

IMPORTANT MOVEMENT.

Pursuant to appointment a meeting of the friends of Law Reform, was held at Howard's Hotel, Niagara, on Friday evening last. The assembly was most respectable, being composed of Grand and Petit Jurors, County Councillors and Magistrates.

Walter Elliott, Esq., was called to the Chair, and James A. Davidson, appointed secretary. The Chairman opened the meeting with a very pointed and appropriate speech, showing the necessity that existed for some antidote to the law epidemic, which is raging throughout the land; and urged upon the people the advantages that would result to the producing part of the community, viz: the farmers and mechanics, by the formation of arbitration societies for the settlement of matters of dispute among themselves instead of the present expensive and sometimes ruinous system.

Whereas, the evils resulting from the complicated and expensive system of litigation as practiced in our ordinary Courts of Law, having risen to an alarming height, and in their effects will be defeating the attainment of Justice, and bringing ruin both upon plaintiff and defendant, through the procrastinations and chicanery allowed by our rules of practice.

That they, being Members of this Association, will neither sue nor be sued one another, in any Civil Cause of Action, which may be brought before the ordinary Courts of Law or Equity of this Province; but, as a general and bird themselves, to refer all disputes and differences, which may arise among themselves to an Arbitration, to be chosen as hereafter agreed upon.

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HURON SIGNAL.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1850.

PULL TOGETHER!

It would be bad policy to disguise the fact that there is a very serious amount of murmuring among the Reformers of Upper Canada at present. It would perhaps be going too far to say that there is a split in the party, or that Reformers are at loggerheads with each other. This we think is not true. We feel confident that on every practical or important principle in the Reform creed, an every measure which Reformers have discussed and advocated for the last ten years, there is a such unanimity of opinion to-day as has been at any former period.

Whereas, the evils resulting from the complicated and expensive system of litigation as practiced in our ordinary Courts of Law, having risen to an alarming height, and in their effects will be defeating the attainment of Justice, and bringing ruin both upon plaintiff and defendant, through the procrastinations and chicanery allowed by our rules of practice.

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there would be some danger in adopting this resolution without qualifications or errors. For instance, should the whole Reform constituency resolve to return a Lawyer, the whole Tory constituency would resolve to elect Lawyers, and this monopoly not only the whole talking of the House, but also a very large half of the talent and education. And although we set very little value on the talking department, yet we can easily see that a minority of talking Lawyers would contrive to occupy the time of the House to the very serious hindrance of the public business. Besides, we believe there are a few honest Lawyers belonging to the Reform party in the present House; and as we cannot exactly understand how, under existing circumstances, legislation could be properly carried on without some Lawyers, we think that, through the agency of Reform Associations, a common agreement might be arrived at, in reference to the few honest Lawyers who should be returned at next election.

THE PLOUGHING MATCH.

The most interesting Ploughing Match that has been in the Huron District, took place at Clinton on Tuesday the 22nd inst. The contest was between the District Agricultural Society and the Harpurshey Branch Society; and being viewed as a trial of the Agricultural skill and ability of the different localities, the honor of the respective townships was considered at stake, and an unusual degree of interest, or rather what the Scotchman calls "lanthanas," was excited on the occasion. The field ploughed in the property of Mr. William Ratenbury of the Clinton Arms Inn, and lies immediately adjoining the Tavern. And as the day was a beautiful specimen of Indian Summer, there was a large assemblage of people collected from ten or twelve miles of the surrounding country. The competitors were eleven in number, viz: three from the township of Goderich, and eight from Tucker-smith and some of the other townships within the District of the Harpurshey Society. The ploughmen were Scotch, English, Irish, and a few fell bred Canadians, in so far at least as their practice in ploughing is concerned. But they were chiefly Scotchmen, and we acknowledge that we felt a little proud on seeing the widespread ploughman of "bonny Ayrshire" very fairly maintained by some of the "sturdy chieft" from Carrick, especially Mr. Jas. Broadfoot and Mr. Robert McCartney. But, although we willingly acknowledge a considerable share of the feeling of national pride and national prejudice, still, we must honestly confess that we feel a greater pride in seeing the successful competition of those young men whose skill and practice in the "art of the plough" have been acquired in Canada, and who can emphatically and truly call themselves Canadian ploughmen.

To all who calculate on a permanent residence in this country, the prosperity of Canada is a subject worthy of the first consideration; the progress of the plough—the practical knowledge of farming may be regarded as the beginning and end of that prosperity; and it is certainly pleasing and encouraging to see young men whose whole experience and education have been confined to Canada—successfully competing with the ploughmen of a country whose superior knowledge of the plough has been long known and admitted in all civilized countries. These young men are the hope of our country—they are full of promise, and with the happy, fertile soil which we inhabit, they stand forth as a guarantee against want and its attendant miseries.

In agreement with these views we think every lover of Canada must be pleased to learn that among the successful competitors, at the ploughing Match at Clinton, on Tuesday last, were several young Canadian ploughmen who fairly and honorably rivalled the Old Country veterans who had taught them. Such a laudable exhibition of agricultural skill, such emulation and such gratifying and encouraging results will, we trust, be the means of stirring up a more lively spirit of competition in ploughing, throughout our whole farming population. These Matches should be more frequent—they are worthy of encouragement, and should always be got up on a scale as extensive, that is, embracing a wide range of settlement as possible. Men learn by being brought into contact, and particularly, by being brought into competition with each other. It is probable that this useful Ploughing Match will be productive of more solid benefit, in the way of improvement, to the Society of Goderich and Harpurshey than would have resulted from each Society having had half a dozen different Ploughing Matches confined exclusively to its own members. And believing that in proportion to the sphere or extent of the competition will be the extent of the mutual improvement, we trust that the managers of the several Branches of the Huron District Agricultural Society, will turn their attention to the importance of the subject. We think a much larger proportion of the funds would be profitably employed in encouraging competition in ploughing.

The following are the names of the successful competitors and the premiums awarded: 1st. Robert McCartney, £3 0 0; 2nd. James Salkeld, 2 10 0; 3rd. John Broadfoot, 2 5 0; 4th. George J. Sprout, 1 10 0; 5th. Samuel Carahan, Jr., 1 0 0; 6th. Henry Ford, 0 15 0.

Messrs. Salkeld and Ford are members of the Huron Society, the other four belong to the Harpurshey Branch. Circumstances obliged us to leave before the ploughing was completed, but we are informed that, in the evening, a respectable party composed of many of the Directors of both Societies, the Judges and a few others set out to a good substantial dinner, furnished by "mine host" of the Clinton Arms Inn, and spent a few hours in the most happy, friendly and good humor. And at the "parting hour" they separated on terms of cordial friendship, when "Each took off his several way, Resolv'd to meet some other day."

We invite a careful perusal of the proceedings of a Meeting lately held at Niagara, for the truly laudable purpose of endeavoring to check the baneful mania for litigation, which is paralyzing the vital of honest industry, and paralyzing the prosperity of Canada. The sentiments delivered on the occasion by our friend Walter Elliott, Esq., are entitled to the serious consideration of every man who hopes for an age of common sense and common honesty. We regard the object and proceedings of this meeting as the first step in Law Reform, begun in the right place.

In another column will be found certain resolutions adopted at a public meeting in the County of Middlesex, in reference to the propriety of rejecting Lawyers as members of the Legislature. We have also given a lengthened address on this subject, drawn up by a committee appointed by the meeting. And although we cannot say, "Ames" to the extreme views embodied in these productions; yet we candidly acknowledge, that we are pleased with the general character of this movement. It shows that the people are awakening to a full sense of their real interests—that they are becoming aware of their true condition, and that they have discovered the long and unproductive tree of Canadian legislation. But with all our hearty objections to a Legislative Assembly composed of "the Profession" we think the County of Middlesex should have exempted its own member from this sweeping denunciation; because, among the very few Lawyers who have exhibited a sense of justice, and a desire to promote the actual interests of the public, William Notman is one of the foremost.

IF Tax Scares.—We are much pleased to see that the public have determined to support Mr. Daly's New Line of Opposition Stages.—The fare is certainly far below any reasonable calculation, and yet the increase of passengers, and the popular feeling in Mr. Daly's favor, have up to the present time, fully secured him against even the smallest pecuniary loss. This fact is in some places getting very odd, and yet we learn that the Opposition Stage both leaving Goderich and arriving, is uniformly loaded to the full, and even an extra conveyance has frequently to leave through the course of the day, to accommodate those who are desirous of patronizing Mr. Daly, and who cannot find room in the regular Daily Line.

SENATE ACCIDENT.—We learn that the wife and youngest daughter of John Johnston, farmer, Lot 13, 2nd Concession of Goderich, have been seriously injured last evening by the explosion of a large quantity of gunpowder, which had been kept for a long time past, in the root house, and which was accidentally ignited by a spark from a brand which Mr. Johnston had been employing as a substitute for a candle. Another and more serious accident against want of caution.

Communications. Toronto, 15th October, 1850. The Conductors of the Journal of Education present their compliments to the Editor of the Huron Signal, and request him, as an act of justice, to insert the following reply to the attacks upon the proprietor of the Journal of Education, which were copied into the Signal of the 10th inst. From the last number of the Journal of Education.—We observe that certain newspapers have represented this Journal as a source of pecuniary gain to the Head of the Education Office, and that such was the design of the provisions of the new School Act, authorizing and requiring each Trustee Corporation to procure annually for the benefit of their School Section, a copy of some periodical exclusively devoted to education.

Persons who are conscious of higher than pecuniary motives of action, are, of course, incapable of conceiving higher motives in the conduct of others. Such persons are rather to be pitied than reasoned with. And persons who have sought, by every means at their command, for years past, to misrepresent and oppose any public school system sanctioned by the example and experience of other countries, republicans as well as monarchists, may be expected to use their utmost efforts to oppose even the circulation of a Journal of Education, though the responsibility and labour of editing and publishing that Journal be a gratuitous contribution to the cause of intellectual and social progress. Several months since, when injurious imputations of a pecuniary character were made against the Chief Superintendent of Schools, by one of the newspapers which have put forth this new charge, he wrote a private note to the proprietor of that newspaper, offering to show him all the books of the Education Office in which the money referred to was accounted for, and the mode of accounting for them. That offer was not accepted; but in the columns of the same paper similar imputations have been reiterated again and again down to the present time. Candid readers of all parties can judge, whether such imputations are put forth with a view of propagating truth and promoting the public interests, or of gratifying animosity and advancing objects which it might not be prudent to avow.

The Chief Superintendent of Schools being an officer of the Government, and the Journal of Education recognized as the medium of official notices of the Department, the Government have a right to ask, at any time whether he, or any officer in the department derives any pecuniary advantage from the publication of the Journal; and it is quite competent for any member of the Legislative Assembly to ask for information, or to move for a committee to examine every person connected with the Education Office on every particular connected with the receipts and expenditures of money relating to the Journal of Education. There can therefore be no difficulty at any time hereafter, as there has been none heretofore, in ascertaining whether the Chief Superintendent of Schools ever derives one farthing's advantage from the Journal of Education.

circulation of the Journal of Education enable us to increase the amount of matter which it contains, to add engravings or illustrations in different branches of natural history, as well as of art and science, and to secure literary correspondence both in the United States and in Europe—thus obtaining brief professional accounts of the progress of educational systems and general knowledge in all educating countries. But, that they have every reasonable facility from time to time to satisfy them of the fact,—that the officers of the Education Department will derive no pecuniary benefit from the Journal of Education under any circumstances whatever, and that as long as it shall continue under its present management, the amount of subscriptions will be expended in defraying the expenses connected with the mechanical departments of the Journal, and in adding to the value of its pages. We hope the newspapers that have inserted the imputations above referred to, will have the fairness to insert this brief and general reply to them. [Our remarks on this subject will appear next week.]

THE BOASTER OUTBOASTED.

During the last summer a newly imported, self-important John Bull, by some accidental chance arrived at the Union Hotel, Stratford, (Huron) as a good many being present at the time, he commenced decanting on the country and things in general. He undertook to instruct the company on many new improvements relating to our country, such as chopping down trees with cross-cut saws, and attaching ropes to the branches to swing them the required way, and that we could make 9 or 10 different varieties of cheese from Butter milk, and Butter from Whey, besides a host of other things, starting us, as well as all of which he attempted to prove by a newly imported Cuckoo guide Book to the colonies.—Amused other topics, he launched forth in praise of old England's improvements in manufactures, he said he worked at a manufactory in England where it was only necessary to place the force of wool on the machine, and immediately it became a piece of fine broadcloth.—Our friend (Mr. J. A. McCarthy) being present, gave the man a peculiar look, and immediately replied, "that may be wonderful to some but still was not to be compared to a factory he had seen at Carrick-on-Suir (Ireland). There they place the live sheep at one end, while at the other produced a dish of roast mutton, and a ready made coat tied up in a woollen muffler."

On Saturday the 12th inst. (the day after the Stratford Society's ploughing match, at Mr. Fryfogles,) the race took place, by two horses, belonging respectively to Mr. George Hobson, of Hayville, and Mr. William McFadyen, of Stratford. The distance to be run was 120 rods. Wager—the loser to part with his horse, and give 20 dollars also. The ground chosen was on the main road, to the east of Hayville. Mr. Hobson's horse "Rowland Jack," was rode by a son of Mr. Lawells of Galt, and Mr. McFadyen's "Pegasus" by a young lad from Blandford, Levi Clarke. Unfortunately for a fair trial, the ground was soft, the weather having been wet-misty. Hobson's gained by not many inches. The Judges were Messrs. H. Paddicoche and T. W. Robinson, assisted by Mr. Plum of Hayville. It is said that the portion of the course rode on, by Mr. McFadyen's horse, was muddier than the other, and that Mr. Hobson himself, considered that horse inferior to his own. It is understood that the race is to be run over again, in a few weeks by another horse against Mr. Hobson's. So much for bragging, and horse racing, and the questionable nature of such a practice, to improve either man or horse.

The introduction to this little piece of local news was far too philosophical both for the subject and for the common reader, and, therefore, we have exercised our own discretion in omitting it.—Ed. H. S.

HOPVILLE.—SOUTH EASTROP (Selling's)—An enterprising son of John Selling, Esq., Black Creek, (Mr. Philander J.) has nearly completed a Grist mill at Hopville, where for some years a Saw mill has been in operation. The contractor for this, Mr. William McFadyen, (contractor for Mr. McCulloch's mill at Stratford, which is also going ahead,) has erected several mills in the neighborhood of Stratford. The erection of buildings like these, shows a necessity arising impelled by both an increase of population and means in the work done. That lumber is understood to be mostly for the new additions. Well may Mr. Prussing be glad of the improvements arising under his hands.—Com.

ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICA. The America reached Haines at 2 o'clock on Tuesday, with 96 through passengers and 5 for Haldy. She left Liverpool on the 5th inst., and at 7 P. M., on that day, she spoke the Asia of Holyhead, and at 10 A. M. next day passed the Pacific. The political news is unimportant. The subject of making a station for the steamers at Galway or some other port on the west coast of Ireland, is occupying much attention, and a commission has reported in favor of it to the Government.

It is said the Canada line of new steamers will run between Glasgow and New York. It is proposed by the British Government to construct a powerful squadron of steamers, 40 in number, for the Africa coast and for the mail

service, and to set on foot a similar service to the slave trade. The war in the Dominion has been renewed with considerable vigor. The Hoplanders have the advantage this far, but without bringing about any important result. The High Court of Appeal at Turin has determined by a majority of 13 to 1 the Archbishop for abuse of his high power as a functionary.—The See is declared to be vacant, all his apudal domains are seized and the Archbishop himself has been removed to his residence at Turin.—Both have been shipped off at Civita Vecchia. Angry notes continue to be exchanged between Russia, Austria and Germany, and affairs seem to be quite as much complicated as ever. There is a rumour at Vienna that Lord Palmerston has called on the King of Prussia to insist upon the Hoplanders laying down their arms, and that he has offered an English fleet for the blockade of Kiel.

NEWS OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN. Despatches have been received from Sir John Ross that, from information received from some Esquimaux Indians, it is found that Sir John Franklin and party had all been killed in 1846.—The American ships Adonias and Resaca had penetrated as far as any question; but as the departure of the last advices the Adonias had got aground, but no serious injury was apprehended.

FRANCE. A large lottery has been got up by the Government to aid the emigration to California. Trade in Paris and throughout the country generally continues very brisk. The funds closed very heavily on Wednesday, in consequence, it is said, of some misunderstanding between the President and General Changarnier. A communication respecting the incidents at Pernambuco appeared in the French papers, from the French Admiral, which gives well grounded hope that the Brazilian Government will accord the satisfaction demanded by the Government of France.

LIVERPOOL MARKET. Liverpool, 5th Oct. Arrivals of Flour have been very heavy, causing a decline of 6d. per barrel, and 2d per bushel for Wheat. At the decline, transactions were very large on the 4th instant. Good demand for exporting Corn to Ireland at 30s for yellow American, of which few parcels remain on offer. Prime Wheat scarce and in request. Corn meal 14s 6d per barrel. Meal, 10s 6d per bushel. Transactions limited. Prices favor the buyer.—Park article—market bare, except of prime mace, under 4s. Beet market bare of qualities under 30s—transactions limited. Improvements in price of demand. Lard, sales 150 tons, full price. Good Cheese selling at full price, inferior unsaleable. Tallow, good demand, 6d advance. Ashes, 700 barrels Poas at 3s 6d to 35s. Pearls taken at 36s. Tobacco in good request. Cotton firm and active at prices of the Europe.

THE MEETING AT WARDVILLE. The following resolutions were adopted at the meeting lately held at Wardville.—The County of Middlesex, has spoken out nobly. The Province at large are getting their eyes opened at last. The nature of the Reform now added upon the people, is being fully understood. Faction and party bigotry have been hitherto too much regarded. We rejoice at the movement now made, and trust it will be supported throughout Canada. There are far too many lawyers in the House.—London Times.

1st. Proposed by J. G. Grower, Esq., and seconded by Benjamin Grant, Esq., that this meeting be dissolved by the present House of Assembly, as well as the former one—knowing that it is the desire of the British government that Canada should be governed in strict accordance with the wishes of its inhabitants, and considering, as we do, that we have been deceived by the so-called "profession" of the law—and as soon as we have secured their seats in parliament, they have used their delegated power to the aggression of their own profession—and allowing neglect of the people's interests, and against the peace and welfare of Canada generally.

2nd. Moved by Robert Thompson, Esq., and seconded by Benjamin Grant, Esq., that this meeting consider Canada essentially an agricultural country, and as such should be represented by resident farmers in the several counties, and by editors, mechanics, manufacturers, and merchants in the different towns and cities, thinking as we do that lawyers should have no more to do in making laws than doctors in making medicine, or merchants in making their own goods—their business being to sell their skill and wares to the best advantage.

3rd. Moved by T. J. Grower, Esq., and seconded by Captain Spang—That this meeting can discover no difference between Reform lawyers and Conservative lawyers, in as much as both go for protecting their own profession—and allowing as we do that union between the "learned friends" causes this meeting to suggest the propriety of all the electors in Canada in one solemn bond for our mutual advantage—by not voting for a lawyer under any consideration—at the next general election—the result of which would soon find out where the mal-administration of Canada affairs resided.

4th. Moved by Benjamin Grant, Esq., and seconded by Robert Thompson Esq.—That this meeting highly approve of the independent position taken by the present consequence of the treatment of their reporters by the House of Assembly, and that a committee be appointed to draft an address to the electors of Canada, in accordance with the views of these resolutions—and the different editors in Canada are hereby invited to give publicity to the same and use their most valuable influence in furthering the great object in view.

5th. Moved by Dr. Rolin, and seconded by Robert Thompson, Esq.—That this meeting recommend to the whole of the inhabitants of Canada that henceforward in the election of Members of Parliament they shall sink the old party names, which have hitherto snarled their votes, and support only those men (except lawyers) who will advance the interests of the country, and the welfare of its inhabitants.

TO THE EDITOR. Fellow Colonists! I have the honor to inform you that a Public Meeting will be held on Monday evening next at 8 o'clock, at the residence of Mr. J. A. McCarthy, Esq., for the purpose of discussing the propriety of rejecting Lawyers as members of the Legislature. The meeting will be held at 8 o'clock, at the residence of Mr. J. A. McCarthy, Esq., for the purpose of discussing the propriety of rejecting Lawyers as members of the Legislature. The meeting will be held at 8 o'clock, at the residence of Mr. J. A. McCarthy, Esq., for the purpose of discussing the propriety of rejecting Lawyers as members of the Legislature.

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