THE HURON SIGNAL

Is published every Friday Morning, by Mc GILLICUDDY BROS., at their Office, North S off the Square)

GODERICH, ONTARIO

And is despatched to all parts of the surrounding country by the earliest mails and trains.

By general admission it has a larger circulation than any other newspaper in this part of the country. d is one of the raciest, newsiest and most reliable journals in Ontario possessing, as it does, the fore-going essentials and being in addition to the above, a first-class family and fireside paper—it is therefore a most *desirable advertising medium.*

TERMS.—$1.50 in advance, postage pre-paid by publishers; $1.75, if paid before six months $2.00 if not so paid. This rul will be trictly enforced.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.—Eight cents pe line for first insertion; three cents per line for each subsequent insertion. Yearly, half-yearly and quarterly contracts at reduced rates.

JOB PRINTING.—We have also a first-class jobbing department in connection, and possessing the most complete out-fit and best facilities for turning out work in Goderich, are prepared to do business in that line at prices that cannot be beaten, and of a quality that cannot be surpassed.—*Terms Cash*

FRIDAY, JAN. 2ND, 1885.

THE COUNCIL CONTESTS.

Notwithstanding the peace and harmony that prevailed at the nominations for mayor and reeves, there is likely to be a lively time in the contests for the councillorships.

In St. Andrew's ward a new candidate s offering in the person of James A. Reid, one of our enterprising business men. Mr. Reid would, we believe, make a good councillor, and should be well supported in the ward.

David Cantelon, an old councrllor, is again offering, and as he is a level-headed and economical member of the board, he will receive a large vote from the ratepayers who believe in having the ward well represented.

William Lee is also an old councillor He is a public-spirited member, and being a large employer of labor, is likely to get a good working-man's vote.

E. Bingham, was a member of last year's council, and was chairman of the public works committee. The job on the Square, and the large increase of expenditure last year for public works, (for which so little can be seen,) should prove to be a millstone around his neck on Monday next. St. Andrew's ward can do itself and the remainder of the town a great service by leaving E. Bingham at home on election day.

In St. George's two new men are offering, Messrs. W. McLean and H. Dunlop. Mr. McLean is a large ratepayer in the ward, and is one of the heaviest shippers from this station. In the event of a railway agitation he would be a useful man in the council to talk up the project through the country. William McLean should receive a large vote in St. George's.

H. Dunlop is an old and well-known resident of the ward. He is a sharp, intelligent business man and would make a good councillor.

The old members of the council, John Butler, F. Jordan and M. Nicholson, are also in the field for this ward.

In St. David's, C. A. Humber is the new candidate. He has held in times past a seat at the board, and proved himself to be one of its best members. When he was chairman of public works, the ratepayers had something to see for the expenditure of their money. He is a practical man, and if elected, would make an efficient and economical chairman of public works.

The old councillors, L. Elliott, W. H. Murney and E. Campion are also candidates.

It St. Patrick's, George Acheson is a new aspirant although an old resident. He is a successful business man, and would make a first class councillor.

J. H. Colborne and C. A. Nairn, two of last year's council, have been again brought forward. They are good councillors, and should be well supported.

Peter McEwan is also a candidate in this ward.

The ratepayers have now the full ticket before them, and should be careful to make the best choice possible. If a good selection be made the town will benefit; if useless men be chosen, the town will suffer correspondingly.

DELIGHTFULLY COOL.

The thaw on Monday did not prevent Mr. Fred. W. Johnston from making one of the coolest statements of the season. In order to draw attention away from the fact that the funds of the town council had been badly handled during the year, he declared that if the school funds were in the hands of the council that august body might be more economical with the expenditure than the board had been. This, coming in a year when the school expenses have been *less* than for years, and when the town expenses generally have been *more* than usual, was the height of impertinence. When the school board desires to learn economy it will not go the town council or its supercilious reeve for a lesson. There are two members of the town council who are trustees, but they bring nothing to the board that they have learned at the feet of the young Gamaliel of municipal law save an intolerant party spirit. It was one of Mr. Johnston's economic disciples who wanted another $100 put on Mr. Embury's salary for this year, in the face of a practical raise of $100 last year. So much for Johnston economy with school funds.

But Mr. Johnston has a great head. It is quite evident that he had a coming school trustee election in his eye, and wished to have the impression go abroad that the board was an extravagant one. It so happens that the two members now seeking re-election, and who are likely to be opposed by friends of Mr. Johnston, are among the most careful and economical of our trustees.

Mr. Crabb has spent a generation at the board. He has been for many years chairman, and has given much satisfaction by his sound decisions. He has the courage of his convictions, acts and thinks for himself, and will not join any *clique* to combine for mere party advantage. He is a man who ought to be heartily supported by all, especially as his opponent is a mental feather weight compared with the veteran trustee. Mr. Crabb will be needed at the board for a while yet, more especially as he is a heavy ratepayer, and consequently is anxious to keep down expenses.

Mr. Swanson is no spendthrift of the public money. He is cautious and careful, so much so that he objected to an advance of $100 to W. R. Miller on his last year's salary, and also opposed the move to raise Mr. Embury's salary by an extra $100 for this year, taking the stand that during these hard times the public purse should be carefully handled. He is the chairman of the contingent committee, and does a lot of work usually shirked by trustees generally. We cannot see what he has done to be turned out, or what special qualities his opponent has to commend him to the position.

If Mr. Johnston and the chairman of the public works committee would like a lesson in wise economy, they should study the accounts of the school board for 1884, and having made a careful perusal, inwardly digest it.

ABOUT HOTEL ASSESSMENTS.

It was stated by the reeve, on nomination day, that considerable extra taxes would have to be raised in town, owing to the passing of the Scott Act, and among the items which were enumerated by the speaker were, the loss from licenses; the shrinkage in taxes from depreciation of hotel property, owing to the fact that hotel owners would apply to have their assessments reduced; also that property owners who had liquor stores would be justified in appealing to have their assessments reduced.

Now, we are willing to admit that there will be an apparent loss to the town so far as the liquor license fees are concerned, but the loss to the town will be only apparent. The money that now goes into the liquor interest will not go out of town, but will be diverted into other channels of trade. The money that the liquor men send to the wholesale liquor dealers in the cities now, will, after the Act comes into operation, find its way into the pockets of our locol tradesmen, and thereby enable them to be much better able to meet their taxes and other levies than is the case at present. The fact that Milton, Acton, and other places in Halton county are not higher assessed than before the operation of the Act fully bears out this view of the case; and the further fact that these towns have materially improved under the working of the Act, notwithstanding the generally depressed state of things elsewhere, is a fair warrant for other towns looking forward to corresponding improvement under a temperance *regime.*

As to the alleged depreciation in property, that is a fallacy, and can be easily proved to be so. If hotel property were assessed at the fictitious value that is usually claimed for it by its owners, there would be some reason for holding up this bugaboo of reducing their assessments, but what are the facts? Is hotel property assessed higher in proportion than other real estate similarly located? It certainly is not in Goderich, and we will give figures that even Reeve Johnston will not gainsay. The Albion block is a handsome three-storey building, extending along the Square, from South street to Kingston street. It is one of the finest blocks in town, and it is assessed at $12,800. Directly across the square is another business block, extending from Colborne street to North street., with the same frontage on the Square. This block is only two-storeys high in the centre, with a three-storey wing on each corner. This range of buildings is assessed at $20,700, as against the Albion block's $12,800. Now, to hear Mr. Johnston talk, one would imagine that under the license system these figures would have been reversed, and that the hotel property would have been paying the bulk of the taxes of the two blocks. Yet the figures are against it. In the face of these figures we would like to see any revision court take cognizance of an application from a hotel property owner to reduce his assessment, and make his neighbors pay a portion of his taxes, simply because he has no license to sell ardent spirits; and we would like to see the member of the court of revision who would dare to tamper with the assessment roll in favor of the hotel owner, and to the detriment of the property-holder who did not own tavern real estate. It is quite true efforts in this line may be brought to bear. At the present time we have a hotel owner in St. Andrew's ward seeking a seat at the council board. If he be elected, and [illegible]

the programme laid down by the reeve is carried out, it will be a sight to make angels weep to see the stoical indifference that councillor Bingham will exhibit to hotel-owner Bingham, when the latter comes before the court of revision for a reduction of assessment on his property, owing to the operation of the Scott Act If Reeve Johnston were wise he would have let this phase of the probable working of the Canada Temperance Act in Goderich out of the question.

With reference to the claims of owners of unoccupied liquor stores against the town council, and a possible reduction of assessment in consequence, it is not necessary to say anything. The reeve's old time 'cuteness appears to have deserted him when he quoted that palpable absurdity. There is not another sane man in town would have made such a statement.

Above we have given a few remarks upon that phase of Reeve Johnston's speech, where he endeavored to show there was no necessity for temperance people keeping their principles in view on voting day. By the manner in which he let the cat out of the bag with regard to the probable action of the antis to secure reduced assessments, he did much toward opening the eyes of temperance people to the absolute need for polling their votes solely for men upon whom they could depend to safely guard their interests when it became a question of keeping assessments fair and square, and keeping taxes fairly balanced so far as temperance people were concerned.

Other things being equal, temperance voters should give preference to temperance sympathisers.

NUTS TO CRACK.

Mr. Allison, the ex-member for Lennox, and the present candidate for that constituency in the Reform interest, is before his constituents, and has circulated his address to them. In the address he gives a number of political nuts for his opponents to crack. He tells the voters that when a year ago he was seeking election, two cabinet ministers came to Napanee to tell the electors that the then depression was only a mere temporary accident, due to a bad harvest in Western Ontario, and if they only had a little time they would put everything right again before the next harvest came round. The statement is followed by Mr. Allison's enquiring as follows:—

I ask you now as honest men, without reference to party, have times improved since that date in any one particular?

Are there any more of our factories running full time now than this time last year?

Is there less distress in our cities?

Is our lumber trade more flourishing?

Are our merchants making more money than they were this time twelvemonth?

Are our farmers better off?

Is barley any higher?

Is money any more plentiful or easier?

Are our taxes any lighter?

Gentlemen, we know to our bitter cost that there never was a year for the last twenty-five years when things looked more gloomy for Canada than they do this day,—when our merchants had more goods on their shelves which they cannot sell; when our manufacturers had fewer orders; when our farmers have had worse prices; when there was greater or more widespread distress in our towns and villages—nor when there was more extravagance and wicked wastefulness on the part of our government.

I ask you was this a time for government to lend $300,000 of the people's money to prop up a rotten bank like the Exchange Bank, because there were two or three Senators and M. P.'s among its directors?

Was this a time to run up the expenditure for the year to over $32,000,000, adding the increases made by statute to the other estimates?

Was this a time to lend $30,000,000 to the Canada Pacific railway, of which probably we will never see a cent back again!

Was it not enough that the gross debt of Canada was $200,000,000 on 1st July, 1883, by the public accounts, but government must needs pile on such further huge liabilities that on the 1st July next it will probably be nearer $300,000,000, being about $300 for every family, and $60 a head for every man, woman and child in the Dominion?

BIG CRY—LITTLE WOOL.

It must have surprised many of the electors present to hear reeve Johnston claim credit for having had the town equalization reduced last year by some $186,000. When that statement goes out amongst the township reeves they will have to hold their hands on their sides to keep from exploding with laughter. Just think of it! Goderich was reduced by $186,000 all through the herculean exertions of reeve Johnston. Now this is the real state of the case: Reeve Kay, on behalf of the township of Usborne, appealed against the equilization of the entire county, and caused the matter to come before the Judge last July. After examining the schedules prepared by the clerks of the municipalities and others, his honor, Judge Toms, made the stated reduction. Reeve Johnston deserves no more credit for bringing on the appeal by which the assessment was reduced than does Lauchie Campbell, who was not a member of the county board. It is quite true that Mr. Johnston obtained the necessary data from the town clerk to place before the county judge; but the other reeves also got schedules from their clerks and presented them to the judge when the equalized assessment was being a[illegible] reeves [illegible] the county [illegible] credit because the commercial depression that existed in Goderich last year caused Judge Toms to reduce the assessment, than are the reeves of the municipalities which were raised deserving of censure. After all is said and done, it is nothing for the reeve of a town to boast of that he furnished figures to the judge that the town had retrograded $186,000 in equalized value. It would have been much better if Mr. Johnston had been able to show that Goderich, owing to the energy he had shown as a public man during the past ten years, had been able to hold its own with other municipalities.

TEMPERANCE SENTIMENT IN MUNICIPAL MATTERS.

An effort has been made by our local contemporary to cry down the introduction of temperance sentiment into municipal elections, but we fail to see upon what it based its objections.

Briefly told, the case of the Scott Act stands as follows: On the 30th of October the vote upon the adoption of the act was carried by nearly 1,700 of a majority in the county of Huron, The act will come into operation on the 1st of May, 1885, if the will of the people be carried out. But already strenuous exertions are being put forth to burk the Act, and it is of great importance that at least a majority in every municipal council should be favorable to that law. The temperance people, if true to themselves, can elect whomsoever they will, and they will be very foolish if they do not exercise the power they possess to the fullest extent.

In Goderich there are several good reasons why the temperance men and women should be represented in the council by temperance members, and a number of the points will apply to outside municipalities:

(1) Some of the liquor men have threatened that they will break the law whenever opportunity offers, and a number of the antis have given assurance that they will leave nothing undone to render the Act unworkable.

(2) Judge Toms, at the last session of the county court, impressed upon the grand jury the importance of having the Temperance Act carried out in its entirety, now that the people had decided so overwhelmingly in its favor. His honor also laid special stress upon the fact that the men in authority, and peace officers should at once square themselves with the temperance sentiment of the county, and thus aid in carrying out the provisions of the Act.

(3) Efforts will be made by the opponents of the Act to reduce the assessments on hotel property, to the detriment of tax payers not interested in the liquor business.

(4) A council, the majority of whose members were opposed to the Act could at any time bring in a series of resolutions which could be quoted against temperance interests.

(5) In Goderich at the present time we are in need of the services of a night-watchman who will not only be a terror to drunken brawlers, but who will also see that the provisions of the temperance act are not violated. The appointment of such a man will rest with the town council.

These and similarly good reasons should commend themselves to the thinking men and women who will have in their hands the election of eur town councillors on Monday next. Our "friends the enemy" are working vigorously, but quietly in this matter. They are saying that every candidate is bound to carry out the wishes of the ratepayers, and that temperance people should not carry their principles into municipal contests. Don't be misled by such claptrap. If you are misled then you will have yourself to blame if the good work done on the 30th of October all over the county will be nullified by the men whom you place in office for 1885.

You men who during the Scott Act campaign forget that you were Grits or Tories, but stood shoulder to shoulder in the good fight, don't sink your temperance principles now in these petty municipal contests, but show that your duty to your hearths and your homes is far beyond all things your first and chief consideration. And you women who have votes, who were slandered and villified because you worked for the overthrow of a traffic that was destroying the sanctity of your homes, don't fail to exercise your ballot freely and fully against every man who would, if elected, uphold the license system.

"O! HAPPY ARE WE."

Of all the "O, be joyful," goody-goody, peace-at-any-price, you-scratch-my-back-and-I'll-scratch-yours," taffy-giving exhibitions we ever witnessed, the nomination meeting for the mayoralty and reeveships took first place. The mayor was nominated by reeve Johnston, and he accordingly gave a good word for the reeve. The reeve next "taffied" the mayor, and then tickled the deputy-reeve with a wordy straw. The deputy-reeve when he took the stand did not go in quite so much for holding up the mayor's end of the stick, but he overflowed and slopped over with fulsome laudation of reeve Johnston's super-excellent, eighteen-carat, best-three-in-[illegible]-harness, catch-as-catch-can abilities as a public man. We never heard or saw anything to equal the panegyric paid the reeve by the deputy, except in a cemetery, and there the recipient of the laudation had invariably turned a deaf ear to the voice of the flatterer, or a closed eye to the falsehoods on the sculptured stone. Not so with our worthy reeve. He supped in the deputy's flattery as if he really deserved it all, and actually felt sorry when Mr. Cameron got through. It was a joyous, happy time all the way around. The candidates by acclamation felt glad, and smoothed one another down in great shape; and the limited audience present enjoyed the exhibition of brotherly love, and smiled accordingly.

NOMINATIONS.

The Mayor and Reeves Returned by Acclamation.

The List of Candidates for the Council Board From the Wards.

The number of persons present at the town hall on Monday to witness the nominations for the principal municipal offices was not large. The following persons were elected by acclamation for the coming year:—

FOR MAYOR.—Horace Horton—Moved by F. W. Johnston, seconded by J. H. Colborne.

FOR REEVE.—F. W. Johnston—Moved by D. Doty, seconded by Geo. Sheppard.

FOR DEPUTY-REEVE.—M. G. Cameron—Moved by Wm. McLean, seconded by James Addison.

Mayor Horton returned thanks for the honor again conferred on him. As a council, they had but little to report on for the year 1885. As long as the commercial depression prevailed it would be necessary to continue the course pursued in the past, and try to keep the taxes down as low as possible. We had, however, to some extent exceeded the estimates of the year by some $400. Another matter had taken place which may have a tendency to increase the taxes. Most of those present had read the able charge of Judge Tome at the last court of session, and the speaker also hoped that every good citizen would try to make the Scott Act law. He claimed that nothing had been done in the way of expenditure during the past year that could possibly be helped. We had extra charges on account of disease in our midst. The small-pox case had cost the town considerable, and sickness and the hard times had made heavy calls upon charity, and the council had to spend more than usual on the poor. The council for the past year had taken no action on the railway question, although a citizen's committee had taken the matter in hand. The C. P. R. were doing a great work, but they are pressed for funds, and are hardly in a position to say whether or no they will bring their line to Goderich. The question of bonuses will have a good deal to do with their action. Unless they feel assured that there are greater inducements for them to come here than are offered by Saugeen or Kincardine, we can not look for it. He, however, thought that Goderich was the best point, and that if they ever came this direction, it would be to Goderich. The C. P. R. are already bound to build two more lines before they can touch any new branches. It had been given out that as an individual, he was opposed to the railway. There was no reason why he should oppose the line, when it would do him as much good as any other ratepayer. He thought it was quite right for the committee to do what had been done, but he thought the railway was not yet ready to come on, and therefore he had not taken so active a part as he otherwise would have done. He thought the best interest of the town would be subserved by bringing in a railway, if possible, and in the meantime practice economy in every way. He wished all, a happy New Year.

Mr. Johnston returned thanks for the honor. He had served the municipality for ten years, and while in some things he may have been unsuccessful, in other things he thought he had succeeded. He paid a high tribute to Mayor Horton as a municipal official, and touching the county council, poured unstinted praise upon M. G. Cameron, deputy-reeve, as a county councillor. We both, said the speaker, have tried to do all that could possibly be done for the town, at the county council. Among other things they had got a grant of $75 to remove the unsightly fence from the east side of the court house. He took credit to himself for the reduction of the equalized assessment of the town of Goderich on appeal before the county judge. We and, said he, that we had been unjustly dealt with; and we stuck to it, and the judge had reduced it by $186,000, and we had saved $300 there in taxation. He then referred to the life-boat station question. The government had given a contract for six boats, and Mr. Marlton was now finishing them. A number of persons, himself among them, had also seen the minister of Public Works on the question of public buildings in Goderich, and presented him with petitions largely signed. If we did not get the government buildings next year, we would get them some year if we try. We can get nothing without trying. The customs, post, and inland revenue offices are of some importance, and require a public building, and with due pressure the Government would meet our views. He had felt slighted at the action of the citizen's committee, for while others had been asked he had not been invited. The council had done all they could to bring in a railway, but it could not be built in a day, and the town could not stand a large bonus to a railway. Wingham has been trying for a few years to bring in a little line only 4 miles in length, without success. He thought, however, the citizens' committee deserved credit for their work. We are now brought face to face with a deficiency of $1,300, taken away by the loss of license, and he expected owners of hotels and hotel property to make claim for a reduction of taxation. If these claims were entertained, we would have a reduction of $2,000. He understood the Scott Act people were agitating the councillors. The matter is now dead, and if the question is stirred up at the polls it will only be doing harm. He advised the return of the old council to power The water supply would be discussed during the coming year. It will be a question as to whether we will have to put down artesian well. The school board and the trustees need to be looked after. He thought that the school funds might well be taken out of the control of the board, and kept in the hands of the council, and if the council had the money it might be more economically expended than if it was left in the hands of the board. He closed by reading some figures from the estimates, which, however, only showed that of the $23,138.13 raised annually in Goderich for municipal purposes only $4,200 were handled by the public school board, while $1,200 were allowed for charities. The reeve concluded by making the customary wish for a happy New Year.

Mr. Cameron said it was satisfactory to know, that, although only one year in the county council, they had thought it well to return him by acclamation. He then proceeded to laud Mr. Johnston in something the same style as Mr. John had taffied him. The first thing, almost, he had done in the county council, was to bring up the question of the poor-house. We have in Goderich this year, an expenditure on the poor, of about $1,200. Knowing this they appealed to the Reeves and Deputy-Reeves for a poor-house, but the claim was defeated by a majority of nine votes. He gave Mr. Johnston credit for the reduction in the county rate of Goderich, which meant a saving to the town. The speaker had the honor of interviewing the Minister of Public Works recently, at Ottawa, and we had good prospects of getting public buildings before long. Shortly after his election to the council, he had gone to Montreal to interview the C. P. R. magnates, as to the prospect of a new railway line. This was about all that the town council had done, but the committee of citizens had taken up the matter, and had done good work. After advocating a reduction in the number of councillors at the town board he again referred to railway affairs. He was glad to say that the manager of the C. P. R. had given almost positive assurance that the road would yet run to Goderich. They had not made much progress in this direction, but as much as could be done under the circumstances, and he closed by expressing the hope that he felt that within the next three years the road would be seen in Goderich.

The following are the nominations for the council:

ST DAVID'S WARD.

C A Humber, proposed by H Hale Hale and W Skimmings.

Lewis Elliott, by W Rumball and J Hyslop.

W H Murney by H Rines and C A Humber.

E Campion, by Jas Story and J Hyslop,

ST. PATRICK'S.

Chas A Nairn, by Jas Robinson and L Wells.

J H Colborne, by G Sheppard and J Aikenhead.

G Acheson, by J G Ward and George Sheppard.

P McEwan, by W Mitchell and Thos McLean.

ST. GEORGE'S.

J Butler, by P Holt and D McDonald.

M Nicholson, by R C Hays and Geo Grant.

F Jordan, by Jas Saunders and W G Smith.

W McLean, by D McGillicuddy and W G Smith.

Hugh Dunlop, by James Saunders and W J Smith.

ST. ANDREW'S

James A Reid, by J Wilkinson and J Baxter.

D Cantelon, by Jameson Reid and A Johnston.

W Lee, by David Reid and J Bain

E Bingham, by J McKay and J McSwain.

COLBORNE—W. Young, reeve by accla.; for deputy-reeve, James Gledhill and A. Allan; Jos. Beck, Chas. McHardy and A Milloy, councillors by accla.

ASHFIELD—For reeve, Jos. Griffin and Richard Jewill; deputy, Pat. Clare by acclamation; second deputy, J. Whitely D. McMurchy; councilmen, Jas. Mahaffy, Hugh Girvin, John Matheson and H. Chambers.

Goderich Township.

Bad weather had the effect of thinning the attendance at the annual tea-meeting of the Union Presbyterian Church, but the number present was larger than the promoters expected on so wet an evening. The supply of provisions was large, and the quality excellent. Dr. Ure occupied the chair at the platform meeting in his happy way. The fine singing of a choir from Goderich, led by G. B. Robson, was well appreciated, as were also the pleasing solos of Miss Ida Wilkinson Miss Kay and Mr. A. B. Henderson. Humorous readings were given in good style by J. Mitchell and W. F. Foot, of Goderich, and an address by Thos. McGillicuddy completed the programme. A social for the little ones was held on the following evening.

MARRIED.

At Goderich, on the 18th December, by the Rev. Dr. Ure, Mr. Eben. C. Russell, to Miss Catherine R. Morris, all of Goderich.

At Goderich, on the 23rd December, by the Rev. Dr. Ure, Mr. Oliver Walker, to Miss Mary Ann Vetter, all of Goderich.

At Goderich, on the 24th December, by the Rev. Dr. Ure, Mr. John H. McCann, of Goderich township, to Miss Mary Ann Watt, of Goderich.

At Goderich, on the 24th December, by the Rev. Dr. Ure, Mr. Lauchlin T. McDonald, of Chesley, to Miss Agnes Hyslop, of Goderich.

On Tuesday, the 23rd Dec., at the residence of the bride's father, Thomas Agar, Esq. of Ashfield, to Miss Henry, of West Wawanosh, 9. Con.

In Goderich on 23rd ult., at the residence of the brides' father,, by the Rev. T. M. Campbell, George E. Mann, of Detroit, to Emma F., third daughter of Samuel Platt, Esq.

DIED.

On Tuesday morning, the 23rd December, at Mr. Hamilton's, West street, Goderich, Charles H. Nicolle, formerly of Toronto, aged 24 years and 9 months.

In Colborne, Christmas day, infant daughter of J. Thompson, aged 10 weeks.

On Dec. 31st, 1884, by the Rev. H. D. Steele, at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. J. K. Durst, of Sebringville, Ont., to Sophia Ann, daughter of James Patton, Esq., clerk of Goderich township.

DUNLOP.

S. P. Williams is authorized by us to take subscriptions and give receipts for THE SIGNAL. Those who cannot find it convenient to come into town, should settle with Mr. Williams, who is our agent for subscriptions and advertising at Dunlop.

Clinton.

Miss J. C. Straith, of Wingham, came home yesterday on a few weeks visit to her parents.

J. McL. Campbell, in the employ of Pay & Wiseman, leaves Saturday to fill a good position in Forest.

Wat Manning returned home on Monday, bringing with him one of the beauties of Toronto. May they have success and prosperity in life.

A number of our school teachers were made the recipients of very handsome presents on Christmas day by their respective scholars.

Rev. A. Stewart gave a reception and party to a number of young people of his congregation last Monday evening. They all enjoyed themselves, and spent a very pleasant evening.

J. A. Coombe returned on Christmas day from Auburn, U.S., to take charge of his father's drug store, while his brother Hugh goes to Toronto College of Pharmacy.

Eight wires with several connections mark the energy and activity of the telephone company. In a few months we will have direct communication with Toronto. Verily we live in an age of wonders.

J. Cunningham, grocer, has secured the services of G. T. Robinson, former of this place, to take charge of the express office. The appointment will no doubt be appreciated by the public, as George is trustworthy and very obliging.

Mrs. J. Callander placed her house at the disposal of the young ladies of the town, who gave a leap year party last Tuesday evening. The *elite* of the town were present, and all enjoyed themselves [illegible] The ladies deserve praise for their excellent management, and the high success which attended it.

Will Webb, of Seaforth, captured one of the fairest ones of our town by leading Maggie G. Oliver to the altar on Wednesday afternoon, at the bride's mother's residence, Rev. A. Stewart tying the knot which makes them one for life. The presents to the bride were many and costly. The happy couple leave to-day for the east on their bridal tour, after which they will reside at Seaforth.

Up to last week there appeared no one anxious for the honors of the town. Suddenly on Monday three came forward to contest the mayoralty, three for deputy-reeve, and five for different wards. Since nomination day they have all retired from the field, with the exception of the deputy-reeveship, which will be warmly contested between W. Cox and T. Cooper. The other wards are quiet.

A number of visitors have graced our town with their presence this week among them Maggie Leslie, of Norwich, visiting her parents. She intends going back to her school on Monday. Miss Gormly, of Pickering, is visiting friends in town. J. Stanbury, of Toronto, is spending New Years with his parents, Tom Greig, of Ripley, is visiting his mother and sisters. Murray McIntosh, of Detroit, is visiting around. Dr. Rumor hath it that he is looking after one of Clinton's fair daughters.

As False as the Empire Itself.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—The story is told that the emeralds which adorned the crown of Empress Eugenie were false. The crown was among the jewels at the government sale at Paris. Bogus emeralds were purchased by an English nobleman for $40,000 and money paid the empress for her claims to the emeralds as personal property. The money, however, was returned when it was found the emeralds were only imitation. Paris asserts that the empress was aware of the deception.

Goderich Markets

GODERICH.	Dec. 31, 1
Wheat, (Fall) ℔ bush.	$0 68 @
Red winter wheat	0 69 "
Wheat, (Spring) ℔ bush	0 68 @
Flour, ℔ barrel	4 00 @
Oats, ℔ bush	0 30 @
Peas, ℔ bush	0 53 @
Barley, ℔ bush	0 52 @
Potatoes ℔ bush	0 30 @
Hay, ℔ ton	9 00 @
Butter, ℔ lb.	0 17 @
Eggs, ℔ doz. (unpacked)	0 18 @
Cheese,	0 12 "
Shorts, ℔ cwt	0 80 @
Bran, ℔ cwt	0 70 "
Chop, ℔ cwt	60 "
Wood	3 50 "
Hides	5 50 "
Sheepskins	0 40 "

LIVE AND LET LI

QUALITY OUR LEADING FEAT

TEAS!! TEAS!! TEAS

My blend of Black Teas cannot be b

50c. 60c. AND 70c. PER

or 5c. per lb. less in 5 lb. parcels

Uncolored Japan Teas, Colored Japa Young Hyson Teas, Moning. Con and Assam Teas, Pure.

FRUITS!! FRUITS!! FRUIT

Valencia Raisins, Sultana Raisins, Raisins, Finest Quality Currants, Te Cooking Figs, Essences and Spi

A Full Stock of

GROCERI

AND CROCKERYWARE.

No waiting to get served.

JOHN MacTAGGA

Victoria Stre

OPPOSITE SHOW GROUN

Goderich, Dec. 11th, 1884.