Petition of Mr. Dewar, secretary of Huron Teachers association, relative to the appointment of a County Superintendent was read and referred to Finance Committee.

Moved by Mr. Carling, seconded by Mr. Bishop, that the County Engineer be instructed to have the gravel road through the villages of Exeter and Francistown put in a good state of repair by putting on an extra coat of screened gravel as soon in the Spring as practicable—referred to Gravel Road Committee.

Moved by Mr. Parsons, seconded by Mr. R. Brown that the Engineer be and is hereby instructed to advertise for tenders and let the bridge over the Sable River at the bend on the boundary between Huron and Lambton, and that the Engineer send six copies of said advertisement to the engineer of Lambton, and request his attendance to sign the bond on the part of Lambton—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Sproat, seconded by Mr. Evans, That the engineer be instructed to draft plans and specifications for the erection of a Lock-up House in Seaforth as early next summer as practiable, and that it be let by the townships of McKillop and Tuckersmith and superintended by the engineer, and that $200 be granted towards the erection of the same by this Council as previously agreed upon—Carried.

Letter from Mr. Trainer was read and referred to the salaries committee.

Engineer's Report on the Maitland Bridge was read and referred to Road and Bridge Committee.

The Council then adjourned.

FRIDAY.

The Council met at 9 o clock. a. m.

Letter from the County Treasurer, with reference to his security, was read and referred to Finance Committee.

The Clerk read drafts of a number of new By-Laws required to be re-enacted on account of the separation of Huron and Bruce, all of which were adopted.

The Salaries' Committee reported, recommending the following salaries for the current year:

County Treasurer	$1200
" Clerk	500
" Engineer	800
Warden	100
Auditors' (each)	40
Court House Keeper	160
Gaol Surgeon	140
Inspector of weights and measures	85
Local Superintendents (per school)	4

No action to be taken at present with regard to the petitions of Messrs. Campaigne and Dickson.

It is considered that the motion of Mr. Sproat is not in the jurisdiction of committee.

GEORGE SPROAT,
Chairman.

Moved in amendment by Mr. Whitehead, seconded by Thos. Gibson, That the Auditors' and Warden's salary remain the same as last year.

Also in amendment by Mr. Patton, seconded by Mr. Morrow, That the report be amended by paying the Treasurer $1000, instead of $1200, as perquisites have increased by the sale of lands for taxes,

Referred back to Salaries' Committee.

Moved by Mr. Mallough, seconded by Mr. Messer. That this Council do pass a by-law at its meeting in June next to raise the sum of $20 000 for the purpose of extending and improving certain roads in the County of Huron, to be appropriated as follows:—

$10,000 on the Port Albert Road. $5,800 on the Seaforth and Belmore Road. $1,200 on the Wingham Road. And that a further appropriation be made out of moneys now in the Treasurer's hands:—$1,250 Hay Road. $1,500 Stephen Road. $1,500 Grey Road. $1,500 Howick Road. $1,500 West Wawanosh. Amounting in all to $7,250; believing that if a further appropriation of a sum of $7,250 was made in 1868, the various municipalities would be placed on an equality, as far as circumstances unavoidable would permit, thereby putting an end to this long-vexed question.

Moved in amendment by Mr. Doig, sec. by Mr. Morrow, That a sufficient sum be raised by direct taxation the present year on all the rateable property in the County of Huron to finish the Wingham and Belmore roads to the Bruce line, and that this Council pledges itself (if returned) another year to finish the Port Albert road to the Bruce line also.

The amendment being put against the motion, the motion was lost on the following division:—

For the motion:—Mallough, Gibson, Whitehead, Horton, McDonald, Dobbie, Carling, Perkins, Curry, Messer, Parsons Smillie, Brown, Dalton,—14.

Against the motion:—Sproat, Gaunt, Girvin, Young, Evans, Doig, Morrow, Creery, Simpson, Sneel, Sheppard, Patton, Kelly, Brown, Bishop, Woods,—16.

Moved in amendment to the amendment by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mr. Whitehead, That the sum of $20,000 be appropriated and raised by debentures payable in ten years, to be appropriated for extending and completing the leading gravel roads to the County of Bruce, viz: The Ashfield Road, Wingham Road, the Belmore and Seaforth Roads and that the Clerk be instructed to prepare and publish a By-law in accordance with the statute to be confirmed at the June Session of this Council, as this sum according the engineer's report will complete these leading roads. Upon the yeas and nays being taken the amendment was carried by a majority of two.

Moved further in amendment to the amendment by Mr Simpson, seconded by Mr Carling, That no money be raised this year for making new gravel roads.—There voted for the amendment Messrs. Mallough, Gibson, Sproat, Whitehead, Horton, McDonald, Dobson, Bishop, Perkins, Doig, Morrow, Snell, Currie, Messer, A Brown, Kelly, R Brown, Dalton, Woods, Gibbons. For the further amendment, Messrs. Gaunt, Evans, Creery, Parsons, Carling, Simpson, Patton, Sheppard, Smillie, Girvin, Young. Amendment carried by a majority of nine.

Moved by Mr Evans, seconded by Mr McDonald, That the sum of $50 be granted by this Council to aid in making bridges on the boundary line between McKillop and Logan, in Huron and Perth. Referred to R. & B. committee.

A Committee was appointed to report at next meeting upon the propriety of erecting a House of Refuge.

Moved by Mr Girvan, seconded by Mr Gaunt, That $400 be granted to improve the road leading to the new bridge on the 5theon., between East and West Wawanosh. Referred to Finance Com.

Moved by Mr McDonald, seconded by Mr Dobson, That Alex Grant's balance of sect. for building Manchester Bridge, amounting to $100, be paid, said sum having been retained until this meeting. Referred to Finance Committee.

Report of Printing Committee was read and adopted.

Moved by Mr Doig, seconded by Mr Morrow, That the Engineer be instructed to let the finishing of the Seaforth and Wingham roads to the Bruce line as soon as possible in the spring, so that they will be consolidated before the fall rains set in.—Carried.

Reports of Gravel Road Committee, Road and Bridge Committee, Com. on Stand Rules, and School Committee were read and adopted.

The Finance Committee then, reported, recommending as follows:—Letter from Assistant Secretary, referring to resolution of Council in the matter of certain moneys paid to Sheriff McDonald, we recommend that the Warden and Clerk be requested to attend to the matter and keep it alive until something definite be arrived at. We recommend that $40 be placed at the disposal of the Ladies' Benevolent Society, for the exclusive benefit of George Frazer. Also that Mr Nairn receive $70.00. Your Committee is of opinion that this Council has ample power to expend $3000 on boundary lines, recommend that the motion be adopted. Recommended that Mr Horton and Clerk offer Mr Blake $100 for the safe in Co. Attorney's office. Accounts to be paid—R D Bonis $110;—G M Trueman $10; Cyrus Carrol $69.28; W C Chewett 13.50; W Francis 13.50; Co Surveyor's accounts, Story & Davis 30.55; W T Cox 53.80; W Sloan 50.60; and other small accounts. No action to be taken on the petition with reference to the Northern Gravel Road. Motion for $200 in aid of drill shed in Goderich township. We recommend the money to be paid when certified for.

County Treasurer's statement of receipts and expenditures, we recommend to be published in the minutes of the present session.

Referring to that portion of the County Treasurer's Letter which treats of our dealings with the Government Municipal Loan Fund. We feel very strongly the false position in which we are liable to be placed, or perhaps are being placed, for in this matter we have no opportunity of ascertaining our position in regard to Sinking Fund collected by Government; but of some matters we are painfully conscious.

We are aware that we have fully and faithfully paid up to the last cent of our engagements, and purpose continuing to do so, whilst other municipalities have been permitted to fall into arrear. That we pay is no source of regret, but that paying our own we should be forced to contribute, not directly perhaps, but still forced annually to contribute towards the defalcations of others. Inasmuch as there is no surplus in the public chest from which those defaults might be made up, whilst made up they must be out of the General Funds of the country, always too limited, despite constantly increasing taxation. This, a sufficient source of anxiety, is not by any means our greatest. At the time that the Municipal Loan Fund was organized its palpable object was to encourage public works throughout the country, and was to all intents and purposes, an inducement held out by Government to facilitate the advance of those works, not in any shape or form as a matter of income or revenue to Government. Such was, in good faith, our position with Government as regards this fund up to 1861, when by Mr. Galt's Financial Scheme the holders of Municipal Loan Fund stock had the option within one year of accepting cash, or interest reduced from 6 to 5 per cent. We understand that the latter alternative was the one generally accepted, and that since that time Government has been paying only 5 per cent. interest. We are paying 8 per cent interest and sinking fund, and we submit that a very great injustice will have been inflicted upon this county, if Government insist on converting the Municipal Loan Fund into a source of revenue, it being, as above stated, a fund of their own creation, instituted as an inducement to encourage public improvements at the direct cost and charge of the municipality interested, thereby materially advancing the prosperity of the country without loss, care or trouble to government, further than that they became general bankers, who took the best security for their advances, and who charge over and above interest and sinking fund an advance of 2 per cent on their annual receipts, to cover the costs of management. We repeat that to convert such a fund into a source of revenue, would be a gross prostitution of the original intent in creating the fund, and a decided breach of good faith with this county. But we are not prepared to make use of this argument as applicable to those municipalities which have suffered themselves to fall into arrear, believing that whilst in default and under breach of contract, they should not be entitled to any such advantages as those who have faithfully fulfilled their engagements to the uttermost.

We have heard it stated that the one per cent gained to government by Mr. Galt's scheme should be applied towards making up the deficiencies caused by defaulters, but we presume no reasonable party would insist that those who honorably met their engagements should be mulcted to a large amount annually (in our case $3080) to relieve others less honorably disposed to pay their just debts, more particularly as Government cannot be at any loss, save by their own remissness in not collecting from those parties, seeing that Government had ample security, and full powers to collect. But whilst we have been speaking as if Government did actually still continue to charge us six per cent interest as before 1862, we beg again to repeat, that we are not aware that such is the fact, we are in ignorance on this subject, and would suggest that the Warden be requested to forward a copy of this report to the Receiver-General, and to ask that hon. gentleman for such information on the subject of our sinking fund as may set our reasonable doubts at rest.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

NINIAN WOODS,
Chairman.

Report adopted.

Moved by Mr Mallough, seconded by Mr Dalton, That this Council grant $1200 to gravel a piece of road that is impassable on the Port Albert Road as it is impossible for the ratepayers of Ashfield and the public to pass on said road for another year without some improvement being done—Carried.

The engineer was instructed to take steps for the removed of water from the side of the gravel road opposite lots 19, and 20 township of Stephen.

The Council then adjourned.

SATURDAY.

After routine, the report of the Gaol and Court House Committee was read and adopted.

The Engineer was instructed to expend the $1200 on the Ashfield road, as soon as possible in the spring.

The Clerk was authorised to lessen his stay in Goderich after each meeting to Tuesday and Wednesday instead of the whole week.

By-Law No. 6, 1867, to fix the salaries of the County Officers, was read and passed.

The Council then adjourned to the first Monday in June next.

THE ISLE OF MAN.—The manner in which laws are promulgated here is so strange, and so unlike anything in England, that a short description of the ceremony may prove interesting. All the constituted authorities assemble for divine service in the church of St. John the Baptist, in the centre of the island, and at the termination of the service, they form into procession, and march to a very ancient artificial mound called Tynwald Hill, said to have been constructed hundreds of years ago by the Scandinavians. From the top of this mould the act is read in the English and Manx languages, and then it becomes law.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, JAN. 31, 1867.

The Twentieth Volume of the "HURON SIGNAL."

With the number to be published on Thursday next we commence the TWENTIETH VOLUME of the Weekly *Signal*. For nearly half an average lifetime this journal has been identified with the interests of the large section in which it was the pioneer newspaper, and we think we may venture to say that it has done something towards assisting in the development of the resources of this Western country. Since the 14th of February, 1848, when the first number of the *Signal* was published, great changes have taken place. Huron, Perth and Bruce were only commencing to emerge from a wilderness state—the hardy settlers having to struggle with low prices, bad roads, and the thousand-and-one drawbacks incident to a new settlement.—Society being at that time, as far as this section was concerned, in a crude state, the means of transit few and uncertain, and the movements of the mails of the most spasmodic character, the task of keeping a newspaper alive until the dawn of brighter times was no easy one. But energy and perseverance overcame every obstacle, and the *Signal* continued its onward career, regardless of the occasional defections of so-called friends, and the malice of those whose wrong-doing it was so ready to expose. Conducted on principles of Reform, it exposed and assisted in overthrowing the rule of men who, clothed with a brief authority, were guilty of acts of petty tyranny which it was not in human nature to brook, and while many who, in those early days, lorded it with a high hand have sunk into insignificance, the *Signal* continues to receive a hearty support from the people whose true interests it has always been the aim of its conductors to secure. The great changes which have been wrought in later years through the rapid development of our resources, as manifested in the seperation of Perth, and latterly of Bruce, from the County of Huron, and the wealth it has so well earned, demand the exercise of greater energy and enterprise, if possible, in order to keep the Huron *Signal* up to the times in every respect. This we intend to do, and if in any degree we fail it will not be from any want of hearty good will. The present proprietor cannot but feel deeply grateful for the kindness he has met with from the old friends of the paper, and the rapid additions to his subscription list leads him to flatter himself that he has made many new ones. All that can possibly be asked for the future is a continuance of the patronage received during the past, in return for which every effort will be made to secure "*The greatest possible good to the greatest possible number.*"

SNOWED UP.

A continuous snow-storm of nearly a week's duration has placed Goderich in a completely isolated position. Notwithstanding the most strenuous exertions on the part of the railway people no trains have been able to get through since Friday last, and we are therefore deprived of our mails. Travelling by sleigh is just as bad, for the country roads are so badly drifted up that it is utterly impossible to traverse them, and we fear it will be some days yet ere people will be able to dig their way out. Yesterday (Monday) an attempt was made by Philo White to get through to Clinton by sleigh to bring the mail now lying there, but without success, the state of the roads compelling him to turn back. Of course business here is at a standstill and must remain so until the roads are better.

Search for a Missing Woman.

Last (Monday) evening, Mrs. Bluett of this town, having urgent business up town, about 9 o'clock, determined to start home against the solicitations of her friends. As she had a distance to go, and the night was a fearful one, it was thought she could not reach home at all. Fearing she had been lost in the snow, a party proceeded to the house and learned that she had not arrived. A large party at once turned out, but after searching every street or spot to which she might have wandered in the blinding drift without success, the search was given up until this morning, when it became known that she had stopped all night at the Maitland Hotel, not daring to proceed any further.

FACETIOUS.

On Wednesday last Mr. Evans, of McKillop, who is too Irish to lose a good opening for a joke, proposed the following resolution, which was carried *of course*:—

Moved by Mr. Evans, seconded by Thos. Simpson, That in consequence of our present non-representation and former misrepresentation in the Legislative Assembly, it is hereby resolved that Charles Morrow, Esq., Reeve of Hullet, a member of this honorable board is deputed as a representative of the County of Huron to the Legislative Assembly until such time as amalgamation or confederation takes place. (Laughter and applause.)

☞ On Friday evening last, after the adjournment of the Council, the Warden entertained the members in the Albion Hotel. The design being that all should enjoy themselves in a free and easy style, formality was laid aside, and the time occupied with toast and song according as fancy dictated. Without giving any elaborate report of what was said or done, we will merely state that we have never witnessed a more pleasant affair of the kind.

The last census of London has revealed the singular fact that in London there are more Scotchmen than in Edinburgh, more Irishmen than in Dublin, more Catholics than in Rome, and more Jews than in the whole of Palestine.

TOWN COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Town Council last night the following officers were appointed, viz:—

James Thomson, Clerk; A. McKay and W. Hick, Assessors. A. McKay, Collector; James Smaill, Street Inspector.

The salaries are fixed at the same rate as last year, the majority of the Council not relishing the idea of small reforms so much in vogue just now with a certain class of people.

☞ We have received from Ticknor & Fields, Publishers, Boston, the February number of the Atlantic Monthly, the contents are as follows:—The Guardian Angel; Mona; Characteristics of the Elizabethan Literature; George Bedillion's Knight; Comic Journalism; Elizabeth's Chamber; Katharine Morne; A Drift-wood Fire; Real Estate; How Mr. Frye would have preached it; Glacial Phenomena in Maine; Forza Maggiore; The Guerdon; Recollections of John Vanderlyn, the Artist; The Republican Alliance; The Stand-point of the Boarding House; Reviews and Literary Notices.

HANDSOME.—One of the Insurance Companies for which Mr. Haldane is Agent at Goderich, have presented Mr. Albert Shephard with the sum of $20,00 for his gallant conduct at the late destructive fire. The gift was a most appropriate one.

Another Schooner for Goderich

We understand that Messrs. Leonard and Rumball have purchased at a cash price of $10,000, the schooner *N. C. Ford*. She carries 11,000 bushels through the canals, and with a little repairs will be good for four years. She will be up as soon as navigation opens, and we hope the enterprising owners will be able to do a "*peelin'*" business with her.

☞ We acknowledge the receipt from Messrs. Shephard & Strachan of a fine fresh codfish. Those gentlemen are making arrangements to have fresh fish from the sea-board during the season.

☞ Gentlemen will be admitted to the Commercial Academy for twenty dollars a year. Ladies for fifteen—to be paid as follows, ten dollars on entering, the balance at the beginning of next quarter. Special arrangements made with night students. Send for circular.

A Libel Suit.

The keeper of the Table Rock House at Niagara Falls, one Saul Davis, chafing under the merited castigations he is receiving from the press in all directions, for alleged swindling transactions and outrages upon visitors at the Falls for a series of years, purposes calling the Toronto *Telegraph* to account for designating him a Yankee and a scoundrel, Saul, like his namesake of Scriptural distinction, has been relentless in his persecutions of travellers, whether Jew or Gentile; and if the Press can be instrumental in his conversion, and abating other nuisances with himself in the vicinity of the Falls, the purpose is commendable.—*Hamilton Times.*

To the Electors of St. George's Ward.

GENTLEMEN:—In meeting with many of you last week, I told you that there was a possibility that there might be a new election for a councillor in this ward, to fill the place of Mr. Wm. Savage, made vacant by my bringing the fact before his honor Judge Brough, that there was two bad votes polled for Mr. Savage and against me, being the votes of J. V. Dollor, Esq., and his clerk, Mr. J. Robinson, which votes Mr. Detlor assured the poll clerk were perfectly good. But as the Judge decided that I take the seat, said votes being bogus, I hereby tender to those electors who supported me in the late contest, and also those who freely offered to come to my support in the event of a new election, my most sincere thanks, and as said two votes were polled for Mayor Detlor, I think it is a large sized clip from the wings of the Mayor elect, and should considerably diminish the size of the broom he carried at the close of that eventful occasion, when, bidding the law make courtsey to his will, or as Shakespere says, "But man, proud man, dressed in a little brief authority; most ignorant of what he's most assur'd, his glassy essence—like an angry ape—plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven, as make the angels weep." By giving the above an insertion in your valuable paper, you will much oblige

Yours truly,
W. G. SMITH.

Goderich, Jan. 29th, 1867.

MILITIA ORDER.—A Militia General order is published in Saturday's Gazette, which notifies commanding officers of corps that the annual drill pay for the current year ending on the 30th January, 1867, will not be issued until after the month of April next, and the yearly allowance for the care of arms to corps whose arms are kept in private armories, will issue at the same time. Blank forms of requisitions for pay and certificates of performance of drill and acquittance rolls will in due time be forwarded through the Brigade Majors, to be filled up by each Captain of a Company, according to the instructions on the face of the requisition.

The bark Blanche recently made the passage between Halifax and Liverpool in fourteen running days, loaded, and was have to two days in a gale.

UNION OF METHODIST CHURCHES.—A discussion is going on in the columns of the Christain Guardian on the subject of Confederation and the division of the conference.—There appears to be a very general agreement among the disputants as to the propriety of division, that is the appointment of local conferences, with a general conference composed of delegates of each of the local bodies, to meet every three or four years. On the details of the scheme, however, very considerable difference of opinion exists. There is little doubt, that before long the discussion will bear a practical form, and that a change such as that suggested, will take place. We should view such a change with very great pleasure, as tending to establish more fully the sentiment of union between the different Provinces, and think the change might with very great advantage be adopted by other religious bodies as well. The subject, at any rate, is worthy their serious consideration.

Josh Billings says it is highly important when a man makes up his mind to becum a raskal, that he shud examine hisself closely, and see if he aint better konstructed for a phool.

—A country correspondent says it would be a great facility in country places if post-offices were located near school-houses, as their children could, in that case, take home the newspapers daily.

HAY.

The newly elected council of Hay met in the Town Hall on Monday, the 21st inst., at 12 o'clock noon. Present, Robert Brown, Esq., Reeve; James Smillie, Esq., Deputy Reeve. Councillors, Michael Zellar, William Turnbull, and William Carrick, Esq.'s. They made and subscribed their declaration of qualification and office before the Township Clerk, and took their respective seats at the Council Table; Moved by Michael Zellar, Seconded by William Carrick, That William Wilson be continued Township Clerk at the same Salary as last year, viz, $110, Carried. Moved by James Smillie, Sec. by William Turnbull, That the following parties be exempt from paying Dog Tax (they having given satisfactory proof that they have no right to pay taxes for Dogs in 1866.) viz., Alexander Meusaw, Hayciuth Generaw, Abraham Ressenberger, & Michael Kircker, Carried. Moved by William Carrick, Sec. by William Turnbull, That Ralph Brown be an Auditer for the current year—Carried. The Reeve appointed David Wanless an Auditor. Moved by James Smillie, Sec. by William Carrick, That Mrs Chamberlain be remitted the sum of $3.95, off her Taxes, on account of indigent circumstances—Carried. Moved by William Carrick, Sec. by Michael Zellar, That the two following accounts be paid, viz. W T Cox, proprietor Huron *Signal*, for printing &c., $14.66, Mr Moorhouse, for stationary $7.35,—Carried. Moved by Michael Zellar Sec., by James Smillie, That the sum of $90, be expended in drawing gravel on the road through the long marsh during sleighing, said sum to be from the amount to be expended in repairing said road for the current year—Carried. Moved by Michael Zellar Sec., James Smillie That the 8th motion of the 6th sitting of 1866, be recinded, and that William Carrick be, and is hereby authorized to receive Tenders and let the job of building a Bridge across the Sable river opposite lot no. 1, in the 2nd con.—Carried. Moved by James Smillie, Sec. by William Turnbull, That the Council adjourn and meet again in the Town hall, on the 12th day of February next, at 10 o'clock a. m. for the purpose of appointing Township officers for the current year, and receiving application from persons desirious of taking Licenses to sell spirituous liquors &c., within the municipality—Carried.

WILLIAM WILSON.
Tp. Clerk.

Hay, 24th Jan., 1867.

Goderich Township.

At a meeting of the Municipal Council, (or Corporation) of the Township of Goderich held at the Holmesville Inn, on Monday the 21st day of January 1867, by appointment of the Township Clerk, and in accordance with the late amended acts of Upper Canada.

The Reeve and all the Councills present, Mr. Sheppard handed in his declaration and qualification of office as Reeve.

Mr. Patton, do. as Deputy Reeve.
Mr. Pollock, do.
Mr. Weston, do.
Mr. Murphy, "

The Council then went into the appointment of Township officers for the current year. Moved by Mr Patton, Sec. by Mr Pollock, that John Shaw, be continued as Township Clerk for the current year and that his salary be the same as last year. Mr James Patton appointed Tp. Treasurer, his salary to be sixty five dollars for 1867. Moved by Mr. Pollock, Sec. by Mr Patton, that Mr Henry Young, be assessed—and that his salary be $70. for the year 1867. Moved by Mr Patton, Sec. by Mr Pollock, that Mr Adam Cantelon be Auditor. Mr Francis Whitting, was appointed Auditor by the Reeve. The Council then appointed overseer of Highways for the current year. The account of James Sheppard, for putting in a culvert opposite lot 32, on the 9th concession. Certified by the Reeve amounting to $6, Moved by Mr. Pollock, Sec. by Mr. Patton, that James Sheppard, be paid—Carried, the account of W T Cox Esq. for printing &c. certified by the Clerk amounting to $30.14½, ordered to be paid. Moved by Mr Murphy, Sec. by Mr Patton, that John Holmes perform his statute labor on the 16th con.—Carried. Thos. Stokes Esq., to do his statute labor on side road leading to his own place by order of Council, several accounts handed in, in reference to Sheep killed by dogs &c., ordered to be paid. Moved by Mr. Pollock, Sec. by Mr. Patton, that $150, be granted by this council for the purpose of Erecting a Drill Shed, on conditions that the government give 250 dollars, and the county Council 200 dollars for the purpose of erecting said drill shed, the money to be paid when the building is finished—Carried. Moved by Mr Murphy, Sec. by Mr Pollock, that the widow Leavis be given the sum of ten dollars on account of indigence—Carried. The council then adjourned to meet again on the 2nd Monday in February proximo.

JOHN SHAW,
Tp. Clerk.

Horrible Execution.

The St. Vincent *Witness* says:—The woman Mary James, convicted at the last Court or Grand Sessions of murder, and sentenced to death, has paid the extreme penalty of the law. At eight o'clock the tolling of the gaol bell gave the signal that the tragedy was about to commence. The procession started from the cell. The culprit was preceded by the hangman, followed by the gaol chaplain, the Rev. H. W. Laborde, rural dean, who read the service for the burial of the dead—and by the officers of the gaol. She walked with steady and unfaltering steps to the foot of the gallows. On ascending she had some difficulty from the length of the shroud with which she was covered. Reaching the top, she fell on her knees immediately over the drop. The funeral service being ended, she asked to be permitted to sing. The chaplain consented, and in a firm but melodious voice she very torchingly sang the "Magnificat," and concluded it with the "Gloria Patriæ." The rural dean then bade her farewell, and drew back, but the movement could scarcely have been perceived, for the order was given, the drop fell and the culprit was seen standing unharmed on the platform—her eyes from the beginning were very imperfectly bandaged. Looking down, she drew back further from the trap, and her arms being free, she removed the pieces of muslin with which her eyes were covered. From this time she appeared to dread the trap, having seen the danger, and she could not be induced to go forward. The Provost-Marshal then summoned the turnkeys, who, with the hangman, were constrained to use force to get her on the trap-door. The instinct of self-preservation seemed to nerve her with strength, and a scuffle ensued on the platform of the gallows for ten minutes, when she was ultimately tripped up and she fell heavily on one of the large side beams of the gallows, and rolled on the scaffold, where she lay motionless. She was then pushed over on the trap-door, which was pulled, and she fell through head foremost. She never made a struggle or a movement after she was thrown down, and many persons supposed that life was extinct before she fell through the drop. The body was exposed to view for one hour before it was taken down and privately buried in the gaol yard.

Novel Affair at a Temperance Soiree

A HORSE FALLS INTO A WELL 30 FEET DEEP, BUT COMES OUT ALL RIGHT!

A very novel scene took place last (Thursday) night at a temperance soiree held at Widow Sturday's, 8th concession, Goderich township. It seems that the Rev. Mr. Dockstadter on driving towards the barn in his cutter had to cross the mouth of an old well which was covered with rails and a coating of snow. When the horse reached the trap he began to sink, upon which Mr. D. jumped out, just in time to see the animal break the whipple tree and descend into the bowels of the earth. The well was 30 feet deep, but there was no water in it. A number of men came to the rescue with ropes, &c., and one of them having descended and fastened a line around the horse, he was hoisted out. The poor beast on being rescued, looked around rather foolishly for an instant and then, amidst "loud laughter and applause," walked quietly to the stable.

STANLEY.

Varna, 21st January, 1867.

The Council of the Municipality of the Township of Stanley met on the third Monday of January, in the Good Templars' Hall, Varna. Present, N. Woods, M. D., Reeve. Thomas Simpson, Deputy Reeve; George McDonald, Peter Douglas and James Elliott, Councillors.

The official declarations, notifications and certificates, were handed in by the different members of Council.

The minutes of last meeting were read, approved and signed.

The resignation of Mr. Keys, Clerk, was accepted and ordered to be filed.

Moved by Thomas Simpson, seconded by Geo. McDonald, That William Plunkett be Township Clerk for the current year.—Carried.

William Plunkett's declaration of office was then taken.

Moved by James Elliott, seconded by Peter Douglas, That Robert Reid be Treasurer.—Carried.

Moved by Thomas Simpson, seconded by Geo. McDonald, That Joseph Higgins be appointed Assessor.—Carried.

Moved by James Elliott, seconded by Peter Douglas, That William Downing be Collector for current year.—Carried.

Moved by Thomas Simpson, seconded by Peter Douglas, That Francis Redsile be appointed Auditor for the present year.—Carried.

The Reeve appointed Mr. A. T. Ruby Auditor for the current yearr

Moved by Geo. McDonald, seconded by Thos. Simpson, That Alexander McGill be appointed Inspector of Taverns for the present year.—Carried.

Moved by Thos Simpson, seconded by Peter Douglas, That the Clerk notify the different officers of their appointments, requesting those liable to give security to furnish the names of persons proposed as sureties to the Reeve, and the bonds be perfected and laid before the Council.—Carried.

Moved by Peter Douglas, seconded by James Elliott, That all the Township officers receive the same salaries as last year, and that a By-law be framed to that effect.—Carried.

Moved by James Elliott, seconded by Geo. McDonald, That the following changes be made:—Richard Vanstone, pound-keeper, in place of James Thompson. Thomas Hannon be struck from list of fence-viewers, and that John Jerrett be fence-viewer instead of John Forrest.—Carried.

Report of Mr. Alex. McGill, Tavern-Inspector for 1866, was here read, approved and ordered to be filed.

A petition from M. S. Roach and others, praying for aid for Mr. McPherson, tailor, was handed in, and ordered to be filed.

Moved by Thomas Simpson, seconded by James Elliott, That this Council grant Mr. McPherson the sum of $10, he being in indigent circumstances.—Carried.

Moved by Jas. Elliott, seconded by Geo. McDonald, That the sum of $7 be paid James Campbell, for gravel and damage done premises.—Carried.

Moved by Peter Douglas, seconded by James Elliott, That the sum of $4 be paid John Stephenson for the use of the Good Templars' Hall for election purposes.—Carried.

Moved by Thomas Simpson, seconded by Geo. McDonald, That $6 be paid the Good Templars, Varna, for the use of their hall at nomination, the order to be drawn in favor of Mr. Secord.—Carried.

Moved by Peter Douglas, seconded by Geo. McDonald, That the sum of $2 be refunded Solomon Rogers for Statute Labor performed, and which he was also charged.—Carried.

Moved by Thomas Simpson, seconded by Geo. McDonald, That M. A. Stinson be refunded $1, dog tax mischarged.—Carried.

Moved by James Elliott, seconded by Peter Douglas, That inasmuch as the Rev. H. Gibson is assessed for Lot No. 2, Range B, which does not exist, instead of Lot No. 2 in Range C, which he owns, the Collector is hereby authorised to give a receipt for the proper lot.—Carried.

An account of Mr. Thos. Simpson for $1.75 for stationery and postage, for A. D. 1866, was ordered to be paid

Moved by Thomas Simpson, seconded by Geo. McDonald, That a By Law confirming the appointment of Township officers be framed and passed, in accordance with the resolutions passed this day.—Carried.

Moved by Thomas Simpson, seconded by Geo. McDonald, That the Clerk be instructed to send the proceedings of this Council to the editor of the *Huron Signal* for publication, and that he be required to be punctual in this matter.—Carried.

Moved by Geo McDonald, seconded by James Elliott, That this Council do now adjourn, to meet again at Mr. Jas. Pollock's Hotel, Bayfield, on the first Monday in February, at 10 o'clock, a. m.—Carried.

WILLIAM PLUNKETT,
Township Clerk,
Varna, p. o.

Paris, Jan. 21.—All the members of the Cabinet tendered their resignations to the Emperor, but six of them were not accepted. The resignation of M. Fould was among those accepted. It is stated in official circles that the power of the Senate will be increased. A majority of the journals declare that the reforms announced by the Emperor are very liberal.

There is a rumor that an order has been issued which relieves Marshal Bazaine of his high powers in Mexico.

The *Moniteur* says government is anxious to explain to the French Chambers its foreign policy, and will accept questions on the subject at the opening of the session, which will be substituted for the usual debate on the address.

London, Jan. 21.—It is reported there is much excitement in Paris over the changes in the cabinet, and it is thought they indicate a more warlike policy on the part of the Emperor. The French press applands the reform made by Napoleon.

It is said Lord Derby has concluded not to present a government reform bill to Parliament.

Queenstown, Jan. 21.—The steamer City of Washington touched here and proceeded to Liverpool.

Marseilles, Jan. 21.—Dispatches from the East state that the troubles in Lebanon have been renewed.

Fifteen hundred dollars were subscribed in Oshawa last week towards a co-operative society and store in that town. The scheme is now fully inaugerated.

OUR IRISH LETTER.

5th January, 1867.

As "'tis greatly wise to talk with our past times," I could not better occupy the space assigned to this letter than by taking a brief retrospect of some of the most important events of the year which has just drawn to a close, at least of those which have taken place on this side the Atlantic.

The aggrandisement of one nation, the degradation of another, the destructive ravages of an unknown, unheard of and incurable disease among our cattle, the not less melancholy and fatal results of a deadly pestilence among ourselves, the defeat of a long established ministry, and the rumor of an insurrection at our very doors, are a few of the many startling events of the gloomy and eventful year just past, which I propose to notice.

We have watched from time to time the progress of a war, perhaps as short and fierce in its terrible details, and as important in its results as any to be met with in the history of Europe. We have noted too, in connection with it, how much Prussia owes her success to the astute statesmanship of a Bismarck, and the fearful execution of a needle-gun.

Passing to events of more importance, inasmuch as they more nearly concern ourselves as a nation, we have seen our cattle die by thousands, from the effects of that most terrible of scourges, the Rinderpest. Misunderstood and mysterious in its rapid development, and infectious in its nature, the most learned could effect no cure. To prevent in some degree the spread of the disease, a cordon was drawn around an infected district and all the victims within the fatal boundary, the healthy and the plague-stricken, doomed to slaughter. At the time the nation was groaning under the weight of this calamity, another pestilence different in its working, though not less deadly in its results, attacked man himself. The cholera intruded alike upon the mansion of the noble and the cottage of the peasant, and with unrelenting hand carried off its victims. And yet another measure had to be added to the cup of the nation's woe. The wildest speculations were made, and the most absurd schemes entered into, with an energy worthy of a better cause. Plans were proposed for working mines which never had an existence; companies formed for reclaiming whole tracts of land from the sea, for searching for forgotten treasures, and innumerable other brainless projects, which may certainly have proved profitable enough to the originators but not to the unfortunate shareholders. But the bubble which had given to many an airy nothing, a local habitation and a name, burst at last, and thousands were involved in a common ruin. Commercial houses, which had proudly borne the brunt of many a monetary panic, now succumbed to the universal collapse. The seeming possessor of thousands retired to rest to-night, to find himself a beggar on the morrow. Despair was stamped on every countenance, and from every corner of the land arose a long, loud wail of desolation and of ruin.

We have seen too, that the Liberals, after enjoying for seven years the honors and emoluments of office, were defeated on Lord Dunkellin's motion on the Reform Bill, and we have also seen that our own green isle, though comparatively unscathed by the ravages of Rinderpest or cholera, or the crash of a financial panic, has become a hotbed of sedition, and that, unhappily, many of her children have been convicted on a charge of treason.

But we find among the universal gloom at least some rays of light. We have seen, after repeated failures, the completion of the Atlantic Telegraph; how along its mystic wire man can talk to his fellow-man two thousand miles away; how mighty nations, one in tongue and origin, though separated by the broad Atlantic, can flash messages of congratulation or condolence in a moment's time.

All these, and many events of minor importance, have passed before our notice in startling and rapid succession, and the curtain of the old year has fallen and ushered in another. Shall it be as eventful? Shall it prove as gloomy? Who can tell?

Cold-Blooded Assassination of a Tennessee State Senator.

From the Nashville Press and Times, Jan. 17.—We were overwhelmed with grief last evening on hearing intelligence of the brutal assassination of Dr. Almond Case, Union State Senator from Obion County, West Tennessee, who was shot dead at his residence a few evenings since, by an assassin. Our present information is as follows; Late in the evening a man rode up to his residence and called for him to come out. Mrs. Case went to the door, and in answer to the man's inquiry, replied that he had gone to town. The man rode off in the direction indicated, and met Senator Case on his return, with whom he rode back. On approaching the house the assassin pretended to depart, but immediately afterwards wheeled and shot his unsuspecting victim dead, and made his escape.

Senator Case was a good, brave and faithful man, an advocate of progress and an enlightened public officer. He was an early friend of colored entranchisement, and it is worthy of particular note that he was in favor of universal amnesty, and allowing all citizens to vote, irrespective of their political antecedents or color. But his liberal views made him no less obnoxious to rebel malevolence. He has fallen by the hands of one of the very men whome he was ready to pardon and restore. Only a few days prior to the beginning of the present session his son, an excellent lad of sixteen, was shot dead while the family were returning from church, where the young man had just made a profession of religion. The father was wearing crape for his murdred son at the time of his own assassination.

The University of Laval has founded three medals for competition, which will be annually awarded to the three best scholars in French poetry. They will be embellished with a design representing the arms of the University, and be of gold, silver and bronze respectively. The first subject for competition, next May, will be "the discovery of Canada."

We see by the London *Gazette* of the 1st January that the Victoria Cross is about to be conferred on Private Timothy O'Hea, of the 1st Battalion of the Prince Consort's Rifle Brigade, for his courageous conduct in taking the initiative in extinguishing a fire which broke out in a powder car on its way to Montreal during the Fenian trouble last June.

Have you heard of the Bowery boy, who being cut short in a hard life by a sore disese, which quickly brought him to death's door, was informed by his physician that medicine could do nothing for him? "What's my chances, doctor?" "Not worth speaking of." "One in twenty?" "Oh no." "In thirty?" "No." "Fifty?" "I think not." "A hundred." "Well, perhaps there may be one in a hundred." "I say, then doctor," pulling him close down, and whispering with feeble earnestness in his ear, "just go in like all thunder on that one chance." The doctor "went in," and the patient recovered.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT,

Prepared for the Signal by John Haldan, Esq., Station Observer at Goderich.

| Days. Time,