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AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

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THE HURON SIGNAL

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

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FRIDAY, OCT. 9TH, 1885.

The Reformers are we are pleased to see, full of activity all along the line, and if, as some conjecture, a general election be sprung upon the country, we have every reason to believe the Liberals will be found "Ready, aye ready."

OWING to the pressure of other local matter on our columns the speeches made by our representatives at the West Riding of Huron Reform convention, and the lengthy reply of the model school principal in reply to the Inspector's report, are crowded out this week. They will appear next week.

The justice of our position on the question of the chairmanship of the Goderich school board has been shown by the retirement of J. O. Dettlor, of Clinton, from that important position. At the New Year elections, Mr. Dettlor should retire from the board altogether. It is hard for any man to serve the best interests of both Goderich and Clinton. Mr. Dettlor is a good citizen, but he cannot do justice to the two towns.

ASQUITH on Monday, just after the school board adjourned and the members and citizens were returning home, one of the guardians of our children, in the presence of eight or nine persons, and in strident tones, cried out that if he were secretary of the board, and the editor of THE SIGNAL had insisted on getting the report of the Inspector he would "break his d—d head!" The character of the opposition to THE SIGNAL on the educational question can be summed up in that elegant sentence.

IMMEDIATELY after the successful termination of the Young Men's Liberal convention, it was rumored that the young men of the Conservative party would shortly hold a convention and discuss in a like untrammelled manner the political questions of the day; when the Tory organs heard of it they were seized with alarm, and at once undertook to give an editorial setback to the scheme. They were afraid to allow the young and progressive men to have a slack rein for fear they would seize the bit in their teeth, and run the race to suit themselves. And so the proposition to hold a Young Men's Conservative convention is squelched, and the young Conservatives; by their aspirations what they may, will have to walk in the furrows that have been plowed by the fossilized Tories. The plan may work for a while, and keep the party from disintegration, but ignorance and a blind following of reckless leaders are not strong cementing bonds. One of these days the progressive young Conservatives will break from the fossils and ally themselves with the party of progress.

A REV. MR. BAXTER is lecturing in London, Ont., on the end of the world. He says that the millennium will begin eleven years from now, and warns every one to govern himself accordingly. Rev. Mr. Baxter is, if we are not much mistaken, the gentleman who used to address the people on the vacant lot on Talbot street, London, some twenty odd years ago, and told us that the battle of Armageddon would be fought in 1866, after which a general smash up of things mundane would ensue. Years have rolled by since that happy time, our boyhood has slipped away from us and grey hairs are now beginning to be our portion, but old preacher Baxter hasn't changed a peg on the millennium question, with the exception that he has given an extension of time for which we all feel duly thankful, of course. We didn't take much stock in Mr. Baxter's 1866 prophecy, and we are not inclined to believe that the worthy preacher has increased in knowledge of his subject in the years that have intervened.

PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD.

The Model School Building—A Protracted Meeting Without Many Converts.

The regular meeting of the Board was held on Monday evening.

All the members were present.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Communications were read from J. C. Dettlor, resigning his position as chairman of the board, owing to his absence from town during the greater part of the time.

The resignation was accepted, and on motion Mr. Malcomson was elected in his stead.

Mr. Malcomson briefly thanked the board for the honor.

A communication was received from Educational Department, stating that the work in model school could go on as proposed until further notice.

The principal's report was read, showing the attendance of pupils at the school for the past month. Total number on roll, 761; average, 592.

The report of the contingent committee was read and received.

The school management committee was instructed to procure maps and tablets for the ward schools, and the contingent committee to fill up any depressions in front of the gates of the ward schools.

The school management committee brought in their report.

The question of teaching in Mr. Embury's room while he was with the model class then came up. The chairman said the other teachers declined to teach any other room but Mr. Embury's. They insisted on teaching no other room but their own or Mr. Embury's.

Dettlor asked what was the agreement between the board and the teachers?

Crabb—The teachers were engaged to teach any room the board desired. It was looked as if Miss Blair had been passed over, and preference given to Miss Knox. If this was the case, Miss Blair was not to blame.

The chairman—Your information is not strictly correct. I asked Miss Knox to take it as she was the senior teacher in the third book, and the other teachers would be better able to take her place than they could take Miss Blair's. One of the teachers asked said she would teach only the principal's room or her own.

Ball said that by the communication of the Minister, the teachers should take Mr. Embury's work.

Butler thought Mr. Crabb's statement was practically correct, as according to the admission of the chairman Miss Knox had been given preference.

The Chairman—They are our servants, certainly, and should teach just where we tell them.

Butler—Now is the time to settle this matter. The school management committee did not think they should take action until they had met the board.

Nicholson thought it best to let matters go on as they were going until the model school inspector came.

Morton asked if the teachers had given any reason for their conduct?

The chairman replied that the committee had sent for one of the teachers and she in a very angry voice said if she could not teach Mr. Embury's room she did not mean to teach any other.

Crabb thought the committee had no right to ask teachers to take any such work until they had seen the board.

Nicholson said Miss Knox had been asked to take Mr. Embury's room while he was teaching the model class, but she thought it would be a slight if she were to take the room in preference to Miss Blair. Miss Knox had even been willing to take the room after hours.

The chairman—She was not the one who refused.

Butler thought the best thing to do was to let the school be carried on as it now was, as by it less number of rooms would be affected. Miss Knox thought that all the teachers being of equal standing, it would not be fair to put a young teacher above any others.

The chairman—So far as the principal's room is concerned it might as well be dismissed in those hours. He did not think a third-class teacher should take place of the principal while second class teachers could be had.

Crabb cited the case of Dr. Ryerson who said that the certificate way not always an index to the quality of the teacher.

The report was then adopted.

The report of the finance committee was then read.

It was moved and seconded that the report be received, bill paid and filed.

Tenders for painting of St. Patrick's ward school were received as follows:—Luke Ellard, \$24.50; Henry Clucas, \$48; E. R. Watson, \$98. Clucas got the tender.

The question of securing teachers for the ensuing year next came up. Communications were read from a number of teachers expressing their willingness to teach the next year.

Miss Knox asked to be relieved from her position by the 15th of November.

Mr. Butler made a touching appeal on behalf of this popular young lady teacher and eloquentist, in the course of which his bachelor heart gave voice to the poet's lamentation:—

Man to man so oft unjust,
It is always so to women.

His tender rendition of the above lines melted the hard heart of the board, and Miss Knox was permitted to leave on condition that she pay all expenses attending the procuring of a fit substitute.

Moved by Morton, seconded by Ball, that Miss Blair be re-engaged at a salary of \$450. Mr. Ball thought it a matter of justice that she should receive \$425 as it was the understanding last year she should receive it. A motion to that effect was carried.

Moved by Ball, seconded by Nicholson, that the principal, Mr. Embury, be engaged at his present salary on the same condition as last year.

Moved in amendment by Crabb, seconded by Morton, that we advertise for a principal, holding the necessary certificate, for Goderich model school at \$700 a year.

Mr. Crabb said there was a feeling in town, certainly in his own ward, against the principal. Mr. Embury's certificate was a good one but the work performed by him was very unsatisfactory. The school since he had been principal had certainly gone back. It was not in as good condition today as it was when he took hold of it. Whether it was the principal's fault, or the children's, it was hard to say; but there was general dissatisfaction in town over the condition of affairs, and there would be still further dissatisfaction if he remained here.

The motion made by Mr. Ball was a wrong one. We engaged the principal at a less salary than he now gets, and when the duties of the model school came on in the fall of the year, he kicked unless he got a higher salary, although he knew when he took the position that he had to take the work of Mr. W. K. Miller. He got the raise from \$700 to \$800. He was doing the work this year as last year, but the Government came in and said "You must not teach the model school as heretofore," and so the teacher next year would not conduct the school as at present, and in that way he would not be earning the extra \$100 of a raise. Mr. Miller had taught the Model school after hours. The school needed a change; a new principal was necessary. If Mr. Embury wanted a new salary, he would now have a chance to defend him from the charge made by Mr. Crabb of not being able to pass pupils. He quoted a partial extract from a document prepared for him by Mr. Strang, but declined to give what went before and after. The spelling paper he showed him from the charge made by Prof. McLellan said so, and it had been ignored in some countries by the examiners. The result of Mr. Embury's work was ahead of that of any who vied with him at all these examinations. The board would be entitled in its duty if it did not show appreciation of a teacher who had done his duty so well.

There was more discussion on this question, but the above are the main arguments brought out.

The amendment was lost and the motion carried.

After a long discussion, it was decided to advertise for teachers for the rooms made vacant by the resignation of teachers.

A communication from H. I. Strang was read and the figures furnished by him in the inspector's report.

A communication was read from the school inspector relating to the figures supplied by Mr. Strang.

Accounts were received from John Brophy, \$3.50, per; Mrs. H. Cooke, \$17.35, referred to finance committee.

The inspector's report was again read, having been left over from last meeting.

The inspector, who was present, explained why he had not sent the report earlier. A letter sent on the same mail had reached Goderich on the morning of the meeting. It had been his custom to address his report to the chairman. He had reported as requested. If he was not competent as an inspector, all the board had to do was to tell him so, and he would resign the position. The propositions had been made by the principal without his consultation. He had kept his appointment, but the principal had not appeared to make them. It was his duty to make a report whether it pleased or displeased the board.

Crabb thought the report a perfectly proper one. The comparisons made by the inspector were just ones. No one could say it was other than a correct report now.

Ball claimed the inspector should have made comparisons with outside schools. He said the Goderich central school had done better work than any other school in the county.

Butler with an angry voice cried out just here:—"Mr. Strang has made himself very busy in this thing," but nobody said any attention to it, except to think the charge a silly one made in a very mean way.

The chairman said that the board had a perfect right to get the inspector to bring in such a report as they thought fit. When he made his report saying he found the school in a certain condition, that was all; when he went further he did wrong.

Crabb—The inspector did not overstep his duty. He had been asked to report on the standing of the school and he did so.

Swanson thought it was strange that nothing had been brought forward to show that the report was not a correct one.

Moved by Mr. Dettlor, seconded by Mr. Ball, that the report of the inspector be received and filed, that is the portion contained on the first three pages down to the word "History." Carried.

Mr. Crabb moved, seconded by Mr. Swanson, that the balance of the report be received and filed.

A report from the principal, in reply to the inspector's report, which lay on the table unopened, was counted as read, to permit of its being published.

Owing to its tremendous length we cannot insert it until our next.

The board then adjourned.

SOCIAL AND CONCERT.

A Public Farewell to John McGillivray, B.A. of Knox Church.

The social and concert tendered the retiring assistant pastor of Knox church under the auspices of the choir, held in Knox church on Friday evening, was a success. The attendance was large, the refreshments were excellent, and were served by a corps of obliging young ladies with dainty little white caps, and the whole affair was well managed. After the refreshments, an excellent programme was offered up stairs.

Rev. W. Johnston opened the meeting with prayer.

The chairman, Rev. Robert Ure, D.D., in his opening remarks, said that the special reason of the meeting was that they might honor their esteemed young friend Mr. McGillivray, who had been with them for three months, and who had endeared himself to all by his amiability, his assiduity to public duties, and also by his worth as a man and a Christian. They honored themselves in honoring him. He was sure all felt sorry to see him go, and he would not be surprised if he had the full concurrence of the officers and people of Knox church in making that statement. He prayed for success and blessing upon his young friend in his studies and in his future career of usefulness as a worker in the Master's vineyard. The Dr. then extended a warm welcome to the local clergymen who were on the platform, and hoped the feeling of amity and brotherhood that existed between the churches of the town would ever be maintained and increased.

Rev. W. Johnston, of St. George's (Episcopalian) church said he was somewhat surprised to find his name come so early on the programme. However, some one, who was a humanitarian, had arranged that none of the speakers were to exceed five minutes, so he would not attempt to take advantage of his position and make a long speech. (Laughter.) Man is a social being. We have the social instincts largely preponderating, and every few men have been created who would be suited for the life of Robinson Crusoe or Peter the Hermit. This being the case, it is very necessary that we should cultivate the social portion of our being. We should associate with others, and have a real interest in the welfare and happiness of one another. What poor weak instruments we would be, how cold and how selfish, were it not for unity in our social relationship. In the church of God today, there was great need for friendship and unity. On such an occasion as the present there was something also depressing, for the word farewell has always more or less of sadness about it. There was no relationship outside of the domestic circle that was closer than that of a pastor to his people. Outside of the home, the church congregation should be the nearest and most important. Love—friendship—is the strongest power God has given to shape us into the pattern to which he would have us conform, and no man can bind a pastor and people together. Confidence and sympathy should ever exist between pastor and congregation if the church was to do its best work.

Rev. T. M. Campbell, of North street Methodist church, said a home feeling came over him as he stood upon the platform. He almost felt at times as if he was Dr. Ure's assistant. (Laughter.) He had great pleasure in reciprocating the thought of Dr. Ure that the churches should get closer. He thought a little sermon would do all present good (general uneasiness and smiles among the audience), so he would give one from a text taken from the book of "Mechanics," which ran:—"The whole is not stronger than its weakest part." He illustrated this by a mill, in which each part of the machinery depended upon some other part, and for one part to get out of order meant that the entire machinery must cease running. And so it was with a watch; the value of a timepiece depended upon even the smallest portion of its equipment, and so, also, in the case of a man. No matter how healthy or vigorous he might otherwise be, a single weak organ was the standard by which his entire constitution would be rated. Mentally, too, a man was only as strong as his weakest part. If one part is exceedingly weak, no matter how clever a man might be otherwise, he is a fool. And so it is in a moral sense. A man may be in every way but one a fine man, but if he drinks, or swears, or lies, or swindles his neighbors, he is not a good character. The scriptural axiom is on this very line—

"He that offends in one part is guilty of all." The moral character can be rounded only by seeking to remedy our weakest point. Society becomes corrupt when it condones vices in characters otherwise pleasing, generous or genial. He exhorted the seriousness of his address by saying that coming as it did after some of the more racy things of the evening it might perhaps act as salt to the porridge. (Laughter.)

J. McGillivray, B.A., assistant pastor of the church, and the guest of the evening, was the last speaker. He recollected when he preached his first sermon. It was in an old broken-down wagon shop on Manitoulin Island. The pulpit was a common box turned on end, with a straw pad for a bible rest, and if in his zeal he struck the good book too hard, the straws would fly out of the pad, suggestive of the theological straw that he himself was padded with. (Laughter.) Yet it was a happy summer. The following summer he spent with the large-hearted lumbermen of Byng Inlet. He thought at the close of this season's labors that it was the best summer he had ever spent. Last summer he spent in St. Mary's, filling a vacant pulpit there, and he then thought that was the best of the three so far as his happiness in the work was concerned. But this summer he labored among them in Goderich, and he could now say it was the best and most satisfactory summer he had spent anywhere. When he received the invitation to come to Goderich, it cost him two weeks of anxious thought. But two things had caused him to accept the offer. The first was the letter of his friend Mr. J. R. Miller, the church secretary, which was full of Christian encouragement and hopeful words, and the second was the knowledge that in his colleague and superior, Dr. Ure, he had a man who would be to him a guide, counsellor and friend. And he had not been disappointed. Although it had been said that a prophet had no honor in his own country, he could say that he had been much helped by the kind attention received from all, and he could say, in all sincerity, he had received uniform kindness from young and old. If anything unkind had been said of him he had never heard it, and so he had no reason to suppose there was anything of the kind. There were two regrets he wanted to particularly mention. One was that he could not more frequently visit the Sunday School and Bible class, two important factors in church work, and two of which Knox church should be proud. The other regret was that he had not done something in the way of forming a young people's society in connection with the church, for mental, social and spiritual improvement. He felt that his thanks were specially due to the members of the choir for their painstaking efforts to make this farewell meeting a success. He would remember with pleasure the many happy hours he had spent with the choir, who in their social enjoyment had combined innocent pleasure with Christian character among them. One of his greatest pleasures was found in the thought that from the young people of Knox church he had received only the most friendly greetings and their best regards. It was especially pleasing to him, because many of them were old schoolmates, and their respect indicated that they had confidence in him. He was glad also to have the kindly feeling of his brother ministers, and Dr. Ure, his friend and adviser.

Dr. Ure. He admitted the people of Knox church because they did not fall in with what he considered to be a perfectly nonsensical idea, that a congregation must have a young minister, and not an old one. He meant say of their revered pastor that he had often longed for his loving counsel, and he commended the congregation for ever standing by their friend and pastor, Dr. Ure. He would not now bespeak any loving welcome for his own successor, for they would be sure to extend it of their own accord; but he would urge upon them to hold up the hands of their pastor, who deserved their fullest support because of his fidelity to his Master and to the best interests of the congregation. It would give him pleasure in the future to meet with the people of Knox church and Leeburn, with whom he had spent many happy days.

Between the addresses an excellent programme of music and recitations was offered. The piano duets by Prof. DeFeudry and Miss Cooke were admirably rendered. Mrs. Toms sang "Leaf by Leaf the Roses Fall" in a very pleasing manner, and led very acceptably in the sacred quartette "The Sweet Bye and Bye." Miss Robertson, of Clinton, an amateur reciter, gave a recitation, "The Search for the Dead," in a realistic manner. The duet by Miss Rines and her young brother was admirably sung. These singers are always heard with pleasure. Miss Trusman's piano solo "Old Black Joe," was very nicely played. Mr. A. B. Henderson gave "The Gracious Love of God" in capital voice, and was encored, as was also Mr. Ed. Belcher in his sacred solo "Not Ashamed of Christ," a very good bass solo. The treat of the evening was the reading of Miss Knox. This talented abolitionist had two numbers on the programme, and it is no exaggeration to say she held the audience spell-bound. "Charles Edward at Versailles" received new meaning from her lips, and her rendering of "The Fall of Pemberton Hill" was a wonderful exhibition of histrionic ability. Miss Knox is certainly the best abolitionist we have heard in Goderich since Mrs.

Scott Siddons read here. In fact also was as faultless as so young a reader could be. The singing of the choir drew forth favorable comment. Mr. Brown, and his assistants, deserve much credit for the way in which the entertainment was conducted.

Dr. Ure, in closing the meeting, said he would again repeat that Mr. McGillivray carried with him the affection and esteem of the people among whom he had labored.

On Wednesday evening Mr. McGillivray was presented with a valuable collection of useful books, the gift of the choir and congregation.

WEST HURON.

Annual Convention of the Reformers of the Riding.

The annual convention of the Reformers of West Huron was held in Martin's hall, Duncannon, on Monday last. Despite the inclement state of the weather delegates were present from all sections of the riding. The chair was taken by Charles Girvin Esq., reeve of West Wawanosh, and after the reading of the minutes of previous meetings, the election of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—

President, Charles Girvin, West Wawanosh, 1st vice-president, Wm. Malrough, Ashfield; 2d vice-president, J. Crawford, Duncannon; secretary, Robert Harrison, Belfast; treasurer, John Andrews, Ashfield.

The following chairmen of municipalities were appointed: Ashfield, Jos. Griffin, W. Wawanosh, B. J. Crawford, E. Wawanosh, Thos. H. Taylor; Colborne, William Young; Goderich township, Jos. McCluskey; Hullett, John Morgan; Blyth, M. Y. Young; Goderich, Elijah Martin.

The following resolutions were submitted and carried unanimously.

Moved by Mr. J. Crawford, seconded by Mr. Washington: That the Reformers of West Huron, in convention assembled, record their sincere and undivided appreciation of the high personal character, transcendent ability, wisdom and untiring energy and devotion to the country's service of that distinguished statesman, our honored chief, Hon. Edward Blake, and our entire confidence in his leadership, and that under it right will ultimately prevail, and the present reign of corruptionists at Ottawa will be overturned.

Moved by Wm. Malrough, seconded by Morgan Dalton, that we desire to express to M. C. Cameron, Esq., M.P., our deep sense of the distinguished services he has rendered to the party and the country, in the House of Commons, at Ottawa. We are proud to be represented by him, and as his constituents we feel honored in our representative, and we hereby tender to him our sincere expression of confidence.

Moved by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Alex. Saunders, that the thanks of the Reformers of West Huron are due and are hereby tendered to Hon. Oliver Mowat and his colleagues, including our able representative Hon. A. M. Ross, for the high service they have rendered to the Province of Ontario in the past, and we take this opportunity of expressing our entire confidence in them for the future.

In response to the call of the chairman addresses were given by M. C. Cameron, M.P., Hon. A. M. Ross, and James Somerville, M.P., but owing to the heavy pressure on our columns this week we are compelled to hold them over until next issue.

The meeting was brought to a close by votes of thanks to the speakers and chairman, and by cheers for the Queen.

West Huron Fall Show.

The following list was omitted in our last week's report:—

FRUIT—APPLES.—Best 20 varieties named, John Stewart; 24 Salkeld; 10 varieties named, J. Andrews; 2d J. Carroll, 2d W. Rumbell; 6 varieties named, Jos. T. Salkeld, 2d Geo. Cox; northern pig, T. Carroll, 2d I. Salkeld; snow, G. Elliott, 2d J. T. Salkeld; Rhode Island greening, J. Varcoe, 2d G. Cox; Baldwin, R. Orr, 2d J. Varcoe; St. Lawrence, D. McBrien, 2d I. Salkeld; Gravenstein, J. Hunter; Spitzenburg scopus, Jos. Whitely; king of Tompkins county, R. Gibbons; Roxbury russet, T. Westhead, 2d I. Salkeld; Hawthornden, M. Greenman, 2d J. Hunter; Hubbardston's nonchuck, J. Hunter, 2d I. Salkeld; Pomme Grise, A. Gard, American golden russet, I. Salkeld; Swazi Pomme Grise, A. McD Allan, 2d John Stewart; Wagner, J. Dickson, 2d G. Elliott; beauty of Kent, W. Murray; Grimes golden, E. Walker; any other kind named, fall, Jos. Gordon, 2d R. Walker; any other kind named, winter, John Porter, 2d J. Hunter; quince, J. Andrews, 2d A. M. Ross; plate crab, D. McBrien, 2d J. Stewart.

John Marquis received 2d prize for his cotswold ram.

Amos Fisher, Colborne, got first prize for his year old gelding at the West Riding fall show, but due credit was not given him in the prize list last week.

SIR RICHARD CARTWRIGHT will give a series of addresses in the county of Huron during the next couple of weeks. The people of South Huron will be pleased to welcome their able member.

CARNIVAL.—A fancy dress carnival will be held in the Roller rink on Friday evening the 19th inst. Tonight the town band will appear at the rink.