Huron Signal.

GODERICH, APRIL 4, 1867.

THE CONSERVATIVE CONVENTION.

We are glad, on several accounts, that the conservatives of Huron had a Convention on Friday last. First, because they were in the habit, in years gone by, of twitting reformers severely on the use of what they termed such a Republican means of attaining a political end; and secondly, because it showed their *weakness* as well as their strength. After witnessing the affair, we have no hesitation in pronouncing the convention a decidedly *brilliant failure*. The nomination of Messrs. Ritchie and Carling for the South Riding was a foregone conclusion, and would have been thoroughly understood by the party if a convention had never been thought of. At the caucus meeting in Goderich, attended by Mr. Ritchie, that gentleman signified his willingness to run, we believe, and the requisitions asking him out, which were hawked through the riding so industriously, were intended to catch as many loose fish as possible before our candidates took the field. And what did these wonderful requisitions really amount to? There was a good deal of foolscap displayed at the Convention, but foolscap can be bought at 25cts per quire, and stuck together with mucilage it would make a long roll. How many names were there of *bona fide* electors? It was not announced—a good omen that—but a gentleman after scanning them over hastily, thought there must be nearly 700.—Deduct imaginative stretches and we have 500 or 550, a terrible bomb-shell to throw into the liberal camp. Every delegate knew perfectly well that it was Ritchie and Carling for the South—or nothing, and hence the convention was in ecstacies over the unanimity of the choice.

What shall we say of the North Riding. As we fully expected John Holmes proved to be the *dernier resort*, the political nightmare, which the convention could not shake off, twist, and groan, and distort as it would. Oh ye shades of political consistency, how the assembled wisdom sickened at the idea of swallowing the bitter pill of John Holmes Esq., ex-M. P. P.! Notwithstanding his assertions to the contrary, the convention *did* regard him as being really and truly, to all intents and purposes, a veritable *chip in porridge*—incapable of doing much of either good or harm, and Mr. Holmes, himself, had the doubtful satisfaction of being bitterly denounced as a renegade and a traitor by the very body which told him he might come out under its patronage, if he would be a good boy, and "never do so any more." The floundering efforts to get a candidate to run for the Assembly in North Huron were pitiable, and when at last Dr. McDougall was selected by the chairman's casting vote, it was done in a half-apologetic style which proved plainly that they were ashamed of themselves. Well they might, for any man possessing a grain of common sense, would feel ashamed of asking a gentleman of Dr. McDougall's standing to play second-fiddle to Mr. Holmes in any such fashion. We believed then, what we have since heard, that the Dr. would not listen to the proposal for a moment.

We have only to say to the liberals of Huron, that the prospects before them are bright and still brightening. In Messrs. Gibbons and Cameron we have sterling candidates, of whom we have nothing to fear, and the North will enter the field with leaders who will march them straight forward to assured victory.

THE CONFEDERATION SCARE.

It is somewhat amusing to notice the opinions expressed by our friends in the neighboring republic in regard to our new Confederation scheme. Both the Representatives of the people in Congress and a portion of the press appear to be really frightened that some morning they may wake up and find a United Kingdom or Confederation on their northern border, rivaling, or even outpassing in prosperity and power, their own great republic! To prevent this, it possible, they have already commenced in Congress to dictate what we should, and what course the United States should pursue in the event of our refusal to comply with their requirements. In the House of Representatives, in Washington, on Wednesday last, Mr. Banks, from the Committee on Foreign affairs, reported a resolution declaring "that the people of the United States cannot regard the proposed confederation of the provinces on the northern frontier of that country without extreme solicitude; that a confederation of States on the continent extending from ocean to ocean, *established without consulting the people of the provinces* and founded on the monarchical principal, cannot be considered otherwise than as in contravention of the traditions and constantly declared principles of this government, endangering the most important interests and tending to increase and perpetuate the embarrassments *already existing between the two governments.*" This resolution of Mr. Banks, giving a decided expression of sentiment, was passed in Congress without division. *Apropos* of the foregoing, the same gentleman, on the same day, reported another resolution—a curiously contrived and mixed up affair, though significant enough to be understood—declaring "that the House extends its sympathy to the people of Ireland and Candia in all their just efforts to maintain the independence of States, to elevate the people and to extend and perpetuate the principles of liberty." The N. Y. *Herald*, in its usual bullying and silly style, in commenting on the foregoing resolutions, concludes by cautioning the British government, and says that "there are *two hundred and fifty thousand fighting Fenians within striking distance of the Canadian Border.* Surely, then, it would not be unwise for the British government to take into consideration the power of public opinion in the United States. It is certain that our citizens would not look more favorably on a kingdom in Canada than on an empire in Mexico."

PASSAGE OF THE BILL.

Her Majesty gave her assent to the Confederation Bill on Friday. The proclamation is now all that is required to inaugurate a new era in the history of our country. We can only notice the fact to-day.

WORK! WORK!! WORK!!!

We have to impress on our friends throughout the South Riding the necessity of united and determined action. Let there be a central Work Committee formed in each Township, and let the canvass be prosecuted vigorously and with a will, and there is no danger of the result. Let every man exert himself—and every one can do something—and our candidates must head the Poll.

OUR PROSPECTS.

From all parts of the Riding we hear the most encouraging accounts in favor of Messrs. Cameron and Gibbons. Their opponents are insidiously at work trying to obtain secret pledges from electors under every sort of representation. We warn the electors against such people. Our candidates will give Messrs. Ritchie and Carling an opportunity at an early day of meeting them face to face before the electors of the Riding, and then let the electors form their opinions.

WHAT WILL GODERICH DO?

We mean, at the coming election.—Notwithstanding all the efforts of those who have been working strenously in trying to get up a requisition to Messrs. Ritchie and Carling, we have every reason to believe that the town of Goderich will pile up a larger majority for Messrs. Cameron and Gibbons than has ever yet graced its poll-books. At a large meeting of the friends of these gentlemen held in the Albion Hotel on Wednesday evening last, sub-committees were appointed, to canvas the several wards thoroughly, and from the feeling manifested there is no doubt that they will have a healthy state of things to report upon on Tuesday evening next.

DECIDEDLY WRONG.

We are credibly informed that the assessor of a township not one hundred miles from that in which one of the conservative candidates-in-prospective lives, is carrying, from house to house, besides his Assessment Roll, a requisition for Messrs. Ritchie and Carling, and eagerly soliciting signatures. If this is actually being done it is *decidedly wrong*, and should be put a stop to without delay.—A public officer, while engaged in the performance of the duties for which he is paid by the people has no right to use his office, either directly or indirectly, for the purposes of partizanship, and it must be a tame community indeed that can submit to such an outrage. At the ensuing elections the township in question will be pretty evenly divided, politically, and it is unreasonable to suppose that a large, tax-paying minority could tolerate such an insult from the assessor, who is hired equally by them to discharge certain specific duties, and nothing more. Even though the whole Township Council should hold the same political views as the functionary named, they are bound in honor and fairness to put a stop to such a proceeding.

NORTH BRUCE.

At the Reform Convention held in Port Elgin on the 21st instant, Dr. Douglas of that village was nominated as a candidate for the Commons, and Donald Sinclair, Esq., of Port Elgin, for the Local Legislature.

The Last Moments of A. Ward.

While he was living and busily engaged in exhibiting his "great moral show of wax figgers and tame animiles," we knew but little of the character of Artemus Ward. We knew, of course, that his real name was Brown, and we were content to laugh at his quaint humor without endeavoring to peep behind the assumed name, to discover what A. W. was *en dishabelle*. If we were to judge of his character by the tone of his writings, as some men are correctly read, we should have regarded him as a comical oddity, a mere talented joster, whose attempts at writing were not awarded any recognized place in literature by the over-fastidious, and who had neither intellect nor ambition for anything higher or nobler than the cap and bells in which he chastised that "excentric little cuss" the kangaroo. And yet, as the lamp of his life flickered on the approach of the last enemy, how touching to behold the goodness of *the man*. We then discovered that he had a heart tender as a maiden's, and that, incongruous as it might appear, the great showman, dying in the midst of a host of loving friends on a foreign shore, could claim for his own the rich consolations of our holy Christianity. The faith that was in him, was manifested by the performance of noble deeds: He made an ample provision for an aged mother, provided for the education of his intelligent page—a Canadian youth, we believe—left numerous legacies to children, and bequeathed the remainder of his wealth for the purpose of founding an asylum for aged and decayed printers, (he was a printer himself, and owed much to the press). It would be well for many a man, who is wiser in his generation than the children of light, if he could die as did the genial, noble-souled Artemus Ward.

A Rumpus.—Last night a quarrel which ended in something like a free fight, took place in one of our principal hotels. A number of gentlemen were talking about the recent war in the States. Several of the party were Yankees and two or three Canadians. During the conversation one of the latter stated that the Northerners did not beat the Southerners in a fair way, but starved them into submission. This "riled" the Yankees, and one of them contradicted the Canadian in that forcible but not very polite language which is not unfrequently heard on the other side of the lines. The Canadian resented the insult offered, and a fight immediately ensued which ended in the Canuck being left master of the field.

The plucky Canadian alluded to is a Goderich man.—*Ed. S.*

Valuable Presents.—It will be seen by the advertisement of the London Commercial College, that three presents amounting in all to one hundred and fifty dollars in cash, will hereafter be distributed among every sixty students purchasing full course scholarships in that flourishing institution. This in connection with the many other rare inducements held forth, will undoubedly greatly increase the very large number of students who are now availing themselves of the advantages of the admirable business course pursued.

The French View of Fenianism.—The Paris *Constitutionnel* publishes a lengthy review of Fenianism, its origin and aims, in which the writer very truthfully remarks: "Fenianism is above all a result of movement from America ... wave after wave of the tide of poverty cast upon the other side of the Atlantic by famine and typhus. I saw that horrible pestilence of 1848, which devoured two millions of human creatures; I will see those herds of spectres dying in the gutters at the doors of the over-crowded hospitals. After poverty it was youth which left; the young Ireland republicans of 1848 emigrated to the land of the republic, and from year to year the current of emigration swelled—it was by hundreds of thousands that the stream flowed on from old Europe to young America. *These emigrants, these outcasts, these outlaws*, who departed, leaving imprecations behind them and carrying with them *oaths of hatred and vengeance*, have founded on the other side of the ocean a *second Ireland*, which is in a state of permanent conspiracy against England."

The *Opinion Nationale* of Paris has also an article on the Fenian movement, in which it hints that the United States government connived at the rebellion in the interest of Russia as a means of embarrassing England at a critical moment of her diplomacy on the Eastern question.

The Prince Alfred.—Lieut. Douglas and subordinate officers with 66 sailors and marines to man the Gunboat Prince Alfred, arrived here by train on Thursday night. The two are as stout and hearty a set of fellows as ever trod a British deck. After undergoing repairs, the Prince Alfred will proceed to Sarnia and Windsor, which will be her headquarters. Goderich will still be the headquarters of the Cherub.

☞ Don't forget the Temperance Soiree in Crabb's Hall on Thursday evening. The Tickets are going fast and should be secured at once.

☞ It is rumored that C. Crabb, Esq., of Goderich, intends to run for the Legislative Assembly in the North Riding, on the Independent ticket.

☞ There is to be no more flogging of British soldiers in time of peace. The barbarous practice should have been abolished long ago.

☞ Mr. Harris has received a choice lot of spring goods at his store, Fair's old stand.

☞ Mr. A. Smith has on hand a splendid stock of cloths and clothing.

☞ Messrs. Acheson & Smith have received the advance of their spring goods, consisting of boots and shoes, and hats and caps, which are very cheap.

☞ For boots and shoes to suit any age or sex, call and see the stock opened out at J. C. Detlor & Co.'s Emporium.

☞ We are requested to state that a meeting of the St. George's Society, will take place on Friday, the 5th of April, for the election of officers, at half past seven o'clock p. m.

☞ We have to notify our various correspondents that they cannot send their N.S.S. as heretofore at the rate of 1 ct. per ounce, the p. o. authoritics having discovered that such matter must be rated the same as letters. Their liberality, it seems, only extends to authors.

☞ We learn that Russia has ceded the whole of her North American possessions to the United States. The addition of a few thousands of square miles of ice and snow is no great acquisition, but we may expect to hear any amount of bluster about it, as the Yankees think they have thus shut us nearly entirely from the Pacific. It will be curious to learn how this affair came about, or what is Russia's *quid pro quo*.

Obituary.—It is our painful duty, to day to record the death of Mr. John R. Dark, son of Thos. Dark, late of the Exchange hotel. Deceased was well-known to a large number of the travelling community, and held in the highest esteem by all who knew him. His kindly department and gentlemanly conduct, on all occasions endeared him to a large circle of personal friends, by whom he will be sadly missed.—While in the bloom of opening manhood that dread enemy, consumption, marked him as a victim, and he faded gradually until death gently closed his eyes. Peace to his ashes. The body was committed to the tomb this (Tuesday) afternoon, with Masonic honors, deceased having been a member of the Maitland Lodge.

The London *Times* publishes a very sharp editorial analysis of the speech of the Duke de Persigny on constitutional government in France, England and the United States. In reply to the Duke's charge that England wished for permanent disruption of the American Union by means of the Jeff. Davis rebellion, the writer says "England shrank from aiding France to break up the United States by supporting the Southerners and by establishing a Mexican empire."

Berlin, March 25.

Dear Signal,—The Spring Assizes was opened this morning by the Chief Justice. The bar was well represented. There were several civil cases, and one criminal case.

The latter was that of George Blockwell, charged with stealing money, by opening letters in the Berlin post office, he being an employee in said post office. The prisoner, on account of his extreme youth, enlisted much sympathy in court, he being only seventeen years of age, and of a very prepossessing appearance. Much interest was manifested here in the case, but to the surprise of every one he pleaded *guilty*. This is thought all the more remarkable as the detective who was the chief evidence for the prosecution, is since dead. The sentence is not yet given, but as the judge charged the Grand Jury with more than usual severity when retiring to find a "bill," I fear there is little hope for the poor boy.

There is nothing else of importance in Court. Yours, &c., KRAUT.

☞ Salt Lake City is thus described by a correspondent: "This singular town covers an area of about nine square miles, that is, three miles each way. It is one of the most beautifully laid out cities in the world. The streets are very wide, with water running through nearly every one of them. Every block is surrounded with beautiful shade trees, and almost every house has its neat little orchard of apple, peach, apricot, and cherry trees. In fact, the whole nine square miles is almost one continuous orchard."

☞ A young lady in Galt was heard to declare that she couldn't go to fight the Fenians, but she was willing to allow the men to go, and die an old maid, which she thought was as great a sacrifice as anybody could be called upon to make.

THE CONSERVATIVE CONVENTION!

THAT REQUISITION!

Messrs. Ritchie and Carling nominated for South Huron.

A Squabble over the North Riding

QUEER DOINGS!

Mr. Holmes denounced as a traitor, but afterwards taken up as the best of a bad bargain.

WHAT WAS SAID AND DONE!

(Reported specially for the Huron Signal.)

The long talked-of Conservative Convention was held in the Village of Clinton on Friday last. The delegates did not arrive from distant townships until about 1 o'clock, and it was considerably beyond the appointed hour when they began to file into the Orange Hall, to attend to the business of the day. At the door we found a gentleman acting as keeper, and were directed by him to stand within the entrance, until our fate should be decided, but through the kindness of some of the leading delegates, the reporters present were allowed to take their places at a table near the chairman's seat.

The proceedings were opened by Mr. John Davison's taking the chair *pro tem.*, after which the following delegates handed in their certificates:—

NORTH RIDING.

Grey.—W. Alcock, James Teck, C. Willard, Jos. Welsh.

Ashfield.—Jas. Millen, Patrick Clare, George Armstrong, A. Black.

Morris.—A. Brown, Wm. Wilson, Mr. Mooney, W. J. Hingston.

Colborne.—Wm. Young, C. Stewart.

Clinton.—J. B. Racey, R. J. M. Foot, Chas. Cooper, Chas. Ryan.

McKillop.—H. Hannah, John Sullivan, John Walsh, Dr. Coleman.

East Wawanosh.—Jas. Fowley, D. McCartney, George Gibson, L. Netherly.

West Wawanosh.—No representation.

Hullett.—S. Ard, Wm. Jones, R. Bacon, H. Stewart.

Howick.—C. W. Pickard, R. Mahood, W. G. Walker, Dr. Smale.

Turnberry.—T. Farrow, John Perdue, Wm. Cowin, James Leach.

SOUTH RIDING.

Stephen.—Timothy Coughlin, B. V. Elliott, Moses Amy, jr., and Thos. Yearley.

Usborne.—R. Creery, Jas. Halls, John Glen, and David Kirk.

Hay.—John Petty, Wm. Case, Thos. Wilson, and Thos. White.

Goderich Town.—I. F. Toms, Dr. Shannon, Wm Campbell, John Davison.

Goderich T.P.—D. Cook, Henry Ford, Wm. Jenkins, James Collins.

Tuckersmith.—Geo. Jackson, Wm. VanEgmond, Ligh and Beatty.

It was then resolved that Dr. Cole take the chair to preside over the Convention, and the Dr. having complied,

Mr. Wm. Donaghy was appointed secretary.

Mr. Wilson, of Morris, said they had met in a friendly manner, and he hoped they would part in the same spirit but he wished it understood that the northern delegates would not interfere with the selection of the south riding, nor did they of the north wish to be interfered with. If that was to be the distinct understanding they could sit in the same room and do their business together.—They were the men to support their candidates and bring them out. He moved to the effect, That the voting be entirely separate.

Mr. Connor said before the motion passed he wished to know whether Mr. Wilson expressed the views of his brother delegates? (voices, "no!" and "yes!") It was the desire of one riding to advance the interests of the other, and there was no desire on the part of the southern men to dictate. (Applause.) He thought however, they might be allowed to give a little advice.

Mr. Mooney.—We did'nt come here to squabble. Our interests are alike, and we should assist in the election of all our candidates, for if we lose the North it will tell against the elections in the South Riding. I hope there will not be a man opposed to pledging himself to support the nominees.

Mr. Wilson's motion was carried.

Moved by Mr. Racey, seconded by Mr. Jackson, and resolved, That the voting be by ballot first, and afterwards by open resolution.

Moved by Mooney, seconded by Mr. Brown, That this Convention pledges itself to use every means to secure the election of the candidates for each riding.

Moved by Dr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, in amendment, That the vote be taken by open resolution, as the more British method.

Mr. Sullivan said voting by ballot savored too much of democracy and should be discarded.

Mr. Wilson said he would move in amendment to the amendment, That the vote be taken by ballot,—each man calling out who he voted for. (Voices, "that's what the motion calls for," and laughter.)

Dr. Coleman said he would withdraw his amendment if the ballot was taken by each delegate naming the man he wished to vote for.

Mr. Davison thought the best way was to first propose the candidates, and if four or five were named, the lowest to be struck off each time until a decision was arrived at.—By this means the nominee would be sure of a majority of votes.

This plan was finally decided upon.

Dr. Coleman suggested that the Southern Delegates should commence first.

Mr. Jackson said the North was beginning to interfere already. (Laughter.)

It was resolved that no delegate speak longer than 10 minutes, and only once on the same subject.

Mr. Connor then rose and displayed a number of requisitions. He said that for Stanley embraced between 300 and 400 names, and he had no doubt other townships furnished as many. (Applause.) He felt sure the Northern delegates would be just as proud of the men these requisitions called out as those specially interested. The names were Squire Ritchie and Squire Carling, and he trusted that, when nominated, they would come forward and give a statement of their views. It was desirable that they should use their influence and their pockets too, if necessary, to secure their election, and he hoped the feeling was general throughout the riding. Indeed, they should put them in by such large majorities that they would never have to go to the same trouble again. (Cheers.)

Mr. Case proposed D. H. Ritchie, Esq., of Stanley, as a candidate for the South Riding of Huron.

Mr. Connor nominated Isaac Carling Esq., of Exeter, for the Local Legislature.

Both nominations were carried amidst cheering.

Mr. B. V. Elliott said he considered Mr. Ritchie a man well fitted for the position. He was a true Briton and a true Canadian—a man of honesty and integrity. He had served to great satisfaction for a great number of years in the capacity of County Clerk, and he (Mr. E.) thought it would be conferring upon him a well-merited honor to be given such a position upon him.—It was due to a man who had evinced such a high character in the discharge of public duties.

Mr. Wilson said that, as the South had carried their men he would call upon the Northern men to rise and give the Candidates three cheers.

The three cheers were given accordingly.

Mr Ritche, being called upon, came forward, amidst cheering, and said that, from the very numerous and highly respectable papers presented to the convention, and the unanimous way in which he had been nominated as a candidate to represent the South Riding of Huron in the Commons House of this Province, he would be callous indeed if he refused to accept it. He would therefore accept the nomination, with thanks for the honor conferred upon him. When the idea of his running was first mooted he embraced it with reluctance, but he would now go into the matter heartily and stick to it. (Applause.) He would do all he flonestly could to succeed, with the able assistance of his friends. He trusted they had now turned over a new leaf, and that on the day of declaration the South Riding would give a good account of itself. (Applause.) He might mention that, before long, he would visit the principal localities of the Riding for the purpose of explaining his views and answering such questions as might be put to him. (Applause.)

Mr. Carling said, that having never been an aspirant for office, and never wishing to obtain the honors of Parliament, he felt a great deal of reluctance in coming before them on this occasion, but having seen such a largely signed requisition, and having such promises of support from both parties, he was forced to give way. It made him feel proud to stand there as their candidate for the local parliament. They were the judges of his fitness for the position, and as he did not thrust himself forward as an aspirant, if there was any one to blame afterwards they were the parties. (Laughter.) As far as he was concerned he would promise to do all in his power to advance the interests of South Huron and the Province at large. As they had commenced, the power was with them to take hold of the matter, and he placed himself entirely in their hands to do with him as they pleased. He wished to thank them for the honor they had done him. (Applause.)

Mr. Mooney said he was happy to see that the gentlemen from the South were so easily satisfied. The Northern delegates could easily fix on a candidate for the Commons, but he didn't know what they could do for the other House. He would take the privilege of nominating John Holmes Esq. as the candidate for the House of Commons for North Huron.

The nomination was seconded by Mr. Wilson.

Mr. A. Black said he wanted to nominate a gentleman who, in his opinion was much fitter for the position than Mr. Holmes, and that was Dr. McDougall of Goderich. If the Convention could find a better man he was willing to give in.

Mr. Sullivan said they should come to some kind of a compromise. He was not very well acquainted with either of the gentlemen, but he thought the matter might be arranged.

Mr. Wilson said Mr. Holmes was a farmer and farmers should send more representatives of their own class to Parliament. He was happy the North had made such a choice, instead to selecting lawyers, and such like.—(Mr, Davison, "hear, hear," and laughter.) They had been too long lawyer ridden. Did they ever see the towns and villages going out into the country to get a man? No man in fact, was so well qualified to represent farmers as a farmer, and he hoped, therefore, that they would give Mr. Holmes a unanimous vote.

Mr. Mooney was sorry to hear such language. He held different ideas, and believed that they should have an able man to represent them if they had to send to Quebec for one. All the Legislature could do was to pass laws for the whole country and not for any particular section. As for the two gentlemen named, he would as soon see one elected as the other, but he felt satisfied that Mr. Holmes was the man to take the votes, and for that reason hoped he would be nominated.

Mr. Black said there were good reasons why Mr. Holmes should not receive the nomination.

Voices, "Name them!"

Mr, Black.—I will if you wish it: The principal one is that he cut our throats once, and will never have the chance to do so again. We want a good conservative, or none at all.

At this stage of the proceedings Mr. Holmes, who sat at the chairman's right, threw his overcoat over his arm and signified his intention of leaving the room, but was restrained.

Dr. Coleman said, as one of the few who had came with the determination of harmonizing matters as much as possible, he thought some of the gentlemen were a great deal out of order. Instead of leaving the decision to the convention they wanted to bicker, and thus retard the business. As a rate-payer, and he hoped, a man of intelligence, when he looked around the room he saw men just as capable of saying who they should nominate as Messrs. Wilson, Black and Mooney, who had so much to say on the subject. If such a feeling was to prevail, they would certainly be defeated. They should go to work and call out the names, as proposed.

Mr. Sullivan thought that for the sake of peace and harmony, they should retire for a while and try to reconcile matters.

Mr. Young—"No, no! open vote now!" Mr. Walker said the delegates from Howick were not pledged to any one, but a resolution was passed at the meeting that if a better man did not come out they were to go for Mr. Holmes. That gentleman did once commit a great fault as he must know himself.—(Mr. Holmes, "Let's hear it.")—but when a child did wrong and got licked for it; the chances were, that it would do so no more. (Laughter.)

Mr. Pickford said five-eighths of the township of Howick had pledged themselves to vote for Holmes, and if more was sent against him he would tell what he was opposed for. He thought they should run Dr. McDougall for the Upper House and Mr. Holmes for the Lower.

Mr. Racey nominated Dr. Cole.

Dr. Coleman rose and said that while he thanked them for proposing him, he——(loud laughter and cries of "it wasn't you at all.")

Dr. Coleman.—Well, the only difference between Dr. Cole and me is that I am a man and he is not.

The vote was then taken, the result being Holmes 25, McDougall 12. The Clinton delegates refused to vote at all.

Mr. Millen said the vote was not fair on that account.

It was moved that the vote be declared unanimous by all in favor standing up.

Quite a number refused to rise.

Mr. Pickford nominated Dr. Woods for the South Riding.—The Dr. declined.

Dr. McDougall was nominated.

Mr. Wilson nominated Thos. Holmes of Blyth.

Mr. Spence nominated Mr. W. W. Connor, of Bayfield.

Mr. Perdue nominated Mr. Thos. Farrow, of Bluevale.

Mr. Connor said he believed Dr. McDougall would run well in the North Riding.

Mr. Mooney said, as Samuel said to Saul, "thou art the man." He knew of no one better than Mr. Connor himself.

Mr. Mullen nominated Mr. Wm. Young—But the latter declined.

Mr. Hannah nominated Dr. Coleman.

Mr. Perdue spoke in favor of Mr. Farrow. He was a good man, had been a teacher and had retired into the mercantile life. He hoped Mr. Farrow would be allowed to come forward and show himself to the convention.

Mr. Sullivan said they had hitherto been defeated ignommiously by the Reform party.—Was that party dead yet? By the way in which they were proposing every Tom, Dick and Harry, it was evident there was some spiteful feeling against Dr. McDougall. If so, what was it? A great many intelligent persons would say he was a good man and take that into consideration. He could tell them that if they pursued their present course, they would not elect either candidate. In his opinion the Lower House was of as much importance as the Commons, the local laws being of much interest to the people. There was no check on the proceedings in the lower house, which was too democratic, and if they did not get a man they had confidence in they would suffer for it. If Dr. McDougall did not accept the nomination it was doubtful if they would elect any of their candidates, as the South would be seriously affected by the result in the North Riding.

Mr. Ritchie coincided with the remarks of the last speaker and said it would be a great advantage to have Dr. McDougall in the field.

Mr. Leech spoke strongly in favor of Mr. Farrow. The *Signal* was urging reformers, from day to day, to put their shoulders to the wheel, and he thought unanimity on their part was absolutely necessary.

Mr. Carling considered the lower house the most honorable of the two, and hoped Dr. McDougall would run.

The majority of the nominees having declined, it was at last decided to take the vote between T. Holmes, Farrow, and McDougall.

The result was, Holmes 6, McDougall 16, Farrow 12.

Mr. Farrow said he would support the nominee of the convention. They wanted the strongest, longest, and best man they could get, or else they would have to put on their hands she they could accomplish.

Mr. Holmes' name was then dropped and the vote taken between Messrs. McDougall and Farrow. There voted 19 for each. (Clinton, Hullett, and other delegates still refusing to vote,) when the chairman cast his vote in favor of the Doctor, who was then declared to be the nominee.

On the unanimity resolution being put, a number refused to rise.

Mr. Sullivan suggested that, as a one gentleman appeared doubtful in the matter, the names be taken to see if they would support Dr. McDougall. (Confusion and hisses.)

A delegate.—You were the man who talked about Tom, Dick and Harry being proposed. You think the people of the North don't know what they are doing!

Mr. John Holmes addressed the Convention. He begged to return his sincere thanks for the honor conferred upon him in selecting him as a candidate for the North Riding. He was not entirely unknown to them. He had been before them for a long time, having settled in the County of Huron when it was nothing but a wilderness, and had undergone all the hardships of a backwood's life. There were few in the County who had not known him for the last 28 years, and he thought it would be conceded that he has been instrumental in making the County what it was. He had held nearly every office, from a pathmaster to a member of parliament. It had been stated that he had committed a fault in his public capacity, and he would like to hear what that fault was, for he could defy any man to state that the County had lost one dollar through him. Their chairman, Dr. Cole, who had known him so long, could testify that he was not the *chip in porridge* some people would like to make him appear. (Laughter). He would use every lawful means to secure his election, and, if returned, his business would be to assist the men in power to build up the country. Our expenses were now very heavy. There were to be three houses of Parliament, three Governors, besides other expensive changes, and he should use his utmost endeavor to advocate economy. He believed Dr. McDougall was a man who would command the respect of all who were acquainted with him. He again thanked them for the honor they had bestowed on him, and resumed his seat.

Mr. Farrow said it was superfluous for him to say much, but it seemed to him that the proceedings of that convention were not going to accord with the feelings of the people generally, and that the settlers of the back townships, with whom he was well acquainted, would not receive them favorably. He had told them he would represent their views, and he thought it was doubtful if Mr. Holmes would poll a large vote, as many of the Conservatives would remain neutral. He hoped, however, they would do their best. There were great interests at stake, and they did not want to commit them to lawyers, nor did they want ninety doctors. They did not require very learned men, but men of principle who could not be bought and sold. He trusted the men selected would prove themselves to be such.

Mr. Toms, of Goderich, said he had not taken part in the various discussions and did not intend to occupy their time very long. His idea was that they could elect their candidates either by work than by talk. It had been asked why they lost the last election. It was because they had not got the right way about it. They had to go to work in a proper manner, and have a thorough organization of the party in both Ridings, or they would lose the elections. He was sorry to hear some of the remarks about borrowing men, which he considered drawing largely on the imagination for arguments. In a town on the Southern border was selected he was looked on, as a foreigner, which was not right. If the Southern Riding had not possessed suitable local candidates they would have had no objection to go to the extreme end of Turnberry. The two candidates nominated for the North Riding were none the worse for living on the South side of the line, nor would their economy be less acceptable to the country on that account. He would suggest to the gentlemen of the North the propriety of appointing a central committee in a proper position, so that the local committees might correspond with it, which would be a very convenient method of disseminating information. There was a good deal of dodging in election matters, and they had men to deal with who were pretty well up to it. (Laughter.) The intercourse of Goderich commercially and otherwise, was with the north riding. They would have all they could do with the south riding, but they regarded the North as their stronghold. Messrs. Ritchie, Carling and Holmes had said they would take every lawful means to get elected, but it was very different with the Clinton Reform candidate for the Commons. At the recent election he said he would be elected. The candidate for the Assembly said he was not fit for the House of Commons. If he was not fit for the Assembly or for any house except, perhaps, the House of Congress. The candidate for the Commons in the South Riding was going to use means to secure his election. When he approached a Conservative he kept party out of sight, but when he met men of the opposite he was a violent Clear Grit. The Clear Grits accused them of being no-party men. That was right to a certain extent. They believed they were the party of the country, doing the best they could for it. Mr. Cameron said he had always done all in his power to keep Conservatives out, and would do so still. These were not the sentiments to secure conservative votes upon.

At this point, strangers were requested to retire, so that the organization might be gone into privately; we gathered up our notes and departed, well satisfied with the results of the Conservative Convention.

Letter from Mrs. Boswell.

Dear Sir,—I am a Mrs. Bosswell, and, I believe, a strong-minded woman; I live on the 14th concession of Stanley, next the round turn, at the sunny side of the Far Line. My husband is a stupid man, consequently I manage all our affairs, and of course my neighbors say "the grey mare is the best horse of the two." I mention this for your guidance in the remaining portion of my letter. I was sitting thinking the other day what really Lady Audley's Secret could be, when our worthy Reeve called to see how the children were. He is rather a kind person, but evidently raised near a gas house. After speaking of the weather and all that, he asked. "Did I intend to let James vote for the Squire, as they call him?" I made answer and said, "You know I belong to a progressive family, and if I did this it would be inconsistent to vote on the fossiliferous side of the house." He then expatiated on the Squire's good and amiable qualities, and went on to say "How very courteous, and condescending he was to the people of Stanley; how he always endeavored to use such humble and winning words, as to manifest more of his love for them than of his exalted power over them; to always," he said, "be seasoned his tongue with salt savory, not bitter expressions, not making his mouth a vent for his fury, but rather an instrument to draw others love and affection in by, still speaking as civilly to others, as he would have them speak civilly to him." I winked with the left eye and then asked, what about those "surprise parties"? Well he said, "I see you are wide awake, but give poor Davy your vote, he is a first rate mathematician." I then said do you intend to give us a harbour? He made answer, "we are in treaty with Jimy Cotton for the mortal remains of the Dredge and we have bespoke a quantity of leather buckets from the tannery, we intend to drive her either by wind or gas, if by wind the Major will attend the bellows, if by gas I will myself attend to that; and as to the bargain with Cotton, I always could get the blind side of him in a bargain." A thing I very much doubt—at this stage of the conversation Mrs. Dowce, my neighbor, came in and asked the Reeve did they intend to do anything for the improvement of the Roads? He told her "that if the Squire was returned to Parliament, he intended to gravel all the lines in Stanley, and light them with gas; that a cheap gas had been discovered, made of alcohol, bees-wax and phosphorous, and it only required a few cedar posts and some wire something like the telegraph fixings, and the whole thing was complete, it would cost the Township a mere trifle as the gas could be turned off at the full of the moon," and moreover said he, "if the Squire gets in, he intends to bring in a Bill to compel the storekeepers to give the farmers wifes where they deal their tea for nothing, and the councils to procure Magic Lanthorns for the amusement of your children." I will be in your neighborhood next week for the purpose of procuring that book called Lady Audley's Scout, I am so fidgity to know what it is—you know dear sir what an inquisitive set we women are—and with your permission I will call on you to direct me where I can get it, at the same time to inform me what bearing mathematics has on politics. In the mean time permit me to subscribe myself,

Your ob't serv't,

MARY ANN BOSSWELL.

☞ The Reform Bill brought into English Parliament by the Government gives the right of suffrage to rate paying householders after two years' residence, to men paying one pound yearly taxes, or having thirty pounds in the funds, and to all members of the learned professions and graduates of the Universities. The Bill also provides for a fifteen pound franchise in the counties.

Ailleyville Branch Agricultural Society.—The first spring show in connection with this Society, was held at Ailleyville on Friday, the 15th inst., when the following premiums were awarded:

Best entire horse for general purposes, Joseph Welsh, $3.00; 2nd best, Richard Graham, $1.00. Best two bushel Spring Wheat, (Fife), Alexander Stewart, $1.50; 2nd do, John W. Shiel, $1.00; 3rd do Thomas Walker, 0.50. Best 2 bushels large Pease, David Dobson, $1.00. Best 2 bushel small Pease, John W. Sheil, $1.00; 2nd do, Alexander Stewart, $0.50. Best 2 bushel Barley, W. G. Hingston, $1.00; 2nd do Alexander Stewart, $0.50. Best 2 bush. oats, John Broadfoot, $0.50. Best 60 lbs. Timothy Seed, N. M. Livingstone, $0.75.

DANIEL STEWART,
Secretary.

WAWANOSH.

East Wawanosh, March 21st, 1867.

The members of the Municipal Corporations of West Wawanosh and East Wawanosh met this day at the residence of H. Helps, Esq. Members present:

Chas. Girvin, Esq., Reeve, West Wawanosh; Edwin Gaunt, Esq., Deputy Reeve; Jas Hunter, Wm Cummings, and D McIlwaine, Councillors. Robert Currie, Esq., Reeve, East Wawanosh; H. Helps, S. Nethery, and Thos Taylor, Councillors.

Reeve of West Wawanosh in the chair.

The chairman called the attention of the members for East Wawanosh to the chief object at the present meeting, viz., for the purpose of effecting a settlement of the municipal affairs of the late Township of Wawanosh, according to statute.

It was proposed to the meeting that the debt due to the County by the late Township of Wawanosh, at the end of the year 1866, shall be defrayed equally by both townships; and that the amount which may be collected on and after the first day of January, 1867, on account of arrears of taxes due on or before Dec. 31st, 1866, shall be equally divided between the two townships of West Wawanosh and East Wawanosh.

Moved by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Cummings, That the above proposal be adopted.—Carried unanimously.

With regard to the Township library, it is proposed that in consideration of the manner in which it is divided, that is to say, into 12 divisions, and considering that only ten of said divisions have as yet been circulated, and it is desirable to let the divisions remain as they are, until all have been circulated through the townships once. Under these circumstances it is thought best to appoint a librarian by each township successively, for this and the year 1868, to circulate the divisions as formerly, and that at the end of the year 1868 a partition of the books shall be made on equitable principles, and that Mr. John Harcourt be librarian for the current year, each township paying half the Librarian's salary, ($25.)

Moved by Mr. Helps, seconded by Mr. Taylor, That the above proposal be agreed to.—Carried.

Township scrapers having been paid for out of sums specifically appropriated to the various roads by the Commissioners for each ward—it is proposed to leave the scrapers in the wards which paid for them.

Moved by Mr. McIlwain, seconded by Mr Taylor, That the above proposal be adopted.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Hunter, sec. by Mr. Gaunt, That three dollars be paid to Mr Helps for the use of his house for the present meeting of the joint Councils for the purpose of effecting a settlement of their Municipal affair.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Helps, seconded by Mr. McIlwain, That the Clerk be paid eight dollars for 4 days attendance at Quarter Sessions, in the case of Wawanosh against Moore, and that Mr. Jas. Brown be paid three dollars for three days attendance in same suit.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Currie, sec. by Mr Gaunt, That six hundred copies of the minutes of proceedings of the Council for 1866 be printed, together with this days proceedings. Also Auditors' reports and abstract of Treasurer's books for the past year.—Carried.

On motion of Mr. Helps, sec. by Mr. McIlwain, The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

JAMES SCOTT,
Township Clerk.

Scotland and the Reform Bill.

The amount or proportion of representation to be given to Scotland under Lord Derby's Reform is, like all the other parts of the main question, involved in mystery. Like everything, too, on which Mr