not human to reason and to feel at the same moment. She felt this instinctively that the man was quietly asserting his superiority, and the child pouted.

Hazel went about his work briskly: the boat was soon laden with every requisite. Helen watched these preparations askance, vexed with the expedition which she had urged him to make. Then she fell to reflecting on the change that seemed to have taken place in her character; she, who, was once so womanly, so firm, so reasonable,—why had she become so petulant, childish, and capricious?

The sail was set, and all ready to run the cutter into the surf of the rising tide, when, taking a sudden resolution, as it were, Helen came rapidly down, and said, "I will go with you, if you please," half in command and half in pout. Hazel looked a little surprised, but very pleased; and then she added, "I hope I shall not be in your way."

He assured her, on the contrary, that she might be of great assistance to him; and now with doubled alacrity, he ran out the little vessel and leaped into the prow as she danced over the waves. He taught her how to bring the boat's head round with the help of an oar, and when all was snug, left her at the helm. On reaching the mouth of the bay, if it could so be called, he made her remark that it was closed by reefs, except to the north and to the west. The wind being southerly, he had decided to pass the west, and so they opened the sea about half a mile from the shore.

For about three miles they perceived it consisted of a line of bluffs, cleft at intervals by small narrow bays, the precipitous sides of which were lined with dense foliage. Into these fissures the sea entered with a mournful sound, that died away as it crept up the yellow sands with which those nooks were carpeted. An exclamation from Helen attracted his attention to the horizon on the northwest, where a long line of breakers glittered in the sun. A reef or sandy bay appeared to exist in that direction, about fifteen miles away, and something more than a mile in length. As they proceeded he marked roughly on the side of his tin baler, with the point of a pin borrowed from Helen, the form of coast line.

An hour and a half brought them to the northwestern extremity of the island. As they cleared the shelter of the land, the southerly breeze coming with some force across the open sea caught the cutter, and she lay over in a way to inspire Helen with alarm; she was about to let go the tiller when Hazel seized it, accidentally inclosing her hand under the grasp of his own, as he pressed the tiller hard to port.

"Steady, please; don't relinquish your hold; it is all right, no fear," he cried, as he kept his eye on their sail.

He held this course for a mile or more, and then judging with a long tack he could weather the southerly side of the island, he put the boat about. He took occasion to explain to Helen how this operation was necessary, and she learned the alphabet of navigation. The western end of their little land now lay before them; it was about three miles in breadth. For two miles the bluff coast line continued unbroken; then a deep bay, a mile in width and two miles in depth, was made by a long tongue of sand projecting westerly; on its extremity grew the gigantic palm, well recognised as Helen's land mark. Hazel stood up in the boat to reconnoitre the coast. He perceived the sandy shore was dotted with multitudes of dark objects. Ere long, these objects were seen to be in motion, and, pointing them out to Helen, with a smile, he said,—

"Beware, Miss Rolleston, yonder are your bugbears,—and in some force too. Those dark masses, moving upon the hillocks of sand' or rolling on the surf, are sea lions,—the *phoca leonina*, or lionseal!"

Helen strained her eyes to distinguish the forms, but only described the dingy objects. While thus engaged, she allowed the cutter to fall off a little, and, ere Hazel had resumed his hold upon the tiller, they were fairly in the bay; the greater palm-tree on their starboard-bow.

"You seem determined to make the acquaintance of your nightmares," he remarked; "you perceive that we are embayed."

Her consternation amused him; she saw that if they held their present course, the cutter would take the beach about a mile ahead, where these animals were densely crowded.

At this moment, something dark bulged up close beside her in the sea, and the rounded back of a monster rolled over and disappeared. Hazel let drop the sail, for they were fairly in the smooth water of the bay, and close to the sandy spit, the gigantic stem of the palm-tree was on their quarter, about half a mile off.

He took the oars, and rowed slowly towards the shore. A small seal rose behind the boat and followed them, playing with the blade, its gambols resembling that of kitten. He pointed out to Helen the mild expression of the creature's face, and assured her that all this tribe were harmless animals and susceptible of domestication. The cub swam up to the boat quite fearlessly, and he touched its head gently; he encouraged her to do the like, but she shrank from its contact. They were now close ashore, and Hazel, throwing out his anchor in two feet of water, prepared to land the beam of wool he had brought to decorate the palm-tree as a signal.

The huge stick was soon heaved overboard, and he leaped after it. He towed it to the nearest landing to the ground dragged it high up on shore. Scarcely had he disposed it conveniently, intending to return in a day or two, with the means of affixing it in a prominent and remarkable manner, in the form of a spar across the trunk of the palm, when a cry from Helen recalled him. A large number of the sea-lions were coasting quietly down the surf towards the boat; indeed, a dozen of them had made their appearance around it.

Hazel shouted to her not to fear, and desiring that her alarm should not spread to the swarm, he passed back quietly but rapidly. When he reached the water, three or four of the animals were already floundering between him and the boat. He waded slowly towards one of them, and stood beside it. The man and the creature looked quietly at each other, and then the seal rolled over, with a snuffing self-satisfied air, winking its soft eyes with immense complacency.

Helen, in her alarm, could not resist a smile at this conclusion of so terrible a demonstration; for with all this gentle expression, the tusks of the brute looked formidable. But, when she saw Hazel pushing them aside and patting a very small cub on the back, she recovered her courage completely.

Then he took to his oars again; and, aided by the tide, which was now on the ebb, he rowed round the southwestern extremity of the island. He found the water here, as he anticipated, very shallow.

It was midday when they were fairly on the southern coast; and now, sailing with the wind aft the cutter ran through the water at racing speed. Fearing that some reefs or rocky formation might exist in their course, he reduced sail, and, kept away from shore, about a mile. At this distance he was better able to see inland, and mark down the accidence of its formation.

The southern coast was uniform, and Helen said it resembled the cliffs of the Kentish or Sussex coast of England only the English white was here replaced by the pale volcanic gray. By one o'clock they came abreast the very spot where they had first made land; and as they judged, due south of their residence. Had they landed here, a walk of three miles across the centre of the island would have brought them home.

For about a similiar distance the coast exhibited a monotonous cliffs unbroken even by a rill. It was plain that the water-shed of the island was all northward. They now approached the eastern end, where rose the circular mountain of which mention has already been made. This eminence had evidently at one time been detached from the rest of the land to which it was now joined by a neck of swamp about a mile and a half in breadth, and two miles in length.

Hazel proposed to reconnoitre this part of the shore nearly, and ran the boat close in to land. The reeds or canes with which this bog was densely clothed, grew in a dark spongy soil. Here and there this waste was dotted with ragged trees, which, he recognized as the cypress; from the gaunt branches hung a black, funeral kind of weeper a kind of moss resembling iron grey horsehair both in texture and use, though not so long in the staple.

This parasite, Hazel explained to Helen, was very common in such marshy ground, and was the death-flag hung out by Nature to warn man that malaria and fever were the invisible and inalienable inhabitants of that fatal neighborhood.

Looking narrowly along the lowshore for some good landing, where under shelter of a tree they might repose for an hour, and spread their midday repast, they discovered an opening into the reeds, a kind of lagoon or bayou, not extending into the morass between the highlands of the island and the circular mountain but close under the base of the latter. This inlet he proposed to explore, and accordingly the sail was taken down and the cutter was poled into a narrow creek. The water here was so shallow that the keel slid over the quicksand into which the oar sank freely.—The creek soon became narrow, and the water deep, and of a blacker color, and the banks more densely covered with canes.—These grew to the height of ten and twelve feet, and as close as wheat in a thick crop. The air felt dank and heavy, and hummed with myriads of insects. The black water became so deep and the bottom so sticky that Hazel took to the oars again. The creek narrowed as they proceeded until it proved scarcely wide enough to admit of his working the boat. The height of the reeds hindered the view on either side. Suddenly, however, and after proceeding very slowly through the bends of the canal, they decreased in height and density, and they emerged into an open space of about five acres in extent, a kind of oasis in this reedy desert, created by a mossy mound which arose amidst the morass, and afforded firm footing, of which a grove of trees and inumerable shrubs availed themselves. Helen uttered an exclamation of delight as this island of foliage in a sea of reeds met her eyes, that had been famished with the arid monotony of the brake.

They soon landed.

Helen insisted on the preparations for their meal being left to her, and having selected a sheltered spot she was soon busy with their frugal food. Hazel surveyed the spot, and selecting a red cedar was soon seated forty feet above her head; making a topographical survey of the neighborhood. He found that the bayou by which they had entered continued its course to the northern shore, thus cutting off the mountain or easterly end; its form was that of a truncated cone, and its sides densely covered with trees of some size.

The voice of Helen called him from his perch before he was near done with his survey, and he descended quickly, leaping into a mass of brush-wood growing at the foot of his tree, Helen stood a few yards from him in admiration, before a large shrub.

"Look, Mr. Hazel, what a singular production," said the girl as she stopped to examine the plant. It bore a number of red flowers, each growing out of a fruit like a prickly pear. These flowers were in various stages; some were just opening like tulips; others more advanced, had expanded like umbrellas, and quite overlapped the fruit, keeping it from sun and dew; others have served their turn in that way, and been withered by the sun's rays. But, however, this was the case, the fruit had also burst open and displayed or discharged its contents, and those contents looked like seeds; but on narrower inspection proved to be little insects with pink transparent wings, and bodies of incredibly vivid crimson.

Hazel examined the fruit and flowers very carefully, and stood enraptured, transfixed.

"It must be!—and it is!" said he, at last, "Well, I'm glad I've not died without seeing it."

"What is it?" said she.

"One of the most valuable productions of the earth. It is a cochineal. This is the Tunal-tree."

"O! indeed," said Helen, indifferently: "cochineal is used for a dye; but it is not probable we shall require to dye anything, the discovery seems to be more curious than useful."

"You wanted some ink. This pigment mixed with lime juice, will form a beautiful red ink. They soon secured about half a tea-cup full; they were rolled up and put away, then they sat down and made a very hearty meal, for it was now past two o'clock.

They re-entered the boat, and passing once more into the morass they found the channel of the bayou as it approached the northern shore more difficult of navigation. But the time occupied in these preparations had been also occupied by Nature,—the tide had receded, and the cutter stuck immovably in the water-way, about six fathoms short of deeper water.

"What is to be done now?" inquired Helen.

"We must await the rising of the tide. I fear we are imprisoned here for three hours at least."

There was no help for it. Helen made light of the misfortune. The spot where they had landed was enclosed between the two issues of the lagoon.

They walked along the shore to the more easterly, and the narrower channel, and, on arriving, Hazel found to his great annoyance that there was ample water to have floated the cutter had he selected that the least promising road. He suggested a return by the road they came, and passing into the other channel, by that to reach the sea. They hurried back, but found by this time the tide had left the cutter high and dry on the sand. So they had no choice but to wait.

Having three hours to spare, Hazel asked Miss Rolleston's permission to ascend the mountain. She assented to remain near the boat while he was engaged in this expedition. The ascent was two rugged and steep for her powers. She accompanied him to the the bank of the smaller lagoon, which he forded, and waving an adieu to her, plunged into the dense wood with which the sides of the mountain were clothed.

She waited some time, and then turned back towards the boat, walking slowly, but paused as a faint and distant cry reached her ear. It was not repeated, and then she entered the grove.

After wandering for some time, she regained the edge of the grove near the boat, and selecting a spot at the foot of an aged cypress, she sat down with her back against its trunk. She fell into reverie, and from reverie into drowsy languor. How long she remained in this state she could not remember, but a slight rustle overhead recalled her senses. Believing it to be a bird moving in the branches she was resigning herself again to rest when she became sensible of a strange emotion, a conviction that something was watching her with a fixed gaze. She cast her eyes around, but saw nothing. She looked upwards. From the tree immediately above her lap depended a snake, its tail coiled around a dead branch. The reptile hung straight, its eyes fixed like two rubies upon Helen's, as very slowly it let itself down by its uncoiling tail. Now its head was on a level with hers; in another moment it must drop into her lap.

She was paralyzed.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

After toiling up a rugged and steep ascent, encumbered with blocks of grey stone, of which the island seemed to be formed, forcing his way over fallen trees and through the tangled undergrowth of a species of wild vine, which abounded on the mountain side, Hazel stopped to breathe and peer around, as well as the dense foliage permitted. He was up to his waist in scrub, and the stiff leaves of the bayonet plant rendered caution necessary in walking. At moments, through the dense foliage, he caught a glisten of the sea. The sun was in the north behind him, and by this alone he guided his road due southerly and upward. Once only he found a small cleared space about an acre in extent, and here it was he uttered the cry Helen heard. He waited a few moment's in the hope to hear her voice in reply, but it did not reach him. Again he plunged upward, and now the ascent became at times so arduous that more than once he almost resolved to relinquish, or at least, to defer his task; but a moment's rest recalled him to himself, and he was one not easily baffled by difficulty or labor, so he toiled on until he judged the summit ought to have been reached. After pausing to take breath and counsel, he fancied that he had borne too much to the left, the ground to his right appeared to rise more than the path that he was pursuing which had become level, and he concluded, that, instead of ascending, he was circling the mountain-top. He turned aside, therefore, and after ten minutes' hard climbing he was pushing through a thick and high scrub, when the earth seemed to give way beneath him, and he fell—into an abyss.

He was engulfed. He fell from bush to bush—down—down—scratch—rip—plump! until he lodged in a prickly bush more winded than hurt. Out of this he crawled, only to discover himself thus landed in a large and perfectly circular plain of about thirty acres in extent, or about 360 yards in diameter. In the centre was a lake, also circular the broad belt of shore around this lake was covered with rich grass, level as a bowlinggreen, and all this again was surrounded by a nearly perpendicular cliff, down which indeed he had fallen; this cliff was thickly clothed with shrubs and trees.

Hazel recognized the crater of an extinct volcano.

Continued.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, JULY 23, 1868.

The Mineral Policy of the Government.

With all deference to Hon. J. S. McDonald, who argues that the mineral lands of Ontario are Banks of Providence which should not be drawn upon too freely, we think the policy adopted is calculated to destroy all hope of developing the immense resources of valuable minerals which exist in such abundance around us. The true policy is to survey the mineral lands and sell them outright as is done by the American Government on the South Shore of Lake Superior. While mining enterprise is crippled on our side, first by sales *en bloc* of many of the best locations, and now by a royalty of from 2½ to 10 per ct., the Americans have gone on prospering from year to year, and the result may be seen in such fine cities as Ontonagon, Marquette, Houghton, Superior city, &c.—On the Canada side a vessel can sail on her course in the densest fog without incurring any risk of collision, while the American shores teem with shipping—400 vessels having left in May last laden with iron ore alone. Those engaged in mining operations on our side have been seriously injured by the policy of the Ontario Government, so much so that some of them have suspended work altogether. Withers & Co., of the Thunder Bay Mining Co. have expended no less than $65,000 for 3200 acres, and have also paid for 2000 acres more, for which they cannot procure a patent, although they have complied with the requirements of the Government. Every farmer in the country is directly interested in the immediate development of our mineral resources, and we trust that such pressure will be brought to bear on the Government as will compel the adoption of a more liberal policy at the next session of Parliament.

THE SILVER QUESTION.

PUBLIC MEETING.

The Toronto Resolutions Adopted.

A meeting of the merchants and traders of the town of Goderich was called on last Tuesday evening, at the Council Chamber, which was attended by the principal merchants to take into consideration the necessary steps to abate the present silver nuisance.

W. M. Savage, Esq., was appointed Chairman, and Wm. Doneghy, Esq., Secy.

The Chairman having explained the nature of the meeting, that on account of the great loss suffered by the business men of the Town, by taking silver at par, it was necessary that they should adopt some rules by which silver should be received at the same discount as which they were compelled to sell it for, in order to convert it into current funds, and recommending the adoption of the agreement as entered into by the Toronto merchants.

J. C. Detlor, Esq., read a letter from Mr. Fisher, merchant, Clinton, intimating that the merchants there and in Seaforth, had adopted the Toronto agreement, provided Goderich done so.

The Secretary then read the agreement as entered into by the business men of Toronto.

When it was moved by W. Kay, Esq., seconded by C. E. Archibald, Esq., that the agreement as entered into by the merchants of Toronto, be adopted by this meeting. After the matter was properly discussed the above resolution was unanimously adopted.

C. Crabb, Esq., was then appointed the Trustee to prosecute any infringement of the agreement and to receive fines, &c.,

Messrs. Kay, Savage, and Detlor were appointed a committee to canvass the town for signatures to the bond.

It was also agreed that each should contribute the sum of 25c. towards defraying the expense of printing, &c. It was further resolved that the agreement should go into force and effect on Monday next, the 20th inst.

The meeting then adjourned until Wednesday evening, to receive the report of the committee appointed to receive signatures.

The Society met according to adjournment, when the committee reported that they had succeeded in obtaining 55 signatures, and hoped to obtain more still.

A committee was then appointed to wait upon the Banks and see what arrangements can be entered into for the exportation of the American silver, to report at the next regular meeting to be held in the Council Chamber on next Monday week. We sincerely trust that the arrangement will be carried out by all, in good faith, as it is not right that our business men should be subjected to a loss which, on account of the great competition in trade, the profits now charged cannot warrant.

THE CANADIAN PRESS ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday morning, the 9th inst., we left Goderich by the 4 o'clock a. m. train, bound for Toronto and a flying visit to the great North West. Along the road we picked up several Western members, and when we arrived at Toronto in due time we found a large number of the Press men of Ontario ready for the road. The afternoon and evening was spent in business. The leading hotels—The Queen's, American, and Rosin, were very liberal in their treatment of members, as usual, for which they deserve every praise.

On Friday morning, through the kindness of Hon. Mr. Robinson, President of the Northern Railway and F. Cumberland, Esq., M. P. P., its gentlemanly manager, a free special train was provided for the conveyance of the Association to Collingwood. The train was gaily decked with flags, and the directors' car placed at the disposal of the officers or other prominent gentlemen, who were served with refreshments suitable to the warm weather. Accompanying us were Hon. Mr. Robinson, Mr. Cumberland, Hon. J. S. McDonald, Miss Rye, the well known philanthropist, and C. Moberly, Engineer of the road, and others. Near Aurora, by order of Mr. Cumberland, the train was "slowed" in order to enable the members to take a good look at a delightful valley view—one of the most beautiful of the kind, excepting St. Hilaire, in the Dominion.—At Allandale, near Barrie, on Lake Simcoe, a surprise awaited us. The station-building, which is the most beautiful and well-appointed in Canada, was ornamented with flags and evergreens, and a splendid brass band, under the leadership of Mr. Henderick, furnished capital music as we alighted to partake of a magnificent breakfast provided in the station building by the Northern Railway Co.

After breakfast, which was partaken of by, ladies and gentlemen of the party together, Mr. Cumberland, who acted as chairman, arose and said it was an old saying that public men and public bodies lived in the eyes of the people, and it might be stated emphatically that the authorities of the Northern Railway lived in the eyes of the people that day. He was glad that he had been authorized to extend the hospitalities of the road to the Canadian Press Association, and he could assure them that if they wished to use the road for any future excursion, they would be most welcome to it. (Applause.) Such an excursion had passed over a portion of the road some years ago, and members would be astonished at the great improvement that had been made in a few years. He was delighted to see that the lion and the lamb had lain down together on this occasion, and to think that such a state of things would last for 10 days at least. (Laughter.) He rejoiced greatly that they were going to extend the trip to the North West. If they looked carefully at the vast resources of the Algoma District, they would see something of which Canada might well be proud. We had now found in the country, gold, copper, salt, &c., but they would find on their route silver for everybody. (Applause.) If the members of the association would simply tell the truth with reference to what they could see, it would certainly be the dawn of a new state of things. On behalf of the President and Directors he wished to extend a cordial welcome to the gentlemen of the Press.

Mr. Campbell, President of the Association, responded to the sentiments of Mr. Cumberland.

Hon. Mr. Robinson said this excursion would have the effect of pointing out the cause or causes of the great disparity existing between the enterprise shown by the Americans on their side, and the North shore, which was much richer in minerals. It was not for him, in presence of the Hon. Premier, to say much about his mineral land policy, but if the Association would give him a good dig in the ribs on the subject it would not be distasteful to the Directors of his railway. (Laughter and Applause.)

Judge Gowan made a capital speech, in the course of which, he spoke of the pleasure it gave him to see the ladies present, and he thought if editors would submit their articles to their wives, a good deal of the bitterness would be removed.

Mr. Cumberland introduced the Hon. J. S. Macdonald, who, on rising to speak, was received with a round of applause. The Hon. Premier said he did not feel exactly comfortable there. (Laughter.) At the gatherings he was accustomed to, it was usual to give and receive pretty hard blows, but here, all appeared to be in sweet accord. It was difficult, however, for him to avoid politics altogether, especially when the Algoma District was mentioned. In fact, he hardly knew how to treat the subject. [Mr. Cumberland.—"Treat it liberally!"] (Laughter.) He thought his friend, Mr. Cumberland, was not quite disinterested in getting the people of the Press to visit his Constituency. He was sure the people of Algoma would be proud to receive a large and influential body of men, who would be able to inspect the region for themselves, and advise the Government as to its wants and necessities. (Applause.) While he acknowledged the large influence of the Press, he was generally prepared for any attack from it. The President of the Association had said he hoped the government would not forget the Press, but he (the speaker) sometimes wished the Press would forget the Government. (Loud laughter.) He was delighted thus to meet with the lights of the intellect of Canada coming on such a mission, and if they could instruct the Government, practically, in what Mr. Cumberland called a liberal policy, he had no doubt it would be entered into. (Applause.) However, it was better to proceed cautiously—to move too slowly rather than too fast. The Government invited censure when they were deserving of it. Its policy was to not grant large tracts of land to individuals or companies. In fact the Government looked upon the mineral lands as Banks of Providence, which it would be very wrong to rob uselessly. He trusted that in the course of the summer a policy would be adopted with reference to the region in question, which would meet with the approval and support of the people. (Applause.) He repeated that he was delighted with this gathering. It was the first time he had had the pleasure of meeting them in this capacity. He trusted the annual meetings of the Press would continue, and that by the intercourse they thus enjoyed, editors would cease the bickerings and personalities they sometimes indulged in. After thanking the company for the cordial manner in which they had received his name, the Hon. gentleman resumed his seat amidst loud applause.

Mr. Lount, M. P. P., for South Simcoe, also made a splendid speech.

The President introduced Miss Rye, who was received with repeated rounds of applause.

After taking a parting look at the beautifully situated town of Allandale, and giving three rousing cheers for Hon. J. S. McDonald and their generous hosts who were to go no further, the party were whirled rapidly into Collingwood, under the care of conductor Aymong and engineer Pearson.

A correspondent states that from present appearances there will not be more than one-fourth of a crop of peaches in Delaware this season. One gentleman has sold his whole crop to a New York firm for $2,25 per basket, the purchaser to pick them and take them from the orchard.

☞ After a good deal of balloting and wrepulling the choice of the Democratic Convention has fallen upon Horatio Seymour of New York for President, and F. P. Blair for Vice-President. With Grant and Colfax for their opponents we do not imagine these gentlemen have much chance of gaining possession of the offices for which they are nominated.

☞ Having just returned from the great excursion trip to the North West, we are unable to-day to get into type our narrative of what was seen and done, but shall attend to it in our next. We may mention, however, that the party arrived in Collingwood early yesterday morning (30th) in good health and spirits and dispersed, on leaving Toronto, for their several homes, prepared as they could be, by no other means for discussing intelligently the wants and requirements of the country.

FOUND DEAD.—We are again called upon to record one of those deaths which so frequently occur from a course of intemperance. We hope this occurrence will be a warning to others. Wm. Johnston, well known in this town for a number of years as a teamster, was seen on Tuesday morning, the 14th inst., going to the field which he had rented from Mr. Widder, where, it is supposed, he went to work.—Nothing more was heard or known of him until Wednesday, about 2 o'clock, when two little girls found him lying on his face, quite dead. From the appearance of the grass he must have struggled for some time before he expired. There is no doubt he came to his death through the influence of intemperance and exposure to the heat of the sun.

The Lieut. Governorship.

It is understood that the warrant appointing Hon. Mr. Howland as Lieut. Governor of Ontario, was dispatched from Ottawa to Lord Monck, at Quebec, on Saturday last. The recommendation of the Privy Council in favor of Mr. Howland accompanied the document, leaving the mere formality of a signature to be gone through.

THE HEAT.—The intense heat of the past fortnight has had a most depressing effect on the crop prospects of this section. The potatoes are suffering particularly, and it is feared that they will fail entirely if we are much longer without rain. The drought seems to be general all over the continent. It is clear that there will be no revival of business while this state of things lasts.

☞ See advertisement of The Artesian Sulphur Springs, London, Ont., in another place.

☞ The Midsummer Examinations of the Public Schools of this town are now going on under the direction of the Principal and Dr. McLean; the examination commenced yesterday and will last the whole week. Parents and all interested are invited to attend.

'Ainleyville.

PIC-NIC.—A grand public Pic-Nic in connexion with the Ainleyville Common School, will take place, in Mr. Hingston's bush, a short distance north of Ainleyville, on Friday, 31st July. A school exhibition will be held in the School House the same evening.—Comm.

PENMANSHIP.

The celebrated writing Teacher, Mr. Putnaus, has just finished his second term in our village. A great many, young and old, availed themselves of the opportunity of attending this class. Mr. Putnam has sustained his reputation here, as in other places, and should he ever return he may expect to be enthusiastically received.

Brucefield. COM.

A young man of Vuegiard was desperately in love with a young lady who did the plate and glass washing of a hotel in Paris. He 'told his love' and was rejected. He took it much to heart and resolved to emulate the Duke of Clarence in the way of departing this life. He entered the cellar, fastened the door behind, sat on the floor, turned on the taps of several huge casks, and quietly awaited till the flood arose. When discovered he was nearly dead, the wine having almost got up to the right place, his mouth. The landlord kicked and cured him.

A YOUNG and festive lady is under arrest in Guelph, charged with stealing a horse and buggy.

A NEW rifle has made its appearance in Paris, called the ravageur, which, according to the assertions of its inventor, eclipses both the needle gun and the Chassepot, and can be fired 40 rounds per minute, or 2,400 per hour.

THE corporation of London did a grand thing on Friday fortnight when they handed cheques for £200,000 to the representatives of the proprietors of Southwark Bridge which is now free to the public forever.

THE ADVENTURE of Sam. Patch has been repeated in England, in the presence of an admiring crowd, with a like fatal result. Thomas Worthington, the "star diver," advertised that he would dive from a platform into the Derwent, 90 feet below. A very large crowd of people was present. Worthington made the perilous leap, but by an involuntary turn of his body in the air he fell upon his chest and was instantly killed. His body did not rise again until a spectator recovered it by diving.

A NEW TYPE METAL.—The California Mining and Scientific Press of a new type metal which is produced at the Montezuma Smelting Works, in Humboldt county, Nevada. The metal is obtained by separating silver from the ore, and is composed of about thirty parts of the lead and seventy parts antimony. The metal, with slight additions, is said to be superior to that used in the Eastern States. It is set down in pigs of about seventy pounds weight. A shipment of twenty tons has been made to the type founderies of New York. The metal is said to be produced so cheap as to put all competition out of the question. Some of the iron founderies and machine shops in San Francisco are now using the same metal for journals in place of the Babitt metal.

CARIBOO GREETING.—The Ottawa *Times* mentions the receipt of the following telegram at the Capital from Baskerville, British Columbia. "Cariboo celebrates to-day July 1st, and sends congratulations God Save the Queen and the Dominion." The people of Canada will heartily reciprocate the sentiment, and gladly assist in hastening the day when British Columbia may be made part and parcel of the Dominion.

LONDON SOCIETY.—We have received from the wholesale establishment of W. C. Chewett & Co., Toronto, the midsummer extra number of this popular English periodical. Its contents are of the finest order of light literature, and the illustrations are both numerous and beautiful. For sale at Moorhouse's.

The London Excursion.

To the Editor of the HURON SIGNAL.

DEAR SIR,—A large number of the Goderich people, ladies and gentlemen, availed themselves of the excursion trip to London on the 17th inst.; amongst them Messrs. W. T. Hays, Geo. McKenzie, Wm. G. Smith, Dan. McKay, Jas. Thomson and myself, of the Town Council. At the request of all, I gladly embrace the first opportunity of publicly expressing our thanks to the officials connected with the Railroad, who seemed to vie with each other to render our trip agreeable and pleasant. I feel especially called upon to tender our best thanks to Messrs. Carter and Holmes, whose kindness and urbanity diffused a general feeling of pleasantry and sociality which excursion parties can alone appreciate. They were indefatigable in their exertions by anticipating the wants and wishes of all. Mr. Holmes was to be seen continually at his post, passing to and fro in the cars, with unremitting attention, providing for the comfort of each individual passenger. As for Mr. Carter, who had assumed the important office of providing against any inconvenience to the ladies on their arrival at the different stations—he acted his part with a *suaviter in modo* that won for him our warmest approbation. His apparent ubiquitely was the astonishment of all. He seemed to be spirited from one station to another, for on our arrival at a station we found him always ready for his work handing out the ladies, but by what means his transmigration had been effected, we could not divine. Our friend Lewis, of the Elevator, whose portly figure, on such a melting day, might excusably have been finding a shelter in the shade of the water-tank, and seeking relief in imbibing ice-water and other restoratives, was ever on hand either attending to the call of the Engineer at the brakes, or in assisting Mr. Carter in handing the ladies through the crowd to the landing. What deserves our particular notice and thanks, was the admirable arrangement by which the seating of the crowds was effected,—not only was the convenience of all consulted, but the dangers and accidents, the frequent attendants of excursion parties, were effectually provided against.

I remain, yours truly,

HUGH JOHNSTON, Mayor.

Goderich, 20th July, 1868.

Seaforth

(From our own Correspondent.)

WEATHER AND CROPS.—Excessive heat still continues and it is feared this continued drought will injure root crops, some farmers say the spring wheat is seriously affected with midge.

HUNG IN EFFIGY.—Three of the gentlemen who form the united wisdom of this enterprising village were last Monday morning hung in effigy. It seems that a by-law had been passed in Council rendering it incumbent on the Merchants and other business men to remove their Veranda-posts, shutter boxes, signs, &c., ten feet from the shop fronts, and this method was taken to show the disapproval of the Citizens to the obnoxious By-Law. A petition has been signed by the business men, to the Council praying for its abrogation.

INCENDIARISM.—An attempt was made last Monday night to burn down Crombie's new mill. The fire was discovered and extinguished before any harm was done. No clue as yet, to the incendiary.

VILLAGE COUNCIL.—The Municipal Council of the village of Seaforth met at Downey's Hall on the 3rd inst. Present the Reeve and all the Councillors. The minutes of last meeting were read and adopted. Communications were received from the County Clerk and T. Fennel, and a petition from Charles Wilson and others and the report of Mr Stark, Inspector. It was moved, seconded and carried That the following Communication from the County Clerk be received and inserted in the minutes:

DEAR SIR.—I have the honor of intimating to you that the sum of eight hundred and seventy-seven dollars and forty five cents ($877 45) will be required from your municipality for County Rates for the current year.

I remain your ob't servant,

Peter Adamson.

Mr Fennel's account was laid over till next meeting, the Clerk to notify him to attend personally. It was moved seconded and carried That the Non-Commissioned officers and men of No. 3 Company Seaforth who are not entered on the assessment roll for real estate, or personal property be remitted their statute labour tax but nothing else.

Mr Stark having tendered his resignation as Inspector, it was moved, seconded and carried that the resignation of Mr Stark as Inspector of Inns and Houses of Public entertainment &c be not accepted, and that he be requested or otherwise obliged to discharge the duties required of him as by-law directed.

It was moved, seconded and carried That the report of Mr. S. Stark Inspector of Inns &c be accepted but is not approved of, inasmuch as it is incomplete, and fails to show that he has discharged the duties of his office.

SILVER NUISANCE.—The Merchants of Seaforth are determined to do away with the silver nuisance, having held a meeting, at which it was agreed to put silver at a discount of 4 per cent, and imposing a penalty of $50,00 on any one found breaking the agreement.

McKILLOP.

SUNSTRUCK.—Mr J. Rae, who resided on Mr Douglas's farm was killed last Tuseday by sunstroke. An inquest was held by Coronor Tracy of Seaforth the same evening. The verdict of the jury was that the deceased came to his death by sunstroke.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—Wm Reinhart was killed last Thursday week by the falling of a bent at Mr Barris's barn raising. The bent fell on his head smashing in the skull and causing instant death. The deceased was only ten days married.

TUCKERSMITH.

EARLY HARVEST.—Mr John Cameron and Mr George Chesney were cutting their fall wheat last Tuesday 14th inst.

ACCIDENT.—On Saturday when Mr. Hugh Chesney's hired man, Patrick McKey, was driving the team to the field, the reins got entangled on the tongue of the waggon. He walked along the tongue to take them off when the horses became restive and ran off at a fearful rate; poor McKey fell between the horses and was trampled on, both wheels went over him, breaking his colar bone, bruising his head, and otherwise severely injuring him. Drs. Vercoe and Coleman are attending him but he lies in a very dangerous state.

STANLEY.

SUNSTROKE.—Mr Hunter of Stanley was killed last week by sunstroke he was buried last Thursday at Brucefield.

An association has been formed in Washington to raise $30,000 among the colored people to purchase a homestead for Gen. Howard. It is proposed to collect but one cent from each colored man, woman and child who feel disposed to give that much. It is believed that, out of 4,500,000 people of color in the United States, at least 3,000,000 will contribute, which will make the sum proposed. This money is to be collected through Sunday-schools, day-schools, and churches of the whole country.

☞ There are now 688 convicts in the Kingston Penitentiary, about 100 of them being in for murder.

THE Paraguayan war has cost Brazil $121,000,0000, almost doubling her debt, which is $247,000,000.

THE AYR MACHINE.

To the Editor of the HURON SIGNAL.

SIR.—Will you permit me through the medium of your widely circulated and valuable journal to explain why the "Ayr Combined Mower and Reaper" did not compete at the recent Mowing trial at Kippen. It is now more than a fortnight since Mr. Watson telegraphed me to stop selling, as he had sold all out, (303 machines having left the manufactory), but he would get up a machine and send it up for the Kippen trial. Expecting this machine to come, I did not look out for any other, and it was not until Monday, the 13th, that Mr. Watson again telegraphed me saying that he found it would be impossible for him to get up machines to send to each of the three trials that were then approaching, viz., Wardsville and Woodstock 'Reaping' trials, and the Kippen Mowing trial, and I would consequently have to get a machine from some of the Farmers in the neighborhood. It is imperative that Mr. Watson should be at the Wardsville and Woodstock Reaping trials, he having competed at the Mowing trials, (taking the first prize at Woodstock, 15 machines competing—judgment at Wardsville will not be given until the Reaping is tried.) I did my utmost to get a machine to come to the Kippen Mowing trial, in the short time I had to do so (the forenoon of Tuesday), and only gave up the attempt when my horse gave up from sheer exhaustion and fatigue.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

JOSHUA CALLAWAY,

Agent for John Watson,

"Ayr Agrirultural Works."

Goderich, July 15th, 1868.

Mowing Match.

The Mowing Match in connection with the S. R. of Huron Agricultural Society, came off to-day, Tuesday, July the 14th, on the Farm of Mr Donald Ross, Tuckersmith, London Road. To show that the interest in these matches increases, it is only necessary to state that twelve (12) machines got to work; and that a large number of the most respectable farmers of the S. Riding of Huron, withstood the sweltering heat—under a burning sun, to witness the competition. The day has been one of the very hottest of this hot season. Ten machines entered as combined machines, viz:

St. George Machine, Alex. Thomson, agent, Mr. Bull, St. George, Manufacturer. Ball's Ohio, John Willis, agent, Mr. Verity, Francistown, Man. Wood's Patent, Oliver Wilson, Agent, Massey, Newcastle, Man. Ball's Ohio, Thos. Cooper, Agent, Forsyth, Dundass, Man. Wellington, Chas. McLeod, agent, Waterons & Co., Brantford, Man. Ball's Ohio, self rake attachment, W. T. Haggart, St. Mary's, Man. Ball's Ohio, John Jackson, Lucan, Man. Ball's Ohio, self rake, Jos. Sherman, Stratford, Man. Ball's Ohio, Ohio, & Buckeye, combined self rake, Jos. Sherman, Stratford, Man. Dick's self rake, A. J. Masson, agent, F. W. Glen, Oshawa. The Oshawa machine got off the track somewhere on the way up, and did not put in an appearance, but will keep at the intended Reaping Match. Three machines, competed as single mowers, viz: Junior Mower, Thomas Smith, Agent, Patterson, Richmond Hill, Manufacturer. Wood's Patent, William Bell, agent, Modelence, Elora, Man. Junior Mower, Hugh Greeve, agent, Patterson, Richmond Hill, Man. The Judges, were James Anderson, Stanley; James Biggins, Clinton; and Richard Manning Exeter. Room could not be found in Mr. Ross' field for the Combined Machines; therefore the Single Mowers, competed in an adjoining field on Mr. Copeland's Farm. The grass was scarcely the thing to test the merits of a mower, being mostly timothy—a fair crop, and all standing; but the committee of management, we suppose, had some difficulty in getting a field, and had to take just what they could get. The judges must have had a hard task to decide which was the best, however, as all fairly shaved the ground—so close did they shave, that we heard an old farmer remark "that a beast wadna get a bite there this summer." One great drawback to the complete testing of the machines took place, something went wrong with the Dynomoster, the extreme heat we think, had something to do with it; whatever was the cause, the judges concluded it was not telling the truth, and threw it aside, and thus we are without the relative draught of each machine—a very material point. The judges merely gave their opinion as to the best mower in the combine class; but of course no definite decision could be given till their reaping qualities are tested. In the single Mower Class, Mr. Smith's Junior Mower, unfortunately broke down when nearly half through, so that left only two competitors. The first prize was awarded to William Bell, the second to Hugh Green.

The committee of management are anxious to get a field of heavy Fall Wheat for the Reaping Match as soon as they find a suitable field, due notice of time and place will be given.

REMINISCENCE.

OF THE LATE EARL OF ANNISKILLEN.

(Published by Request.)

"And man proud man, when dressed with a little brief authority, plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven, as to make angels weep."

It was in the year 1817—I was by the recommendation of a friend duly installed as private tutor in the Earl's family, the late Earl (as his portraits which hang in the hall at the castle will show) was a burly man, stood six feet in his boots with a swaggering boorish air, his conduct while in the presence of those whom he regarded as his super