Huron Signal.

GODERICH, APRIL 18, 1867.

POLITICAL MEETINGS.

The Campaign successfully Inaugurated.

A very large meeting was held at Exeter, on Monday afternoon, April 8th at the call of Messrs. Cameron and Gibbons. Drew's Hall was densely packed with electors. Arch. Bishop, Esq., reeve of Usborne was called to the chair. Amongst those present we noticed Messrs. Cameron, Gibbons, Ritchie, Carling, Wm. Case, J. S. Sinclair, T. Gidley, I.F. Toms, C. Crabb, L. C. Moore, E. Holmes, C. F. Clark, G. Rumball, and other prominent gentlemen.

M. C. Cameron, Esq., was the first speaker, and we must say that, often as we have listened to him, we never heard him make a better speech. In a clear, manly fashion he stated his claims upon the suffrages of the ratepayers of the Riding. As for the objection that he was a lawyer, he stated that the leaders of the conservative party in Parliament, for many years past, were lawyers, and that it was necessary to send down another good lawyer on his side of politics to keep them in order. The objection that he was not a local candidate, as far as that section was concerned, was ably met. He said he could not live in every locality, and that he paid more taxes twice over in Stanley than Mr. Ritchie, while he paid five times as much as that gentleman into the County treasury. He would go for carrying out Confederation in a fair spirit, would oppose Grand Trunk jobbery in every shape, advocate a liberal postal system, the settlement of our waste lands by a system of free grants, and do all in his power to advance the general interests of the country. Mr. Cameron made a most favorable impression upon the minds of the audience.

Mr. Gibbons was next introduced. He based his claims to their suffrages upon his long and thorough knowledge of the various subjects which would come upon the floor of the House of Assembly, such as the Assessment Law, Education, Crown Lands, Agriculture, &c., all of which would receive his attention in a spirit of progress and liberality. The best proof he could offer of his loyalty, which had been called in question, was his character, public and private, during a long series of years, and the part he took when the country was threatened with rebellion. Mr. G. was repeatedly applauded.

Mr. Ritchie made an extremely short speech, to which he stuck faithfully at every succeeding meeting. He coincided with the views of Mr. Cameron in nearly every particular, but begged them to elect him, in which case he would prove to be a splendid representative.

Mr. Carling was equally reticent. His only claim was that he was an old resident, and had filled nearly every little office from pathmaster to County Councillor.

Mr. Crabb of Goderich, after announcing that he had just turned his coat and joined the tories, unbottled his venom against Mr. Gibbons by charging him with annexation proclivities, and in trying to prove that he was a man unworthy of belief, had the *lie* thrust down his own throat, to the immense amusement of the audience.

Mr. Sinclair gave Mr. Crabb such a dressing for the palpable meanness of his conduct, that the latter was hooted and scouted by men of all parties, and to judge by his chop-fallen look, it was evident his career, as a tory orator had been nipped in the bud. If the "people did'nt appreciate" Mr. Sinclair's speech, according to Elliot the Scribe, Crabb did, for he "cut his lucky" bright and early next morning.

A division of the meeting being suggested by Mr. Carling, Mr. Cameron said he was quite willing, but the former, evidently fearing to expose his weakness in his own stronghold, thought it was not necessary.

As an indication of how the contest will end Messrs. Cameron and Gibbons had every reason to be gratified with the result of this meeting.

STEPHEN.

On Tuesday morning a meeting was held in Crediton, a village near the centre of the township of Stephen. Messrs. Gibbons and Cameron, with their friends were in attendance, as were also Messrs. Ritchie and Carling, and the inevitable Elliott. There was a fair turn out, but we soon found out that the conservatives had resorted to the dodge of having their committee appointed to meet at the same time and place, in order to increase their strength. Another dodge of theirs was to create an impression throughout the township that the meeting was called for the afternoon, thus keeping away many of our friends.

John Parsons, Esq., was called to preside over the meeting.

Mr. Gibbons, the first speaker, expounded his views on all matters likely to come before the local legislature, and claimed that his long training in the County Council and otherwise entitled him to the consideration of the ratepayers.

Mr. Cameron followed him with the finest speech we ever heard him utter. It was clear, sound and statesmanlike, and embraced every topic which can come before the House of Commons. He touched on Confederation, now so near consummation, the opening up of the great North-west, a free grant Crown Land policy, which he favored, and kindred topics, in a style which made a splendid impression on the audience.

Mr. Ritchie spoke next, saying as little as possible, beyond agreeing with nearly every thing Mr. Cameron had said, and urging against that gentleman the fact of his being a lawyer. The contrast between these two speeches was such as to strike the attention of every ratepayer in the room.

Mr. Carling followed Mr. Ritchie with a few stereotyped sentences, which were just sufficient to prove what we have before asserted, that however honert he may be as a man, he is not capable of uttering a dozen sentences of English in an intelligible manner.

Mr. J. Calloway attempted to show up some of Mr. Ritchie's delinquencies in strong terms, but the noise was so great and increased so rapidly that he could not be heard.

USBORNE.

In the afternoon of Tuesday a meeting was held in the Town Hall of Usborne. The assemblage of ratepayers was quite large. Here, it seems, also, the committee-meeting dodge was resorted to.—Arch Bishop, Esq., the respected Reeve of the township, having taken the chair, introduced Mr. Cameron as the first speaker. That gentleman addressed the meeting for about an hour in splendid style, and in a manly and honorable spirit.—Mr. Gibbons, after he had spoken, was questioned on several points relating to our indebtedness to the Government, &c., to all of which he answered promptly and to the satisfaction of his hearers.

Messrs. Carling and Ritchie followed with the same old story, the latter almost beseeching them to return him, in which case he would certainly serve them with the greatest zeal and efficiency. The idea that Mr. Ritchie, according to his own notion, is capable of taking as prominent a stand in the House as Mr. Cameron, after a little practice, was considered the joke of the day.

Mr. B. V. Elliot, of Exeter, attacked Messrs. Cameron and Gibbons in a vituperative style, dwelling on the fact of the former being a lawyer as a disqualification, and charging the latter with being an annexationist, taking public money without being entitled to it, &c. Mr. Sinclair said when an apologist for lawyers was required they would refer to somebody besides Mr. Elliot who practiced law in Exeter without a license, and went on to give that worthy a dressing down which, we venture to say, he will not forget for a long time. He sat while undergoing the flagellation, fairly shaking in his shoes. Mr. Cameron also gave him some fatherly advice, which, if followed, will lead to his adopting a more gentlemanly style of electioneering.

The very best feeling was created at this meeting, in favor of our candidates, and the friends of reform were fairly roused to the work before them. The township of Usborne is sure for a good majority in favor of Cameron and Gibbons.

RODGERVILLE.

A very large meeting was held at Rodgerville on Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock, David Dick Esq. in the chair. Mr. Cameron's address here was received with repeated rounds of enthusiastic cheering, his views appearing to coincide perfectly with those of nine-tenths of the audience. Mr. Gibbons also spoke well and left a strong impression, judging from the favor with which he was received, that he was decidedly the candidate best qualified to represent South Huron in the Assembly.

Messrs Ritchie and Carling followed with their usual appeal that the electors would leave politics aside until after their election.

Mr. W. T. Cox spoke at some length. He bore testimony to the unblemished personal character of Messrs. Ritchie and Carling, but argued that they were sailing under false colors, their political boat being, at bottom, the same old craft of conservatism. He advocated the claims of Mr. Cameron as a man of energy and progress, and stated that the annexation cry against Mr. Gibbons arose from Mrs. Grundy telling Mrs. Partington, who told her sister-in-law, who told Mr. Crabb, who travelled all the way from Goderich to Exeter to tell Mr. Elliott that the gentleman in question was not as loyal as he ought to be, and Mr. Elliott had met with such a reception that he was likely to change his tune.

Mr. Elliott, cheered on by twenty or thirty young men, whom he had brought all the way from Exeter for the purpose, produced papers to prove that he was a lawyer in Britain. He was refused a license to practice in Canada, through a mistake.

Mr. Sinclair showed, on the evidence of several persons, that Mr. Elliot *had* received money for advice, thus making good his assertion that he was practicing in open violation of the law. Poor Elliot subsided amidst tumultuous reform cheers.

Mr. A. Bishop of Usborne delivered a short but telling address. He made several splendid points and laid bare the no-party pretensions of the conservative candidates with an unsparing hand. His remarks were received with repeated rounds of applause.

The cheers for our candidates, at the close, were almost unanimous, the only voices raised by the opposition, with but few exceptions, being those of the Exeter gentry, which we need hardly say, were duly *stimulated* for the occasion. The meeting was, in every respect, a glorious success.

HAY.

A meeting was held in the Town Hall, Zurich, on Wednesday afternoon, Robt Brown, Esq., Reeve, in the chair. Messrs Cameron and Gibbons were enthusiastically received by the German and other ratepayers of the township, large numbers of whom were present. In fact, except the Exeter men, or boys, for many of them had no votes, there was hardly one in the room who did not intend to give his vote and influence to the reform interest.

Our candidates were, as usual the first to speak, and it is unnecessary to say more than that they created a first rate impression, Messrs. Carling and Ritchie followed as usual.

Mr. Bossenbury, very much to the disgust of the opposition candidates, delivered a spirited, and, no doubt, telling address in German, but as Mr. Carling had tried his hand at a little of the language, it was considered perfectly right and proper.

Dr. Woods spoke in a very characteristic manner. He deprecated the idea that capacity for public speaking was required in a good representative, and urged that the bad laws were made by lawyers, of whom there were too many in the House already. The Dr. represented Goderich as a place that wished to grasp everything without giving anything in return to the Southern townships. Mr. Gibbons contradicted this statement, saying that the gravel road system was particularly favorable to the Southern section and detrimental to the North. The Dr. in return, asserted that Mr. Detlor, of Goderich, and the Reeves of Goderich township, Ashfield and Colborne had deliberately *voted to be left in the mud.*—We commend the assertion to the consideration of those gentlemen.

Mr. H. Love delivered a short but forcible address, after which the meeting broke up.

Cameron and Gibbons will have a sweeping majority in Hay.

KIPPEN.

Of the meeting at Kippen on Thursday morning we need only say that the School House—a large one—was densely packed with sturdy, honest-looking men, and that with one exception, at the commencement, they were all sound on the reform side. When the proceedings were about half over, the Exeter body-guard, flushed with bad whiskey, crowded into and about the doorway and behaved so scandalously that one or two decent voters left their seats and advanced into the room, rather than sit near them.

Mr. Carling tried to raise a local feeling against Goderich, the people of which, he said, always opposed southern improvements, but he spoiled his argument by admitting that he had been urged upon by Goderich men to run.

The meeting, it was easy to perceive at the close, was almost unanimously in favor of Messrs. Cameron and Gibbons.

BRUCEFIELD.

A meeting was held at the village of Brucefield. The crowd was still larger than an Kippen, and the feeling amongst reformers all we could have wished to see. They behaved in an orderly, sensible manner which, contrasted with the outrageous conduct of the Exeter youths, was the best argument that could be used why Mr. Carling should be defeated. Let the electors of Tuckersmith ask themselves whether they can afford a single vote to a man who, while professing an ardent love for everything good and British, could calmly look on while his immediate followers enacted scenes, and uttered words, that might be properly looked for in Philadelphia, Baltimore or New York. The conduct we allude to did our cause a great benefit, for it stirred the blood and roused for determined action men who would otherwise take little part in election matters beyond recording their votes. At this meeting Mr. Crabb put in his appearance, armed with any quantity of minutes and papers, but when he attempted to give utterance to his pent up feelin's, regardless of the "lor of libel," he was simply laughed at for his pains. Alas, poor Crabb, thou'st entered upon a thankless task!

This meeting was another glorious success to Cameron and Gibbons.

VARNA.

The meeting in the township of Stanley was held in the Orange Hall, Varna, on Thursday afternoon. The attendance was very large. Mr. Secord having been called to the chair, Mr. Cameron delivered an excellent address, in the course of which he stated that, whether elected or not—altho' he was pretty sure of success—he would, on account of the large amount of property he held in Bayfield, do all in his power to assist in developing the resources of that section. Mr. Gibbons also spoke exceedingly well, and we have every reason to believe that the ability of our candidates, and the liberal views expressed by them on the occasion had the effect of winning over a number of gentlemen who were sensible enough to remain unpledged until they should have an opportunity of hearing the opposing parties face to face. The Exeter gentry having been sent home, the best of order was maintained throughout, both sides being heard fairly from first to last. The candidates got through speaking about dusk, when the proceedings broke up with cheers for the Queen and for the rival candidates. As the audience started to retire, Mr. Crabb jumped upon the stand and endeavored by wild gesticultions to obtain a hearing, but as neither side cared for stopping to listen to his silly clap-trap, he was simply laughed at for his pains.

CRABB.

We are glad that Mr. Crabb has, at length, thrown off his chameleon-like political cloak, and come out as a pure blooded conservative. He will now be in the opposite camp, and while reformers will rejoice at his defection, they will heartily endorse the statement of Mr. Sinclair, that his new friends are heartily welcome to him. As he stood up before a crowded assembly in Exeter and announced his determination to enter the ranks of conservatism, he presented a living example of what a turn-coat looks like when he has just chipped the egg. The coolness of his reception was not very flattering, but after he had received an unmerciful castigation for travelling so far to vent his personal spleen against Mr. Gibbons, his discomfiture was most complete. Hooted and hissed by both sides, he drew in his horns, and subsided into a great deal less than nothing. What took place during the night, or by whom he was advised, we know not, but one thing is certain, Mr. Crabb was seen pretty early next morning making rapid tracks for Goderich *by the back road.* A gentleman who met him at Bayfield, wondered what made him wear such a dejected air, and did not discover the cause until he arrived in Exeter. Well might Mr. C. Crabb feel dejected! He drove all the way from Goderich to Exeter through mud and rain for no other earthly purpose than to gratify feelings of spite which had been bottled up for years. He had the poor gratification of being heard, but he soon learned that the people of South Huron were too honorable to tolerate such a scandalous proceeding. Hence poor Crabb's ignominious defeat and hasty flight to the rear. Had he been successful, he would, no doubt, have been happy to follow Mr. Gibbons through the Riding, and do his bitterest in reaping a full harvest of revenge.

Let Mr. Crabb learn from the experience of this week that, in the hands of honest men, the character of a good man will be held sacred by every right-thinking person, and let us rejoice that there is a general disposition on the part of men of all parties to carry on this contest in a spirit of honor and good nature.

Another Break Down.

The conservative convention in Blyth, on Wednesday last (10th) resulted in a more complete fizzle than that held at Clinton recently. After much squabbling, Dr. Sloane was asked to accept the nomination for the Assembly, but he refused to have anything to do with such a body. Then it was proposed that Mr. Holmes should retire from the Commons candidature in favor of Dr. McDougall, in the hope that the former might be run into the Assembly under the wing of the Doctor's popularity. This plan promised such poor results that it was given up, and the meeting broke up in disgust.

THE PROSPECT.

Every day our prospects become more assuring. The electors are securing their interests, and giving their adhesion to the cause of Cameron and Gibbons. Every day men whose votes never were expected voluntarily, come forward and pledge their influence to those gentlemen. Support comes from quarters little expected, and is therefore the more appreciated. Men of all parties in the Riding know the honesty and ability of those gentlemen, and they yield a willing adherence to our cause, and why shouldn't they? Isn't Mr. Cameron *the best* man in the County for the position he aspires to, and isn't Mr. Gibbons peculiarly adapted to the work of the Local Legislature?

From all parts of the Riding the glad tidings of success! success! success! still continues to come. Let there be a determined will, and succes will be inevitable.

☞ The sale of the balance of the Hutchinson lots has been postponed.

THE FEELING.

Never since preparation was commenced for the approaching contest, has there been so strong and decided an opinion formed by the great body of the electors of the South Riding, favorable to the return of Messrs. Cameron and Gibbons as at the present time. Never, perhaps, at an election in this County has such unobjectional candidates presented themselves for election, and never have men met with a more favorable reception. No charges can with fairness and honesty be brought against either, whether to impeach their integrity or shake the confidence of the people in their character. It is true certain parties, through motives of vindictiveness and animosity, have tried to blacken their names by untruthful statements and unsupported assertions, but the electors have wisely and properly condemned such conduct. Such a course can have no influence upon the minds of honest and right-thinking men. Since the 1st instant an active canvass was commenced. The people have with their usual astuteness discerned the comparative merits of the respective candidates; they are not slow to form opinions for themselves, when the opportunity is presented to them. From the day the first meeting of the electors was held, the success of Mr. Cameron and Mr. Gibbons has been remarkable. Even in the stronghold of the enemy, he was overmatched. At every subsequent meeting our candidates gained the confidence of the people, by the clear and masterly exposition of their views. They are men who can express their opinions fairly, openly, and in a manner creditable to themselves and their constituents, if elected. They can make their voices heard on our behalf in the halls of our legislature, without the *schooling* required by their opponents. These gentlemen appear to think the Houses of Parliament are fit places to learn public speaking. They have both said that if returned they will in a short time be able to let their voices be heard in behalf of South Huron. We can't believe the electors can be duped and hoodwinked by any such pretext. Let them bide their time of probation, and if possible gain these necessary acquirements which at present they do not possess, before seeking election of any constituency. Let them learn to express some original ideas in plain and intelligible English, and their claims may become more apparent. But to send men to Parliament who cannot give expressions to the simplest and most commonplace remark, would not redound much to the credit of this constituency. Such would be the position of Mr. Ritchie and Mr. Carling should the electors honor them with their confidence. In no such position would any reflecting man who has the best interests of the country at heart, and be not blinded by party bigotry, like to see his representative placed. We want men like Mr. Cameron in the House of Commons, who knows what we want and can advocate our interests. We want one like him whose interests are the prosperity of this constituency, and whose wish is the advancement of the interests of its people. We don't want the representation of fossilism and of days gone by. We want a man of energy, preseverance and ability; all of which Mr. Cameron possesses to an eminent degree. In the Local Legislature of Ontario, none could be more useful to us than Mr. Gibbons. The nature of the legislation will be such that his previous training will aptly fit him. He has qualifications that none other in the County possesses; and from his acknowledged honesty and uprightness, we can safely rely on their proper exercise. He who has been so long and so successfully a prominent man in the making of our municipal institutions, cannot be other than an influential man in the House to which he aspires to have a seat.

The views we have expressed are, we feel certain, those of the great majority of the electors. People who think for themselves, will no doubt concur in our remarks, but those who have other objects than the well-being of this constituency may differ with us. Divest the minds of all of a rancourous party spirit, private feuds, or deep-seated animosity, and we will have the people who are never slow in forming correct opinions of men, proclaiming by their verdict at the polls the just reward of honest men.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES

If late telegrams are to be trusted, the Princess of Wales' recovery is now hopeless. The amiable Princess has found a place in the warmest regards of the British people, and her death would be deeply deplored.

Spring.—A fine warm rain has fairly introduced spring weather and our farmers will be at once busily engaged with their spring work.

Navigation open.—The lake is now open for navigation along this coast, and the *Spray* will take up her route early next week, after undergoing a thorough repair. We are not sure yet as to what route the *Bonny* will take up. The *Prince Alfred* gunboat went out yesterday for a trial trip.

Fruit Trees.—Mr Wm Campbell has now on hand a choice stock of fruit trees of all kinds. Give him a trial.

Our Salt Well is progressing finely. The brine never falls in strength below 90 deg., and the daily production of the very finest quality of salt averages from 50 to 60 barrels. The enterprise is an undoubted success.

☞ Mr. Furse has opened out an elegant stock of seasonable boots and shoes in Parsons' Block.

The new well is being pushed down as fast as possible. Several of the usual drawbacks have occurred, but the energy of the gentlemen engaged in the work must prove successful.

Stock Insurance.—Mr. Wm. F. Goodleg has been appointed agent at Goderich for the Hartford Live Stock Insurance Co., a most useful institution for farmers, teamsters and others.

Fall Wheat.—We regretted to observe, during a recent trip throughout the County that the fall wheat generally has suffered extremely. Many fields are badly winter-killed, and present a sorry appearance. Fine weather may, however, make a change for the better.

Malicious.—On Sunday evening last, while enjoying a buggy ride with a female friend Mr. James Dunlop stopped for a moment at Duggan's tavern, Huron Road, when some malicious person removed one of the nuts which fasten on the wheels, thus giving much trouble and endangering two lives. Such a scandalous proceeding should be looked into.

A good appointment.—Last (Monday) evening after the parade of the Huron Rifle Company, Sergeant Major D. Ferguson, of the Toronto Military School, was elected Ensign vice Seymour promoted.

☞ Mr. Angus McDonald, well-known to many of our readers, has opened business as a hotel-keeper in the British Exchange, Exeter. The travelling public will find in Angus a most attentive and obliging host.

☞ We ask Mr. Ritchie to compare the reports of his various speeches in the *Signal* from time to time, with the garbled, lying accounts of what his opponents say as published in his organ.

Personal.—The Hon. A. T. Galt, one of the delegates to England, arrived in town yesterday, and is staying at the "Huron."

☞ Mr. Hugh Dunlop, tailor, next door to the Bank of Montreal, West Street, has just received his Spring stock of first-class goods, which he is prepared to make up in a style not to be beaten, at moderate rates.

☞ We would direct attention to the adv. announcing the holding of the Huron Teachers' Association.

☞ A contemporary is at a loss to understand what constitutes honesty in a lawyer. If he had as much experience of the fraternity throughout the country, in a business way, as we have, he would have no difficulty in understanding what we mean. We flatter ourselves that the yeomanry of South Huron understand the point exactly, and that is all we care for.

EXAMINATION.

An examination of School Section No. 3, in the Township of Tuckersmith, better known as the Brucefield School, taught by Mr. W. R. Yuill, took place on the 8th inst. The junior classes were examined during the day by the L. S. S. Rev. Mr. Barr. They acquitted themselves in a creditable manner I believe. A recess of 3 hours was given commencing at 4 o'clock; near the hour of 7 great numbers old and young might have been seen wending their way to the school room, which was well lighted up and decorated in a manner which shows the taste of both the teacher and pupils. The school was called to order at 7 o'clock, and was carried on to ten. There were about 140 pupils present and also a great many visitors. There were several teachers present who took part in the evenings proceedings. The senior classes answering the many questions put to them by Mr. Yuill, and other teachers readily and correctly. We were favoured with excellent dialogues and recitations well performed by the pupils. The whole examination evinced the greatest care and attention of both teacher and pupils. After the distribution of the prizes all retired to their respective homes well satisfied with what they had witnessed.

Yours truly,

A VISITOR.

Andrew Jinkins, Esq.,

Dear Father,—Knowing that you are ever interested in politics, I thought I would give you a slight inkling of how they stand in the County of Huron, at the present time. I must say that since your removal to Michigan a great impetus has been given to political interest by the passing of the Confederation Bill, so much so that although our next election will not take place till about the beginning of summer there have been already several conventions of delegates from both the North and South ridings of Huron held at Clinton. Two of these meetings I thought might be of some interest to you. I can, at present, however, only promise to give you an account of one of them, as my time is rather limited. At this one to which I allude there were nominated Messrs. Ritchie and Carling for the House of Commons and Local Legislature respectively, for the South riding, and Mr. Holmes and Dr. McDougall for the North,—the latter, however, has since resigned. Now Father would you actually believe that the man who proposed the Candidates for the South, actually displayed before that convention, a lot of parchment rolls written "within and without" which he termed Requisitions. This man was Mr. Connor, and although a great deal of blame cannot be laid to his charge for the mere reading and display of them there, yet I somehow thought it looked as though they wished to take their opponents at somewhat of a disadvantage. It seemed as though they were afraid boldly to enter the ring and meet their opponents *vis a vis*, as the French have it, but preferred rather attempting the life of their opponents by conspiracy, ere the contest began. Or perhaps not quite to kill them, then they could take none of the prize to themselves, it is more like hiring men to bind the hands of their opponents, so that they might have a better chance of worsting them in the combat. Now you remember when I went to school us boys used to call such fellows "mean cowards." But I was almost forgetting to tell you about Mr. Wilson's speech at that meeting. Certainly he must have thought he was doing admirably when enhancing the claims of the Farmer on the country, by depreciating the Lawyer. I thought at the time it would have been much better logic and common sense when speaking as he thought in favor of Mr. Holmes not to say anything either pro or con about lawyers as Mr. H's opponent is not a lawyer at all. If he, Mr. H. wished to cast any reflection on this class of honorable citizens or to injure their standing in the country I think he has taken the wrong plan this time. For it he knows any thing at all about human nature he must know that praising one class at the expense of another actually raises the latter in the sympathies of the public. And I wonder still more at him for saying we have been "lawyer ridden" long enough, of course assuming we had never at all been farmer ridden in Huron. Surely the poor man's memory must be failing him, for he seems altogether to forget how nicely the notorious James Dickson a farmer and a very honest one at that sold and betrayed his constituents a very short time since. (I suppose Father you saw about that in your American journals.) He only therefore needed the opportunity to make him a finished man; but a lawyer who having many temptations, still retains the reputation of "honest" certainly merits the warm support of every lover of his country. Expecting a reply shortly.

I remain, yours,

TOM JINKLINS.

☞ For cheap Hardware, go to H. Gardiner & Co's.

London Society.—We have received back numbers of this splendid monthly from W. C. Chewett & Co., of Toronto. For fine engraving and pleasant chit-chatty reading this work is unequalled.—For sale at Moorhouse's.

To the Editor of the Huron Signal.

"The mountain was moved
And brought forth a mouse."

This is an old and trite saying, and belongs to a class of proverbial sentences referring to the vast amount of elaborate erudition and rancid perversion of sentiment, manifested invariably by a certain class of reviewers—as they would wish to be considered—who glorify themselves in endeavoring to tear down such fabrics as they are incompetent of erecting. I am constrained to make these remarks from the circumstance of receiving, as a gratuity, a few days ago, a copy of the Paisley Advocate, dated March 22d, a paper, the existence of which I had never previously been aware, and consequently felt at some loss how to account for its coming to my address. However, on scanning over the subject matter thereof, I soon became enlightened as to the purport of its mission, and felt not a little flattered by observing fully over half a column of prosaic doggrel, cooked up with the choicest epicurean skill, and respectfully inscribed to "*William Bannatyne, Post of Ashfield,*" (why not of Canada), and assuming to be a review of a copy of verses of mine, which appeared in a late issue of the "Huron Signal," and entitled "My ain Land." Now, as my reviewer seems desirous of displaying his critical tact, by walking right into my little pet lyric with a kind of butcherly design of hacking it into a kind of sentimental sausage meat, I just think it behoves me to shew *him*, at least, how very different a thing it is to show historical accuracy and literary taste, from buffoon sentiment and dawdling detraction; moreover, I would wish to apprise this same "Mr Canadian" that in usurping the province of censorship he might prove a little defective in brain-ballast, as well as in energy of mind, for handling the song substance of even such a person as "plain Wm. Bannatyne." Beginning his strictures with the very first line of my song—"I wadna gie my ain land"—he says, this must be good poetry, because it is very like a line of a very fine old song, "*This is no my ain lassie*, fair tho' the lassie be." Now, I think he would have done better, had he compared it to, "The downfall of Poland," or to "Jenny Dang, the weaver," or "Falconer's Shipwreck," or any other poem of less sublimity than "Hiawatha," viz., if he really wished to trace likenesses. But certainly no man however tipsy or partially nuggit could ever detect one lineament of corresponding shape or sentiment between the half line of my song, and the two lines of Burns', with which he has done it the honor of comparison. Our friend the Canadian, *i.e., the Seestu critic*, says by way of salutary advice—which is very kind "o' the bodie"—that Byron says, "Scora a borrowed tone." Now, why does he quote this line from Byron? Is it because his own genius could suggest nothing original? Or, want does the borrowed tone imply? I do not fully comprehend the hint; but I can easily perceive that many a person can give to others an injunction on the principles of which he cannot act himself. And, as in this case, to borrow an advice from Byron to bestow on me, smelts of something very effectively seasoned in the status of Seestu. I trust the bodie will profit much by a self application of his *literary brokerage*. But he says that Byron was not a Scotchman, and that he has right to dictate to those across the border. In this assertion his knowledge in biographical matters may not be altogether correct, seeing that his Lordship's mother was a Scottish lady, and that he himself resided in Aberdeenshire throughout most part of his boyhood, and must, as is well known, have a very Scottish leaning in his nature, a circumstance easily noted in some of his earliest and best songs, to wit:—"Dark Lochnagar," than which there are few better national Scotch lyrics extent. My next error, according to Seestu, is in the stanza where I have expressed the love of country, "twining like music round my heart." He asserts that music does not twine around the heart (giving no place to poetical license). Now, it might become a philosophical question, whether the heart has anything to do with the influence of music, as there are a few physiologists, of the cynical persuasion, who argue that the heart is neither more nor less than a force pump for propelling the blood through the system. And as Seestu's heart may be of this type, I am compelled to let him have the full benefit of his own stoical suggestion, turning it—to use his own elegant phraseology—backside foremost, which appears to be his select mode of criticism. Next he goes on to argue that "*There is no sublimity in the march of childhood.*" Well, perhaps, such may be true as regards that portion of *his care* which is past, as some people's childhood seems only a continuation of helpless infancy, even to a very advanced date in life, whilst others would appear to have been born in a kind of matured imbecility, and never enjoyed anything very bright in a fanciful point of view, unless through the medium of "Old Rye," or the more potent "double rectified distillation" of the "Scotch whisky heart grow fonder." The hint he borrows from a song of Thomas Haynes Bailey, in order to remind me that I should love my country the better for being far away from it; a hint quite unnecessary as applied to my case, as I think any reader of a less oblivious mental vision than Seestu can understand that the whole tenor of my song is sure evidence that I do so, and that too without my being carried away from it by the "phantom of a global," "The raging tempests, the foaming torrents, and mountain teeps" which he mentions, as being exceptions to the landscape reverence of my country, and only overcome by the other ties of nativity. They were not used by me as exceptions, but as principles of the reverence, and despite his vague and pussilanimous criticisms, they formed part of that very sublimity which every intelligent person will admit to be, at least, higher in childhood than in a more confirmed stage or *mental dotage*. "*The waves that grid my own land, and lave its rocky coast.*" The word "lave" in this quotation has principal objection, as being too tame to suit the semi-romantic taste of my tempest-loving critic, who avers that to lave is to wash gently,—a situation he perhaps been favored with by Mrs. Critic, from the peculiarly light and *softy* manner in which she may go at the purifying of his Sunday linen. Lave may not be extravagant enough to indulge in the *sublimer* luxury of Yankee paper collars. But whether or not, it would I think, be carrying sublimity into a rather quixotic degree of absurdity, to suppose that everything descriptive of Scottish scenery and manners must of necessity be wild; and I think that some of Seestu's spectral taste will allow that in placidity there is sometimes sublimity, and that those very waves which seem at times to slumber in the serenest grandeur of repose, can also be awakened at the stern summons of the tempest, and made to roar and dash, and foam and splash against adamantine as well as clay-banks, with as much portical fury as a Paisley bodie could wish, even if he should riddle out Pandemonium to aid in the turbulent sonorousness of his ideas, and as I distinctly spoke of the "swaders bones being tossed beneath their surges," I most probably had not altogether overlooked the probability of the surges being occasioned by some tempestuous agency. The stanza relating to the evidences of the heroic and moral wealth of Scotland, based on its modest traditions, next comes to be travestied. "Nae fear," says he "but Sawney will keep a guid grip to the bakees." His orthography as well as judgment being equally at a sorry discount, seeing that he cannot spell a very common Scotticism; nor yet understand what a hero's mound relates to, but draws a very ridiculous parallel between that and a Canadian stump, claiming the greatest honor for the latter, as being useful for making patriotic speeches, and serving as a shield for Canadian heroes, from behind which; he boasts of the difficulty, I suppose, of having them started again (?) If so, there seems very little chance of Canada affording many mounds of her own patriotic heroes, at least till the Fenians have laid down their shillelahs. I am not sure whether I have taken up his strictures just in the exact order in which they occurred, not having the paper by me as I write, but the stanza relating to "the cave in nameless glens echoing back the foeman's wail," he makes very much of, endeavoring to construct its historical truth, as well as to cast a tissue of foul-mouthed slander on the Scottish character; representing it, simply, as that of a marauding and cowardly set of barbarians, who only inhabited caves and dens, from which they issued out as circumstances might suit, to steal cattle and unsecure their enemies. I wonder if he intends to quote the Massacre of Glencoe as his historical voucher for this assertion? Now comes the "grand finale"—to use a dramatic phrase—the great moral point, or point without a moral, which seems intended as the *chef d' œuvre* of the whole *Mélange*, and what bespeaks the *animus* which prompted the whole process of butcherly dissection perpetrated throughout;—"*Come Indian an' the sacred strains, &c.*" "That must mean the music of the bagpipe," says Seestu. Well, even were it such, the matter might not be very discreditable after all, as the spirit-stirring strains of that instrument are not yet considered futile in martial movements, and have been productive of full as many deeds of noble daring as the rick-a-tick of the Yankee bone-crackers, or the jung-a-wang of Canadian jew's-harps, and as our critic likes to quote from Byron, he might consult his description of Waterloo for his opinion about bagpipes. This part of the business is set to music. There is a certain kind of serpent which sings to the victim it is just about to swallow, and perhaps our newly-discovered Canadian critic may fancy that he could swallow up Scotland, poets, heroes, bagpipes and all, by employing a similar strategy, and only means to whet his fangs on some of the seemingly simple emigrant rhymers, who venture to express their affections for her landscapes, institutions, and time-honored traditions. Well, in the event of his succeeding in this very laudable (?) and vampirical purpose, I wot he shall happen on as glorious a waught as that "Glenlivet Whiskey" of which he speaks so complimentary, as ever did either Donal Caird or Willie Bannatyne, both of whose leanings towards a liberal indulgence in that world-renowned beverage, he seems to place at par, by using the following insinuating appendix to the belaugurement which he doubtless conceives himself to have given to my poetical shortcomings: "Incense frae con stern auld hills." "That must be whiskey." All right Willie; Scotch whisky is the best that's made; "There's nuthing like *Glenlivet.*"

And ilk a one that sells guid liquor,
Kens how Donald (Willie) bends the bickef."

Well, as to poor Donald Caird, he has gone to his account long ago, and, consequently, having drank good liquor, may be now in a better state of preservation than some who yet live to guzzle "old rye" or "double rectified;" and if Willie never suffers spiritual condemnation till the vendors of "guid liquor" rise up in judgment against him, he may content himself in the secure faith that Canada cannot produce many bar witnesses against him, when the *last lawsuit's* to pay.

WM. BANNATYNE.

Ashfield, April 3, 1867.

WEST WAWANOSH.

WEST WAWANOSH 10th April 1867.

To the Editor of the Huron Signal.

Dear Sir,—As the actions of parties in an official capacity are always proper subjects for criticism the following facts would not be amiss to place before the public for that purpose. Some time in September last a requisition was presented to the Deputy Judge of the County, requesting him to appoint and order an Engineer to examine the Northern Gravel Road, as it was out of repair. His Honor complied and ordered Mr. Bay the County Engineer to make the necessary examination. Mr. Bay reported *that the Road was in the worst possible condition, culverts so damaged and broken as to render them quite unsafe.* He also notified the Company to make certain repairs before a specified time. So far all was apparently right, but the repairs were not made, and Mr. James Mullin entered a complaint before a magistrate against the Company for illegally taking toll and subpoenaed Mr. Bay to prove his complaint. Mr. Bay did not appear, but sent a letter stating that in consequence of his neglect to take an oath required by statute before commencing his examination what he had done was useless. He again whether legally or otherwise makes an examination and very charitably extended the time for the completion of repairs to midwinter at which period he finds it impossible to ascertain whether the repairs were or were not completed. The road is now almost impassable the repairs ordered are not made. Mr. Bay makes no further report which it he acted legally in making his second examination he ought to do; and the Company still collect the Yorkers making the community pay for the ignorance first, the negligence secondly, and hints are thrown out that there is a substantial third reason why the County Engineer has not complied with the law so plainly laid down for his guidance.

ONE WHO SUFFERS.

☞ Bargains in lamps, and hardware goods at Gardiner's.

The Georgian Bay Canal.

Twenty Millions of the Capital Secured.

Mr. Capreol, President of the Huron and Ontario Ship Canal company, returned last evening from the United States, where he has been eminently successful in obtaining a guarantee of aid to the extent of half the capital stock. All the Boston papers contain reports of a special meeting of the board of trade in that city, at which he was present and explained the leading features of the scheme. From the report in the Boston *Daily Advertiser* we learn that "Mr. Capreol stated that during his recent visit to Philadelphia, the capitalists of Pennsylvania had offered to guarantee one half of the money required, on condition that the other half should be advanced by British capitalists and others, and that the townships along the line of the canal should make advances indicating their favor toward the enterprise. He intended to go to England soon, and confidently expected success in procuring the aid needed from that quarter."

Before the close of the meeting, "Hon. Josiah Quincy, after expressing the opinion that the enterprise would be a great advantage to Boston, submitting the following resolutions:—

"Resolved, That the thanks of this board be presented to Mr. F. C. Capreol, for his clear explanation of the importance of the Huron and Ontario Ship Canal.

"Resolved, That in the opinion of this board the completion of this work will tend greatly to promote the facility of the exportation between the west and the Atlantic and as such is worthy of the patronage, both of the public and individuals.

"The resolutions were adopted, and the board adjourned."—*Leader 13th*

The Madoc Gold Mines.

The rush to Madoc and Eldorado village north of it still continues, and the stages from Belleville are daily crowded by miners, speculators and others. On the 1st of April a "show" of gold was discovered at the latter place on the property of Mr. John N. Moore and caused great excitement in the neighborhood. A man was digging a post-hole for a house in course of erection and the earth thrown up being washed specks of the precious metal were seen by the aid of a microscope. This fact seems to be pretty well vouched for, and it indicates that gold may be found not only in the west, but also in the low lands of the township, Mr. Moore's farm being in the level country. It is stated that gold has also been found in lot No. 16, in the 6th concession of Madoc, owned by Mr. Albert McInroy, and on lot No. 17, in the 2nd concession. Gold in quartz has been discovered on lot No. 10, in the 7th concession of Tudor, and in lot No. 1, in the 3rd concession of Elzivir, the Belleville *Intelligencer* is informed, the precious metal has been found within eighteen inches of the surface. Other mineral discoveries are announced, and everybody appears hopeful as to the future. It will be some weeks, however, before active operations can be carried on. The weather has been very rainy lately, the frost is not out of the ground and the roads as well as the whole surface of the country are in a horrible