of the small circular saws of Buchanan, Lawson and Robinson's Sash Factory, one of the boards slipped and left hand came in contact with the saw. Half of three fingers were cut off and the finger was severed nearly up to the nail. Mr Barry lay about two hours in painful suspense ere assistance could be had—being as it last arrived and dressed the wounded. Mr Barry bearing the operation manfully. He is now doing well, we expect. Accordingly. — For our part, The prevailing winds have been fickle and stormy. Vessels belonging all the lakes early. bring tidings of disasters. had their share of misfortune. Some had to put into Northwest-ward considerable damage. We have reported to be hurt but, whether so or not, the telegraph does not say. *Jenny Rumball* on her way to Owen Sound driven back here and lay at anchor two days within a short distance of the harbor. When the gale subsided and she got into port it was found that her two jibs were gone. Her yawl also had been stove in and part of her deck cargo lost. The *Nina* lost her deck cargo of some 100 barrels of salt.

Dominion Doings.

Waterworks are to be established at Ottawa. They are much needed.

The Archbishop of Quebec died on the 15th inst. of dropsy of the heart, aged seventy-two years. He was the fifteenth Bishop and the third Archbishop of Quebec. He was taken suddenly ill about two months ago while on a pastoral visit. His body lay in the Archiepiscopal Chapel till Tuesday, when interment took place, and the Canadian Bishops assisted at the funeral obsequies.

The Quebec *Mercury* says that the walls of that city are crumbling to the dust, the platforms of the batteries are rotting away, the cannon in many places are dismounted, everything like a defensive work is left to slow destruction.

Mr. Desbrissy, M. P. P., in a letter to the Bridgetown *Free Press*, gives the following as the names and ages of the oldest persons in Lunenburg County, N. S.:—Mrs. Kaulback, 102 in February next. Valentine Zwicker, 98. Thos. Dallamore, 96. Mrs. Uhlman, 97. George Jodry, 96. Total, 489.

In answer to a petition to that effect a search has been authorized by Lieut-Governor Archibald for the body of the murdered Scott at Fort Garry.

The Sarnia *Observer* says that the streets of Petrolea are in a frightful condition with mud, and around the wells it is actually knee-deep; but every one seems perfectly satisfied to wade through it in search of the slippery treasure.

Economy of space is a big thing.—We are told that a man in a neighbouring place who possesses a small house containing but one room and had no barn or granary on his premises, had piled all the furniture in one corner of the house, and was threshing out a crop of beans on the floor with a flail.

A great breadth of wheat has been sown in the neighborhood of Guelph, which is doing splendidly.

The people of Three Rivers have ratified the by-law granting $100,000 to the North Shore Railway.

Large flocks of sheep are leaving Kingston daily for the U. S.

Doctor Walter Brown has reached Brantford from Red River.

A rumor comes from Cornwall that the Hon. Sandfield Macdonald is feeling his way in the county of Prescott, with a view to ousting Mr Boyd, as the atmosphere at Cornwall is said to be getting unpleasant.

A gentleman from Montreal, Mr. Sandham, is preparing to erect works for the manufacture of horse-nails, with new and improved machinery, of which he alone has the patent right, at the Chaudiere. The works will be on an extensive scale, and give employment to some 50 men; but they will not in all probability go into operation before the spring.

Mr. Alex. McKenzie has been seriously indisposed, but is now well enough to attend to some public engagements.

THE PROVINCIAL DEAF AND DUMB ASYLUM, at Belleville, was formally opened Thursday by Lieutenant-Governor Howland, to whom a congratulatory address was presented by the Warden of the county of Hastings, Mr. A. F. Wood. The Lieutenant-Governor in suitable terms expressed his deep sense of the welcome he had received, and then referred to the institution. This will accommodate three hundred and fifty pupils, and has been built at a cost of about sixty-five thousand dollars. The Hon. John Sandfield Macdonald was present, and, as a matter of course, took advantage of the opportunity to make a political speech. He was at once boastful of his own achievements and then declared himself a very humble person indeed, deeply sensible of his own sins. He acknowledged he was getting old—unpalatable fact—and would soon retire, because his race was run. He gave as parting advice, "For God's sake endeavour to get rid of as much party feeling as you can." The Hon. Mr. Wood, who also made a political speech, was more jubilant and more defiant, getting into figures to prove the wisdom of his economical financiering.—*Globe.*

THE EARTHQUAKE.

HOW IT FELT TO BE "SHOOK UP"—HE "QUAKER" AT HAMILTON, DUNDAS ST. CATHARINES, MONTREAL AND QUEBEC.

[*From the Hamilton Times.*]

We believe that though the 'Ambitious' city of Hamilton has had much in the past, and has much in the present of which it may justly boast, but never so far as we can learn, has it experienced the shock of a real *bona fide* earthquake. It can now claim rank with Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec, its elder sisters of Canada. Until to-day, no earthquake ever honored this city with a nod of recognition. But this morning at 11 o'clock, one of these underground inhabitants of the earth gave the city a pretty hearty shake, but did no real damage beyond frightening a few of our people who were in the upper stories of buildings. It shook the cases and gas fixtures in the compositors room of this office, causing the floor to vibrate quite perceptibly, and made the hands all rush out to inquire into the cause of the sudden and mysterious shaking. The vibratory motion lasted from fifteen to twenty seconds. The men engaged in the erection of a new building in this city, the property of Alderman Winer, rushed down from the scaffoldings, the vibration of the walls being so great that the workmen feared the whole building was about to come down with a crash.

The shock was felt in every part of the city, but varying in distinctness according to the circumstances of situation. At Brown's wharf the vibration was so great as to shake the books and papers on the office desk, and to cause a bell to ring, in other localities in the city men rushed frightened from the workshops.

[*From the St. Catharines' Journal*]

At five minutes past 11 o'clock this morning a distinct shock of earthquake was felt in St Catharines. There was no sudden jar, but a rocking, wavy motion. The members of the Baptist Missionary Convention, now in session here, must have thought the Angel Gabriel had blew his horn, for on feeling the walls vibrate they ran out into the street. In Dr Jukes' office the medicine bottles had the contents disturbed. In Mr. Bole's tailor shop some windows were broken. In other places fragments of plaster fell down. People generally ran out of their houses and stores into the street to see what caused the commotion. Fortunately no serious damage has been done. It is claimed that the shock felt here is what is known as an earthquake wave, and a continuation of a greater disturbance of the earth at some remote point. Several clocks, in different parts of the town, were stopped, and stove-pipes knocked down, by the shock. It is but sixteen years since we had an earthquake shock before.

[*From the Dundas Banner.*]

Dundas minutes to eleven o'clock to day occurred a shock of earthquake was felt in three parts of town was quite a perceptible at a time building, for fully two or ... as we sat reading proof ... noticed the singular movement as our head began to reel, and on looking up we found the entire building was swaying to and fro. On going out on the street we found others staring up at their buildings, and they, too, had felt the same oscillating movement.

[*Illustrated News, Montreal.*]

On Thursday last about noon, a shock of earthquake was felt in this city. The vibrations, which seemed to be from North to South, were strong at first, and gradually weakened until they became imperceptible about thirty seconds after their commencement.

[*St. Thomas Journal.*]

EARTHQUAKE—A slight shock of earthquake was felt here yesterday.

(*From the Globe.*)

An earthquake of greater severity than any that has occurred for many years was experienced Thursday morning about 11 o'clock, in nearly every part of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec. It also extended to the United States and was felt in Boston, New York, Cleveland and several western cities. The shocks in Ontario appear to have been slight in effect and short in duration compared with Montreal and Quebec. In these cities it was so severe that the citizens were very much alarmed, and left their houses and places of business for safety in the streets.

Nelson's monument in Montreal oscillated for some time, and fears were entertained for its safety. The frequenters of the Recorder's Court in the same city rushed out from the shaking building; and grave judges of the Superior Court there and at the ancient capital forgot their dignity in the presence of apparently tumbling walls, and raced with vigorous barristers and active attorneys for the open square. In the large manufactories on Montreal, where hundreds of employees were at work, the alarm was excessive, owing to the great height of the buildings.

The earthquake lasted from thirty seconds to two minutes, in different places and there were sometimes two shocks, and in other localities only one.

Some of the reports say that the quaking wave came from the north-west, and proceeded to the south-east. It is said, however, to have been felt in Quebec before Montreal, though the old city took a very slight lead. Making due allowance for difference of time, the shocks appear to have been nearly simultaneous all over the country.

Some damage was done to windows and chimneys, but nothing more of any particular importance. It is gratifying to note that no lives were lost, though in Quebec two persons were injured by falling bricks.

Mens' coarse boots from $2 and upwards at D. Ferguson's

The War

SUMMARY OF TELEGRAMS FROM 19TH TO 23RD OCTOBER.

The Prussians have intimated that the tone of the Belgian press might affect the friendship between the two countries.—They are preparing to cut off all communications around Tours. The *Times* censures the Prussians for the hard terms they are demanding. Ten French war ships are at the mouth of the Elbe. The occupation of Orleans was not attended by any violence or extortion on the part of Germans. A division of the Crown Prince's army attacked the French at Chateau Dun and defeated them carrying the town by storm. The French report the Prussians on the Loire returning to Paris without seeking battle, and that they abandoned Chateau de Neuf after exacting from the inhabitants a contribution of 500,000 francs. The defenders announce that Paris has a four or five months' supply of flour. An immense pacific demonstration of many thousand unarmed citizens has been made at Marseilles. Jules Favre replies to Bismarck's circular, "I prefer our peril and our sufferings to the gratification of the exorbitant ambition of our enemies." M. Dubois, a delegate of the government, who has arrived at Tours from Paris in a balloon, reports two Prussian repulses after six hours' fighting. Berlin official correspondence says: "Nothing can be accomplished until France is taught the need of peace." The capitulation of Metz is said, from Berlin, to be arranged on the following terms:—"Bazaine to sign a treaty of peace between France and Prussia as plenipotentiary of Napoleon III. Bazaine's army to be disarmed and remain at Metz. Napoleon's son to ascend the throne of France, Bazaine being nominated regent." The American Generals Sheridan and Burnside have been ordered to London at once. Bismarck requires foreign ministers at Paris to communicate with their governments by open despatches. The despatch that Bazaine offered to sell Metz for the regency has been confirmed. Orders have been issued to supply Lyons with provisions for 75000 men for two months. The French army of the Loire in camp is increasing daily. Military engineers are forming a series of entrenched camps for the French troops.—Gambetta urges stringent measures to be taken against the disaffected persons in Lyons, Rouen, Tours and other places as enemies and traitors to the country. Only 260 citizens of Strasbourg were killed during the seige of that town. The latest telegrams hold out better prospects for peace, Gladstone and Granville spent an entire day with the Prussian, Russian, Austrian and Italian ambassadors and Gen Boyer. The terms discussed are said to be, Dismantling of forts in Eastern France, Indemnity by France to Germany of 6000 million francs in cattle, horses, grain, wine and oil. But no cession of territory unless the people of Alsace, by a plebiscite, vote for annexation to Germany. Negotiations are favor