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The Huron Signal

DEVOTED TO COUNTY NEWS AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

NINTH YEAR. WHOLE NUMBER 2276. | GODERICH, ONT., FRIDAY, DEC. 3, 1886. | McGILLICUDDY BROS PUBLISHERS $1.50 A YEAR IN ADVANCE

THE HURON SIGNAL

is published every Friday Morning, by Mc GILLICUDDY BROS., at their Office, North st GODERICH, ONTARIO,

FRIDAY, NOV. 26TH, 1886.

Our Ticket.

For Dominion Premier,
HON. EDWARD BLAKE.

For Ontario Premier,
HON. OLIVER MOWAT.

West Huron in the Commons,
M. C. CAMERON, Q.C.

West Huron in the Legislature.
HON. A. M. ROSS.

"The Boodle Brigade Must Go."

TO OUR READERS.

For some weeks past we have been engaged in sending out subscriptions and accounts due THE SIGNAL. A number of our friends who received the notices have come in and settled up. Some, however, have not done the square thing by straightening up the account. We have not gone to the trouble of making out the accounts or incurred the expense for postage and stationery thereon, merely for the fun of doing so. We intended the notices to be of a dunning nature and every person who received an account can consider that he or she is holding money due us, and which we want at the earliest possible date. We expect to see every honest person who has received an account come into the office and straighten up during the ensuing week. A single subscription would not grease the office machinery, but when the delinquents number up in the hundreds it is worth while for the publishers to ask for their own.

MCGILLICUDDY BROS.

To the Electors of West Huron:

GENTLEMEN,—The Ontario Legislature has been dissolved, and the Mowat Administration, after fourteen years of faithful service in the interests of the Province, again appeals to the People for a renewal of their confidence. Its record of Honest and Economical Administration, Wise and Prudent Legislation, and manly defence of Provincial Rights, ought to entitle it to a favorable verdict. As a member of that administration, sharing in, and proud of its achievements and unblemished reputation, responsible also for any of its shortcomings, I submit myself to the Electors of West Huron. On three successive occasions as a private member you gave me your confidence. I am not conscious of having, while filling the more important position of Cabinet Minister for the past three years, neglected your interests. If you approve of my past course, and think I can serve you with advantage in the future, I respectfully ask you once again to give me your support.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
A. M. ROSS.

Goderich, November 26th, 1886.

A NUMBER of farmers in Ashfield and West Wawanosh are anxious to know who is Dr. Taylor, the opponent of Hon. A. M. Ross. The Tory candidate is a pleasant faced medico, with little or no experience in public affairs. He is regarded where he is best known as a gentleman who may be a nice man for a doctor, but poor material for a legislator when contrasted with the efficient Provincial Treasurer.

THE Tories of West Huron are in a hole. At a convention drummed up for weeks before, and boomed by the "Chestnut Combination" at Dungannon and the Goderich skating rink, no one could be selected who had any chance of defeating Mr Cameron, and the meeting adjourned without any person being chosen to oppose the plucky sitting member. A bitter feeling was aroused by certain statements made by bigotted delegates. A number of the Tories who went out were locked out of the convention hall. The Tories are in a hole in West Huron. Cameron's supporters are increasing daily.

PERSONS who ought to know say that Hon. A. M. Ross's majority will be between 250 and 400. Personal and political friends of his opponent are much put out at his folly in facing so faithful and efficient a member as the Provincial Treasurer.

D. E. MCCONNELL'S second letter on Ceylon appears this week. It is as "spicy" as the breezes that blow off that famous isle. Sergeant Crofts' letter on life on the Texas frontier, has been held over until next week. It will be found readable.

THE Exeter *Reflector* has "sold out" to the Tory party, and Exeter now rejoices in two organs opposed to Liberal principles. In the case of the *Reflector* it is a cause for satisfaction to the Reformers of the section that they now know where that journal is politically.

WE are in receipt of the address of Sir Richard Cartwright to the Young Liberal Club of Seaforth. It is get up in pamphlet form and is a neat brochure replete with political fact, satire, wit and philosophy. Every Liberal should seek to obtain a copy.

"MONTREAL'S Gift to Ontario" did not show to advantage at the Palace Rink. Let's see: didn't the "Gift" try to stick to Montreal like a barnacle, and hadn't it to be shook off twice before It was sent to Cardwell. Montreal was as willing to part with the "Gift" as it was with the smallpox

SIR RICHARD CARTWRIGHT has a sweet thing. Two Liberal hives have been placed at his disposal—South Oxfordan d South Huron. The Tories need not drone any more about the wandering knight, now that two political hives have comb to bee his. The sting of that sneer has been removed

THE Liberals of East and South Hurons have renominated their old members, trusty Thos. Gibson and A. Bishop, for the Local Legislature. There was no opposition in the convention to Gibson. The choice in South Huron was between D. D. Wilson and Bishop. The latter got nearly a two-thirds vote. While we would rather have had Wilson, we prefer Bishop to Dr. Coleman.

THE HON. MR FOSTER told the Tories of Orangeville to go and hear Mr Blake and "take plenty of interrogation points with them." The Tories at opposition meetings generally carry rude exclamation points with them. According to the *Star*, it is "ill-mannered and unwarranted" to even put a written question to a Tory speaker. Of course that spiteful phrase was written under the impression that a Grit and not a Tory wrote the query.

THE Toronto *Mail* declines to have its garbled extracts and Mr M. C. Cameron's statements regarding Indian affairs put to the test. The Tory organ knows that M. C Cameron can prove every statement that he ever made concerning the dereliction of the employees of the Indian department and the starvation of the Indians, and it dare not submit to a test. In another column we expose some of the organ's garbling in the matter of M. C. Cameron's statements.

IT is generally conceded that Hon. A. M. Ross will have a walk-over in West Huron. No opposition would have been brought against the Provincial Treasurer had it not been desired by the Tory party to keep the hon. gentleman as much at home as possible. It will be a satisfaction to know, however, that the Treasurer well be able to spare sufficient time from his own riding to enable him to put in good work for the weaker brethren in other constituencies.

IF the Tories are confident of carrying the Ontario elections on the 28th Dec., why do they find fault with Hon. Mr Mowat for hurrying on voting day? One would think they would rejoice the day of redemption was at hand. Now, for own part, we do not object to an early dissolution of the Dominion House, for we know that victory will perch upon the Reform banner, and the sooner the better. The cackling of the Tory press against the early Local election is the first time on record that an Opposition objected at being placed in office at too early a date—that is, if their boasting of carrying the election is to be relied upon. Before any other Tory scribe finds fault with the Ontario Legislature's dissolution let him ruminate on this point.

MR. CAMERON VINDICATED.

An editorial contributor to the Toronto *News*, an independent newspaper which so far has been opposed to Mr Blake, writes:—

"Talking about liars, I glanced over the pamphlet issued by the Dominion Government to prove that Cameron of Huron is a liar, and that the Northwest Indians are not starved. The pamphlet *dodges the question on dates and places*, and instead of sticking to '82 and '83, which was the time of which Cameron spoke, the screed proves that one Jackson misstated the facts in '85-86. Every leading document which I gave yesterday was suppressed. The less the Government cries 'liar' in connection with the Indian starvation scandal, the better."

In another issue the same writer, who is one of the regular staff of the *News*, says that Mr Cameron "has told nothing more horrible or incriminating than the truth. And that is the opinion of every unbiased man in the Dominion who has read both sides of this Indian question.

THE "MAIL'S" MISREPRESENTATION.

In its issue of the 25th of November, the Toronto *Mail* thus refers to Mr M C. Cameron's speech on Indian affairs:

In his speech in the Commons on April 15 he said Mr Herchmer made this report in 1883:

"A great deal of sickness has visited them lately, caused by the want of fresh meat. The Indians under Treaty 4 received in 1884-5 $15,290.32 worth of salt pork, and $1,288.45 worth of fresh beef, although it is known that beef is life to the Indian, while salt pork is disease or death to him."

Is it or is it not a fact that the last sentence, which represents Mr Herchmer as reporting in 1883 upon the food consumed in 1884-5, is not contained in the report and was added by Mr Cameron? The *Mail* claims that the sentence was added by Mr Cameron, and for the purpose of misleading the public. What defence has the politician "who has cut his eye-teeth" for this fraud?

For the information of the *Mail* we beg to state that it is a fact that the last sentence in the above quotation is not part of agent Herchmer's report. It is not the fact that the last sentence was added to the report by Mr Cameron, and claimed to be a report. It is the fact, however, that the last sentence was added to agent Herchmer's report by the *Mail*, "for the purpose of misleading the public." And to effect that purpose the *Mail* has knowingly and wilfully garbled the report and misquoted Mr Cameron's speech. The first time Mr Cameron used the quotation of agent Herchmer was in his speech delivered in Parliament on the 8th of February, 1885. (See Hansard, vol. 4, pg. 3167.) The following are the identical—the only words used:

L. W. Herchmer, in his report for 1883, speaking of the Sioux at Birdtail Creek, says, "A great deal of sickness has visited them lately, caused by the want of fresh meat."

Now, the editor of the *Mail* knew this. He had the *Hansard* with Mr Cameron's speech before him when he penned his attack upon Mr Cameron, and yet he wilfully misrepresented the facts. The member for West Huron used this extract again in his speech on the Indian question in Parliament on the 15th of April, 1886. In the pamphlet issued by the instruction of Sir John Macdonald in reply to Mr Cameron's speech the first sentence given in the *Mail's* spurious extract is treated as a quotation made by Mr Cameron from agent Herchmer's report. The *Mail* knew this, for the *Mail* had that pamphlet when the article attacking Mr Cameron was written. In the speeches of Mr Cameron in 1885 and 1886, as reported, the words attributed to agent Herchmer by the member for West Huron were placed within quotation marks as follows: "A great deal of sickness has visited them lately, caused by the want of fresh meat." The Government's election pamphlet so treats it. The last sentence in the extract given by the *Mail* is Mr Cameron's comment on agent Herchmer's quotation. But the *Mail* "for the purpose of misleading the public," wilfully leaves out the apostrophes at the end of the first sentence, and endeavors to create the impression that Mr Cameron desired to have the entire extract treated as agent Herchmer's quotation. The action of the *Mail* in thus believing the records is beneath the contempt of all honest controversialists. "What defence has the *Mail* for this fraud?"

TAKE the loudest Tory shouters during a political campaign, and ask yourself what has "the N. P. and good times" done for them? Also ask what has the N. P. done for you, and if some measure of tariff reform is not required in the interest of the farmer and the fisherman?

O'DONOGHUE AND MEREDITH.

D. J. O Donoghue, formerly a member of the Legislature for Ottawa city, and now a member of the Trades and Labor Council, Toronto, a short time since made a charge against W. R. Meredith, leader of the Opposition in the Legislature, in effect that when he (O'Donoghue) was a member of the Legislature, the said Meredith had endeavored to purchase his support by offering him a portfolio in the Tory Cabinet if Hon. Mr Mowat's Government were defeated. W. R. Meredith denies that overtures were ever made to D. J. O'Donoghue, and the latter backs up his original contention with an affidavit. Up to the time of writing Meredith has failed to respond with a counter affidavit, and at present view O'Donoghue has the best of the argument. There are other points that bear against W. R. Meredith at the present time, so far as his veracity is concerned. In recent years he has been mixed up with a parliamentary conspiracy case, and when the disclosures were made on the floor of the House, he made pretence of innocence—or dense ignorance—concerning it. His asseverations to the contrary, it was proved on oath that he was cognizant of the conspiracy, and he ceased to be recognized as a later George Washington, so far as veracity was concerned. Then there was another case, that of James Weeks, of No. 3, Caradoc, in December, 1883. That fresh young man gave away the Boodle scheme of the Tory party in West Middlesex. Meredith undertook to get him out of it by writing an affidavit for the silly fellow that what was alleged against him was untrue, and getting him to sign it. The affidavit of Weeks was printed and circulated over the riding, and at Strathroy Meredith took the platform and disclaimed all knowledge of the affidavit until the printed copy had been placed in his hands. The writer of this article heard him make this statement in the presence of John Watters, ex-M PP for North Middlesex, H. E. Clarke, ex-M.PP. for West Toronto, and a hall full of people, and yet it was proved in court that Meredith had written the affidavit for Weeks, and when the document was called for in court the editor of the Strathroy *Dispatch* said the original copy of the affidavit had been destroyed. The reason why the editor did not produce it in court was because it was in the handwriting of W. R. Meredith, the leader of the Ontario Opposition, and its production would prove that that personage had not only inveigled a silly young man into signing a false declaration, but had himself made a false statement concerning the matter in Strathroy. Under these circumstances it looks as if D. J. O'Donoghue is more worthy of credence than W. R. Meredith.

NEARLY forty new members joined the Goderich Young Liberal Club on Monday.

THOMAS GIBSON, the old and reliable member for East Huron, has again been nominated to contest that riding in the Reform interest. "Honest Tom" will again be the choice of East Huron.

"The habitant, or the vast institution which controls him has ruled Canada ever since the union in 1841," says the *Mail*. True enough. But isn't it rather singular that the Ontario Tories didn's find this out until 1886? Can anybody suppose that after having shared the plunder with them all these years, and upheld French Canadian ascendancy, they would have found it out now, but for the fact the habitant is not disposed to the Tory ticket? So says the Toronto *News*, and it says well.

MR. F. W. JOHNSTON, chairman of the recent Tory gathering in the Palace Rink, likened the Young Liberals to the Prodigal Son. Mr Johnston differs from the Prodigal Son in this respect: While the latter left his father's house and went into a far country, Mr Johnston has remained in Goderich, while the rest of the family, young and old, have gone to distant parts. What has the National Policy done for the Tories of West Huron? If the N. P. has not done more for the remainder of the people of Canada than it has for F. W. Johnsten and his relatives; than it has done for Mr W. Campbell, President of the West Huron Tories; and for Mr Corbett, President of the Clinton Tory Association, then there is a blue look out for all concerned. Let some man talk about the N. P. and good times who has been making money and booming his business under Tory rule.

WHAT'S UP?

Things That Are Happening Around Us.

A Hot Time at the Tory Convention—A Batch of aspirants for the Commons—The Young Liberal Club—Municipal Matters.

—I didn't get a bid to the Tory convention at Smith's Hill last week, but the neighbors who attended gave me a pretty full synopsis of the proceedings. The meeting was about as peaceful and as orderly as that historic incident which is known to all retailers of tradition as the gathering of the Kilkenny cats, where after the turmoil was over nothing was left but the cats' tails. So far as the candidature for the Legislature was concerned, there was not a hot competition, the only anxious ones being the present candidate and a Boanerges from Goderich township, who at present fills the deputy reeve's chair. Owing to a rampant anti-Catholic harangue by the latter the present nominee got the inside track and secured first-place as the party candidate. Goderich township's deputy reeve will be money in pocket, and the other gentleman will have the usual experience of a defeated candidate on the evening of the 28th inst.

—But it was in the arena of high politics—on the question of who should oppose M. C. Cameron — that music filled the air at the town hall, Colborne township, on the day in question. A goodly number of those present wanted to have Robert Porter, the defeated of 1882, as their candidate. The old man is now living up in Simcoe county, and had signified his intention of once more buckling on his armor, if the convention was good enough to give his name first place on the roll of honor. But there were others who were anxious to go out and fight West Huron's Reform champion—if the Boodle Brigade would only put up the collateral security. So there was a division in the camp, and an unseemly din and somewhat of a disruption was the result. Wm. Doherty, the organ man from Clinton, was in the hands—or on the hands—of his friends; Wm. Campbell was not averse to being a prohibition candidate; Fred. W. Johnston, who had faced the music against Hon. A. M. Ross in '83, and had been bilked out of the revising barristership in '85, was a hot favorite—with himself; Harry E. Johnston was not a candidate on his own behoof, but was on hand to help his brother, if occasion required; Edmund Campion was present in the flesh, and held up his end against all comers; Patrick Kelly, who had been larruped out of his boots in '79, by Col. Ross was an onlooker drawing lines, but not on the regular list as a candidate. In the discussion of the choice of a candidate some hair was raised, and harsh sayings were thicker than compliments. It was lovely to see the brethren dwelling together in harmony—oh, yes. When the notes got too discordant Organizer Fee took the matter in hand, and poured oil on the troubled waters. The result was that on the advice of the organizer, it was decided not to name a candidate for the Commons at the convention, but to adjourn the meeting until the call of the president. In the meantime, efforts are to be made to reconcile the contending forces so that at the next convention no such friction shall again be experienced. Campion, would have stood a good show for the position of candidate were it not for the insane crusade against his creed that has recently been preached by the Toronto *Mail*, and which the more ignorant members of the convention acted upon all through the meeting. It is a wonder that an intelligent young man like Campion can dwell in the same tent with such bigots.

—The Clinton contingent swear by Doherty, the organ man. They believe he can wipe the Reform majority out of existence in Clinton, and place solid figures to his credit in that burg; that Goderich township will "'Rah for Doherty!" away up in the hundreds; that the Tories of Goderich will hold their own in Goderich town; that Colborne township will be tied; and that Ashfield and the Wawanoshes will have their Grit majorities docktailed, so that the flag of Torydom will float over West Huron. I am not so sanguine as our Tory friends, but honestly I believe Doherty would be able to keep M. C. C. busy in West Huron. I don't believe Cameron can be defeated, but I am of opinion that Doherty—being an organ manufacturer—will face the music about as good as any of the rest of the aspirants.

—I have been asked what do I think Hon. A. M. Ross' majority will be on the evening of the 28th. I don't usually give opinions on elections so far ahead, but I should say it will range anywhere between 250 and 400. It may be higher, but anything over 250 will suit me.

—And now that I've given my figures I don't want any of the neighbors to say their votes aren't wanted for Ross. They are. What we want this election is to have a funeral procession to bury all opposition to Hon. A. M. Ross, who has proved himself to be the ablest financier of the ablest Provincial Government that ever held office in Canada. All in favor will please signify by marking an "×" after A. M. Ross' name on the 28th inst.

—I see the young Liberals have started a Club in Goderich, and from the way the youngsters are whooping it up, I think we'll hear some music from their choir before many moons have waxed and waned. To use a stereotyped expression the Club will "fill a long-felt want" in this thriving burg, and if the boys don't fill out with political intelligence it'll be because the capacity for absorbing Liberal principles is limited. I've been informed that there is a present muster roll of nearly one hundred members, and when the power of this phalanx is felt the lines of "our friends the enemy" will soon be driven in. A club room and gymnasium will tend to work up the mental and muscular fibre of the Young Libs, and nothing can withstand the effects of brain combined with brawn.

—I've been worried by some of the neighbors hollering over the fence at me to find out how I'm going to vote at the municipal election, for they know I'm pretty level-headed on that question, at any rate. You see, every prediction I made last year regarding the so-called "Town Improvements Scheme," has come true, and the neighbors are now giving me credit for being able to see farther than the end of my nose. Some of them are not satisfied with the way things are running on the mayoralty question, and I have had it suggested to me to stand for the position myself, with my friend, Earnest Endeavor, for reeve, and Progress for deputy, to be assisted in the council by Pro Bono Publico, Old Reformer, Liberal Conservative, Multum in Parvo, Veritas, Querist, and some of the other brethren of the quill who have pointed out where our town council has been remiss during the past year. The requisition asking as to come forth from our retirement has been satisfactorily signed, and I must say that, interested as I am in the welfare of the town, nothing would give me greater satisfaction than—that is to say—I beg to state that having duly considered the matter and examined it from every conceivable standpoint, I will, well so far as I am concerned—see you later,

AJAX.

A GENTLEMAN at the recent Tory gathering, wrote a note in a most polite manner and had it passed to Sir John A. Macdonald. The writer was a former Conservative candidate, and at present is editor of a strong Tory newspaper. The editor of the *Star* attributed the authorship of the note to one of the editors of this paper, and condemned the "illmannered and unwarranted interruption," and fancifully described the feelings of the writer. If Mr Cameron is to be condemned for attributing to one Tory Clarke what another Tory Clarke said, what does the editor of the *Star* deserve for mixing up a Grit and Tory of different names in the same connection?

THE admirable lecture given in Seaforth on Tuesday of last week by Justin McCarthy on "The Cause of Ireland," was taken down at length by our own reporter, and appears on second page. We give this eloquent and patriotic address in full for the benefit of those who were unable to hear the popular historian, essayist, novelist, journalist and parliamentarian. The lecture was a grand one to listen to, and it also makes excellent reading.

THE N. P. has struck the Tories badly. Some of them had to go on foot to the Smith's Hill convention. It was actually proposed that an old gentleman who had walked six miles should be hauled home on a hand sleigh. Livery rigs cost money and times are hard, despite the N. P.