# Huron Signal.

GODERICH, Jan. 13, 1875.


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A vote of the ratepayers of Iroquois, was taken on the Duskin Bill on Friday. The total number of votes polled was 97; majority in favour of the Bill, 31.

The January cattle fair at Guelph, on the 6th inst., was largely attended and trade was better than for some months. Stock was high as $4.50, live, was in fair demand.

Notices have been issued to ticket agents along the line of the Great Western Railway, that after the 1st of February they will be required to charge one and a quarter fare for the round trip instead of single fare as heretofore.

A shock, which must have been caused either by an explosion or an earthquake, was felt in Meadowville, on Monday, about 2.30 p. m. On the same day, at Streetville, a similar shock was felt at the same hour.

The *Advance* says that a Mrs. Miller, of Dutton, is out of her mind, and in her ravings has disclosed nearly all the particulars connected with the End tragedy which occurred two years ago. She was in the saloon with the principals, both before and after the burning of Mr. End in his office.

A serious row occured between the proprietors of two rival stage lines running between London and Lucan, on the 7th, three brothers, named Donnelly, brutely assulting Patrick Flanigan, unhitching his horses, and taking away his passengers. They were all arrested and fined heavily.

Died, on the 7th, inst., in Fingal, John Hyndman. Deceased was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, in the year 1779, and was, consequently, 105 years old at the time of his death. He emigrated to the county of Elgin in 1847, and lived there up to the time of his death.

The body of a man was found frozen on the ice near Oliver's Ferry, Ottawa, on Friday by Everett Hall and Mr. Baker. It is supposed to be the body of a man named Ben Sawyer, who fell off a boat last July, on his way to Newboro'.

The explosion of a blast on Thursday morning hurled a stone weighing over ten pounds through a window and into an office, striking in its course a blotting book which lay on the table in the Parliament buildings, Ottawa. It was impelled with great violence, and had the gentleman who usually occupies the office been present, he might have been seriously injured.

A fire occured on Friday at the Moncalve Wells, owned by Smith & Vanalstyne, destroying he receiving tank and about 100 barrels of oil. It was caused by the men thawing out some of the pipes by building fires on them. Loss about $3,000. The well was pumping again all right in three hours Further loss was prevented by the arrival of the steam fire engine from Petrolia, which soon extinguished the flames.

A fire occured in a grist-mill a few miles form Bathurst, on Tuesday night, which resulted fatally. The keeper, named Bourdeau, and family were asleep in the upper story of the building, and did not observe the fire till it had almost surrounded them. The woman rushed for her baby and escaped from the building, and her husband, with two children in his arms, endeavoured to follow, but fell through the floor, separating him from the children. He made great efforts to save them, but became so suffocated and scorched that he had to leave them to perish, and escaped with his body frightfully burned and disfigured.

At midnight on Monday, the 28th ult., the barn of Mr. John McCrae, con 5th, con. of Morris, was discovered to be on fire, and had so far advanced as to prevent the saving of anything but six cows, which were in the stable underneath, being a side hill barn. The origin of the fire could be none other than "set on fire," as no fire had been used about the premises. Besides the loss of the barn there were in it, 300 bushels of wheat 250 of oats, 50 of peas, and about five tons of hay. There was a small insurance on the barn.

A terrible affair, by which a man was nearly killed, happened on New Year's eve, in the township of Binbrook. A man named J. Garrison, a well-digger by occupation, had been collecting some money on that day. Towards evening he stopped at a hotel at Swasey's Corners, Binbrook, and got into a quarrel with some men. All parties had drunk considerably, and when Garrison left the place in his waggon it was late at night. The next thing known about the affair was when the horses came back at full gallop with the remains of the waggon trailing behind them, and Garrison was found on the road, beaten badly, and cut by some sharp instrument in two or three places. He was lying in a pool of blood, and when discovered he was taken up for dead, but being carried to Bradfield's Hotel, he recovered a little, and after a living there for two days was carried to his home.

### EXETER AND VICINITY.

From the *Times*—Markets:—fall wheat 85 to 90, Spring wheat 85 to 90, oats 35 to 40, barley 95 to $1, peas 65 to 70, potatoes 50, hay $19, pork $6.50 to $7, butter 23, eggs 14 to 17.

On 2nd inst., as Mr. R. Luxton, is the employ of Mr. W. Treble; was working upon a building for that gentleman, a piece of nail which he was driving broke from under his hammer, and penetrated his right eye, narrowly escaping the pupil. As it is his eye is seriously damaged.

Mr. John Speckman of Exeter has been appointed an agent in the place of Mr. Biggar lately deceased. The territory given him to oversee is Goderich, Stanley, Tuckersmith, McKillop, Hay, Stephen, East and West Williams, Bosanquet McGillivery, Colborne, Biddulph and Usborne.

On Friday morning last, 1st inst., Mr. Simmons of the boundary between Hibbert and Usborne, had a valuable mare kicked to death by a horse in an adjoining stall. His hind foot actually buried themselves in the fleshy part of her thighs, and the next morning he was literally covered with the congealed blood of his unwilling victim, and presented a horrible sight. The poor brute was so badly used up that it had to be shot.

### SEAFORTH AND VICINITY.

From the *Expositor*.—On Wednesday night, between 12 and 1 o'clock, Mr. A. G. McDougall was aroused from a comfortable slumber by a noise answered the summons, and was greeted by a woman whose raiment was about as well adapted as a protection against the cold as Davy Crocket's evening costume of a collar and pair of spurs. She made a few wild remarks about robbers or something, and vanished. In the morning the tracks of her bare feet were discernible in the snow, and the only wonder is how she escaped being frozen.

Messrs. A. W. Ogilvie & Co. intend erecting a new block on the east side of their mill, for the manufacture of salt. By means of this addition the waste steam of the mill can be utilized for evaporating.

M. Allan McLean, of the Huron *Expositor*, accompanied by Miss M. E. McLean, left for Florida on Wednesday last. Mr. McLean goes in quest of a warmer climate, with a view to benefit his health.

On Saturday evening last a girl named Margaret Allan, daughter of Mr. Wm. Allan, Tuckersmith, was using an axe, the tool slipped and cut her severely on the ankle. The wound is a painful one, but we are glad to learn that the young lady is recovering.

For sport go to Texas. They have panthers there fifteen feet long and exceedingly vigorous; and if you have no sport, the beasts certainly will.

Subscribers will confer a favour by notifying us of any irregularity in the delivery of their papers.

Messrs. Geo. P. Rowell & Co., 40 Park Row, and S. M. Pettengill & Co., Park Row, are our only authorized Advertising Agents in New York.

We shall be glad at all times to receive items of local news, reports of meetings, accidents, or any incident of interest to the county at large. Such matter may be sent at the rate of one cent per os. if marked Printer's Copy and not sealed. To ensure publication in any particular issue it should reach the office not later than Monday evening.

### Grand Trunk Railway.

TRAINS WILL LEAVE GODERICH AS FOLLOWS:

No. 1 Express, 7.00 a. m., for Toronto, London and Buffalo.
No. 7 Mixed, 9 15 a. m., for Stratford.
No. 3 Mail Express 12.45 p. m., for Toronto, Buffalo and Detroit.
No. 9 Mixed, 3.30 p. m.,

TRAINS WILL ARRIVE AS FOLLOWS:

No. 8 Mixed, 11.00 a. m., from Stratford.
No. 2 Mail Express 2.00 p. m., from Toronto, Detroit and Buffalo.
No. 10 Mixed, 7.00 p. m., from Stratford.
No. 4 Express, 10.00 p. m., from Buffalo.

### A "What-is-it"?

Not the far-fased "wooly horse" owned by the "great humbug," nor the hairy man from the jungles of India, nor the agonized monkey-faced mermaid which puzzled and confounded the savants of all nations—it is to none of these great natural conundrums we refer, but to the question of party identity which has been created through the appearance upon the political field of our to-be martyred friend, John Davison.

It has been conceded beyond question that no man is a prophet in his own country, and we find that, in coming to the conclusion which we reached after mature deliberation upon Mr. Davison's address to the electors of the West Riding, we do not coincide with the views of some others. To quote an adage, "we should leave home, to get home news," and relying upon the comparative truthfulness of such information we have grown doubtful of the character of Mr. Davison's professions. The *Mail* and *Leader* are concluded to reliable sources from which to gather Tory news,—although we must accord the palm of truthfulness to the latter—and when anything therein appears bearing upon that side of politics we must accept it with some credibility. In the list of nominations so far made for the Local House the *Mail* sets Mr. Davison down as the Opposition candidate in the West Riding of Huron; the *Leader* after the same manner put a "G" after his name, which they explain means Government candidate. Mr. Davison's claims that he is an "independent" candidate, and of the three, which are we to believe. We incline to "Honest John," however, and believe that the *Mail*, out of spite for not receiving a subscription from Mr. Davison, inflicted the worst vengeance upon him which lay within their power by classing him along with the notorious opposition quartette. As for the *Leader*, the mutuality which grows out of the antiquity of that journal and Mr. Davison, and the perfect harmony of their natures, scouts the idea that it should perpetrate such a joke upon him as to say he had given up tight lacing and conformed with the fashions of the times. It may be that that journal in speaking of him as a government candidate, refers to the government of the late John Sandfield, over whom Mr. Davison has been mourning, during the past few weeks, as did Timon over the ruins of Carthage.

It has been noticed during his campaigning, that Mr. Davison has never refered to the conduct of the present opposition, but is ever setting forth the excellence of the Sandfield administration, as if Cameron, &c., were the "dead and gone" and not Sandfield, and it is possible that in the extremity of their mutual grief, they inaugurated this new characteristic of ministerial support.

Still the question is unsatisfactorily answered, and Mr. Davison can only be recognized as a political "what is-it" so long as doubt exists amongst those whom we could ler ought to know. We do not believe that the *Leader* has turned its back upon him on account of his old independent professions, nor do we consider that the *Mail* has any belief that he is independent; but there is the undecided question, and we ask what is he?

Mr. Fred Van Norman is classed as an Oppositionist and an Independent by these two papers respectively, but as this man is anything and everything at any and every time, and as his defeat is so certain that he feels humiliated already, the matter deserves no notice.

### Mr. Ross's Letter.

We would draw attention to the letter from Mr. Ross, addressed to the Goderich *Star*, in reply to charges preferred against him. The editor of that paper has earned for himself a notorious reputation as a falsifier, but the latest blast is gross in the extreme. The perpetrator of such canards deserves to be hung up by the thumbs and horse whipped.

In the issue of that paper last week they attempt to "pooh pooh" the credit to be given Mr. Ross for his success in the matter of the Municipal Loan Fund. They say that the action was only simple justice, thus unintentionally giving him some credit. True Mr. Ross is paid for his work, but his success in this instance is none the less deserving. The Council was not in session at the time, and it was at his own instance, not at the instance of the County Council, as the *Star* says, that Mr. Ross attended only the matter. He saw the necessity of the case, and upon his own responsibility acted with promptness and success. His ability and shrewdness detected the error in the distribution of the funds, and to this none the less is the happy result attributable.

With regard to the statement that Mr. Watson offered to perform the duties of County Treasurer at half of Mr. Ross' salary, none can feel but his failure to depose him speaks volumes for the confidence which was reposed in Mr. Ross by the Council of the day. Mr. Watson's nomination to the position received only the support of the mover and seconder, notwithstanding the inducement to save $600 in the expenditures of the County. The statement that Mr. Ross "bamboozled" the Council is a direct insult to that body, and our contemporary has put his foot into it.

The patriotic Germans of Ben Miller and vicinity support Mr. Ross three to one.

### Vote for A. M. Ross.

The candidate of a purely Reform Convention.

The supporter of an honest Government.

An opponent of the progressive principles of Reform.

An old County tyrant.

A well tried and faithful official.

A local candidate.

A man well connected with the needs and conditions of the West Riding.

A man in whom the County council had most confidence then, when a Conservative was brought forward to supplant Mr. Ross in the Treasurership he (the Conservative) received only the support of his mover and seconder, in a council of about 47 members.

The working man's candidate—he having, in his early days been a carpenter.

The farmer's candidate—He possesses a practical acquaintance with agriculture, and his interest in that pursuit is well known.

The volunteer's candidate—For many years he has been at the head of the noble 33rd Battalion, has won the esteem of his privates and officers, and has established a character as an efficient military official. During the Fenian excitement of 1866, his energy and promptitude allayed public fears and showed his efficiency in a great emergency.

The people's candidate—His principles are as thoroughly progressive as are consistent with the needs of a prosperous and intelligent country. He has done for the country, in his position as Treasurer, acts which indicate his shrewdness and ability, and which recommend him to those in search of an honest and reliable parliamentary representative.

A man who abhors the conduct of such men as Mat. Cameron, Rykert, Lauder and Boultbee, and who believes in occupying the time of the House only with matters of importance and necessity; who supports the legislation of Mr. Mowatt's Government, so far as is consistent with right and propriety; who declares his policy without reserve and seeks by no cunningly devised sentiments to lead the ratepayer into a blind support.

A man who has experience, and whose reputation extends beyond that of being a "rare, good fellow."

A man who has seen enough and been enough before the public to be judged by his capacity and intelligence rather than his social qualifications.

A man who holds that surplus money is of more utility to the country when judiciously allotted for purposes of public improvement than when stored in a bank to bear interest and accumulate for no use further than to benefit the richer classes by reducing their taxes, whereas by expending the sum, the laboring classes would be furnished with employment and the public welfare enhanced.

Vote for the best man.

Vote for your own interests.

Vote for honest government and a man who will be a credit to the constituency, and of whom you will be proud.

PUT YOUR CROSS OPPOSITE THE NAME IN BLUE, and induce your neighbor to do the same.

Mr. John Davison is styled liberal. Here is anstance. When he contested for the Reeveship with Mr. Garrow, in 1874 he went to the poll late in the afternoon, enquired how the poll stood, and voted for *John Davison*, not even casting a vote for any of the co uncillors. This was liberality, indeed.

Largely attended meetings took place at Donnybrook and Town Hall Wawanosh, on Wednesday afternoon and evening, conducted by Messrs. Sinclair, Hawkins and Merrick. Mr. John Davison was present at the former meeting, but quickly vacated the field when the Reform speakers made their appearance. The speeches delivered by the latter gentlemen were well received, and the meetings were highly successful.

A gathering of the friends of Mr. Ross took place at Miller's Hotel, Ben Miller, on Wednesday night. A goodly number were present although the night was cold. Mr. Malloy, Deputy Reeve of Colborne, occupied the chair, and speeches were delivered by Messrs Ross, H. Horton, W. R. Squier, Wm. Young, Reeve of Colborne; J. T. Garrow, and D. Patton of Goderich Township. The speeches were able and convincing, and were listened to with much interest by the persons present. Everything passed off quietly and in the most orderly manner. The work is going on fairly in this section.

Mr. Ross held a meeting at Wingham on Thursday. It was largely attended, and was addressed by Messrs. Ross, Sinclair, and Hawkins. The gathering was most successful, and an evident change of feeling has taken place in that section. The Tories claimed a majority of about one hundred there, but a close canvass shows a great gain for Mr. Ross, and a probable chance of defeat for the Tories in their stronghold.

The redoubtable Fahey, of the Guelph *Herald*, is coming to give the Conservative standard a vigorous shake, and endeavour to instil some life into the dying hopes of the party. Mr. Hawkins is ready to tackle him with ungloved hands.

An Ignoramus, styling himself "Howick," expresses offence, through the columns of the *Star*, at our using the very common expression of "flying Dutchman" in conjuction with Mr. Van Norman's name, and endeavors to make an insult out of it to the German population. We know as well as "Howick" that Van Norman is not a German, and we know too that the loyal German inhabitants would be unwilling to accept him as a fellow countryman. "Howick" is no German himself, or he would have never noticed the expression.

About 300 electors of the West Rid ing met at Kingsbridge on Tuesday afternoon. The room in which the meeting was held was crowded to its greatest capacity, and the proceedings were very orderly. Mr. Maurice Dalton, ex-Deputy-Reeve occupied the chair, and introduced the several speakers, Messrs. Col. Ross, and Sinclair, of Goderich, J. J. Hawkins, of Brantford; and J. D. Merrick, of Toronto. The speeches delivered by these gentlemen were stirring and excellent, and were well received by the audience. Mr. Ross was enthusiastically received, and his hearty support in this section is assured.

Mr. Dalton has been badly treated by his Conservative friends, who have disregarded his faithful services as a municipal officer in the past. The feeling thus aroused will tend much to the greater defeat of the conservative party, who have thus shown themselves inconsistent.

To Voters.—We have furnished voters through these columns with instructions as regards voting by ballot, but a single repetition is not out of place. Here is the form:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Davison, John Davison, of Town of Goderich, County of Huron, Barrister at-law. | |
| 2 | Ross, Alexander McLagan Ross, of Town of Goderich, County of Huron, Bank Manager. | X |

Mr. Davison's name is printed in RED and that of Mr. Ross in BLUE. Be careful not to mutilate the ballot, and to mark your cross distinuly after the name in BLUE.

One of the charges trumped up by the opposition against the Government is the manner in which the Huron Timber Limits were disposed of. They characterize the proceeding as one which alienates the district from the government. The charge is a shallow one. The 5,000 square miles were sold at auction and realized $592,601, besides an annual license fee of $2 per square mile. These amounts nett to the Government the neat sum of $40,000 per annum. If this is a loss to the country, what would make a gain.

The editors of the *Nation* have made a most abject apology to Hon. Geo. Brown for the wrong they have done him in the publication of recent libellous articles.

The *Globe* falls into the same error with regard to the indebtedness of the town as did the London *Advertiser* some time ago. The government schedule is incorrectly printed, and the sum of our debt is $12,100 instead of $121,000 as reported.

Frequently, we hear persons say that, although their feelings tend towards supporting one candidate in the approaching election, yet, for certain reasons, they feel that out of deference to his opponent they should not. Every person should consider it his duty to vote, and the fact of the voting being strictly secret no scruples should arise. We hope that every man will vote so that the standing of the Riding may be decided in this the first contest.

The *Mail* campaign sheets were widely circulated at the nomination, and every effort was made to influence public feeling in favor of the Opposition candidate, but their is no denying the fact that Mr. Ross has got the lead and will maintain it to the credit of the Reform party. The disgraceful manner in which the pack of boys from Goderich and elsewhere yelled and conducted themselves during the meeting will have its effects. Many persons present were sufficiently insulted to make them feel it their duty to vote against the non-dynam which is permitted to associate with respectable conservatism. We would refer our readers to the report of the speeches made, and let them one and all go to the polls help their friends there and vote for A. M. Ross.

The straight ticket for Monday—
A. M. Ross for the West Riding.
T. Gibson, for the East
A. Bishop for the South.

### NOMINATIONS FOR THE LOCAL HOUSE.

#### WEST RIDING.

Quite a large number of electors assembled at Smith's Hill, representatives of both parties, for the purpose of nominating a representative in the Ontario Legislature. Both parties were about equally represented; but we must say that the Tories carried the weight in lungs, and they used them to the full est effect. The hooting and yelling that greeted the Reform nominees was simply disgraceful. Notwithstanding their ungenerousness, however, Mr. Ross was listened to with some degree of attention.

The nomination took place in the Agricultural Hall, and after hearing the writ read, the following nominations were made.

Mr. A. M. Ross, by Wm. Young, Esq., and Jas. Crawford, of Port Albert.

Mr. John Davison, by Jas. McIlough, West Wawanosh, and R. L. Doyle, Wm. Young, Esq., by Chas. Girvin, and W. R. Squier.

Mr. R. L. Doyle, by C. Crabb, Esq., and Jas. Johnston, West Wawanosh.

Mr. J. S. Sinclair, by J. Flynn and John Washington.

Mr. H. W. Ball, by Wm. Campbell and Geo. Graham.

Mr. W. R. Squier, by Wm. Mallough and Horace Horton, M. P.

Mr. F. W. Johnston, by H. W. Ball and C. Crabb, Esq.

Mr. J. T. Garrow, by J. S. Sinclair and Richard Bonomy.

Mr. P. Carroll, Colborne, by Dixie Watson, and Wm. Campbell.

Mr. Thos. Greenway by F. W. Johnston and Jas. Johnson.

Mr. Young had much pleasure in nominating Mr. Ross, as a man who would fitly represent the electors. He had known him from childhood. Mr. Ross had served the County faithfully for 10 years in the capacity of Treasurer, and he had risen to his position through his ability, having started out in life as a joiner and carpenter. He called on the farmers to choose Mr. Ross as their candidate, for they had already too many lawyers in the House.

Mr. Crawford, as seconder of Mr. Ross' nomination, expressed his long acquaintance with his nominee and the perfect confidence he had in his ability.

Mr. Mallough, as nominator of Mr. Davison, said he had known that gentleman for 20 years. The only objection that had been raised to him in the present election was that he was a lawyer, but that objection would fall to the ground. He predicted success for Mr. D.

Mr. R. L. Doyle, as seconder, spoke in Mr. Davison's support.

Mr. Chas. Girvin nominated Mr. Young, because he thought farmers should be represented. Mr. W. R. Squier also spoke in favor of his candidate.

Mr. Crabb had nominated Mr. R. L. Doyle, but as he was going to withdraw he would speak of the two *bona fide* candidates. Mr. Davison was a lawyer, and when a man in that position got the cognomen of an "honest lawyer" you may bet your boots he was honest. He ridiculed Mr. Ross, as a paid official, in referring to any of his acts as Treasurer. He then entered into a sketch of the actions of the Government, many of which he denounced as unconstitional. He gave Mr. Ross credit for being a good Treasurer.

Mr. Johnston laudated the appointment of lawyers. He reviewed the record of the Government, and said that during the Sandfield administration they had spent $30,000 less than in two years and nine months of Grit administration.

Mr. Campbell said the question at issue was not the honesty of the separate candidates. He had nothing to say against Mr. Ross personally The present Government was at its death.

Mr. Graham spoke for Mr. Davison.

Mr. Mallough, of Ashfield, had nominated Mr. Squier, knowing him to be a fit person for the position.

Mr. Horton would speak of Mr. Ross more particularly The Treasurer of the County of Huron was proverbial over the country for his ability, and Mr. Ross had proved a great boon to the county. He had so worked the finances as to save them a great deal of money, and in the first year of his incumbency he had saved between $3,000 and $5,000, which would have been lost. Mr. Ross had been placed in many difficult positions, and had always acted with credit to himself. He was a live man, and had the advantage of Mr. Davison in this respect. Mr. Davison had no knowledge of the affairs of the County such as Mr. Ross had. Mr. Campbell had made reference to the sale of the town debentures by Mr. Ross. An effort had been made to sell the debentures at 95 cents but failed, and he (Mr. Horton) was instructed by the Finance Committee to see Mr. Ross. That gentleman undertook the task, and disposed of them at 97 cents, thereby saving the town $400, and Mr. Campbell commended the transaction at the time. Mr. Horton was satisfied that Mr. Ross would occupy the position for which he was striving, and in a short time would advance to still greater honors.

Mr. H. W. Ball supported the nomination of Mr. F. W. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Crabb, who took the opportunity of showing the antiquity of the Conservative party, and its close connection with the Baldwin-Lafontaine Government. The Conservative party were the true Reformers, and they kept compact the liberal principles of Conservatism. (Sensation.)

Mr. Sinclair replied to the charge made against Mr. Ross by Mr. Campbell, for having cast a Tory vote for Mr. Ritchie, but the vote was cast out of friendship, Mr. Ritchie having been Mr. Ross's bondman. He replied to Mr. Crabb, who had charged Reformers with being disloyal, and related how on a time that gentleman owned a schooner which he named "Annexation." Mr. Crabb had been a Reformer until Mr. Gibbons was nominated by a Reform convention, and then he suddenly changed his colors.

Messrs. Dixie Watson, Wm. Campbell, F. W. Johnston, and Jas. Johnson supported their several candidates, and expressed views upon the prominent ones.

A. M. Ross was received with cheers. The present position was new to him, and he hoped they would excuse his failings as an orator. He had been a Reformer from his youth up, and had cast one Tory vote for Mr. Ritchie, through respect for that gentlemen. He was not so bigoted as to forget the duty he owed his friends. Mr. Crabb had said Mr. Ross took his Reform principles from the Family Compact. That was an unfortunate remark. Although young at the time of the existence of that Government, he had read and heard enough of it to see him a Reformer. The Reform principles had been a progressive one, and had fought successfully for such needed reforms as responsible Government, the separation of connections between church and state, representation by population, &c. John Sandfield had taken upon himself the distribution of [illegible] and all surplus, but the Opposition changed that policy, and when they got into power distributed those funds by the vote of the House.

The Government was defending [illegible] subject, which was but carrying out the principles of Reform. The Opposition had suggested no measures but had confined themselves to harping upon matters of detail and personal matters which occurred without the knowledge of the principals. He had not bound himself to support the Government wholly, but he reserved to himself the privilege of taking objection to all measures which he might deem improper. He then referred to the sale of the Huron timber limits, which had been done for the best interests of the country and to great advantage. He referred, also, to the sale of debentures which Mr. Crabb said were debentures of the Province and which were sold at a low figure. These debentures were those of municipalities which were deeply in debt, and they sold these securities for borrowed moneys for the best figures which they could realize, to save themselves from further trouble with almost bankrupt municipalities. They could not expect to get the highest price for such debentures. The government had been wise in extending the aid to railways. The Dual Representation Bill was an act creditable to them. He referred to the consolidation of the municipal laws. He would support the consolidation of the assessment law, and his experience would assist him very much in that matter. The Ballot Act was brought forth by the Reform Government, this laying a claim to purity of purpose that received first consideration. Mr. Ross then referred to the Municipal Loan Fund Act, and his connection therewith. The County of Huron had been paying interest on their loan at the rate of 6 per cent., and when the government had secured a loan at 5 per cent. interest, to meet the demands of the municipalities, he represented to them that, as Huron had paid up promptly, they should get the benefit of the one per cent. profit. By this means $300 or more was saved the County annually. Again, when $2,000 a mill were voted to the municipalities which aided the B. & L. H. R. R., he represented to the government the injustice being done the County in giving this sum to certain municipalities which had recovered the amounts advanced when the road was built, and the consequence was Huron received $93,000 extra. The Government had been accused of wastefulness, but he considered that money was better used when distributed amongst the voters to be spent at their option, than lying in the bank for the purpose of accumulating surplus. He then referred to the charges made by Mr. Davison's organ, of which we give the particulars elsewhere. He had always taken a great interest in the advancement of the County, and should they elect him he would do all in his power to still further advance its interests.

In reply to a question Mr. Ross said that he had sold the town debentures to Philip Brown, of Toronto.

Mr. Davison was loudly cheered by the boys from Goderich, who were present for the purpose of packing the meeting. Much had been said about his qualifications, but the question was not as to the qualifications of himself or Mr. Ross, but whether the present government should be sustained or not. He was a conservative, and they had not to go far to find out the policy of that party. He referred to the John Sandfield government having been defeated on the question of the distribution of the surplus, and said that the present Government had voted a sum of $60,000 for drainage purposes, which showed the difference between being in power and out of it. He referred to the Reform principle of liberal Government in the case of Lucknow, which had voted to be united to Huron (this was contradicted) but it was given over to Bruce. Referred also to sale of timber limits, which he characterized as unconstitutional, one man having conducted the sale. He said nothing against the expenditure of the surplus, but some of the ways taken were improper, as for instance the letting of contracts. Mr. Ross had done well in having Huron's share of the distribution increased, but failed to see that, as a paid servant, he was entitled to especial commendation. It had been said he had done nothing for the county, but he thought it was time he did, and he was going to do so. He would go to the polls upon the record of the government, and he asked the electors to compare the record of the present with the Sandfield Government, and decide which was the more worthy of support. It had been said the town of Goderich would give him a majority, but as Mr. Ross had said not, he was willing to test the election in that place.

A poll was then demanded on behalf of Mr. Ross and Mr. Davison, and after hearing the polling places named the assemblage dispersed.

Mr. Ross appointed Mr. Joseph Williams, Secretary of the Goderich Reform Association, his agent for expending monies connected with the election, and Mr. Davison appointed Mr. F. W. Johnston for the same purpose.

#### EAST HURON.

The nomination in this Riding resulted as was anticipated—in the placing in the field of Mr. Gibson and Mr. Van Norman. The verdict of the 18th is evident to all.

Let every Reformer do his duty.

#### SOUTH HURON.

The nomination took place at Brucefield, and contrary to general expectation, and to the surprise of all parties, Mr. Case was nominated in opposition to Mr. Bishop. However, the result is certain, and Mr. Bishop, who has once raised this Riding thoroughly, will have an easy victory.

#### THE PROVINCE.

The following Reformers were elected by acclamation: Hardy, South Brant; Williams, Hamilton; Mowat, N. Oxford; Clarke, Centre Wellington; Gow, South Wellington; Patterson, West York; Bonfield, South Renfrew; Fleming, South Waterloo.

Mr. Monk, of Carleton, Tory, was also unanimously elected.

The result of the nominations is—74 Ministerialists, 75 Opposition and 16 Independent.

### BRUSSELS.

Markets. fall wheat 88 to 90, spring wheat 85 to 88, barley 95 to $1.00, oats 35 to 39, peas 65 to 68, potatoes 55 to 60, pork $7.50 to $8.00, butter 20, eggs 18 to 20.

A man named Wm. Foster, working with Mr. Wm. McLeod, about a mile from Ethel, while taking out logs for Mr. Vanstone, on Wednesday 29 ult. cut his foot in such a way that medical aid had to be obtained to sew up the wound, which was done in one hour after. Last account he was progressing favorably.—*Post.*

Runaway.—On New Year's Day, while Mr. R. Straith and Rev. F. McCuaig, of Clinton, were on their way to visit Mr. W. Craig, of the Bayfield road, who is lying quite ill, the horse they were driving, took fright and ran away, throwing both occupants out, Mr. McCuaig escaped uninjured, but Mr. Straith, who held the lines, received a severe bruise. The cutter was slightly broken.—*New Era.*

It is stated that Lord Dufferin will visit Ireland, in May next, to inspect his Clandeboye estates.

### Communications.

*To the Editor of the Star.*

Sir,—In your issue of the 6th inst., you have an editorial containing charges against me in regard to my conduct as County Treasurer, the first of which is given in the following language:—

"In his capacity as County Treasurer he has had to perform the duty of selling lands for taxes. It is said that he has added materially to his wealth by this means. Ostensibly he was not a purchaser at these sales but he had a trustworthy deputy, who 'bought in for him and the lands were 'Looked down' accordingly."

I have just to say that, since I have had the selling of lands for taxes, I have not, either in my own name or in that of any other person, purchased any of those lands, nor have I had either directly or indirectly, any interest in such purchases, and that the statement given in your article is a pure falsehood.

Your second charge is that

"It was only at the last meeting of the County Council that he charged the County a commission of $60 for selling debentures, although at the same time he was in the receipt of a good salary as County Treasurer, the sale of said debentures being part of his duty as County Treasurer."

This, like the first charge, is totally untrue. I sold no debentures for the County during the past year, and made no charge against the County for any such commission. The town, through its Mayor, asked me to sell $20,000 of county debentures which were handed over to the town in payment of the Northern Gravel road, and the agreement made was that I was to receive quarter cent. commission for selling, which is the very lowest charge ever made by brokers for such transactions. I did sell the debentures at a good figure and charged the Town, not the County, the commission agreed upon, which included the transfer of the proceeds from Hamilton to Goderich, the lowest charge for such transfer usually made by brokers being 1 per cent. This charge therefore, like the other is plainly untrue.

The next charge is made thus:—

"The County Council demanded of him security, he declined giving personal security but offered a bond from the Canada Guarantee Co.' The premium on this bond is $150 per annum. Will it be believed that Mr. Ross succeeded in pulling the wool over the eyes of the County Councillors by getting them to pay one half the premium, $75."

The Council of Huron and Bruce thought it advisable to substitute a bond of a Guarantee Society for personal security which public bodies have frequently found unsatisfactory. The annual premium on such a bond is $150. I represented that I could not afford to pay $150 a year out of my salary for this, but that I was willing to pay one half if the Council would pay the other. This they agreed to, and it is the practice of most large corporations to pay half the premium of their employees. Afterwards I proposed to the Council to substitute, for the former bond, a mortgage on real estate for $10,000, and a bond of the Guarantee Society for $10,000, I paying the whole premium on the latter and thus relieve the County from any charge for this security; this they agreed to, and the County therefore do not now, nor have they for the past four years paid any part of such premium. So much for the misrepresentation attempted in your article in this matter.

In conclusion, allow me to say, that I had hoped that this contest would have been carried on without any recourse to personalities, but am sorry to find that the evil example of the Opposition, which has seemed to [illegible] the title of "The party of Slander," is so readily and unjustifiably taken up by their followers here.

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

### The "Star" Rampant.

Dear "Signal."—Had I unfortunately been asthmatically inclined, I certainly should not have recovered breath enough for to week to have said a single word for myself, after such an onslaught by this spitfire meteor that has fallen amongst us; but, did this choleric old man never hear it said in the regions from which he came, that "coarse language is notstrong language," or that low abuse is not received in any intelligent community as reasoning or argument on such questions as those now occupying the public mind throughout Ontario, if not the Dominion? His file is whole column of his paper with low balderdash, without rhyme or reason in it, in the vain hope that he will thereby extinguish all expression of opinion opposed to his own antiquated notions on questions of the most vital importance to every man in the Dominion, and which might so easily be discussed without abuse or personal offence to any one. The *Star* tries to give the go-by to the questions which I addressed to Mr. Davison on Wednesday, in order to save that gentleman from the danger of being brought up at the Nomination on Monday last; but these, and others also, no doubt both more pertinent and pungent will have to be answered before he can carry his election. I asked you, Sir, to send one of our little Stars to the "Thunderer" to enlighten him as to the manner of conducting election contests, but I must now ask of you to send two of them that the people of England may see with what statesmanlike ability and equanimity of temper we can manage these matters in what *they call* The Far West.

WAWANOSH.

### The Working Man.

The electors of the West Riding of Huron will soon be called upon to choose a member to represent them in the Local House. The workingmen want a representative—a really live embodiment of their views, with a sufficient knowledge of their wants; independence enough to assert them; ability and energy to enforce attention to them in the Legislature.

In Mr. A. M. Ross we have full confidence. In him you will find a gentleman more fully up to your requirements than Mr. Davison. Good, easy soul though the latter gentleman may be, we are afraid he is too much wedded (although unmarried) to his former slow-paced ideas to take the new departure that we find indicated in his Address.

Electors, we say this to you—that if, as Conservatives or Reformers, you trust in Mr. John Davison to represent you in this vitally active epoch in the history of our Province, you cannot fail but be mistaken. You are aware Mr. Davison's whole career shows nothing but the *laissez-faire* policy, in fact, that whatever *is*, is right. Now, we submit that we want an altogether different man. We might say that in these traits Mr. Ross is almost his antipodes. Having known Mr. Ross from youth we can positively attest to his industry, and best of all, well directed industry. Many people can be industrious but their judgment is at fault and their efforts are useless; but Mr. Ross combines industry with good judgment, enlarged practical views with prompt personal energy, and ability to comprehensively grasp the legislative issues of the day.

As we take it the Reform nominee has no axe to grind, no office to seek, and no desire to be shelved at the expense of the country. Nor does Mr. Ross rely exclusively upon Reformers for support. He can ask a generous support from liberal Conservatives, for to a great extent the claims of a member for the Local House should be considered apart from the political questions of the day; leaving these for the larger field of Dominion representatives.

It is sheer nonsense to talk of Mr. Ross' blind support of any party if that party should advocate legislation inimical to the best interests of our country or prejudicial to this section of it. A large property holder, a life-long-resident in the West Riding, with considerable knowledge of our financial position and claims, a knowledge acquired partly through his position as County Treasurer and as head agent of one of the banking institutions of the Province, and which knowledge comes to him all the advantage supposed to be possessed by the property of professional men or lawyers, whilst at the same time Mr. Ross has an affinity of feeling for the working men and mechanics, (not by no means an exclusively professional men like Mr. Davison can have Workingmen and Mechanics, we appeal to your known interests in the well being of the Province, to rally round Mr. Ross. Let no clap trap or scandalous yarns prejudice you against one of yourselves. The Reform candidate. You are aware, has nobly shown what a mechanic can do, (and what many of you can do) by manual labor and a liberal use of the abilities which the Almighty has given him. We have no doubt many of you, both in Town and Country can attest to Mr. Ross' fidelity while following his mechanical occupation here, or with, or are living in houses that he has helped to erect.

Let us then by all means give him a chance to take a part in building or perfecting the noble structure of responsible institutions, in this fair province of ours. Remember, electors, that you have now a chance to advance one of the bone and sinew of the country, and you should see that a proper use is made of it.

Let not then the fussy sophistry of Mr. Davison's friends prevent you from polling your vote and using your influence in favor of the workingman's candidate.

WORKINGMAN.

### LOCAL NEWS.

The County Council meets on the on the 26th inst.

The wheezy bellows of ye Assembly chamber of ye Fathers, is indicated by a sign in gold and black.

Read.—Mr. Abraham Smith's address to the free and independent electors of Huron. It will repay perusal.

The schools opened on Thursday last. Miss Rothwell takes the place of Miss Lougworth, who has gone to Stratford.

The Hamilton *Times* comes to us in a handsome new dress. This paper has grown to be very popular of late, and is well conducted and spicy.

Chromos.—Our readers will see by advertisement on the first column of this page, that our club rates are very liberal. Go for a chromo by all means.

Returned.—Mr. M. Nicholson, L. D. S., returned from a visit to New York, last Wednesday. Raging toothache, avaunt.

The new grammar school will be open for the reception of scholars next Monday, it is promised. Mr. McBride is the new assistant teacher.

Selling Out,—Mr. P. O'Dea is selling his stock previous to retiring from business. The red flag is out, and a slaughter of prices is going on.

Winter Fishing.—The fisherman have begun their winter operations, and already fresh herring are offered for sale. The catch this year is reported as likely to be a good one.

The Weather.—On the outside page we give the conduct of the weather in Goderich, during the past month, for which report we are indebted to Mr. G. N. Macdonald, observer for this port.

Signs of the Times.—Mr. W. T. Welsh, jewe