New Advertisements

To Let—W. D. Allen.
Notice—J. Duckham.
Harrows—D. K. Strachan.
List of Letters—A. Dickson.
Insolvent Notice—J. T. Garrow.
Auction Sale of Farm Stock—G. M. Trueman.

Grand Trunk Railway.

GODERICH STATION

Trains leave as follows,—	
Mail	7.00 a. m.
Express	9.45 " "
Mixed	12.30 p. m.
" "	3.30 " "
Trains are due as follows,—	
Mixed	10.00 " "
Express	2.00 p. m.
Mixed	5.20 " "
Mail	10.00 " "

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, March 11, 1874.

The Ashantee Expedition.

Last week some apprehension was again felt as to the safety of Sir Garnet Wolseley and the troops under his command engaged on the Ashantee expedition, some days having elapsed between the receipt of the despatch we published last week announcing the capture of Coomassie and any further tidings. All doubt was set at rest on Thursday by the receipt in London of full particulars of the capture. The Ashantee King had finally surrendered himself into the hands of the British and was a prisoner at General Wolseley's headquarters.

It will afford unmingled satisfaction to the friends of General Wolseley, Captain Butler and others well known in Canada who are engaged on the expedition, to know that they have been successful. General Wolseley's management of the Red River expedition showed him to be a most capable and efficient commander, and he has now further distinguished himself, under trying circumstances, in a manner which has called forth the congratulations of his Queen and which will no doubt recommend him to further honours at her hand. He has done his work well and deserves any reward which may be bestowed upon him.

The following summary of the doings of the expedition may prove interesting.

It seems the Ashantee army, in its retreat from the British protectorate, recrossed the Prah in the first days of December, reached Coomassie on the 22nd, and was reported to have dispersed. Their numbers were said to have been diminished from 40,000 to 20,000, principally by famine and disease, chiefly dysentery and small-pox, and Mr. Kuhne, the German missionary who brought a letter from the King to the British commander, says he saw nearly 300 corpses of chieftains carried through the streets of Coomassie, followed by women, who bewailed and cried, their bodies being painted with red earth and their heads adorned with green leaves. Their losses in combats with the British were, as they themselves admit, serious enough, there having been more Ashantees killed at Abrakrampa than at the battle of Dodowa in 1826. Technically speaking, they were victorious in the two skirmishes at Abrakrampa and Fasowa, in which latter a single regiment under Colonel Wood fought the entire Ashantee army; but to their own minds these victories were as bad as defeats, and the chiefs who returned to Coomassie urged the King to make peace. On the 25th of December the latter called an educated Fantee named Dawson, whom he has long detained as a captive, and dictated a letter to the British Governor. It was chiefly filled with complaints, Among other things, it alleged that his General and troops were marching quietly home, when, in a most wanton and unprovoked manner, they were attacked by the English troops. Messengers with this epistle were sent down to the Prah. About the same time rumors were in circulation at Coomassie that the German missionaries held in captivity there would be taken with the army—employed as intercessors if the Ashantees were beaten, and killed if the Ashantees were victorious. It is to be hoped this barbarous resolve was not carried out. On the return of the messengers above referred to, the missionaries were called to the palace and Sir Garnet Wolseley's reply read amid profound silence. Doubtless it contained the conditions of peace formerly reported, including the entry of the British into Coomassie, which the King was so anxious to avoid, and which he fought so hard to prevent. After the reading of this letter, the missionaries were ordered to withdraw, and afterwards Mr. Kuhne (who had been four and a half years in captivity, and who was suffering from consumption) was informed that the King intended to send him to the General. This announcement was accompanied with the gift of a Royal robe, such as was only worn by the relatives of the King, and a periguin of gold (36 dollars). The same night the King sent for him with orders that he should put on the Royal robe Mr Kuhne was taken into a small apartment, where he found the King alone, dressed in a white cloth, and seated on a low chair playing with his cats. He told Mr. Kuhne to say when he saw the Governor, that the King wanted peace. He would not fight with the white man, even if they came into the market-place, for his ancestors had never fought with the white man. This statement was rather bold even for an Ashantee, when Sir Charles Macarthy's skull is a treasured heirloom of the Royal family.

Owing to the defection of the Fantee carriers the general advance of the British on Coomassie had been postponed from the 15th to the 23rd of January. These treacherous natives are said to have thus forsaken those who were fighting for them from secret sympathy with the enemy, and a feeling of pride that an undivilized negro race, with every disadvantage of weapons, has been able to offer so stout a resistance to British arms. This feeling found utterance recently in an article published in the leading local journal at the Gold Coast. After some lukewarm expressions of hope for British success in the attack on Coomassie the article proceeds: "On the other hand, it is impossible to extinguish the latent pride in the mind of every African who contemplates the gigantic preparations making by one of the first European Powers for the subjugation of an unciviilized Sovereign of the race of Ham."

On the arrival of Mr. Kuhne and the King's messengers, they were detained at a British outpost, till a reply could be given them. The correspondence was kept secret. It is narrated that King Koffee Calcalli recently summoned a great meeting of his Fetish men and sought their advice as to how he should act towards the English, whether he ought to seek for peace or stake his fortunes on the result of the war. The Fetish men at first declined to give any answer until they had been guaranteed that no matter what their reply was, their lives should not be forfeited. Having been reassured on this point, they then replied that they saw everything dark except the streets of Coomassie, which ran with blood. Koffee Calcalli was dissatisfied with the vagueness of this reply, and determined to appeal still further to the oracle. He resorted to what he considered a final and conclusive test. Two he goats were selected, one entirely black, the other of a spotless white color, and after due Fetish ceremonies had been performed over the two goats, they were set at each other. The white goat easily overcame and killed its opponent. Koffee Calcalli, after this test, was satisfied that he was doomed to defeat at the hands of the white men, and immediately sent the above-mentioned embassy to Sir Garnet Wolseley to seek for peace.

Captain Glover is reported to have gained a very decided success over the Awoonlahs, who were endeavoring to impede his progress up the Volta. At the head of a large force he crossed the Volta on Christmas-day, and was almost immediately engaged with the Awoonlahs, who had mustered in great force. A sharp engagement ensued, and the Awoonlahs were defeated and driven back with a loss of over 400 men, the British losing only 24 wounded and two Houssas killed. On the 29th of December Captain Glover re-crossed the Volta with 1,200 of the disciplined Houssas and Yorubas, and marched for Quohwoo, the frontier town of the Ashantee Kingdom, leaving Mr. Goldsworthy, his second in command, in the Awoonlah country to inflict further punishment on this turbulent tribe. Mr. Goldsworthy had under his orders a body of 400 disciplined Houssas, and was assisted by a corps of about 15,000 native allies, consisting of Agrapims, Accras and Krepees. As soon as the Awoonlahs had been dealt with, Mr. Goldsworthy and the larger portion of his forces were to march to rejoin Captain Glover.

It is probable that Captain Glover, with a force of at least 800 Houssas and Yorubas, was in a position to assist Sir Garnet in the late fighting. Captain Butler was successfully engaged in securing the alliance of another native tribe, the Akims, and Captain Dalrymple was trying the same with the Wassaws. At latest advices the British Commander had advanced 17 miles beyond the Prah, and his reconnoitering parties were only 40 miles from Coomassie. It seems they expected a brief campaign, but probably not such severe fighting as they were on the brink of. All the transports had been ordered to be ready to take home the troops on the 1st of March, but the breakdown of the transport service was expected to delay matters. The troops were well supplied with doctors, there being 90 of the latter on the Gold Coast, not reckoning those with Captain Glover. The whole expedition seems to have been wonderfully well managed, the only drawback, the defection of the Fantee carriers, being one that could scarcely have been foreseen. It must have been an exceptionally costly affair, however, owing to the special requirements of the service in such a climate, and the bill which is being made up preliminary to the Budget will foot up several millions.

The 1st and 2nd West India Regiments responded nobly to the call to act as carriers, and have been liberally dealt with by Sir Garnet Wolseley. The men receive a gratuity equivalent to about 3s. a day each over and above their pay, the sergeants 5s. a day extra, and the officers 10s. a day.

Mr. McKellar's Letter.

The noble and patriotic Opposition in the Ontario Legislature continue to perform their duty with stern vigour. Having wasted many precious hours of the country's time over a $12 table and $6.50 counterpane, they have taken to "speaking against time," as one of their own journals very naively announces it, when any question arises on which they think there is an opportunity of obstructing the business of the country. Seeing that they number only about a third of the house, their "speaking against time" and the numerous "outrages" they manufacture do not appear to gain them much strength. On the contrary, the conduct of Messrs. Cameron, Lauder, Rykert, Boultbee and their followers, cannot but create a feeling of disgust in the house and throughout the country.

The latest exploit in the outrage business is the discovery that a letter was sent by Mr. McKellar to the Superintendent of the Central Prison works in Toronto, telling him to give the men a half holiday on the occasion of the nomination in West Toronto last fall, their pay being allowed them as usual. Men of all shades of political opinion were engaged on the works, but they were all allowed to go, to hear the politics of the country, in which they have no doubt a deep interest, fairly discussed by both parties. To the Tory mind such liberality is incomprehensible. How any politican can do anything that is not one-sided they cannot understand. They contend that McKellar sent the men to the nomination to shout for Moss and to hoot Bickford, but according to the *Mail's* version of what occurred, "the majority of the workingmen were in favor of Bickford," and at the close "chaired" him in triumph from the hustings. The letter was thought of so little moment that it was thrown aside, and now when a call is made for its production it cannot be found, which is of course the ground for a charge that it has been made away with.

We have not yet had Mr. McKellar's explanation of the matter, but we have no doubt when it is made it will be as satisfactory to every unprejudiced mind as was his vindication of his character anent the Elgin "frauds," which formed the stock in trade of the Tory papers for so long a time. There is a certain class of politicians and journalists whose special mission seems to be to abuse the Commissioner of Public Works. They have selected him as being the one member of the government who must be hounded down, and their whole energies are devoted to this task. Mr. McKellar, like all fallible beings, may sometimes err, but his administration of his department has been characterized by great ability, and his shoulders being broad we fancy he can continue to bear the abuse heaped upon him with entire equanimity. So far as the letter "outrage" is concerned, we fancy there will turn out to be as little in it as in the former "outrages" manufactured to injure Mr. McKellar and the government in the eyes of the country.

—Several of the witnesses in the Tichborne case have been committed for trial for perjury.

Assessment.

The Assessors appointed in the various municipalities have begun their work for the present year and it rests with the public to see that their work is done correctly and impartially. The blunders which frequently creep into the voters' lists show that a careful watch should be kept to see that the Assessors do their duty properly, and that no carelessness on the part of the Clerk in copying the names deprives any one who is entitled to the franchise, of his vote. In view of an Income Franchise Act all young men who desire to have votes should see that their incomes are duly assessed. This point should be carefully attended to.

We think a change in the law is necessary as to the manner of preparing and making final the voters' lists. At present there is no security that a name will appear correctly, or in fact that it will appear at all. We think it would be well if some system of publishing the list of voters was adopted. Some assessors are so partizan in their feelings that they assess their political opponents at such a figure as to deprive them of their votes, while they add names without stint of their political friends, for the purpose of making votes. The Court of Revision can of course correct this, but comparatively few take advantage of it. It will be well for partizan assessors to remember that they have now to take an oath, not simply a declaration, that they have not added or left off names for the purpose of making or unmaking votes, and that they are liable to be indicted for perjury if they add or leave off names for this purpose.

As the recent election showed that in some townships numbers of fictitious votes were added in the Tory interest and the names of Reformers which should have appeared were left off, the various Reform Associations should make it their duty to see that the lists are properly made up. A general election for the local legislature will take place early in 1875, and the success of the Reform cause will be materially aided if this matter is attended to. Every individual Reformer should see that his own name at least, is properly placed upon the roll.

The Local Paper.

It is a fact that many people do not subscribe for their local paper. When solicited to do so they very ofter reply that they take the *Globe* or the *Mail* or the *Advertiser* or *Herald*, and that they are cheaper or contain more reading. After all, these same individuals almost invariably are in the habit of borrowing the local paper from their more liberal neighbours who subscribe for it. If the local paper is not what it should be, in nine cases out of ten it will be found that the fault is with the political party which is in honour and duty bound to give it a liberal and hearty support. It costs a very large sum to publish even a small country paper, and if the editor is not supported by having a large and *paid up* subscription list, he cannot make his sheet what he himself or his subscribers desire.

The local paper in addition to giving a summary of general news, occupies a field exclusively its own. It is the champion of the rights of the people of the locality where it is published, it is the advocate of local improvements, it plays a prominent part at all the local elections, it gives you a record of events of interest in your own neighbourhood, it gives an account of your political, religious, social and literary gatherings, it reports the proceedings of your councils, school boards and other administrative bodies, and in short, in addition to its selections and general news, gives you a class of information which you can nowhere else obtain. Subscribe *first* for your local paper and afterwards for as many city papers as you choose to pay for.

The Registry Bill.

On Tuesday of last week, Mr Gibson, M. P. P. for North Huron moved to refer the Bill to re-unite the Ridings of Huron for Registration purposes back to the Private Bills Committee with instructions to consider the preamble proven. After an animated debate, a report of which will be found under the head of Ontario Legislature in another column, the motion was carried by a vote of 40 to 29. The opponents of the bill seeing that it is useless to resist the measure, have since withdrawn all opposition, on condition that Mr. Hays the present Registrar of the North Riding is granted the sum of $7,500 as compensation for being deprived of his office. The county can well afford to give this amount since it will receive a large amount from the fees of the office under Mr. Blake's bill, and it will be spared the expense of erecting an office at Blyth, to say nothing of getting rid of the inconvenience and annoyance which has attended the separation.

The time for the re-union has not been fixed, but it will not be long delayed. We must congratulate the County Council on the success which has crowned their efforts in getting rid of what has always been an inconvenience.

The Oaths Bill.

Our readers will remember the circumstances connected with the passing the bill authorizing committees of the Canadian House of Commons to examine witnesses under oath and its subsequent disallowance. It appears we have not heard the last of the bill, for there is a reportcurrent, on the authority of private letters from England received in Ottawa, that Sir Henry James and Mr. Vernon Harcourt, who have succeeded Sir J. D. Coleridge and Mr. Jessels as Attorney-General and Solicitor-General respectively under Disraeli, have reversed the decision of their predecessors adverse to the bill. Should this report prove true, a very important privilege will have been accorded to our Parliament, and the position taken by Mr. Blake and Mr. J. H. Cameron with reference to the legality of the Oaths to Witnesses Bill will have been fully justified.

—An inquest was opened last week on the bodies of those who lost their lives by the burning of the railway car near London on the 28th ult. After taking a portion of the evidence the inquest was adjourned till Monday. Mr. Breathwick and Mr. Orton who were injured by the accident have since died. This makes the total number of deaths ten.

—The Imperial Parliament met on Thursday last. The Right Hon. Henry B. Brand, Speaker of the last House, was re-elected Speaker of the Commons. Mr. Gladstone was warmly received by the Liberal members when he entered the House and took his seat on the front Opposition bench.

—Heavy gales which prevailed on the Atlantic last week have proved very disastrous to shipping.

Riel's Election.

At the nomination in Provencher, Manitoba, Rev. Pere Ritchot, who was advocating Riel's election, stated in reply to the assertion that the latter had never been in Canada that he (Ritchot) had dined and supped with him and received letters from him at Montreal. Mr. Joseph Hamelin, of St. Norbert, who was the rival candidate, refused to retire to allow Riel's election by acclamation, but was beaten at the polls, the numbers being Riel 195; Hamelin 69; majority for Riel 126. It is doubtful whether Riel will try to take his seat in Parliament. He did not dare to show himself publicly in his own district while the election was proceeding. His return seems purely a demonstration on behalf of amnesty, and the papers that support him say his empty seat in the House of Commons will be a mute appeal far stronger than words could make it.

Lucknow Incorporation.

The people of Lucknow are very fickle in the matter of incorporation. They petitioned the County Councils of Huron and Bruce for incorporation last June, which was granted, but the proposed village being in two counties it was necessary for a proclamation to issue by the Lieutenant Governor declaring to which they should be annexed. The Governor must find himself in rather a quandary, as no less than four petitions have been sent him, first, to annex them to Huron; second. to annex them to Bruce, which petition was signed by a number who signed the first; third, another petition to be annexed to Huron; fourth, not to be incorporated at all. As they are already incorporated the last petition is meaningless. The village naturally belongs to Huron and we trust it will be annexed thereto.

Mr. Penney of the Montreal *Herald* and Mr. Joly, M. P. P., have been appointed Dominion Senators. Both the appointments are excellent ones.

—News from India give very distressing accounts of the famine there. The expenditure by the government in the way of relief up to the end of February is estimated at $7,500,000, and it is expected three millions of people will have to be maintained for three months.

—An explosion of some 200 lbs. of powder in the Hoosac tunnel last week killed one man and wounded several others.

—A destructive fire in Salonica, Turkey, has destroyed the greater part of city and caused much loss of life.

—The nomination for Algoma took place at Sault Ste Marie on Friday last. Mr. Simpson, the only Opposition candidate retired. Messrs. Scott, Borrow and Brown, all supporters of Mr. Mackenzie's Government go to the polls.

—Mr. Cimon has been elected to the House of Commons for Chicoutimi and Mr. Harper for Gaspe, Province of Quebec.

—The Duke of Edinburgh and his bride arrived in England on Friday and proceeded direct to Windsor.

LOCAL NEWS.

ASSIZES.—The Spring Assizes open next Tuesday.

HIGH SCHOOL.—Notice has been received from Toronto that the admission of all the pupils entered at the High School in January has been confirmed.

BAYFIELD SOIREE.—The Soiree in the Presbyterian Church, Bayfield, which we announced last week for Tuesday, has been postponed till to-morrow (Thursday) evening.

NORTH RIDING SPRING SHOW.—The Spring Show of the North Riding Agricultural Society for the exhibition of entire stock, will be held at Clinton, on Tuesday, April 21.

TEMPERANCE LECTURE.—A temperance lecture will be delivered in the Temperance Hall, West Street, on Friday evening next, by Rev. R. Ure. The public are cordially invited.

R. C. CHURCH.—Rev. Father O'Neil, who it was expected would succeed Father Boubat in the pastorate of the Roman Catholic Church, has been sent elsewhere, and Father O'Shea, formerly of Ingersoll, has been sent here.

W. M. CHURCH.—The Rev. Mr. Williams of Simcoe, will preach next Sabbath, 15th inst., morning and evening. The annual Tea-Meeting will be held on Monday evening at half past seven.

THE NEW RAILWAY.—A number of places along the shore of Lake Huron are ambitious to rob Goderich of the benefit of being the terminus of the Huron and Quebec Railway. Bayfield and Port Franks are among the number.

THE SALT MARKET.—There is a prospect that the market for Goderich salt will be good on the opening of navigation. The depressed state of the lumber market will prevent the Saginaw works from underselling us in the American market, for it is only in connection with the lumber mills that salt can be manufactured there to advantage.

GODERICH SILVER CORNET BAND.—Mr. Duckham has just returned from Hamilton with a new set of instruments for the above band which has been organized. It embraces a number of players who were in the old band and will be ready in a few days to enliven our town with its music. The band will be ready for engagements after the 1st of April.

THE HEN NUISANCE.—People who have gardens are often annoyed by their neighbor's hens visiting them and scratching up the newly made beds. A poetical individual who has suffered in this way suggests the following means of obtaining compensation,—

If your neighbor's hens are troublesome
And steal across the way,
Don't let your nasty passions rise,
But fix a place for them to lay.

THE WM. SEYMOUR.—In consequence of the building of the Wellington, Grey and Bruce Railway to Southampton and Kincardine, the business between Goderich and those ports has been diverted to such an extent that the owners of the steamer *Wm. Seymour* do not feel justified in running her any longer on the route. She has been sold to Capt. McGregor of this town for $8,000, who, on the opening of navigation, will take her to the Georgian Bay and run her between Collingwood, Owen Sound and other ports.

BEADLE'S BELL RINGERS.—This troupe performed in this town on Thursday and Friday evenings. The hall was filled to its utmost capacity the first night, but the second evening the attendance was rather thin. A complete change of programme was announced for the second performance, a promise which was not kept, as the same songs were sung and the same pieces performed on the bells. The bell ringing was good, and Prindle in his comic characters took well. On the whole the troupe is worthy of patronage.

NEW DOMINION MONTHLY FOR MARCH.—The contents of this magazine for the present month are varied, and complete much that must both interest and instruct. The second instalment of the "Review of the Times" more than fulfils the expectations arising from the February instalment. An article entitled "Canada's Early Marine," contributed by Mr. J. B. A. Kingston, contains much information not generally known concerning the rise and progress of shipbuilding and shipping in the Dominion, and must contribute towards the strengthening of that love of country so necessary for the welfare of any nation. Among other things in this number worthy of notice, is a hymn entitled, "Come I to thee," the music by Rev. R. A. Temple, and the words by Bonar. The illustration for the month is a well executed engraving of Edward Jenkins, M. P. for Renfrew, Scotland, author of "Ginx's Baby," and other works.

A LARGE LINE.—The Merchant's line of steamers which is to run between Montreal and Chicago during the season of 1874 consists of 31 boats! In addition to these there will be 8 propellers running independently, making 39 in all. It will take 600,000, or over half a million bushels of wheat to supply one trip of these steamers down and 18,000 tons of freight to load them on their way up. In 1868 the number of freight steamers running on Lake Ontario and the upper lakes was only 14. These boats will probably make frequent calls at Goderich on their way up for cargoes of salt.

RUNAWAY.—On Friday last a team of horses with waggon attached, belonging to Mr. Robert Whitley of Goderich Township, which were tied in front of Crabb's store, broke the halter and ran away. It appears that when in town Mr. Whitley usually puts up his horses at Mr. John Whitley's, opposite the SIGNAL office. For that place they ran, but finding the gate shut they made a flying leap at the board fence which they cleared in a style becoming to steeple chasers. The waggon caught in the fence and brought it down, and though the horses tugged vigorously to draw it out they could not do so and stuck fast till they were caught. The only damage done was the breaking of the neck yoke.

DEBATE.—A public debate by the members of the Maple Leaf Society took place in the High School building on Friday evening last. The subject was the advisability of passing a Prohibitory Lequor Law. There were quite a number of persons present to hear the youthful orators declaim on the temperance question which is now attracting so much attention. John Macara, Esq., occupied the Chair. The affirmative was sustained by Messrs Reynolds, Somerville, Runciman and Cameron, the negative by Messrs Saunders, Lewis, Hamilton and Campion. Mr. Greene Cameron made the speech of the evening. The Chairman decided in favour of the negative.

LOVELL'S GAZETTEER.—We have received from the publisher, John Lovell of Montreal, a copy of his Gazetteer of British North America, which we advertised some time ago as about to issue. It is a neat and compact work of over 190 pages, and contains short descriptions of over six thousand cities, towns and villages in the British North American possessions, also information respecting over fifteen hundred lakes and rivers, tables of routes, &c, with a great amount of general information. We notice a few blunders, for instance where it speaks of Goderich as the chief town of the county of Goderich, but in a work of such a nature errors will unavoidably creep in. The work will be of great practical value, and so far as the getting up is concerned it sustains the publisher's well earned reputation.

WOOD'S HOUSEHOLD MAGAZINE.—The March number of this Magazine is to hand. It opens with an interesting story entitled, "The Guiding Hand," by Mrs. H. G. Rowe; following this Joseph Snider gives his "Experience in the City," an article which for its simple truth the youth of the land should read to their profit; "My Prayer" is not a religious sketch as one would suppose from the title, but is a most touching story told in the sincere manner and rough speech of a railroad hand. "The Weekly Diabolical," by Karl Kase, aims a sharp and timely blow at sensational literature. "The Kaiser Frederick" is one of Mary Hartwell's entertaining stories. In the instalment of "Misery Jippean," H. V. Osborne raps the knuckles of the fashionable clergyman. There are several other articles of merit, and some pretty poetry. The Magazine contains six illustrations, including a design for a Country School-House. Terms only one dollar a year—with chromo YOSEMITE one dollar and a half. Subscriptions may begin with any number. Address WOOD'S HOUSEHOLD MAGAZINE, Newburgh, N.Y.

Town Council.

The Council met on Friday evening, 27th ult., all the members present except Mr. Mackay.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The following documents were received,—

Communication of Silsby Manufacturing Co., relating to repairs on Steam fire engine. Fyled.

Petition of Mrs. Ann Donagh to be relieved of her taxes she being unable to pay them. Granted.

Accounts from J. V. Detlor & Son, J. C. Detlor & Co., and John Butler. Referred to Finance Committee.

The Clerk reported that 68 Roman Catholics being house holders and heads of families have signified their intention of supporting a Separate School in St. George's Ward and claiming exemption from Common School taxes. Received and fyled.

Report of Special Committee to which had been referred the matter of the Brass Band as follows,—

Your Committee appointed to report on the offer of the Battalion Band Committee to place the instruments now in their possession in the hands of the town, 1st. We recommend that the Town accept the instruments. 2nd. Having heard the statements of Mr. Gordon and Mr. J. Duckham each of whom stated that it was their intention to organize an independent Town Band, we recommend that should the Town accept the instruments they be delivered to the party who proves to the Council that they are the most efficient and who are prepared to go on with the band at once, and that certain restrictions be placed upon the delivery of said instruments such as may commend itself to the Council.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

S. SLOAN, *Chairman.*

Moved by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Sloan, that the first clause of the report be adopted. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Garrow, that the petition of Mr. Duckham and others be referred back to the Committee to deal with.

In amendment, moved by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Sloan, that the use of the instruments be granted to Mr. Duckham.

In amendment to the amendment, moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Evans, that they be granted to Mr. Gordon for the use of the band he represents as being formed.

Both amendments were lost and the original motion carried.

Mr. Passmore on behalf of Mrs. W. Hyslop asked to have her taxes remitted. Granted.

Moved by Mr. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Savage, that the motion of last meeting for granting Tavern License to John Pharis, Mrs. Mack, R. Tichborne and John O'Donoghue be reconsidered. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Garrow, that John O'Donoghue receive a certificate to obtain Tavern License.

In amendment, moved by Mr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Evans, that R. Tichborne receive a certificate to obtain Tavern License.

In amendment, to the amendment moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Robertson, that Mrs. Mack receive a certificate.

The amendment to the amendment was lost and the amendment granting a license to R. Tichborne carried.

Mr. Robertson gave notice that one month from this time he would move that one additional Tavern License be granted and three licenses to houses not having the necessary accommodation required by law, (i. e. Saloons) and that the by-law be so amended.

On motion of Mr. Savage six common chairs were ordered to be purchased for the use of the Council room.

The Council then adjourned.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the HURON SIGNAL.

DEAR SIR:—I think it would be well for the Reform Association of the South Riding of Huron to appoint scrutineers to attend the Court of Revision of the Township of Goderich, as the present Assessor is at his old tricks in undervaluing the property of Reformers and assessing that of Conservatives at such a figure as to swell the Conservative vote as far as possible.

Yours truly,

FREEHOLDER.

Goderich Tp., 7th March, 1874.

Frederick Fenton has been appointed Crown Attorney for the County of York.

Board of Public School Trustees.

The regular monthly meeting of the Board was held on Monday evening, 2nd March. Present, the Chairman and Messrs. Passmore, Buchanan, Nicholson, Elliott and Swanson.

Minutes of last regular and special meetings read and approved.

The Principal's report for February was read. It was resolved that the Librarian be instructed to notify parties retaining books longer then the time allowed to return them forthwith.

The following accounts were ordered to be paid, Jas. Crawford, lumber, $45; A. Dart, wheelbarrow, $5; F. R. Mann, glazing, $1; *Star* office, printing $28.50; Jas. Saunders, sundries, $6.81.

An account from John Butler, executor for the Gardiner estate, was referred to the Contingent Committee.

The Board then adjourned.

Tuckersmith.

ACCIDENT.—On Wednesday morning last, as Mr. John Cowan, of Tuckersmith, was driving along the Second Concession, with a load of furniture, when nearly opposite the residence of Mr. James Dickson, the front wheels of the waggon dropped suddenly into a rut in the road, which caused the vehicle to jolt, throwing Mr. Cowan violently to the ground. Mr. Cowan was seated on the load, driving the team, and fell between the horses and the wagon, the front wheel of which struck him on the back. Fortunately the horses stopped immediately, or the wagon would have passed over him, and the result might have been fatal. As it was he was pretty severely injured, and had to be assisted into Mr. Dickson's house, when medical aid was sent for. Mr. Cowan was taking the furniture from his old farm in Tuckersmith to one which he has recently purchased in Hullett, near Clinton, and to which he was moving.—*Expositor.*

Lines

On the Death of Sarah Cassady, who was accidently burned to death, Colborne, March 1st, 1874.

Now our lonely hearts are bleeding
With the fulness of our woes,
For we've left our lov'd one sleeping,
In her grave so dark and low.

T'was not by disease she wasted,
Or we would not grieve so sore,
Bitter suffering she tasted,
And the sight our heartstrings tore.

When the fiery pain did tear her
Earnestly she bid us pray,
That God would help her to bear it,
Or would take her soon away.

Poor mamma, I soon shall leave you,
Were her whispered words of love,
Soon you'll have no Sarah with you,
For I go to God above.

T'will be sweet to be in Heaven
With a harp within my hand,
For to me one shall be given,
When I join the angel band.

As each sorrowing face bent o'er her,
She would smile her last good bye,
Calling those she loved around her,
E'er she left them for the sky.

Lie down by me mamma closely,
Fold me once more to your breast,
For the death chill stealeth o'er me,
And I soon shall be at rest.

The change that told us she was dead,
Came o'er her like the breath of even,
And when at last her spirit fled,
She wore a smile that spoke of Heaven.

Seaforth

AN EXPERIMENT.—The Merchants' Salt Company of this village have recently thoroughly tested the praticability of evaporating salt brine by the aid of crude petroleum, instead of wood. The process of evaporation was successfully carried on in one of their blocks for several days by the use of petroleum instead of wood. As a result of this experiment the company have ascertained that salt can be made in this way as cheaply as with wood at $2.50 per cord. For most of the wood which is now used by our salt manufacturers $3 per cord has to be paid, so that with crude oil at present rates a considerable saving could be effected. The appliances required to utilize the oil are very simple. The oil is placed in an elevated tank, from which a pipe leads into each of the furnaces under the salt pan. The tank being elevated above the furnaces, the pressure of the oil forces it through the pipe. Enclosing the pipe through which the oil runs is a larger pipe, through which heated steam is conveyed from the engine. The steam as it escapes from the pipe inside the furnace ignites the fluid, and the blaze and heat is drawn backwards under the pan by the draft of the furnace. By this means the pans can be heated more rapidly and more salt can be made in a given time than with wood. The company do not intend to use oil in the manufacture of salt at their works here, at least for some time, but made the experiment in order to enable them to determine upon the advisability of fitting up some of the blocks they now have in course of construction at Goderich so that the fluid can be used in them. This they now intend to do. If petroleum can in this way be profitably and safely used, a very important substitute for wood will have been obtaired. This is all the more satisfactory, as at the present rate of consumption, the supply of wood must necessarily become exhausted in a few years.—*Expositor.*

Clinton.

From our Special Correspondent.

SAD OCCURENCE.—An event has just taken place in this village, a most sad one in which an interesting girl of fourteen summers dies of a most malignant disease (Cancrum Oris) while the father is in a state of intoxication and acting like a demon and has to be put in the lock-up and finally sent to the common jail. The disease is a rare one and seldom occurs except through privation and exposure, and from infancy this child had been with the rest of the family driven out in the dead of night in the wet and cold, or possibly held by the hair of the head and beaten by a drunken father when these fits came upon him. Such treatment, with the probable want of good wholesome diet and none too much of it, and poor and insufficient clothing, have combined to place her system in a condition quite favorable to receive and develop into disease of the most malignant kind, any poison which might be present in the atmosphere or about filthy localities, and it is a question whether the law should not be made to deal with such cases as criminal, and drunken parents be made to suffer the consequences of a verdict of manslaughter from a coroner's jury. Society is asleep in this matter and no wonder. The law of our country sanctions the wholesale dealing out of the poison—sanctions in effect the very crimes of the poor drunkard, made so under the law, commits, and then he is punished by the law for committing a crime which the law has already tacitly sanctioned by placing within his reach the means to form an appetite stronger than death, from the iron control of which few escape, and to degrade him to a point which fits him for the commission of any crime, and transforms him into a being totally unfit for the duties of this world and as effectually consigns him to the terrible horrors of the next. It does seem as though the sensible portion of the community ought to see by this time that legislation to control the effects of such an agent for evil is utterly useless, just as well legislate to control a mad dog, after having given him the material to make him so. The only true consistent course is to secure a thorough prohibitory law and the means of enforcing it when secured. The law as it is, is an utter piece of inconsistency, and nothing short of entire prohibition of the sale of spirituous liquors as a beverage will prevent the commission of so much crime and prevent the misery and utter wretchedness and destitution in so many families. When prohibition does take place as we hope some day to see, and enforced too, an era of prosperity will dawn upon Canada which few dream of at present.

The people of Strathroy are agitating for a railway from Fort Frank, Lake Huron, southward to lake Erie.

Small-pox is said to be causing considerable alarm in the township of Mara, near Orillia.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

February 24th.

On the motion to read a third time the Assessment (Amendment) Act,

Mr. Gibson moved to expunge the sub-section of the Assessment Act which has been held to allow a reduction of forty per cent on the assessment of towns and incorporated villages, after the equalization of the assessment by the County Council. The County Judges of Huron, York, Elgin, and Simcoe had all put this construction upon the law, and he (Mr. Gibson) held in justice the amendment he proposed should be adopted.

Mr. Bishop supported the amendment, and thought County Councils were quite as likely to do justice as the Legislature, if not more so.

Several other members spoke for and against the amendment after which the Attorney General said his attention had not previously been particularly directed to the clause. It was evidently not intended that the construction put upon the clause was intended when the Act was framed. He would like to consider the matter with the view of framing an amendment to suit the various suggestions made in the discussion. He accordingly moved the adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to.

On the motion to go into Committee of Supply, Mr. Lauder attacked the expenditure of the past year. He contrasted the expenditure of 1870-71, the two last years of Mr. Sandfield Macdonald's Administration with the years 1872-73, and charged the Reform Government with extravagance. Messrs. Cameron, Rykert and Cumberland spoke in the same strain. They were effectively replied to by Messrs. McKellar, Bethune, Fraser, Pardee and others. The House then went into committee, passed several items, rose and reported.

February 25th.

After some unimportant business, Mr. Chisholm asked if it was the intention of the Government to amend the Municipal Loan Fund Act of last Session, so that Municipalities might invest the money allotted to them from that fund for school purposes.

Hon. Mr. Mowat said it was not the intention of the Government to amend the Municipal Loan Fund by an Act of this session for the purpose mentioned.

Mr. Boultbee then moved, pursuant to notice, a resolution declaring that Dominion salaries should not be taken as the rule for the guidance of the Local House, and that some system should be devised whereby the salaries under the authority of the Legislature should be placed on a proper basis, present inequalities adjusted and present injustice remedied. The mover spoke briefly in support of his motion, and in the course of his speech suggested the appointment of a Committee chosen from sides of the House to settle once for all the question of salaries.

The Attorney General replied. He said the proposition was contrary to all the principles of responsible Government. He characterized the motion as one which proposed to lay down a proposition founded on false premises, to remedy an inequality which was a necessity, and in fact ought to exist, and to move an injustice the existence of which was not proved.

A long discussion ensued, very personal in its nature. Mr. Stephen Richards deprecated the constant revival of the salary question. He did not consider either of the gentlemen more particularly referred to as over paid, having regard to the nature of the duties they were called upon to perform. He regarded the repeated allusion to them as most undesirable, and calculated to have a bad effect. He recommended his friends on that (the Opposition) side of the House to examine the items under the head of "Contingencies" to see that too many officials were not engaged in any Department, and to let the officials' salaries, when once settled, alone. His remarks were cheered by the House, and recess put an end to further debate. The motion, and an amendment proposed by Mr. Oliver, both stood over.

After recess some private business was disposed of after which Mr. Crooks moved the second reading of the Bill to amend and consolidate the law for the sale of fermented and spirituous liquors, explaining the improvements which it was proposed to make in the existing law the effect of which would be to elevate the trade and greatly diminish the evils attending it. Mr. Cameron doubted whether the subject would not be found to belong to the jurisdiction of the Dominion rather then the Ontario Parliament. Mr. Bethune, in the course of a very able statement, admitted that the question was one which might fairly give rise to discussion, showing, however, that the matter was entirely within the jurisdiction of the Provincial House. They had everything under their control that deals with Municipal questions, and quoted a story to show that the Bill did not go one bit beyond the principle in the Bill passed by the Sandfield Macdonald Government. He regretted that the Bill did not go further. In this, as in other cities, the drink was adulterated, and manufactured brandies, with drugs of a most deleterious character, were made out of the common whiskey and he thought the Government should take power for chemical analysis, with the view to destruction. Next to absolute prohibition, the best thing would be to insist that liquor, if sold at all, should be sold pure. He would also have public houses closed at an early hour. Dr. Baxter thought that if the law could be carried out a great point would be gained, and the Hon. Mr. Currie said it would be well if taverns were limited in number, and to raise the tariff, giving the bulk of the fees to the municipalities. Mr. Deacon thought the Bill went too far in making the possession of certain articles a proof that a man was a vender of fermented liquor. Mr. Hardy agreed that the clause objected to was too strong when there was no appeal, and contended that there should be an appeal. Dr. Clarke (Norfolk) supported the Bill, believing that partial repression must be accepted until a prohibitory law could be got, but the liquor traffic should be separated from common groceries, where most of the evil was done. Mr. Calvin advocated total prohibition, and expressed his belief that they must look to the electors to put pressure on their representatives. Mr. Boultbee said it was a very serious question whether any class of men should be deprived of the ordinary legal safeguards against injustice, and thought that it was not advisable to deprive tavern-keepers of the right of app