Sixty acres of oak timber land were sold near Bracebridge lately for $4,320.

The nominations for North Wellington will take place on the 1st March, and polling on the 8th.

Mr. Murphy was housed to death at Hamilton, on Thursday, by her clothes catching fire during a fit.

A grand temperance demonstration took place at Ingersoll, on Thursday night.

The contract for manufacturing 9,000 stoves in Toronto has been awarded to two Ottawa merchants.

A man from Kincardine says the snow is so deep that his horses tripped over the telegraph wires.

The Italians working on the Credit Valley Railway near Galt struck work for for higher wages—but for warmer weather, a few days ago.

A fire in Fergus on Tuesday night (15th) entirely destroyed Watson's Steam Tannery. Loss about $12,000; [illegible]

A brakeman on the London and Port Stanley Railway, named Van Scott, was seriously crushed while coupling cars on Thursday.

A man named Wilson near Acton had one of his horses frozen to death in the harness on the 11th, while resting on the side of a hill for a few moments with a load of lumber.

Mrs. Kenehan, of Ingersoll, on Thursday, while trying to control a fractious colt, was caught and dragged 500 yards. Her body was fearfully mangled.

A society is proposed in Manitoba to resist municipal taxation. This is intended as a protest against the exemption therefrom of religious and charitable organizations.

A protest will at once be entered in the case of the late London election, more than enough evidence to unseat Mr. Fraser having already been obtained.

The water in the Grand River is at the present time lower than ever known before, being about six feet below the usual low water level of summer.

A fatal error is said to have been made in the petition against Sir John Macdonald by the filing of the same in the wrong court; and it is claimed that this mistake disposes of the whole matter.

Mr. Frank J. Baxter, late of Niagara, and a young man named Wilson of Chatham, who went to Manitoba last year with the Mounted Police force were frozen to death between Fort Kipp and McLeod, on the 31st December last.

Joseph Harra, of St. Catharines, on the 16th, was engaged in unloading timber at the railway station. He pulled out the stakes from the side of the platform car, and one of the sticks hit him on the head and stunned him. As he sank insensible, a large quantity fell upon his leg, jamming it severely.

The Advertiser is informed that all pigeons shot in the tournament in London on the 24th of the month are to be given to the poor. One thousand pigeons will be shot at, of which eight hundred will probably be killed. The distribution will be made by means of charitable institutions.

The Brantford *Expositor* records a melancholy case of sudden death that happened there on Saturday evening (15th inst.) A young man named Gideon Scott, in running after a passing sleigh, suddenly burst a blood-vessel, and hemorrhage of the lungs put an end to his life in less than ten minutes thereafter.

During the past week butter fell from 26 to 19 cents in the Ottawa markets. There is a prospect of a still further reduction to 15 cents. One dealer has $50,000 worth in stock, purchased at 26 cents; he calculates to lose some $18,000 on the speculation, owing to the state of the American market.

Winnett's lumber yard was destroyed by fire at an early hour on Friday, in London, 150,000 feet of clear lumber being destroyed. About the same hour a fire was discovered in the rear of the Edinburgh House, on the opposite corner, which, however, was soon quenched. Both fires were undoubtedly the work incendiaries.

J. W. Simcoe Kerr, chief of the Six Nation Indians, died recently in St. Catherines. He was a great grandson of the noted loyal Indian Chief Joseph Brant. The deceased was of combined Scotch and Indian extraction, and was educated as a lawyer. In 1867 he ran in the Conservative interest for Halton against Mr. Barber, but was defeated.

The following election petitions have been filed:—Wilson, East Elgin; Smith, North Victoria; Striker, Prince Edward; Scott, North Grey; Ferris, East Northumberland; Kean, East Simcoe; Macdougall, North Middlesex; Munro, East Elgin, and Cox, West Peterboro'. A cross-petition has also been filed by Broder, of Dundas, who has been petitioned against.

At Crieff village lately, Mr. H. Daker, storekeeper, was handling a canister of powder while smoking a pipe. The result was an explosion which burned his face in a dreadful manner, and took off all his hair. A farmer present was also injured, and the building was quite shattered. Mr. Daker's recovery is doubtful. He has not spoken since the accident, and his eyesight is destroyed.

A meeting was held at Blyth, on the evening of the 5th, to consider the advisability of sinking a salt well and established salt works in that place. A number of farmers from the surrounding townships were present, who evinced a deep interest in the enterprise. Steps were taken to organize a company, and stock to the amount of $7,000 was subscribed.

At the meeting of the Presbytery of Paris held in Ingersoll on the 16th, the following resolutions was unanimously agreed to:—The Presbytery of Paris record with surprise and deep regret, that the legislation sought in connection with the union of the Presbytian Churches, is in danger of being refused by the Parliament of Quebec, and feel that in the event of such a refusal a deep injury will be inflicted on the Churches in question." The clerk was instructed to forward the resolution to the Rev. Dr. Cook, of Quebec.

It is a painful duty to announce the sudden death of Mr. D'Arcy Boulton M. P. P. which took place in Toronto at two o'clock on Monday morning 15th., Mr. Boulton represented South Simcoe at the time of his death. He had been repeatedly in the field and been defeated, until the resignation of Mr. T. Ferguson the then representative of South Simcoe, about two years ago, he was elected for that constituency, and re-elected at the last general election for the same place. Deceased was about 50years of age. He was Grand Master of the Orange Lodge of Western Canada, and had been for many years an active member of that body. He was called to the bar in 1847, and appointed a Q. C., a few years ago. The funeral on Thursday, was very imposing, including at least 1,500 of the Orange fraternity in the procession. There was three bands in the procession, and the streets were thronged with people.

Mr. William Molson, President of the Molsons Bank, died at his residence in Montreal, on Friday. He was 81 years of age, and was of English descent.—Deceased was connected with most of the enterprises for the advancement of the country, and took an active part in furthering them. He was, till two years ago, a Grand Trunk Railway Director. In 1853 he retired from the Board of Directors of the Bank of Montreal, and with the Hon. John Molson established Molsons Bank, under the free banking act. Deceased was highly Conservative in his views. He took part with other loyal men in suppressing the rebellion of 1838, but strongly objected to the passage of the act of 1849 against the rebels, and signed the annexation manifesto. He was then deprived of his commission of justice of the peace, and also his position in the militia, and though afterwards the Government sought to make amends, he persistently declined reinstatement in office, considering he had been unjustly dealt with.

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Huron Signal.

GODERICH, Feb. 24, 1875.

"Taking Comfort."

In the last issue of our Tory contemporaries, we are treated to a most lugubrious effort at satisfaction over the result of the South Huron election, and in their assumed good humor they even deign to pat Reformers on the back and offer consolation for the grief which they say is ours over the indubitable evidence of the influx of a tide which will overthrow Mackenzie and his government and involve the Reform party in an exterminating flood. The unexpected return of Mr. Greenway, whom they have looked upon as goods and chattels of the Conservative party, and his ready acceptance by Reformers, has startled them and they fall into the most bewildering manner of expression to extricate themselves from the unsatisfactory position in which they are placed. As was expected, after Mr. Greenway has announced his liberal platform, our contemporaries endeavor to shed lustre upon their party by declaring that, although claiming the election a Conservative victory, Mr. Greenway is the representative of every Liberal man in the South Riding. To prevent any Reformer, however, from supposing that he is in any way represented by the present member, they stipulate that his expressed policy is not acceptable to any member of the Reform party. By such astute reasoning they endeavor to press Mr. Greenway to their bosom, to the exclusion of the government and government supporters from his friendship.

In the light of late reports, we can regard the expressions of our contemporaries with some knowledge of the spirit in which they were enunciated. Friday's city papers contained a report from Ottawa, that Mr. Greenway was to be introduced to the House by the Premier. This rumor which one local journal scouted as a ridiculous fib, is significant and its realization may cause it to back down from its bombastic assumptions. That he (Mr. Greenway) may be classed as one of the Government supporters, his conduct in the future will best say, but we are content to accept Mr. Greenway as our representative if he carries out the policy he expressed at Varna as faithfully as our contemporaries say he will, and we want no other pledge of his support to the Government than his promise to support all good measures. The talk of "cast iron pledges" is stale, but we all know how readily the vulcan of the Conservative party would cast a cable chain to bind Mr. Greenway more closely in the future to the Tory party. It is with evident misapprehension they declare that he will prove true to his party and his principles, of which latter we have no doubt, but with regard to his adherence to the former in the light which our contemporaries look upon the party and the duties of representatives thereto we think they will be disappointed. If our contemporaries are ready to accept him unpledged to follow a straight-laced Tory course, then he is certainly the candidate of the liberal portion of the people, and although we do not want to offend our Tory friends, yet, we claim Mr. Greenway as much our representative as that of any other party or set of persons.

A European War.

The question of probable war in Europe has been freely discussed of late, and Mr. Disraeli and otherpr ominent statesmen have confidently predicted the occurrence of a national duel within a short time. After a careful study of the situation of affairs throughout the continent, an observer will readily come to the conclusion that no important difficulty is to be apprehended; and that the opinions expressed are passed upon exaggerated views of the coolness existing between certain of the nations and the military education and improvement which others are undergoing. The mammoth preparations that of late have been made in Russia for equipping a standing army, have been regarded by many as an aggessive action having for its object the subjugation of the entire continent, whilst it has also been currently reported that the friendship existing between and the friendly meetings of the Czar of Russia and the Emperor of Germany indicated the uniting of those two great military powers for the same purpose. It has also been hinted that France, which is burning to avenge the defeat inflicted by the German army, was waiting an opportunity to throw down the gauntlet and draw their rival into a contest in which they hoped to regain their lost prestige. The relationship between those three countries is the chief cause of the public forebodings. Among the minor nations—England, of course, being regarded as peace preserving and superannuated warrior to whom is referred all matters of honor—nothing is transpiring to cause apprehension, and from them nothing is suspected of a serious character except it be a mere accident which might draw the greater powers into difficulty. From these might be excepted the Austrian Kingdom, which, since the war of 1866 has treated with coldness all the friendly advances of its Prussian sympathizer, and her antipathy has urged Italy in the opinion of many with the feelings of the French in the same direction.

A very intelligent writer in an English magazine, in speaking of this matter, endeavors to assuage the fears already expressed. Speaking of the Russian army he pronounces it composed of man army he pronounces it composed of the best material. The soldier are simple and have perfect confidence in their government, and look upon any warfare in which they may engage as a species of crusade. On the other hand the officers are incompetent, and in Russia itself want of confidence is expressed in the competency and reliability of the officers. Germany is conceded to be the leading military power. Instead of resting upon their laurels since the French war, the military officials have been zealous in still further improving the state of the army, and now she has the best organized army in Europe. Still, Germany's policy is not to act aggressively, and both King William and his son have shown a spirit of conciliation which leads to the belief that naught but a great aggravation will cause it to unsheath its sword. Its conduct toward Austria is an indication of this, and in its lofty position it has little inducement to quarrel without good cause and every reason to act generously. France has hardly recovered from its recent prostration to be able to conduct a warfare such as its desire for revenge might demand. It has not settled down to work out and acquire this wish, with the unanimity which such a task requires. It has experienced many dissensions, and the question of government is still uncertain. It will take years to recover from its prostration and to make preparations for executing its design. Turkey has been a source of annoyance to the whole of Europe and has been the means of drawing other nations into troubles and complications at various times, but beyond the source of trouble it has already been nothing is feared in this direction which cannot be adjusted by an appeal to a national conference. Spain is absorbed with its own internal difficulties, and is not in a position to stir up a national difficulty. The other countries on the continent have a desire for peace, and nothing is to be expected from them but a probable pairing off with a bigger neighbor in case of a conflict. England has retired from the lists to all intents and purposes, and her position seems now to act as umpire and peace maker. The question of her own defence seems the only one which hints at war, but such a likelihood as of the "tight little island" undergoing siege seems very improbable.

Altogether, the predictions seem far from being realized, and the christian object of the conferences of the various nations last summer seems likely to come in full practice ere long.

Our contemporary suggests the establishment of a Board of Trade in Town, and we heartily endorse the sentiment. Some time ago we made a similar suggestion, but we think it worth mentioning again. The Town has interests represented here that are important to the whole country, and as we need legislation in the case of our salt business, at least, we think that the influence which a Board of Trade has upon the legislation of the country would be a sufficient inducement to the business men here to unite themselves for that purpose. Not only is an institution of this kind beneficial in respect of the influence it has upon the weightier matters of commerce, but it tends to advance the individual interests of its members. Were all the business men of the town to meet regularly for the purpose of discussing commercial matters, a spirit of unity, which does not at present exist here, would be inculcated, and tend to the general benefit. Matters of interest to the town, such as the encouraging of enterprises, when thoroughly discussed before this board would be placed in a better light before those upon whom it falls to offer inducements; and should it happen, as it has, that worthy objects should fail to secure the necessary encouragement from the ratepayers, such a body of men, who are most benefitted by the introduction of new enterprises, are in a position to judge of their merits and advance the necessary assistance by individual subscription if it be seen bt to do so. By all means let us have a Board of Trade.

The bills respecting the union of the Presbyterian churches of Quebec have been before the Legislature of that Province for consideration. After a lengthy deliberation the Private Bills committee reported to the House that they could not recommend their passage, on the ground that an influential though numerically inferior opposition existed against their adoption. In the discussion upon the subject, one member declared that the Church of Scotland was anxious for the passage of the bills; the minority who opposed was insignificant; the justice of the measures has been certified to by law officers, and hoped the project, when so near consummation, would not be rejected for another year. Opposite views were taken by other members, who held that the adoption of the bills would lead to a severance when they became law, which was apossibility to be zealously guarded against. The bills were referred back to the committee, who, on Thursday last passed them with a few clerical alteration of no great importance, and in a subsequent sitting of the House they were read a third time and passed. This result was anticipated, although the strenuous efforts put forth by some of the opponents of the union to secure an adverse decision and the conduct of the House, caused some doubts to arise as to the success of the efforts at the present time.

Mr. John Mitchell, who was recently elected to the imperial Parliament for Tipperary, has been disqualified on the ground of his connection with Fenian trouble in Ireland. His son is to be presented as a candidate for the vacant seat. Mr. Mitchell is reported to be seriously ill.

The election in the city of London to supply the vacancy in the Commons caused by the disqualification of Mr. John Walker, has resulted in the election of Mr. James H. Frazer, the Conservative candidate, by a majority of 130. The result was not unexpected, as London has proved itself almost hopelessly Tory, and has striven manfully to be represented in the "cold shades of Opposition."

Mr. Cartwright, Minister of Finance, announces a project which will meet with general approval. It is to recall all the 20 cent silver pieces now in circulation. These coins have proven to be a nuisance in one respect, and every one accustomed to handling money will be glad to have coins of other denominations substituted in their place.

John Lorn McDougall has again been elected for South Renfrew. His majority is about 60.

At Brockville on Saturday a boy four years old set his clothes alight during his mother's temporary absence, and was so severely burnt that he died three hours afterwards.

An accident, attended with fatal result, occurred to Michael Fitzgerald, a workman employed at Labbatt's brewery, Prescott, on Friday. Fitzgerald was crossing a shallow reservoir, containing scalding liquor, on a plank, and, having missed his footing, fell into it, and although immediately extricated by a fellow-workman, the scalds received were so extensive that, being an old man just recovering from an illness, he gradually sank, and died the same evening about nine o'clock.

The Annexity Vote.

The following is a detailed report of the division list on the question of annexity, and is worthy of preservation:

ONTARIO.

Yeas.—Archibald, Bain, Barron, Bertram, Bigger, Blackburn, Blain, Blake, Bowman, Brouse, Buell, Burk, Cameron (Ontario), Cartwright, Casey, Charlton, Cockburn, Cook, Dymond, Fleming, Galbraith, Gibson, Gillies, Gordon Hagar, Hall, Horton, Kerr, Landerkin, Macdonald (Cornwall), Macdonald (Glengarry), Macdougall (Elgin), Mackenzie (Lambton), Maclennan, McCarney, McGregor, Metcalfe, Mills, Moss, Murray, Norris, Oliver, Patterson, Ross (Durham) Ross (Middlesex); Rymal, Scatchard, Shibley, Skinner, Smith, Peel; Snider, Stirton, Thompson, Haldimand; Thompson, Welland; Trow, Wilkes, Ward, Young.—58.

Nays.—Bowell, Brown, Currier, Farrow, [illegible] Kirkpatrick, Little, Macdonald, Kingston McMullen, McCallum, McQuade, Monteith, Orton, Platt, Plumb, Rochester, Ross, Prince Edward; Stephenson, Wallace, Norfolk; White—23.

QUEBEC.

Yeas.—Aylmer, Barthe, Bechard, Bourassa, Boyer, Brooks, Casgrain, Cauchon Cheval, Coupal, Chushing, Delorme, De St. Georges, Devlin, Donohue, Ferby, Fournier, Frechette Geoffrion, Hurwood, Holton, Huntington, Jette, Laflamme, Lajoie, Langlois, Laurier, Mackenzie, Montreal; Pelletier, Pottes, Pouliot, Pozer, Richard, Robillard, Seriver, St. Jean, Taschereau, Thibaudeau, Tremblay.—39

Nays.—Baby, Caron, Cimon, Desjardins, Dugas, Gaudet, Gill, Harwood, Hurteau, Lanthier, Masson, McDougall, Three Rivers; Montplaisir, Mousseau, Oumet, Pinsonneault, Pope, Robitaille, Rouleau, Wright, Ottawa; Wright, Pontiac.—21,

NOVA SCOTIA.

Yeas.—Bowden, Carmichael, Church, Coffin, Dawson, Forbes, Goudge, Killam Kirk, Macdonnell, Inverness; McLeasc, Mckay, Colchester; Ray, Vall.—14.

Nays.—Tupper.—1

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Yeas.—Burpee, St. John; Burpy, Sunbury; Costigan, Ferris, Gillmor, Pickard Smith, Westmorland; Wallace, Albert.—8.

Nays.—Appleby, Domville, Mitchell.—2,

MANITOBA.

Nays.—Ryan.—1.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Yeas.—Cunningham, De Cosmor, Rosco.—3.

Nays.—Bunster, Thompson,—2.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Yeas.—Laird, McIntyre, Perry, Sinclair.—4.

The vote summarized was, by Provinces, as follows:—

	YEAS	NAYS.
Ontario	58	22
Quebec	39	21
Nova Scotia	14	1
New Brunswick	8	3
British Columbia	3	2
Manitoba		1
Prince Edward Island	4	
	126	50

PARLIAMENTARY.

Ottawa, Feb. 18.

Mr. Dymond moved for documents with reference to capital offences. He signified his purpose of moving for the abolition of capital punishment.

Mr. Bunster, of British Columbia, moved that, as the immediate erection of the Pacific Railway would draw a tide of emigration to that province, it is desirable that the Dominion Government should at once take steps to have the Dominion lands of the Province surveyed and a office established there where intending settlers can obtain reliable information, and be enabled to purchase lands with the utmost facility.

Mr. Mackenzie made certain assurances of the government's intentions, and the mover withdrew the motion.

Mr. Wallace, member for South Norfolk, brough in a motion for a select committee to consider and report upon a letter written by the Premier to Mr. Stuart referring to alleged defalcations of Mr. Wallace as paymaster of the Pacific Railway. The Premier pointed out that the Public Accounts Committee were already enquiring into the matter, referred to would be laid before that Committee, he could see no reason for a special committee. Mr. Wallace's motion was withdrawn.

Ottawa, Feb. 19.

The Minister of Justice introduced a bill to amend the Insolvency law, of which the following is a synopsis:

Official assignees, on the Bill becoming law, are to be appointed by the Governor in Council, instead of, as at present, by Boards of Trade. Each official assignee is to be required to give security in sums of from $2,000 to $6,000, according to the population of the district for which he is appointed. On his failing to pay over the proceeds of an estate to creditors, they may recover the same from his sureties. He is also to be subject to the jurisdiction of the Judge of the county or district, and an officer of the Court, in the same manner as Sheriffs and other like officers are. After the first meeting of the creditors, at which the official assignee presides, the creditors may appoint another assignee, not an official assignee, to wind up the business; but in every case an official assignee, must first be called on. The creditors, at their first meeting, may appoint two or more inspectors from among the creditors, who shall act gratuitously and direct the assignee in the management of the estate. If the creditors do not appoint inspectors, it then devolves on the District Judge to do so. The assignee shall in every case keep a correct register of all insolvent estates (and the details of the same) that pass through his hands, and which shall be open to the inspection of the public. The Act will go into force on Sept. 1st, 1875. All the different Acts in force in the several Provinces, excepting Manitoba, are to be repealed by the new Act. The Act provides for the remuneration which assignees are entitled to. The assignee will deposit at interest, in a bank indicated by the inspector, all monies realized from the estate, to the credit of such estate—such deposit not to be made in the name of the assignee, on pain of dismissal. At every meeting of the creditors the assignee shall produce his bank-book and show what sums may be at the credit of the estate in the banks.

The House went into Committee of Supply, and passed a number of items.

Town Council.

A meeting of the Town Council took place on Friday evening, the Mayor in the chair. All the councillors present, except Mr. Passmore.

The clerk read a communication from F. Braun, Secretary of the Department of Public Works, requesting that $20,000 for harbor improvements as per agreement be placed to credit of Receiver-General. The clerk stated that he had informed Mr. Braun that $10,000 had already been sent to the department, and that the agreement between the town and government was that should the repairs cost $40,000 the town should pay $20,000, but should the work cost less the town should pay proportionally.

A communication was read from the assessors stating that the salary of $75 was too small, and asking that it be increased to $125.

Mr. Savage moved, seconded by Mr. D. Watson, that the sum of $25 be paid each assessor in addition to their present salaries. Carried.

A resolution passed at last meeting of County Council was read, calling upon the Council of the town to see that the assessors made a correct assessment according to the statutes.

The report of the Street Inspector was read showing that the value of work done up to the present time was $7,25. It recommended that, in reference to the project of the Public Work Committee for placing a tank at the foot of Kingston street, that it be of a large one and that the work be done now.

The Finance Committee reported that they had inspected the accounts of A. Dickson, $7; E. Robertson, $1.50; D. Gordon, $2; Kate McKay $128.25, and C. N. Moore $10.16, and recommend that they be paid.

Mr. Powell said that the price of the furniture provided by Mr. McKay was too high. No contract was made for the furniture, but he knew that other cabinet makers would have furnished it much cheaper. He moved that the account be not paid.

Messrs. Watson, Sloan and Campbell said that the figures were very near what had been estimated by Messrs. Gordon, Bonsmy and others. Report received.

The Road and Bridge Committee reported, recommending that 100 cords of gravel be laid down on the Harbor Hill [illegible] be done at 18 or 20 per cent. cheaper than in summer; also that a tank be put down on the corner of Kingston and Elgin streets.

Some discussion took place on the subject of placing gravel on the Harbor Hill, Mr. Watson contending that it would be a great saving, and others contending that it would prove a great inconvenience to teams going to the mill. Mr. Seymour moved that the first clause of the report be struck out, which was seconded by Mr. Sloan. The amendment was adopted.

Judge Brough called the attention of the Council to the fact that he was assessed for four dogs, and as he had none he wished the matter to be rectified. Motion was adopted remitting the tax.

Jas. Hays prayed the Council to repay taxes on real estate of the value of $400 be refunded, as he did not possess any property. Granted.

A number of accounts were presented and referred to Finance Committee.

Mr. F. A. Johnston moved, seconded by Mr. Graham, that the street inspector be instructed to find the depth of water in the tanks, have the snow cleared from about them and report at next meeting. Carried.

The by-law for appointment of license inspector, passed at last meeting of Council, being illegal, as the inspector, according to the statute should be appointed in the month of February, a new by-law was read first time.

The Council went into committee upon the by-law, Mr. G. S. Johnston in the chair. By-law was read a second time.

Mr. Sloan moved, seconded by Mr. F. W. Johnston, that Mr. E. Moore be license inspector for the current year. Carried.

The salary was set down at $75, and securities were named at $200.

Committee rose and by law was passed.

Council adjourned until Wednesday evening.

Sweden.—A match factory in Gottenburg, crowded with work-people, took fire on Friday. The flames spread with such rapidity that the employees in the upper story were cut off from escape, and many perished in the flames, or were killed by jumping from the windows. Fifty-one lives are reported to have been lost.

Germany.—The Magdeburg *Gazette* says Prince Bismarck has consented to remain in office at the personal appeal of the Emperor.

American.—At a religious meeting at Willard, Ky., Thursday night, a shooting affray occurred between three noted characters named Roorke, Montgomery, and Ross. Roorke was dangerously wounded, Ross slightly, and Miss Matuly, who was walking with Roorke was shot between the shoulders. The wound will probably prove fatal. The affair grew out of an old feud.

Advices from Port au Prince state that about two-thirds of that city were destroyed by fire on the night of Feb. 11 Loss about $2,000,000.

On Friday a negro was admitted into the senior class of boys in the High School at New Orleans. Twenty out of twenty-two in the class left immediately.

A negro train wrecker was lately caught fastening a tie across the track of the Mississippi and Tennessee R. R. He confessed that his *intention* was to dash the train to *pieces* and rob the dead.

A frightful *explosion of gas* accumulated from *leaking street pipes* in a large *sewer on Beacon street*, Longwood, occurred on Saturday morning, while two *working men* were testing pipes with lighted matches. A hole fifty by twenty *feet was made* in the street by the explosion, and both men were thrown a long distance. It is believed they will die.

England.—An explosion occurred in the safety fuse works at Redruth, Cornwall, on Saturday. Five girls were killed. There were many miraculous escapes.

Advices from Zanzibar report that a fleet of British men-of-war have bombarded and captured Fort Mozambique, on the Island of Mozambique, off the east coast of Africa. The engagement lasted five hours. Seventeen of the garrison were killed and fifty wounded. Two slave ships were captured with 300 slaves on board.

John Mitchell has issued an address to electors of Tipperary, presenting himself again as a candidate for Parliament. A monster meeting was held in Tipperary, at which it was moved to support Mr. Mitchell. It is believed there will be no opposition.

Germany.—A Germania newspaper having published the recent encyclical of the Pope to Prussian Bishops, has been confiscated, and its proprietors are to be prosecuted.

The Governments of various States of the Empire are investigating the causes of emigration from Germany. They will endeavour to remove them by facilitating the acquirement of small estates, and by opposing the action of emigration agents paid by the transatlantic Government.

Spain.—The report that complications have arisen between Germany and Spain in regard to the Gustav affair is denied. On the contrary it is asserted that the relations between the two powers are of a cordial nature.

A gentleman informs the Belleville *Ontario* of the effect of a violent whirlwind which occurred in the township of Denbigh on Saturday last. A young man who had stopped at the Eagle Hill House to warm and was about setting out, was attacked by the whirlwind, which upset his horse and cutter, blew the driver down the road thirty or forty yards, carried away the buffaloes and deposited them on the roof of an adjoining barn, and lodged the whip on the top of a tall tree. It was a most remarkable affair.

PORTER HILL.

Scarcity of Water.—Cattle are suffering very much from the scarcity of water, and the farmers are under the necessity of driving them a long distance to running streams.

Caution.—In the absence of A. McDougall, one night lately, some stranger entered the stable, but was set upon by the dog which happened to be shut up inside. He left pretty quickly, the dog making himself felt upon the stranger's flank.

Effects of the Weather.—The stormy weather of late has had the effect of driving owls, squirrels and other wild animals to take shelter about the farm houses here.

Tea Meeting.—A tea meeting took place on Wednesday evening in the Wesleyan Methodist Church, at Wilkinson's corner. Owing to the inclemency of the weather it has been postponed twice. About 150 were present, and partook of the good things to their satisfaction. Mr. Jas. Wallace was called to the chair, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. Mr. Rice and Mr. Switzer. A four story cake had been provided for the occasion, which was to be cut by the most popular, lady. Miss Cox and Miss McDougall were both proposed, and after a very exciting contest Miss Cox was declared successful by a majority of two votes. $50 were realized from the yeting, and $34 were taken at the door.

LOCAL NEWS.

The Town Council meets to-night.

Boots.—Mr. W. Kay has just received a large assortment of dollar prunella boots.—Read his advertisement.

Appointment.—Mr. D. Adams has been appointed Superintendent of works at the harbour of Bayfield.

Read the social story, entitled "Badly Matched," now being published in the Signal. It is romantic and interesting.

Commercial.—There were 221,933 gallons of malt manufactured in Goderich, during the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1874. The value of proof spirits manufactured is $138,922.92.

The Jail.—There were eleven prisoners in jail on Saturday. In criminal matters, as well as business matters, there are occasional feasts and famines. This is not the season of famine, to our good name be it said.

Whilst we are suffering, it is refreshing to read the following:—Great heat is reported from Victoria. At Melborne the thermometer has reached 112° Fahrenheit in the shade. Bush fires have occurred, and great damage has been caused.

Brock Circuit.—Hon. Mr. Justice Gwynne will preside at the Assizes in this district as follows;—1. Owen Sound, Wednesday, 17th March. 2. Walkerton, Tuesday, 6th April. 3. Goderich, Tuesday, 13th April. 4. Woodstock, Thursday, 22nd April. 5. Stratford, Tuesday, 4th May.

Popular Science Monthly.—The March number of this excellent periodical is to hand. It contains some excellent and entertaining articles, such as "Darwin and Haeckel," "Genesis of superstitions," "Chameleons," etc. Messrs. D. Appleton & Co., are the publishers.

The Lucknow *Sentinel* says a man known as Sailor Mathieson, of Huron Township, left that place for home on the 9th inst., after having drank pretty freely. Some time during the night his horses reached home, but without Mathieson. A search was at once instituted, and he was found on the following Saturday, buried in a drift of snow beside the road.

Accident.—A little boy was, on Wednesday, knocked down by a sleigh. He was picked up by a gentleman who brought the boy's grandfather, that he was badly hurt, and carried into a house near by. When he began to recover he was asked whereabout he was hurt, and after feeling his entire body, it became evident to him he was laboring under a delusion. He was promptly turned out, and ran off as brisk as any school boy.

Stealing a Watch.—A young man named Turnbull, was committed to jail last week on the charge of stealing a watch, from a person he was boarding with in Seaforth. The prisoner is an hostler, and is very dissipated. He says the watch was given him by the plaintiff, Thursday night the prisoner had an attack of *delirium tremens*, and presented a dreadful example of the results of excessive use of liquor.

Blocked Again.—Scarcely had we recovered from the effects of the first serious storm, when another visits us. On Wednesday, the freshly cleared roads were again blocked by a powerful blow. The morning Toronto train was stuck at Mitchell until Thursday. The cuttings which were made last week were all filled, and there was no room for the snow plow to work as the snow banks were too high, and nothing was left but to dig the snow out and carry it off. The mail reached town on Thursday night, and on Friday trains were running as usual.

Orange Lodge Meeting.—The Grand Orange Lodge of Ontario met in the Town Hall, Clinton, on Wednesday of last week, at 9 o'clock, a. m, for the first session. At 11 o'clock they marched to St. Paul's Church, headed by the Clinton Star Cornet band, where an excellent sermon was delivered to them by the Rev. Mr. Carrey, of Port Credit. During the afternoon session, the following officers were elected for the current year:—Wm. Parkhill, G M; J P Bennett, D G M; Jas. Wilson, A D G M; Rev. H Cooper, G C; Jas. H Beasie, G T; Thos. Keys, G S; R Gourley, D G S; Jas. McClure, G L; T R Brownlee, G D of C.

Grand Trunk Changes.—A great number of changes have been made in the offices of the Grand Trunk lately. We regret to learn that Mr. P. H. Carter, who has so efficiently acted for some time in Goderich in the capacity of station master, is to be removed to P. S. Stevenson's freight office in Toronto. Mr. Carter made many desirable improvements in the office he has held, and the public will regret to learn of his removal. Mr. A. Wylie, of Brantford, and who was station master before Mr. Carter's arrival here, will take his place, and will certainly continue the existing order of things. We wish Mr. Carter every success in his new position.

The Newsletter.—Owing to the failure of the mails in reaching Goderich on Thursday, we made an effort to supply the subscribers with by the issue of a small sheet, containing late telegraphic news. The work was done at considerable expense, but we are happy to say the public showed an appreciation of the effort, and their generous support assisted us to clear expenses and leave some profit. We hope the town will never have such an experience as that of the past two weeks, but if it occour again we shall do our best to support the wants of the people. We are indebted to the Dominion Telegraph Co., for a liberal arrangement for furnishing the telegraphic news we received on that day.

Goderich Harbor.—By the Trade and Navigation report for the year ending 30th June, 1874, we find the number and tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared this port during that period as follows:—Canadian vessels, steam 18, showing a tonnage of 4,268; sail 21, showing a tonnage of 3,527; United States vessels, steam 10, showing a tonnage of 4,207; sail 43, showing a tonnage of 9,044. Canadian steam crafts left this port to the number of 24, of 4,563 tons, and sail crafts to the number of 76, of 4,172 tons; United States steam vessels cleared port to the number of 10, of 4,207 tons, and sail crafts 43 in number, of 9,044 tons. These figures show a total of 95 vessels entering this port with a tonnage of 21,036, and 153 clearances showing an aggregate tonnage of 21,986. The imports and exports show a steady increase in the past three years, as the tables for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1872, 1873 and 1874 will show:

	Exports	Imports	Entered for Consumption	Duty
1872	$ 71,121	$ 92,467	$ 95,069	$ 4,652.79
1873	219,195	148,427	146,812	3,783.35
1874	222,757	235,943	235,943	4,845.97

Laughable.—During the recent snow blockade, and while the snow plows were doing their best, a newspaper reporter wearing green goggles to protect his eyes from the glare of the sun, snow shoes to keep him above the snowy surface and smoking a meerschaum pipe for his especial gratification, made his appearance on the field of action and requested that the conductor should place him in a position where he could best view the working of the plow. The conductor, who is of a facitious turn, placed him accordingly, and our hero waited with due composure to take notes. The plow was backed up, and then started forward at top speed sending a perfect cloud of snow to either side of the track. When the snow shower settled the green goggles, meerschaum pipe and reporter had disappeared, and nothing but a pair snow shoes was to be seen sticking out above the snow. When those present had recovered from their merriment, our friend of the quill was rescued from his ungraceful position squirming and spluttering like an infant in a bath. After this event he always chose his own positions, and when any one laughed he blushed indignantly as though he considered that he was the only ridiculous being or thing in the neighborhood. The pipe was lost in the melee.

Wanted.—Geo. Reese, of Wingham, is wanted, he having taken two Roses which did not belong to him from their owner in Wingham.

Church Improvement.—The congregation of Knox's church have decided to lower the gallery of the church and improve the sittings, and extend the Sabbath School accommodation. Other improvements will be made in its interior arrangements, upon which work $1000 are to be expended.

Temperance Lecture.—The Rev. W. B. Affleck, agent of the United Kingdom Alliance, will deliver a lecture in the North Street Methodist church on Thursday evening. Mr. Affleck, who is frequently styled the "Yorkshire Collier," is highly spoken of as a lecturer and is described as very much after the fashion of Gough. He resembles him in respect of his descriptive powers, and has had a similar experience of the effects of intoxicating liquors. June shown fail to hear the lecture.

Accident.—On Friday, whilst Mr. Jos. Herr, a gentleman of about 75 years of age, was driving into town along the Huron Road with a load of straw, the horse ran away but was brought up in a snow drift with some suddenness. Mr. Herr was pitched out upon his back, and falling in the snow escaped injury, but somehow his legs got entangled in the harness and the horse having got himself out of the drift, he was dragged some distance until his boots came off which released him from his perilous situation. Fortunately, beyond a pretty severe shaking, Mr. Herr was unhurt.

Runaway Accident.—On Friday night, about 7 o'clock, as two teams which had been drawing wood to the station, were coming past the railway engine house, the hind team took fright and ran away. The horses followed the first team, and were brought up by colliding with the sleigh near Hooker's Hotel. Three of Mr. Wm. Waddington's children were on the sleigh at the time, but they providentially escaped serious injury. Two of them were unhurt, but one of the little girls was struck in the face receiving a painful though not dangerous wound. Neither of the horses were much hurt, and the sleighs were uninjured. Mr. Waddington's little girl is quite recovered.

Magistrates Court.—On Saturday afternoon the preliminary examination of John McDonald, son of "Minister John," on the charge of manslaughter took place before the Mayor. It appears that the prisoner and John Robinson, stage driver, got into an an altercation at Henry Martin's Hotel, on the evening of T