OTTAWA, Feb. 17.

In the Senate, Hon. Mr. Benson moved, and Hon. Mr. Dickey seconded, the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

Mr Seivery, of Nova Scotia, in the House, moved to reply to the Speech, and Mr. Sauvaer, of Quebec, seconded. Hon. Mr. Holton followed with questions in regard to the changes in the *personnel* of the Cabinet. The Premier replied. He justified the reduction of the number of Reformers in the Cabinet by referring to the larger proportions of Conservatives returned from Ontario for the present Parliament. In reference to the appointment of Sir F Hincks, he stated that Sir A. T. Galt was first offered the position, and on his refusal Hincks was called in. With regard to Hon. Mr. McDougall's withdrawal from the Cabinet, the Premier was silent. Questions in reference to it were asked by Hon. Mr. Holton, Messrs. Mackenzie and Jones, but Sir John A. evaded them by advising the House to drop asking personal questions and turn to the discussion of constitutional principles. Sir A. T. Galt next took the floor and announced his intention of breaking with the Government. He criticised its actions since Confederation and asserted that they had in every instance resulted in failure. The excellent local legislation of Ontario and Quebec alone saved Confederation. He offered to join with the Opposition in a motion to oust the Government. Reviewing the recent Cabinet appointments, he said that that of Sir Francis Hincks was the most unfortunate that could have been made. Mr. Mackenzie reverted at considerable length to the recent Ministerial arrangements, and urged the extreme importance of adhering to the compact agreed to on the formation of the Coalition, quoting from the late speech of Mr. McDougall and Sir F. Hincks in support of his argument. Hon. Mr McDougall took the floor after recess. He condemned the action of the Ministry in destroying the balance of parties in the Coalition. He read letters that passed between himself and Hon. Mr. Aikens, and Sir J. A Macdonald, on this subject, which tended to show that a plot had for some time existed to reduce the number of Reformers in the Cabinet to an insignificant minority. Sir John Macdonald answered that the appeal to the country at the last elections was made on a 'No Party' cry, and the members returned to support the Government were elected upon a distinct 'No Party' issue, to carry out the act of Confederation. He totally denied any breach of faith in altering the basis of the Coalition, and read a letter from Mr. Howland in support of this view, also a written statement of Mr. Aikens Mr. Blake contended that there was a breach of faith in altering the basis of the Combination, but it was with joy he learned that the Coalition was publicly declared dissolved. It was no matter of surprise to him that the Conservatives who got in on the cry of 'no-party,' should come forward in the House and say they were Conservatives. It was plainly said that it was merely a ruse of Sir John A. Macdonald. He rejoiced to believe that the electors would know it to be so before they were asked a second time to exercise the franchise. The leader of the Government, during the contest, did not dare to avow that he made this Cabinet only to be altered; but he (Mr. Blake) would warn the country against such a deception in the future. It was contrary to the compact, and violated the agreement under which the Government had gained their support. He should like to know how many Reformers had got elected by Conservative votes on the ground of the 'no-party' cry. Mr. Ferguson spoke briefly in support of the Government, and condemned the hasty opposition shown during the debate. Sir F. Hincks after reviewing his career as a Reformer, declared that nothing could be more puerile than the present attack upon the Government. Their policy or their proposed measures were not assailed, but the whole dispute was, whether two or three Reform members occupied seats in the Cabinet. That paltry argument quite ignored New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. He stated that Sir A. Galt had supported his Government till 36 hours before his resignation, when he wrote him a letter saying that he could no longer do so, because the Speech from the Throne was not sufficiently explicit on the Clergy Reserve question. He (Sir Francis) had not regular annual deficits when he was Finance Minister, Sir A. T. Galt rejoined, and asserted that Sir F. Hincks' former financial policy had been universally condemned. All the financial disasters of the country could be traced to his (Sir F. Hincks') blunders. Mr. Francis Jones next spoke against the Government, and Mr. Mackenzie Bowell condemned the appointment of Sir Francis. He also expressed a wish for some explanation of the charges lately made against Mr. Howe's conduct. Mr. Mackenzie suggested keeping the debate within its present limits. Mr. Howe expressed himself ready to meet any slanderers within the House, and to vindicate the honor of the House as well as his own. To the slanders in the newspapers he would not attempt to reply. Clauses 1 to 3 having been agreed to, clause 4, referring to the North-West Territory, was read, whereupon Mr. Masson made a long speech, condemning the Government for its bungling policy Mr. Howe said a few words in reply, when Mr. Mackenzie suggested an adjournment, which, on motion of Sir J. A. Macdonald, was agreed to. The House adjourned at 12.50

Feb. 8th.

(Continuation of Debate, from *Globe* Summary.)

The adjourned debate on the Address was distinguished by a vigorous speech from Mr. Mackenzie, who, claiming that it was impossible to discuss the state of public affairs without referring to the conduct of the men who were answerable for their administration, at once grappled with Sir F. Hincks' late extraordinary circular to the Reformers of Ontario, and insisted that, if the statements of danger existing from Fenians and annexation were true, the words put into His Excellency's mouth by his responsible Advisers congratulating them upon the state of the contry, must be false. Mr. Mackenzie, however, as the result of a considerable experience of the popular feeling denounced Sir F. Hincks' allegations as a callumny. Referring to the term once employed in relation to Sir Robert Peel's Government that it was an "organized hypocracy," he declared that the present Administration was a disorganized hypocracy, and gave his reasons, at length, for objecting to Coalitions as subversive of the interests of the country and opposed to Constitutional Government.—Although he had no personal liking for the Coalition of '64, that was a case which, if ever such an arrangement were desirable, justified it. He contrasted the motives and circumstances which governed Mr. Brown's conduct in '64 with those of the Finance Minister, and showed there was no similarity whatever between them. He then went on to criticize the course pursued by Mr. Howe, and, reminding him of an expression once used by that gentleman in relation to his then political opponents, and asked whethether he now worshipped at Abel's altar or at Cain's?—Mr. Mackenzie went on to show the discrepancy between Sir F. Hincks' statement that the Cabinet had been reconstructed, and Sir John A. Macdonald's, who had declared that no such change had taken place; and again alluding to Mr Howe and the abuse formerly heaped upon him as a "dangerous man," called forth from Sir George Cartier the exclamation—not very complimentary to Mr. Howe—"We took him in to avoid the danger." Some allusions to the part Lieutenant-Governor Howland was alleged to have taken in relation to the Cabinet intrigues, brought out an explanation from Sir John A. Macdonald as to the time when the promise of his present high distinction was made to the former gentleman. Sir John said that he had offered Mr. Howland either a Senatorship or the Lieutenant-Governorship, Mr. Mackenzie, pointing out the implied bargain or bribe involved in this proposal, declared that if after such an understanding had been come to, Mr. Howland had joined in any intrigue of the kind suggested, he had been guilty of conduct for which he would yet have to answer at the bar of the country. Mr. Aikins came in for the next assault, and was subjected to a scathing criticism, in which his representation as to the Hon. Mr. McMaster's intervention was discredited, Dr. Ryerson a busy interference depreciated, the delay in filling up the vacancy caused by Mr. Blair's death challenged, and the motives for Mr Aikins' singular advice in the matter of the West York election were questioned. The hon. member then reviewed the acts of the Government in relation to Confederation, and showed how utterly they had failed to redeem their pledges. He exhibited in a very unfavorable light Mr. Howe's conduct during and after his visit to the North-West; and declared that the expressions reported to have fallen from Mr. Howe on that occasion tallied with his language in the House last session.—The action of the Government, and the want of forethought which had characterized their conduct, in respect of Mr. McDougall's journey to take possession of the North-West, was strongly blamed, and the disorganization of the Departments, the blunders of the Finance Minister's office, the error of some two or three hundred thousand dollars in calculation, the frauds in the Receiver-General's office, the unsatisfactory state of the Intercolonial Railroad affairs, the misappropriation of the Intercolonial Loan, the inconsistency of Ministers who differed as to a Banking policy continuing to act together, the disorganization of the Militia, the failure to develope Western lake communication were all mercilessly exhibited to the House and country. The speech was, in fact, a complete historical analysis of the political events of the past three years, and exhibited, masterly arrangement of details as well as a most intimate acquaintance with the various subjects handled by the speaker. The latter quality fully justified Mr. Mackenzie's rebuke to Sir F. Hincks for the gross ignorance and arrogance which, after so many years absence, had characterized his recent letter to the Reformers of Ontario. Dr. Tupper replied and was followed by the Hon. Mr. Huntingdon; after which Mr. Sandfield Macdonald moved the adjournment in order to enable the members of the house to attend the Ball given by the citizens to Prince Arthur, and after some discussion this was agreed to. The Senate had quite a lively discussion, which became highly personal until stopped by a motion for adjournment. The Hon. Mr. McMaster gave an account of his alleged advice to Senator Aikins, which placed the conduct of the former gentleman in a very favorable light—the Hon. Mr. Resor told how he was asked whether he "was available" for the Government, and Senator Aikins did his best to assume the *role* of the disinterested patriot.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, FEB. 24, 1870.

ALL FOR ONE DOLLAR!

Have our readers ever considered what a vast amount of matter they get during a year for the pittance asked for a newspaper. Every issue of the Weekly *Signal* embraces reading matter enough—in small letter—to fill 25 full pages octavo, which would make a book in the course of twelve months of 1300 pages; or, if printed in ordinary book type of at least 2000 pages! This matter is written, selected and epitomized with the greatest care; and yet we offer it for $1.00! only think of it.—Who can say, in view of such facts, that he does not get full value for his money?

Crumbling Down.

The debate on Thursday and Friday last in the House indicates clearly that the political waters are moving. A storm is rapidly brewing, and when it bursts, the fabric John A. has been so long raising will crumble to the ground. The following is an epitome of the debate.

"The debate on the Address in the House yesterday was particularly spicy. After the usual platitudes in praise of the Government policy and programme from the mover of the Address, Mr. Holton opened the fray with a few questions concerning the reconstruction of the Cabinet. Sir. A. T. Galt openly declared his opposition to the Government; sharply criticized the whole policy of the administration; scorched Sir Francis Hincks for his 'misrepresentations,' and denounced his appointment as 'the most unfortunate that could have been made.' Sir. A. T. Galt concluded by expressing his intention of doing everything in his power to over throw the Government! Mr McDougall exposed Sir John's duplicity in violating the Coalition contract with regard to party representation in the Cabinet. Mr. Cartwright and Mr. Bowell, Conservatives of the first water, followed Sir. A. T. Galt in denouncing Hincks' appointment. These gentleman intimated pretty clearly that Sir John's future actions might expect to be freely criticized from an *anti* standpoint. Of course Mr. Holton, Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Blake contributed some decided sentiments to the debate.

The weight of Hincks' unpopularity, the defection of Galt, Mcdougall, Bowell, Cartwright and others, the corruption and incompetency which have marked the administration of affairs, with the growing solidity of the Opposition in the House and country, will probably cause the early overthrow of the Government. The debate yesterday evidenced clearly the used-up condition of the 'coalition' and no-party' cries. Every day party lines are tightening. The triumph of the Reform party is at hand'

RURRISH.—Every place in Canada that has or was ever supposed to have a "salt lick," is boring for salt. The Brantford *Expositor* says the people of the village of Newport, in Brant, having a salt spring have bored 1000 feet, and the thrilling news is announced that at that depth the water is decidedly salty—no doubt from the little spring above,—and the *Expositor* jumps at the conclusion that by boring a little further salt will be found equal if not *superior* to that of Goderich. What rubbish!

REV. D. INGLIS' LECTURE AGAIN POSTPONED.—On account of the impossibility of connecting between the Great Western and Grand Trunk trains, at Paris, on the same day of leaving Hamilton, it is found to be impossible for Mr. Inglis to be here on Monday first. On Tuesday, 8th March next, the first occasion on which he can spend two days on the up-journey, the Rev. Gentleman will be here without fail. Further announcements will be made in due course. Meantime the public is requested to believe that the blame of the annoying postponement is not due to either the Sons of Temperance or the Rev. D. Inglis, but to the unaccomodating arrangements at Paris of the two Railway Companies.

HOME MANUFACTURES. A petition is being extensively signed in this town and vicinity praying Parliament to impose such duties on American imports as will secure the markets of the Dominion to native manufactures.

MR. CRABB'S $12,000 WATER CLOSET.

It will have been observed in our report of the last meeting of the Board of School Trustees for this town that Mr. Crabb proposes to raise by way of loan ten or twelve thousand dollars for the purpose of draining off the sewage from the Central School. Such a proposition is utterly preposterous, and we are only surprised that a man of Mr. Crabb's natural shrewdness could entertain it for a moment. No doubt the water-closets of such a large School must become very offensive; especially in warm weather, and as a sanitary measure—where the health of hundreds of children is concerned—it is absolutely necessary that the nuisance should be abated. But there are several reasons why such a costly system of sewerage should not be thought of:

In the first place, such a large amount of sewage would inevitably tend to pollute the water of the river and harbor, a most undesirable result for obvious reasons; and in the second place we deem such an enormous expenditure worse than useless.—What is wanted in connection with the School privies is *deoderization*, not the carrying off of offensive matter. Now modern science has established the important fact that *dry earth* possesses the quality of completely deoderizing such offensive substances, and modern agriculturists have found that the mixture thus rendered innocuous is one of the best concentrated manures ever discovered. Hence, shrewd men have invented a very simple contrivance called the *earth closet*, by means of which the dry earth can be easily applied, and the product saved for the farm and garden at a nominal expense. Such a system could be set on foot at the Central School at a cost of a very small sum, and we are satisfied that instead of incurring a ruinous expendure, the Board *would actually make money* by the transaction, while every sanitary requirement would be thoroughly met. This is no fanciful idea. It has been adopted by scores in Europe and America, always with the happiest results. In England it is now seriously contemplated to utilize the sewage of the great cities in the manner we have indicated. Why can we not do the same in Goderich when the expense is so trifling? We trust the Board will carefully consider the points we have suggested, before taking further action.

THE COUNTY PRINTING.

That the County Council might not have to accept, what the *Expositor* classically calls, our "unqualified say" on the point of fair measurement according to press usage, we wrote to one of the highest authorities on printing, DAVID WYLIE, Esq., of Brockville, President of the Canadian Press Association, and we believe, the oldest practical printer in Canada, as follows:—"DEAR SIR, a question has arisen with reference to the printing charge for the Schedule of Convictions for Huron. A party makes a tender to print the Schedule for so much per line. The page of his paper contains 5 columns of his ordinary news and advertising measure. For that he proposes to charge 9 columns, this being the number of the rules introduced on account of the formation of the Schedule. What should be the number of columns charged in such a case—according to the usage of the press?" Mr. Wylie's reply by telegraph is as follows:—

"*It would be imposition to count more than five columns.*"

We have to remark that the same rule of measurement applies to the advertisement of "Lands for sale for Taxes." We now leave the matter in the hands of the County Council. The ratepayers of Huron, who have suffered the loss, will expect them to make a thorough investigation.

American Silver.

A proclamation has been issued by the Govetnor General, making $10.00 of American silver a legal tender at 20 per cent discount, from and after the fifteenth day of April next, the coins to be of certain specified weights. Some of our contemporaries advise their readers to rush off the silver they have on hand, as if this proclamation would materially reduce its value. We would advise *our readers to keep cool.* This is not an enactment making it penal to take American silver at higher rates than those named, as such a law must emanate from Parliament, and will not in the slightest respect alter the value of the coin, which will, at present, as heretofore, be regulated by supply and demand. To show that we are sincere in what say, we are willing to take any amount of American silver from both old and new subscribers, in payment for subscriptions, *at par.*

THE TOWN DRAINAGE.

We think it is high time that the Town of Goderich should take up the question of drainage. Almost every householder is interested in the question, and we think, if funds will admit of it, that something should be done during the ensuing spring. The opinion of all the practical men we have spoken to is in favor of mains sewer, commencing say in the neighborhood of the Huron Foundry, extending down East street to the Square, thence along the North side of the Square, round Mr. Savage's corner, down to the railway culvert which conveys away the ordinary drainage, having a natural fall the whole way. To this main sewer it would be quite easy to construct, if necessary, smaller drains to carry away all surface water from the principal business parts of the town. It is also suggested that in order to give the people of St. Patrick's Ward pure water in their wells it would be well to have a drain dug from the Huron salt well to that of the Victoria well. If properly protected, such a drain would carry away the waste brine and confer a great benefit upon the ratepayers of the ward. No doubt, all interested would be willing to throw in their mite towards the abatement of what is an intolerable nuisance. We sincerely trust the Town Council will take this subject up at an early date.

The Peterborough Salt Company has been incorporated, and have so far advanced as to have erected the derrick and have a steam engine and the boring apparatus on the ground, viz., Ely 29 in 11th con. of Otonabee. They intend to commence boring next week. Goderich and Clinton must look out.—London *Free Press.*

Goderich and Clinton are not so covetous as the *Free Press* would make them appear. They sincerely wish that Peterborough may get salt; but they are afraid the company will have to bore through to the antipodes before they reach brine.

THE CLINTON NEW ERA seems intentionally lost in a fog about the County Printing. He says the *Expositor* accuses us of being exorbitant in the extras we used to print for the Council. To do the *Expositor* justice he said nothing of the kind. Any printing we did for 1869 was not extra, to us, and all the *Expositor* said was that our rates were high compared with his; which of course they were, as we charged our regular prices for all the work we did, and the *New Era* did the same. It would have been well if our Clinton brother had either held his peace or given his readers a decent summary of the actual state of the case. He seems always to prefer to "nibble" at a question rather than state it fully. At the same time, we know, that if the proprietor of the *New Era* is examined by the County Council, in reference to the *Expositor's* overcharges, he will, as he says, do his "duty without fear, favour, or affection." It is quite the same to us whether the technical evidence on the matter is got from publishers outside or inside the County. All we demand is a strict investigation.

Board of School Trustees.

An important Special meeting, of Board of School Trustees, was held on Thursday evening, 17th February, instant. All the members present. Applications read from fifteen applicants for the vacant position of teacher. After several motions and amendments, Mr. J L Scott from Brantford, was selected. The question was then dicussed as to the nuisance of the privies in the Central School yard; and how the nuisance should be removed, &c. When the following notice of motion to be taken up at the next regular meeting, was put in with the apparent approval of most of the board:—That it is expedient for the general health of the scholars attending this school, that a system of drainage be entered into to carry away the offal, &c.; Therefore it is advisable for this Board to borrow money for the furtherance of this object in preference to a direct tax; It is therefore resolved that the contingent committee be authorized to ascertain at what rate the sum of 10 or $12,000 can be borrowed, with a view to build a sewer for the express purpose of drainage for this school

NORTH RIDING AG. SOCIETY.—The annual dinner of this Society will be held in Ross' Hotel, Clinton, on Wednesday evening 23rd inst. Several able speeches are expected.

☞ A number of communications are unavoidably postponed until our next issue.

OVERBOARD.—On Saturday last a young horse belonging to Mr. Lewis Elliot, broke away from the person, who was breaking him in by driving with the lines alone, and wound up by leaping over the steep bluff near Mr. Longworth's. He lodged about half-way down and was, after much trouble, hauled up with ropes. The animal was more frightened than hurt.

CLINTON W. M. CHURCH.—A Tea meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 1st March, when Rev. W. J. Hunter, of Toronto will lecture.

VERY PLEASANT.—We are happy to hear, that, in spite of hard times, the workmen of Seaforth are able to prepare for a rainy day by making weekly deposits in the Savings Bank.

ADVERTISE IN THE SIGNAL.—The other day a respected townaman lost his cow and not able to find her sent us an advertisement to that effect. While the Semi-Weekly edition was being worked off on the press, *the cow came home.* The wise brute knew that, before night, everybody in town and vicinity would know her appearance and she could not escape detection. So don't waste your time hunting your cows, for days, when a few lines of advertisement in the *Signal* will bring them to your doors.

THE CLINTON FIRE COMPANY had a pleasant oyster supper in the Commercial on Thursday evening, 10th Feb, R. M. Racey in the chair.

PRESBYTERIAN SOIREE.—A most successful soiree was, this week, held in the Presbyterian church, Clinton. The proceeds were about $80.00 which are to be applied to the enlargement of the Sunday School library.

A Tribute to Heroism.

A monument is to be erected in Newfoundland to the memory of Weston Carter (the nephew of our townsman, P. H. Carter, Agent G. T. R.) who lost his life in heroically attempting to save two young girls from drowning a few weeks ago. The sum of £265 sterling had been collected for that purpose, up to late advices.

ZURICH.—There has been a Debating Society organized in the stirring little Village lately, at which there have been some well-conducted discussions. There are a good many members, all seem to wish it to go ahead. The next debate will be held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening 24th inst. Subject, Resolved that the Love of wealth is a stronger stimulant to action than the fear of want. Capt D Stienbach for the Affirmative, Capt S. Westaway for the Negative. At this Debate we anticepate a good discussion, as we have all the principle men of the Village taking an active part in it.—COM.

RED RIVER.

ARREST OF GOV. M'TAVISH AND DR. COWAN.

Feb. 8th.

Gov. McTavish and Dr. Cowan, officers of the Hudson's Bay Company, in charge of Fort Garry, were arrested on Saturday, Feb. 5th, Gov. McTavish, on account of illness, is permitted to occupy a room of his own house, guarded by four insurgents, who allow him to communicate with no one Dr. Cowan and Wm Hallett are confined in the room Dr. Shultz escaped from, and extra guards are placed over them. Some of the items in the Bill of Rights, after much discussion, were disposed of. Riel demanded that the treaty between the Hudson's Bay Company and Canada should be cancelled; which demand was lost, on a vote of the delegates, who considered it an imperial measure which Canada could not interfere. Riel then threatened to draw up and bring in a new Bill of Rights, saying that he would not be ruled by a Convention or any one else. A warm debate followed, and one of the French members replied hotley to Riel. All parties dread to take the vote on Riel's motion as they fear that, if defeated, he might call in his armed force and arrest his opponents. Commissioners Smith, Thibault and DeSalabery were sent for; but it is not known if they were able to quiet the excitement. The general impression seems to be that a delegation will be sent to Ottawa to arrange a basis of settlement with the Canadian Government. There is a good deal of suffering and want among the people, who have neglected the chase on account of the troubles. The Company's store at St. Boniface was broken into by a party of half-breeds, who were asserted, excusing themselves by saying that they must steal or starve. More robberies are expected.

Diogenes has blown out his lantern, having abandoned as fruitless the idea of finding in Montreal the honest man sought for.

Red River Convention.

The following are the most important items of the 'Bill of Rights' drawn up by the six delegates for the consideration of the Convention:—

That the present four per cent customs duty do remain in force for five years longer, or until through rail communication has been established.

That no direct taxation in the territory be attempted, except voted by the local legislature.

That the Executive Council consist of fifteen members and five officials.

That ultimately the whole Territory be provided with the same form of government as prevails in the other Canadian Provinces.

That a two-thirds vote over-ride the Governor's veto.

That a judicious homestead law be provided.

That a grant of fifteen thousand dollars be made annually to the whole Territory in aid of Public Works.

That all public buildings be paid for by the Dominion Government.

That a railway be completed to Fort William or Pembina within five years.

That the military of the Territory be composed of natives only for four years.

That all Court business be done in English and French.

That all Indian treaties be prepared and the general management of Indian affairs undertaken by the Dominion Government.

That parliamentary representatives have the usual privileges.

That all males over twenty-one years of age have the right to vote.

It is said that the discussions were, on the whole, temperate, though once or twice there was danger of a scene, and that after a debate it was agreed to omit the item respecting the military.

Everything is quiet in the settlement.

RAIL ROAD CONDUCTERS' INSURANCE CO.—Mr. Alfred Ellerby, Conductor on the Buffalo & Lake Huron R. R. has conferred an inestimable boon on his brether conductors, by being the instrument of importing from the American side of the line, the U. S. R. R. Conductors Life Insurance Co. The Company is composed of Conductors alone who mutually insure each other against death and disabling accidents. The first payment is $1.00; and each Conductor on the death of, or disabling accident, to a member of the society, properly certified, is assessed in the sum of $1.00 which is paid to the Conductor incapacitated from work, or the representatives of the Conductor killed. The number of members being at present 3386; that number of dollars would be the amount contributed. The only salaried officer is the Grand Secetary; to pay whom his $1200 would only require an annual assessment of say 36c from each member, which small rate fewer would be constantly diminishing as the membership increased. We should like to hear of Engineers and Baggage men, who lead an equally precarious life, having similar advantages.

Port Albert.

MR. EDITOR,—In your last weeks *Signal* a letter appeared from a "Subscriber." Allow me briefly to give the truth of the case, as your correspondent last week failed to do so. His object in writing is evidently to injure me as it was in my place the affair occurred, which he has magnified to such an extent. I do admit that there was a quarrel in my place on the day referred to; but I deny positively that there was any gambling. I would inform "Subscriber" that I allow no gambling on my premises. I deny, also, that any two men drew knives, one man did draw a knife, but neither used nor threatened to use it. There was a small scuffle between two men, but it did not amount to anything. The quarrel was nothing more than might have occurred in any place—tavern or elsewhere. I trust that if "Subscriber" again undertakes to give information to your readers, he will confine himself to the truth.

Yours, D. McRAE,
Hotel Keeper, Port Albert.

To the Editor Huron Signal.

SIR,—Seeing the columns of your valuable sheet is always open to the discussion of Municipal matters in general. You would be astonished, if present when the wisdom of this municipality, Stanley, meets at Elliott's Hotel, Bayfield; when, after matters of minor importance were got through with, the sage of the chair asked the clerk to read the petitions on file, and among the rest was one unanimously signed by the inhabitants of Bayfield, praying the Council to enlarge School Section No. 8, or grant relief, so that their taxes would be less burdensome than at present. Leave being granted to the said petitions to show cause, one J. C. McIntosh, of Bayfield, stood up, and addressing the sage of the chair in a clear forcible manner in his usual way, showed, I think, to the satisfaction of the most sceptical present, proof not being lacking, that really the school section in question is burdened beyond endurance. Ten school sections being in the township of Stanley, four of those sections, Bayfield, Varna, the one West of Brucefield and one near the upper end of the 2nd concession, each paying their respective teacher $400 per annum. It was shown that the Bayfield school, by far, had the largest attendance; and, of course, has the most grant from the Government and County, and less from the township; and yet, in spite of all the above advantage, Mr. Editor, the section is annually paying for school purposes alone, 11¾ mills on the dollar of the assessment of their property; whereas, the section on the south of Bayfield pays only 8¼ mills on the dollar The general run is about 5 mills on the dollar of the assessed value of the township at large Before the matter was brought to a close, however, one gray bearded philosopher from Mar's Hill, but recently from the Dennison Line, stood up, trembling in his boots, pale in face, his lips could scarce get together and said, "Shintlemen, I am all satisfied as we are, but thev get less children in Bayfield." His ire being, I presume that his owttons and daughters is not very prolific But to put the top sheaf on: it was moved by no less a personage than George Castle, D. R., and seconded by a gentleman from the London Road, perhaps not less intelligent than the mover, that said petition be quashed. And what do you think, Mr. Editor, before Dr. Woods, be it to his honor, had time to move an amendment, the sage of the chair at the top of his voice shouted Carried If those aspirants would but only reflect upon the oath each of them had to make and subscribe, that they would do the best of their ability justice to all parties in the municipality, they would still reverse the vote, but a day of reckoning will come. Cannot your worthy Mayor of Goderich, Mr. W. T. Hays, M. P. P., urge upon our Ontario Government, the necessity of making a grand school section of every municipality in the Province, that every poor man's child, makes no matter from what country or Religion, may be intelligently educated, and the divine blessing will rest upon its promoters. Excuse me, Mr. Editor, for occupying so much space, and I remain yours truly, a lover of fair play, a ratepayer, and

ONE WHO WAS AT THE MEETING.

Stanley, 17th February, 1870.

Written for the Signal.

Is the Summer Coming.

Is the Summer ever coming?
Is the long, long Winter going!
How she plays us with her funning
And deceives us in her wooing.

Coming timid, soft and balmy,
O'er the Mountain o'er the Sea
Bidding us in breath so calmly
Hail her coming Minstrely.

Sending forth her pretty blue birds
Freeing all her feather'd throng,
Of lovely creatures with these 'soft words'
Go! and sing thy Summer song.

Whispering to the early flowers
That yet sleep beneath the snow.
Whispering thro' the leafless bowers,
Bidding tiny streams to flow.

Waking up the cold dead earth
From it's long and icy sleep
To the myriads giving birth
Chasing tears from eyes that weep.

Come and let man's heart be gladdened
Which thy absence long hath saddened.
Come sweet Summer with scents and flowers
And we'l talk love in the forest bowers.—

J. B. BLUETT.

Goderich, 20th Feb., 1870.

During Galt's speech John A. visibly winced.

Prince Arthur, in company with Lady Young, spent an hour and a half at Ottawa yesterday in the House of Commons listening to the debate on the address.

Hincks has too much silver. Lucky fellow!

The Auld Hills at Hame.

BY WILLIAM BANNATYNE.

Count join in my song o' the auld hills at hame,
For who but feels proud o' their grandeur and fame?
O'er the high rolling clouds, 'round the force o' the storm,
How daring in aspect! how lofty in form!
They tow'r till their taps in the blue lift they hide,
In a realm where the earn his mould pinions ne'er tried
He's no honest Scot, and deserves no the name,
That loes na to sing o' the auld hills at hame
Stout warders o' freedom, how stalwart they stand,
The grace and the glory o' Albion's land,
Wi' their wild dizzy cliffs whaur the young eagle screams,
And their deep furrow'd glens whaur the loud torrent streams:
Wi' their circlets o' heather and garlands o' broom,
That wave o'er the cairnies their tassels o' bloom;
Wha thinks on langsyne and his forebearers fame
But justly feels proud o' the auld hills at hame?

In the lows o' their yallays where nature hath spread
A' her mingled attractions o' beauty and dread,
They shelter a race which in valor and worth
Has seldom been rivall'd by ony on earth.
Let history vaunt what its Spartans has been,
But frae brave Fingal's days, till the days we lae seen,
Nae bi-thplace o' heroes the wide world can claim
Like that o' our clansmen, the auld hills at hame.

Since the rude Scandinavian rovers o' yore
For plunder or conquest invaded nor shore,
Hearsie-loving despot hath battled in vain
The freedom o' Albion's sons to enchain,
They came frae the east, wi' their galleys o' pride,
And they came frae the south, o'er the Tweed and the Clyde.
And they came frae the west, her proud prestige to tame,
But they aye failed to spiel o'er the auld hills at hame.

And lang as the field o' our patriot fires
Can glow into flame at the deeds o' our sires,
And lang as the heather its red bells may shake,
'Mongst the crags where the pibroch the echoes can wake;
Ay! long as the cataracts from down their steeps,
And grove thro' the valley the wild corrie sweeps,
Sae long lik true Scot may exult in their fame,
And joy in the sang o' the auld hills at hame.

Ashfield, Huron, Ontario, Jany. 1870.

We reproduce, with extreme pleasure, the above poem, by Mr. William Bannatyne, which appeared in the last issue of the *Scottish American.* We are proud to claim the auther for the County of Huron under his local title of the 'Ashfield poet.' He is one of Canada's very sweetest singers, and a worthy disciple of the great High-Priest of Scottish Song—Robert Burns. Any countryman of Mr. Bannatyne's, who is not stirred, to the inmost soul, by the 'sang o' the auld hills at hame,' as if he were listening to the 'pibroch of Lochiel,' scarcely deserves to be called a Scot.—*Ed. Signal.*

BAYFIELD vs. GODERICH.

THE CURLING MATCH.—The friendly match between two rinks each of the Goderich and Bayfield Curling Clubs, pursuant to arrangement in response to the challenge of the latter, came off in the Goderich Drill-Shed on Tuesday, (Feb. 22), and was a close, well-contested encounter, carried out in excellent spirit by all the combatants. The game agreed upon was 4 hours' play, or a score of 31 for each rink, if that number should be made sooner. One rink started at 11 a. m., precisely, and the other 12 minutes past; and time was called by the umpires at 3 and 3.12 p. m., respectively. The various scores, when footed up, showed a victory for the Goderich Club by 13 points. The composition of the rinks and the play made by each, were as follows:—

GODERICH CLUB.—NO. 1 RINK.

J. H. Finley, Skip.		
G. McKenzie,		
H. Gardiner,		
H Horton,	27	
NO. 2. RINK.		
S. Platt, Skip.		
D. Ferguson,		
W. Hunt,		
J. B. Gordon,	31	58
BAYFIELD CLUB.—NO. 1 RINK.		
Thomas Mitchell, Skip.		
Alexander Marks,		
James McDonald,		
D. Gairdner,	21	
NO. 2 RINK.		
Alex. Mitchell, Skip.		
D. Cullen,		
Baxter,		
Falconer,	24	45

Total in favor of Goderich Club 13.

At the conclusion of the match, the Goderich Club invited the Bayfield Club to dinner at the Colborne Hotel. The spread was worthy of Mr. Martin who provided it; and was highly appreciated by the hungry callants who, after a day's stalwart roarin', were not sorry to cluster around the table as closely as they sometimes made their stones 'gather round the tee.' Ample justice having been done to the viands, the cloth was (figuratively) removed and, J.B Gordon Esq. being called to the chair, the usual loyal toasts were given and responded to. The 'Bayfield eight' were then drunk to with due honors, who responded and proposed the 'Goderich eight.' After several excellent speeches, interspersed by well-rendered humorous, Scottish and other songs, the gathering dispersed at 8 p. m., 'happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again."

Drawing the Nets.

The Ice that covers the Glassy Lake
Was glittering in the sun,
And the Fishermen set his nets to catch
His herring in their run.

Now the nets have lain a day and night
And the word is the 'morwen' still;
And the fisher with a trusty pair
Takes a boat with the fish to fill.

They got the nets drawn into the boat
But very few fish they had;
And the wind had changed to the East
Which made their bouyant spirits sad.

And now they saw that the Ice had broken
And was drifting from the shore
While they were out on the glassy plain
Some two long miles or more.

So what to do they did not know,
While the Ice did is fragments break;
And the boat did swinge, and roll around
In the crashing roaring Lake.

But they turned their boat towards the East
And quickly made for shore.
A few more strokes a snap—a crash
They were left with a single oar.

A few strokes more and the other broke
And they drifted out on the Lake
They had nothing left which would serve as an oar
But a shovel which they did take.

With their 'scoop shoval oar' they paddled on
At the mercy of wind and wave
Not knowing the moment that one or all
Might be hurled to a watery grave.

They were out in the boat from morning at three,
Until the next morning at ten
When drenched and almost frozen to death
Into Bayfield harbour they came.

They were thirty one hours in an open boat
And working with all their might,
And I rather think when to Land they come
They had a good appetite.

They ate a meal in Bayfield that day
Which they say they relished well
And long may they live & have health & strength
Of their scoop shovel trip to tell.

A late feat of electro-telegraphy achieved for the *Times* is worth mention, though we remark on it somewhat after date.—The United States Congress met at Washington on Monday, December 6. In the evening of that day, the *Times* correspondent at Philadelphia, having made a summary of the Message, sent through the telegraph; and at the usual hour the next morning it appeared—two columns and a third—in the *Times.* This is an instance in which science has aided enterprise to good purpose, and they may congratulate each other on the result. Those who take the pains to consider the combination of circumstances required to print this 'cablegram,' as the Americans call it, four thousand miles from the place of its delivery within twenty-four hours, can hardly fail to be filled with admiration.

Capt Robt Wallace, of Port Hope, was buried on the 14th inst. He was a prominent business-man. The funeral was the largest ever seen. All the ships and public buildings had flags flying at half-mast.

Rise and Progress of the Great Huron Tract.

BY JOSEPH WILLIAMSON.

MAY 1st, 1834.

'A Votary to folly, we, a victim at last,
Had to pick up our all; bid adieu to Belfast
And through, where our mother oft told us the tale
Of Oh, Patrick and Sheelah, ofould Granuwale.

Before we commenced as a Rover
We had heard of a 'Glorious Company,' (C. C.)
So we started on 'horseback, from Dover?'
And sailed for the famed Huron Tract.

MR. EDITOR,—To our Patrons, the Warden, County Council, our numerous Subscribers (in perspective), your intelligent readers and the public at large, we would say that we will not bore them with statistics, until we get to Goderich, describe its beauties in their natural aspects as veiwed by us in October, '34, on a bright, sunshiny day, Goderich society and the Canada Company must be disposed of, (or rather, attended to,) and then, and not till then, will we give agricultural, commercial, and mechanical statistical information from the best and most reliable authorities of the land. We will now cross the great Atlantic as fast as wind and canvass will carry us, and try to get on to the jumping-off place; with all the energy of our the glowing youth. As we hate suspense, (especially if dry) we will not keep our friends waiting one line longer than necessary to impart facts: save some slight digression to show how and when we arrived in Canada.

Pardon (dear readers,) one parting look back to "ould Ireland." On the first of May, 1834, at 9 a. m. we arrived per stage-coach, in the City of Belfast, where we were detained 10 days by the cupidity of the ship-broker, John Hiram Shaw.—Weighed anchor in Belfast Lough, on the 13th, in view of the old classic town, Carrickfergus. Two emigrants fell off a tighter bringing us water, *drowned by whiskey and water.* One of the lighter-men shared their whiskey and fate. The good ship, Lord Goderich, had a splendid run for the first three weeks, and made the Gulf of St. Lawrence in that time, where we lost the smartest and best sailor on board, through carelessness or over confidence; he was a jovial, rollicking, dancing little tar, Jack Kilroy, from Bangor. Alas! poor fellow, the darling of our crew; many a manly cheek was wet with tears at the sight; ours are now so, as we record his untimely death; June 8th, '34.

We had three days calm, when off the Banks of Newfoundland, one of them as dark as night, and all sorts of noises were resorted to as a protection from collisions with other craft. When the fog cleared, we had a grand day's fishing; the Captain and passengers took over four hundred codfish, they were immensely large, it was on the Whale Bank that we caught them in seventy fathom water, thirteen was our share of the sport, blistered our fingers through hauling the wet lines and 'got no breakfast until supper time, but for all that, we would do it again at the same price. We landed at Gros Isle on the 22nd June, rode quarentine for four days, although we had no