New Advertisements

Harrows—D. K. Strachan.
Gift Enterprise—L. D. Sine.
Spring Stock—G. McKenzie.
Estray Steer—Jas Buchanan.
Sheriff's Sale—Robt. Gibbons.
Insolvent Notice—D. Watson.
Insolvent Notice—W. F. Findlay.
Huron Carriage Works—Knox & Rothwell.

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 " "

☞ Geo. P. Rowell & Co., 40 Park Row, and S. M. Pettingill & Co., 37 Park Row, are our only authorized Advertising Agents in New York.

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

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

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, Feb. 18, 1874.

The Public Accounts.

The Public Accounts of the Province of Ontario for 1873 were submitted to the Legislative Assembly last week. The total expenditure for the year was $2,460,212 23 against $1,847,956 57 in 1872, an increase of $612,255 66. Of this sum $543,968 is represented by the following items,—Colonization Roads, $70,150; Public Works and Buildings (*capital account*), $287,625; Immigration, $101,428; Education, $41,703; Municipalities Fund (a matter of account only), $43,062; Crown Lands, $9,776.

The following is a statement of the expenditure under the different heads for the two years,—

	1872	1873
Civil Governm't	$142,218 85	$156,646 82
Legislation	99,559 42	120,400 68
Colonis'n Roads	75,799 19	145,950 00
Administration of Justice	191,647 66	204,604 84
Public Works and Buildings	266,764 95	554,389 71
Toronto Lunatic Asylum	76,181 00	82,458 95
London do	66,852 99	71,922 85
Deaf and Dumb Inst. Belleville	28,133 41	29,144 80
Blind Institute Brantford	15,888 94	19,875 26
Reformatory Maintenance	23,824 58	22,506 77
Central Prison Maintenance	.....	598 33
Agriculture and Arts	79,762 10	80,967 93
Immigration	57,750 49	159,178 55
Agricultural College	.....	1,707 29
Hospitals and Charities	42,100 00	43,020 00
Literary & Scientific Institutions	1,850 00	1,850 00
Education	421,763 53	463,406 03
Miscellaneous	26,029 61	16,859 54
Municipalities Fund	71,703 25	114,765 35
Crown Lands Expenditure	128,716 50	138,492 44
Technological College Maintenance	4,285 97	5,826 51
Land Improvement Fund	24,195 63	25,639 58
Stationery Account	3,187 50	
Total	1,847,956 57	2,460,212 23

On turning to the other side of the account we find that the revenue, which the Treasurer a year ago estimated would amount to $3,000,000, has amounted to $3,314,516, exceeding therefore the expenditure by $854,304. The cash balance carried forward from the preceding year was $352,991 24 and the receipts were as follows,—

From Grammar School Land Sales	$19,754 01
From Crown Lands Sales	189,665 36
From Woods and Forests	643,637 56
From Mines, casual fees, &c	36,852 95
From Suspense Account	7,462 04
From Municipal L'n Fund	28,931 26
From Int on Investments	258,040 43
From Licenses	82,152 78
From Casual Revenue	77,355 83
From Algoma Taxes	3,801 90
From Law Stamps	95,249 08
From Education Department	51,480 21
From Reformatory, Penetanguishene	2,618 03
From Lunatic Asylum, Toronto	19,182 28
From Lunatic Asylum, London	2,811 21
From Lunatic Asylum, Rockwood	1,322 95
From Deaf and Dumb Institution	4,576 10
From Institution for the Blind	1,153 94
From Agricultural Farm, Mimico, on account of sale of lots	3,713 14
From Dominion of Canada	1,207,841 71
From Municipalities Fund	150,126 78
From Common School Lands	78,765 76
	3,314,506 55

The cash surplus on hand on 31st Decr. 1873 amounted to $4,672,482.67. Of this $4,394,534.62 was invested or at deposit and $277,948.05 in hand. During the month of January the further sum of $550,000 was deposited, so that the present moment the investments and deposits of the province amounts to over $5,000,000. Out of this the payments arising out of the Municipal Loan Fund adjustment and the further charges on account of appropriations to railways have to be met, but even after these have been provided for there will be a large surplus left. It is worthy of notice that during the two years the Reform Government have been in power the assets of the province have increased by the sum of *two and a half million of dollars*. Yet we find the Opposition press crying out that the present government is extravagant and wasteful. It is the special province of some people to find fault and nothing will satisfy them. As long however as the government can show such a satisfactory statement as the above, they can set the criticisms of all fault-finders at defiance. If the expenditure has increased a little, the revenue is also increasing in a greater proportion, and in return for the expenditure we have something to show. The wants of the country are increasing, and it is far better to expend our money in developing our resources than to hoard it up where it will do no good.

—On Saturday last, Mr. T. M. Daly was elected to the Local Legislature for North Perth, by a majority of 274 over Mr. Corcoran.

Riel.

Riel has again been elected for the county of Provencher in Manitoba, beating his opponent by a very large majority. If the French half breeds of that county wish to disfranchise themselves by electing a murderer who cannot take his seat, they have a perfect right to do so, but had Sir John A. Macdonald not acted with such duplicity in this matter all trouble might have been avoided. Some of the French Canadian papers have again taken up the cause of the outlaw warmly, and demand that the promised amnesty be granted. *La Minerve* declares that a few days previous to the resignation of Sir John it was decided at a Conservative caucus to grant the amnesty, that decision being forced on by a threat of Mr. Langevin to leave the government if it was refused. Riel has published in the *Nouveau Monde*, over his own signature, a memoir of the Red River rebellion, in which he repeats with much earnestness of language and fulness of detail the statements made about the time of his election to the House of Commons last fall, that his delegates to Ottawa were promised as a condition of peaceful submission to Canadian authority, an amnesty for all concerned in the Northwest troubles, Riel says the promise was given by Sir John Macdonald, Sir George Cartier, Lord Lisgar, then Governor-General, and Sir Clinton Murdoch. The promise was repeated to Bishop Taché, who, Riel further declares, gave him personally, as a Canadian Commissioner authorized to speak for the Government, "his word of honor "that a general amnesty would be pro- "claimed before the installation of any "Canadian Lieut.-Governor." That the amnesty thus distinctly promised by the late Government was not proclaimed as agreed upon, Riel says was owing to the "fact that the fanatical Mackenzie and "his company raised the prejudices of "Ontario, by crying out for death on the "murderers of Scott." The document is of value in that it shows that Sir John promised the amnesty, and that it would have been proclaimed on the arrival of Governor Archibald at Fort Garry, but for the opposition of Mr. Mackenzie and the Reformers of Ontario. The Premier instead of being in favour of granting a pardon to Riel, as falsely represented by the charter sellers, is looked upon by that individual as having prevented its being granted long ago. If the Imperial authorities decide to give full effect to the promise given by their representatives, the government will have to submit, but a pardon will never be granted through their influence or intercession. In the mean time, Riel, though elected, cannot take his seat.

The Elections in England.

The returns up to last Saturday show that 638 members have been elected to the British House of Commons of whom 342 are Conservatives and 296 Liberals and Irish Home Rulers. It is thought that Mr. Gladstone will resign at once and it is also reported that he will be raised to the peerage. In speaking of the result of the elections a contemporary remarks,—

The defeat of the Gladstone Ministry at the polls, though not so complete as that of Sir John Macdonald, is far more surprising and equally suggestive. No minister of the present century in England has accomplished nearly as much as Gladstone has done during the last five years. He has abolished an established church, revolutionized the land laws of a Kingdom, given a school law to both parts of Great Britain, reduced taxation, paid off debt, carried on wars out of the revenue, introduced the principle of arbitration for the settlement of international disputes, and given the poor and dependent bothghe protection and security of the ballot. Yet no minister who came into power with such a majority as Gladstone had, five years ago, has lost support more rapidly or has had his triumph so speedily turned into humiliating defeat. He has alarmed the timid and comfortable with fears of revolution, while he has disgusted or at least disheartened the dissenters—the advanced guard of liberalism—who have always been his most energetic and enthusiastic supporters, and have now come to look upon him with distrust, if not alienation. It will all come right in due time. The apparent recession is but the recoil of the wave in an advancing tide which will soon touch a higher point than it has ever yet reached. The establishel churches of Britain must go, and so must the absurd and oppressive land laws. A better preparative for the accomplishment of these great works could not be thought of, than having a professed or real Conservative Government, doing according to its instincts, or according to the pressure from without which it will not acknowledge and at the same time cannot resist. The so-called re-action will land Mr. Disraeli in measures far more liberal than even he ever dreamed of, or it will land him hopelessly high and dry on a rugged shore, far from the safe harbour for which he may be anxious to steer.

A Temperance Crusade.

During the last few weeks a remarkable temperance crusade has been going on in Southern Ohio, and it is gradually extending to other places. The women, moved apparently by a sudden impulse, have undertaken to suppress the liquor traffic. Failing to influence the liquor dealers by moral suasion to abandon the traffic, they invade the saloons, hold prayer meetings in them and sing temperance hymns. They keep up these demonstrations till the dealer is led to "surrender," or till his place is deserted because people are ashamed to enter it. If the saloon-keeper has intimation of the coming of these moral reformers and locks his doors and entrenches himself against them, they build a booth outside and hold their meetings there. The meetings are kept up all day and evening by relays of women, and those who have undertaken the work seem to be terribly in earnest. In some places business of all kinds is entirely suspended, the schools closed and the work prosecuted most vigorously. Hundreds have been induced to sign the pledge, and in one town, out of twenty-three saloon-keepers, sixteen have given up their business and become temperance men. Of course the action of these women is illegal, but where the authorities have been appealed to they have declined to interfere, no doubt believing that the end justifies the means. Doubtless much good is being accomplished in the mean time, but we doubt if the benefit will be very lasting. Till public opinion is educated to such a point as to consider the liquor traffic degrading and demoralizing, and till the masses are brought to see the evil effects of dram drinking, any spasmodic effort such as that going on in Ohio, will accomplish very little permanent good.

The Elections.

Since our last issue, Muskoka, Ont., and Charlotte, N. B., have elected the Ministerial candidates. In Manitoba the polling took place last Friday, Messrs. Smith, Schultz and Cunningham, Ministerialists, were elected and Riel, Opposition. The total count is, Government 149, Opposition 41, Independent 7.

School Legislation.

There is at present a bill before the Ontario Legislature to modify and improve the School Law in some respects. It proposes to remodel the Council of Public Instruction by adding three members, elected by the Public School Inspectors, the Teachers of the High Schools and the Teachers of the Public and Separate Schools, respectively. The law for enforcing compulsory attendance at school is strengthed by the imposition of a rate of one dollar a month on all parents neglecting to give their children the benefit of the educational advantages afforded them by our school law. The Book Depositary system at Toronto is so far liberalized as to allow trustees and teachers to purchase prize books from booksellers under certain restrictions, the 100 per cent heretofore allowed by the depositary being paid them in cash. This is a step in the right direction. The book depositary however good it may have been at the time it was established, has ceased to fill the useful position it once did, and has become to a great extent a monopoly, injurious to the general book trade. We are glad to see a change made that will give booksellers throughout the country an opportunity of competing with it. In this connection we had pleasure in perusing a letter addressed to Hon. Oliver Mowat, by G.M. Adam, a leading bookseller in Toronto, pointing out the evils and the expense of the depositary monopoly. It is an able production, and though we cannot agree with all it contains it certainly makes out a strong case in favour abolishing the monopoly. The proposed legislation will we trust, have the effect of making our school system more efficient than ever.

Hon. Mr Blake's.

Our readers will learn with regret that Hon. Edward Blake has retired from the cabinet. Previous to the elections of 1872, he announced his intention, in the event of a change of government, not to take office. In November last, when the Reform government was formed, strong pressure was brought to bear to induce him to reconsider his expressed determination, and he finally consented to accept a seat in the Privy Council without office or emolument and on the distinct understanding that the arrangement should be only temporary. Now that the elections are over and he has seen the policy of the Reform leaders sustained at the polls, he has carried out his determination as expressed to his constituents, and withdrawn from the cabinet, in order that he may give his undivided attention to his own business affairs, which have suffered materially by his giving up so much of his time to the public. We trust however that before long Mr. Blake will be in a position to again enter the government, not only as a Privy Councillor but as the head of a department.

By the retirement of Mr. Blake and the appointment of Mr. Christie to the Presidency of the Senate, the cabinet is reduced to its ordinary number of thirteen members.

The Trouble in British Columbia.

After all, the trouble is British Columbia does not appear to be of a very serious nature. It grew out of a proposal to give the consent of the Province to an amelioration of the Treaty terms as regards the time for constructing the Pacific Railway, in return for a favorable concession from the Canadian Government which would facilitate the construction of a Graving Dock at Esquimalt. The opposition was led by Dr. Helmcken, one of Sir John Macdonald's Pacific Railway directors; acting no doubt on a hint from the leader of the Opposition here As Dr. Helmcken supported the late Government in their violation of the agreement with British Columbia we do not see how he can now demand the fulfilment of the whole treaty "or burst," as he expresses it. As Mr. De Cosmos, before he could be elected to a seat in the Dominion Parliament, would have to resign the local premiership, Dr. Helmcken probably trusted that by raising a feeling he would be able to succeed to the position, but in that he has been frustrated. He has succeeded in creating a little disturbance in the mean time, but that British Columbia will secede there is no danger, notwithstanding the assertions of the Tory press.

Bribing.

The Tory press in general and the local prog. organ in particular, seek to account for the overwhelming defeat of their party at the elections by charging Reformers with wholesale bribery, as if the people of Canada are so ignorant as not to be able to judge as to the merits of the two political parties, or are in the market to be bought like so many sheep. Speaking of North and South Huron our local contemporary gets quite excited over the flagrant acts of bribery which it alleges were perpetrated by those hateful Grits. Granting all it says to be true for the sake of argument, we would ask if its own party can honestly plead not guilty in this matter. Mr. Greenway, as we have already shown, endeavoured himself to purchase support, and a certain legal gentleman from town was in Ashfield handing out the dollars very freely on behalf of Mr. Farrow. If some of those who cry out so loudly against bribery did not engage in it, it was because the leaders of the party, profiting by past experience, would not trust them with the funds, in case they might convert them to their own private use.

Majorities.

It is worthy of note that the majorities of the Reform candidates in the late election contest have as a rule been large, especially in Ontario. The London *Advertiser* in speaking of the fact says:—

It is a remarkable fact that the combined majorities of the candidates in the five constituencies claimed by the Opposition as having been taken from the Ministry, make less than 150. Monck was lost by 30; Halton, 23; Leeds, 2; Centre Wellington, 49; East Middlesex, 44. Cameron's majority over Gibbs was greater than the entire Opposition gain, and McGregor's vote over O'Connor was five times more than the combined Tory gains in Ontario. Major Walker could have spared enough votes to defeat the Opposition candidates in Monck, Halton and Leeds, and then have had three times as many left for his majority over Carling as the Charter Sellers' candidate could boast of in South Leeds. Kerr, in Northumberland, could have walked off with the whole batch of victorious Oppositionists and then have been able to discount John A. and Hillyard Cameron with what he had to spare.

—The second volume of the Census returns has just come to hand. It contains statistics of age, occupations, deaths and of Churches and Religious and Benevolent Institutions.

Farmers coming into Montreal market sell frozen butter with about fifty per cent. of ice in its composition.

LOCAL NEWS

Ash Wednesday.—To-day is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent.

Concert.—A concert in aid of the funds of the Wesleyan Sabbath School will be held on the evening of the 26th inst. See posters for particulars.

Another Paper.—They are talking of starting a local paper at Blyth. Similar enterprises at Bayfield, Smith's Hill, Kintail, &c., will next be in order.

Our New Railway.—A bill to incorporate the Huron and Quebec Railway was introduced in the Ontario Legislature last Thursday. Mr. Boultbee has charge of it.

Separate School.—The Roman Catholic Separate School is now open. It meets in a building in rear of the convent on North Street. We understand there is a good attendance.

Mild.—This is a remarkably open winter. The "oldest inhabitant" does not remember a winter in the last twenty-five years when loafers could stand on the street corners in the middle of February as they do now.

Thaw.—A thaw set in towards the end of last week, which carried off most of the snow and nearly destroyed the sleighing. It froze again on Sunday night but the roads are quite bare in many places.

Re-Union for Registration Purposes.—Mr. Gibson, M. P. P. has introduced a bill into the Ontario Assembly to re-unite the Ridings of Huron for Registration purposes. This is in accordance with a resolution of the County Council.

A Race Course.—The Court House Square is well adapted for a race course and any fine afternoon those who are possessed of fast horses may be seen trying their speed round it. We question the propriety of such fast driving in such a public place.

Accident.—We regret to learn that H. Macdermott, Esq., met with an accident a few days ago which will confine him to the house for some time. When coming out of Crabb's building he slipped and fell, breaking one of the small bones of the ancle. Under Dr. McMicking's care he is doing well.

Work Commenced.—The Exeter *Times* of the 12th inst. says that work was commenced that day in clearing and fencing the station grounds of the L. H. & B. Railway at that village. The object is no doubt to keep the charter from expiring, which it would have done on the 15th inst. had work not been commenced.

Runaway.—A team of horses tied in front of Wells' hardware store at noon on Thursday last, broke their halter and ran away up East Street, taking the sidewalk a part of the way and escaping contact with telegraph poles and other obstacles in a wonderful way. At the foundry they turned off towards Mail handville and disappeared from view. We did not learn where they stopped.

R. C. Church.—Since Father Boubat's departure his place has been temporarily filled by a clergyman from London. It is expected that Father O'Neil of Kinkora will be appointed to this mission. He at one time filled the post of Chaplain to the troops engaged in the Kaffir war, a campaign in which Capt. Cooke of this town also took part.

Lots for Sale.—We would direct special attention to the advertisement of Mr. William McKinlay, advertising three lots for sale on the south west side of the town, overlooking the lake. The locality is admirably adapted for a summer hotel or private residence. Those who wish to obtain a desirable property had better communicate with Mr. McKinlay at Thamesville.

County Judge's Criminal Court.—Edward Smith, charged with stealing on the 12th inst., a pair of gaiters and over shoes from one Thomas Champion, was brought on the 16th inst., before His Honor Judge Toms, and consented to be tried by the Judge without a jury. The County Attorney, Mr. Lewis, read over the formal accusation to which prisoner pleaded guilty, and he was then sentenced to three months hard labour in the County Jail.

Valentines.—Last Saturday being the anniversary of St. Valentine, when lovers are wont to send tender missives to their lady loves, a brisk business was done at the Post office, which was besieged by lads and lasses (it being a school holiday) to see if their object of their affections had not forgotten them. Though the custom of sending valentines has gone very much into disuse, the children still keep it up, and a large number of the precious documents passed through the post on that day.

New Dominion Monthly.—The February number of this magazine now lies on our table, and is not a whit behind preceeding ones in interesting and instructive reading matter. Amongst the many articles worthy of notice those entitled the "Pedigree and Kinship of Words," by John Reade, one of Canada's foremost poets and writers; "Physical Training," by W. A. Withrow, M. A., and a "Review of the Times," by another writer of eminence, stand prominent. The selections are as good as usual, which is no slight praise. The frontispiece is an engraving of Hon. Edward Blake.

New Masonic Lodge.—A new masonic lodge was opened at Smith's Hill, Colborne, on Wednesday evening last. It is called "Morning Star" Lodge. The officers for the current year are,—J. S. Varcoe, W. M.; H. J. Nott, S. W.; W. J. Harris, J. W.; R. B. Scott, Secretary; John Patterson, Tyler; A. Glen, Guard. The lodge was opened under a dispensation from D. G. M. Bro. Wilson. A number of brethren were present from Goderich, Lucknow, Kincardine, &c. They were entertained at Bowden's hotel by the new lodge, where a very pleasant evening was spent.

Curling.—A curling match between the Lucknow and Goderich clubs, two rinks a side, was played on the rink of the latter on Wednesday last, and resulted in a victory for Goderich by fourteen shots. After the match the Lucknow players were entertained to a repast at Vivian's, where a pleasant hour was spent. The following is the score:—

RINK NO. 1.

Goderich		*Lucknow*	
T. Hood		N. Smith	
A. M. Ross		G. Douglas	
J. H. Finlay		A. Murdoch	
C. A. Humber	skip 27	Dr Tennant	skip 22

RINK NO. 2.

A. Dickson		R. Somerville	
J. Thomson		T. Matthie	
H. Cooke		R. L. Hunter	
Henry Horton	skip 29	G. Kerr,	skip, 20.

Orangeism.—The following were elected officers of the South Huron County Orange Lodge at the annual meeting held in Goderich on the 3rd inst.—W. W. Connor, Co. Master; John Whitely, Deputy Co. Master; J. Russell, Co. Chaplain; A. C. Simmons, Co. Secretary; J. Joslin, Co. Treasurer; T. Sturdy, Co. Director of Ceremonies; B. Cooper, Co. Lecturer; Messrs Simmons and Stevenson, Auditors. The usual celebration of the anniversary of the Battle of Boyne will be held at Seaforth on Monday, 13th July, and the next annual meeting at Clinton. The North Huron Co. Lodge met at Belgrave on the same day and elected the following officers,—H. Geary, Co. Master; H. Perkins, Deputy Co. Master; H. Cooper, Co. Chaplain; W. Harris, Co. Secretary; J. McCrae, Co. Treasurer; J. Manning, Co. Director of Ceremonies; L. Rethery, Co. Lecturer.

Disastrous Fire.

LOSS $15,000,000.

Several Men Killed and Injured.

London, Feb 14—Taylor's Pantechnicon and furniture repository in Belgravia, covering an acre of ground, was burned last evening. The fire broke out at four o'clock p. m. and raged until midnight. It was only stopped by the engineers demolishing the walls and thus preventing its progress. The building alone was insured for $1,000,000. The total loss, including the contents of the burned structure, consisting of pictures, mirrors, five hundred carriages and a vast amount of other goods, is estimated at $15,000,000. Five house, and several large stables adjacent were partially destroyed. There were a number of accidents and two firemen were killed. The fire attracted an immense and unruly crowd, and it became necessary to call out the military to preserve order.

Our Schools.

Report of J. R. Miller, Inspector, for 1873.

To the Chairman and members of Goderich Board of Public School Trustees:

Gentlemen,—I have the honour to present my annual report on the state of the Central and Ward Schools in the Town of Goderich, and in doing so I have great pleasure in bearing testimony to the zeal and energy of the teachers generally, and also to the very satisfactory manner in which the pupils acquitted themselves at the several examinations during the year.

The difficulties of introducing the new limit table have been overcome, and the school is now working in accordance with the programme of studies prescribed by the Educational Department. Three additions have been made to the staff of teachers, the accommodation for pupils is quite ample, and there is every reason to believe that our schools stand fair to equal, if not excel, those of any other town in the province.

In August I had the honour to report the result of the midsummer examinations and in that report to speak in complimentary terms regarding the work in a large number of the classes. In reporting on the Christmas examination I am in a position to state that in all cases the work was well done and in some rooms a most decided improvement has been effected since last examination. To show that the work in the school has been thorough, I may here state that at the last examination for entrance to the High School all the pupils going from it, with one exception, passed. This has not been the case generally, a very large proportion in many places having failed to make the requirer number of marks.

From the annual report prepared for the department we note that there were entered on the General Register during 1873, a total of 1082 names, 20 of these being over 16 years old. No. of girls 525, boys 557. The average attendance during the first six months was 693½, the last six months was 534½ annual average being 569.

The number of pupils in the first class was 368, second 243, third 317, and fourth 154.

Religious denomination of teachers is as follows: Baptist 1, Church of England 3, Methodist 4, Presbyterian 5.

The accommodation provided in class rooms as required by law is sufficient for 1014 pupils.

The school is very well furnished with maps and apparatus, and the Library has supplied 621 books to the reading public during the year.

Two teachers resigned during the summer, and two at the end of the year. The number of changes is less than during last year, and the school has gained in consequence, as frequent changes are very detrimental to the best interests of any school. It is of the utmost importance that teachers be retained as long as possible, if a loss is sustained it is generally on the part of the children and parents.

The semi-annual examinations as usual have been conducted in writing, and at the last examination, through the action of the Board, I was permitted to place printed papers before each candidate for the higher classes. This method gives each pupil a fair and equal standing with his fellow, and I trust that the success attending the last examination in this respect will induce the trustees to provide such papers at each subsequent examination.

I present for your consideration the following tabulated statement showing the result of late examination as also the following as the number of promotions at the last examination from each room.

W. Cumming 30, A. McDonald 25, Miss Trainer 47, Miss Dixon 43, Miss Norval 26, Miss Donogh 16, Miss Kirkbride 19, Miss Longworth 7, Miss Tayler 6, Miss McMahon 15.

With this report I enclose a copy of papers used at the examination referred to.

Before closing I propose giving a few figures which show not only the increase of pupils attending school but also the increase of population of the town, a steady increase which must be gratifying to every citizen who has the prosperity and success of the place at heart Commencing with January, 1864, we give the number of pupils enrolled during the corresponding month in the year up to the present time:

1864	464 pupils.
1865	500 "
1866	529 "
1867	559 "
1868	631 "
1869	673 "
1870	725 "
1871	730 "
1872	767 "
1873	774 "

In conclusion, gentlemen, I beg to tender you my sincere thanks for the hearty and willing assistance rendered to me by the members of the Board while discharging my duty as Inspector during the year, a work that has taken up a very large portion of my time, as it is my duty not only to conduct examinations in your Schools but also to assist in the entrance examination of candidates to the High School.

I have the honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your obedient serv't,
J. R. MILLER,
Public School Inspector.

Clinton.

The Weather here has been wonderfully capricious, raining, hailing, snowing, freezing and thawing all in a few hours, and it seems a great wonder that there is not more sickness. Seaforth and Egmondville have been severely scourged with diptheria, typheid fever and puerperial fever. The last mentioned is now prevailing as an epidemic.

The London Huron and Bruce Railway has been commenced at last, most likely to save the charter from expiring as it would have done on the 15th inst., unless work had been previously commenced. We hope that the good work may be continued, and we feel confident that it will be after the committee of enquiry comes out in April as is expected, and I are able to see the beautiful country through which it is to run and the statistical accounts of productions and exports as well as imports.

Now that the elections are over things may be expected to go on in the usual way until next year, when the elections for the Local Legislature will again bring us into another turmoil of excitement. It is to be hoped, however, that it may be by ballot, which will most effectually prevent corruption, and the true expression of the electors be more likely to be obtained. When an elector writes the name of the candidate in a room where no one can see him, and give his ballot to the returning officer folded, no one can ever know how he voted, and there will not be much money paid under such circumstances.

Stephen.

Council Meeting.—Council met this day (Feb. 7th, 1874.) Members all present. Minutes of last meeting read and signed.

Meetings hereafter to be first Monday in every month at 10 o'clock a. m.

Moved by W. Fulton, seconded by A. Leary, that C. Prouty be Clerk, same salary as last year; T. Croughan was appointed Treasurer, same salary as last year; J. Ryan was appointed Assessor at a salary of $65. Treasurer to deposit township monies in Bank of Commerce.

Moved by J. Parsons, seconded by A. Leary, that this Council pass a by-law for the purpose of drawing from the surplus fund lying at our credit in the Provincial Treasurer's hand, the sum of Ten thousand dollars to pay off our gravel road debt, or purchasing other debentures as it may seem most profitable for the township.

Moved by A. Leary, seconded by J. Keelum, that the Treasurer and John Parsons go for the surplus money.

Clerk to prepare Treasurer's bonds. Mr. Finkpiner to receive $8 for making fires in Hall.

The following orders were granted: J. Hodgins repairing scraper, $1.88; Trustees S. S. No. 6 for use of house for municipal election $4; Mr. Flynn, repairing culvert 1 side road $2; Mr. Finkpiner making fires $1.50; T. Carey repairing Culvert 11 Con. $2; charity $10; Mr. Verity 1 scraper $6; M. Winer, wood for Hall $6; Gravel $13.05.

C. Prouty, Tp Clerk.

Exeter.

Horses Lost.—On Saturday night last, Mr. Towers, of Exeter, started for London, driving a span of good horses. He reached London early on Saturday morning, and started the same day to return. After pretty hard driving, he reached Mr. Thos. Pott's hotel early in the evening. On arriving, he discovered his horses to be quite blind. They were turned loose, and Mr Potts did all he could for them, but they both died during the night.—*Times.*

A Visit.—On Monday evening last, the W. P., officers and manners of Crediton Division S. of T., visited the members of the order in this place, to the number of about 40. A pleasant and mutually instructive evening was spent. After routine, Mr. Manning, who ably filled the chair, called upon Mr. Hale for an address. He was then followed by Messrs. Lewis, Lamport, Rollins and others of Crediton Division. Mr. Young gave a song. The speeches were interspersed by singing from the choir.

Accident.—On Monday last, as Mr. William Nelson, 7th con., Usborne, was in the woods chopping, he received a painful cut on his face. As far as we can glean, he was standing upon a log, and the axe glancing, swung around with all the impetus which his strong arm could give it. Catching him directly in the centre of the face, it completely split his nose open and divided in twain his upper and lower lips, and knocked out one of his teeth. Under the care of Dr. Hyndman he is now doing well.—*Times.*

Lucknow.

Elopement.—The Lucknow people are in a state of excitement over an elopement which took place last Thursday morning, the parties being Alex. McNevin, a married man, and a girl named Eliza Reed, a servant at Charles Mooney's. We obtain the following facts from the *Sentinel*:—"About eight months ago McNevin came here from Harriston, leaving his wife with his uncle in that village. After he had been in Lucknow a short time, he went to Mr. Mooney's to board, and owing to the intimacy between his servant and McNevin, he sent him away, at the same time cautioning her against having anything to do with the man, as he was married; but the girl only grew angry and would not hear anything against him. Two weeks ago a friend wrote to McNevin's wife, telling her of her husband's conduct, and advised her to come up, which she immediately did. On her arrival here, McNevin was to all appearences as constant as ever, and persuaded her to go out to Culross, to her father's, where he drove her the other day. After having thus disposed of this formidable barrier to his cherished designs, he was more than ever attentive to his "darlin' Eliza," and from the manner in which he acted yesterday, it was evident something was going to happen. Last night a number of persons participating in elopement, watched McNevin, and notwithstanding the vigilance of the watchers, the wily scoundrel avoided them all, and about 4 o'clock this morning went to the house for Eliza, when the two decamped for parts unknown. The girl's parents reside in Bayfield, and are very respectable people. The citizens of Lucknow are indignant at the conduct of McNevin, and should he again make his appearance in Lucknow, he will have to remain *incognito*, or the boys will tar and feather him."

West Wawanosh.

Council Meeting.—The Council met pursuant to statute, (19 Jan. 1874). The members elect, Chas. Girvin, Reeve, Edwin Gaunt, Deputy Reeve, David McIlwain, Charles Durnin, and Wm. Kinahan, Councillors, having made and subscribed the necessary declarations and qualifications of office, took their seats, the Reeve in the chair. Minutes of last ordinary meeting and special meeting read and approved. Mrs Davidson applied for receipt for taxes having paid taxes and school rate for No. 3 school section, but it not being clear whether her land was in No. 3 or No. 8 Union School Section it was laid over till next meeting, the clerk to write to School Inspector for information. Moved by E. Gaunt, sec. C. Durnin, that Donald Grant be auditor. Carried. The Reeve nominated John Hickingbottom to be the other auditor. A petition signed by 16 ratepayers of the Township was presented in favor of Mrs. Taylor receiving a grant from Council she being in indigent circumstances. Moved by D. McIlwain, sec. by D. Gaunt, that Mrs. Taylor receive the sum of $50 a year to be paid quarterly and that Ebenezer Radford be Trustee.—Carried. Moved by Charles Durnin, sec. E. Gaunt that John Gordon and Geo. Rutledge receive the sum of $3.00 each for their services as returning officers, and that Geo. Rutledge receive the sum of $1.00 for going to clerk's office for poll book and voters list those sent by clerk through mail having been miscarried, and that Wm. McAllister receive the sum of $1.00 for taking new poll book and voters list to ward No. 1.—Carried. Moved by O Durnin, sec. by E. Gaunt, that the clerk write to Lieutenant Governor of Ontario asking whether Local Municipalities get their portion of M. L. Fund in money or debentures as this municipality wish to apply it to their railway debt, also that the clerk write to Wm. Hendrie enquiring who hold delivery debentures of this Township.—Carried. Moved by D. McIlwain, sec. by Wm. Kinahan, that this Council send a memorial to the Lieut. Governor praying that an act now school act be amended, the number of holidays be reduced, especially the summer holidays in rural districts.—Carried. Moved by C. Durnin, sec. by. E. Gaunt, that Robt Murray be clerk. Moved by D. McIlwain, sec. by Wm. Kinahan, that Wm. Durnin be Treasurer. Moved by C. Durnin, sec. by Wm. Kinahan, that James Falconer be assessor, and that he be notified to appear before the council next meeting.—Carried. Moved by E. Gaunt, sec. by D. McIlwain, that the Reeve sign the following charges:—W. H. Reid, grave for 25 Goderich Rutherford refund taxes $2.46, T. J. Moorehouse, stationery, $10.37, J. Gordon, returning officer, $3.00, G. Rutledge, do. $3.00, G. Rutledge, extra, $1.00, Wm. McAllister $1.00. Moved by Wm. Kinahan, sec. by E. Gaunt, that this council do now adjourn till Saturday the 7th day of February and that Tavern keepers be notified to apply for their license on that day.

Council Meeting.—Council met (7th Feb. 1874) pursuant to adjournment. All the members present. Reeve in the chair. Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Letter from Wm. Hendrie, Esq., read and filed. Letter from School Inspector stating that W½ lot 14, Con. 6, is in U. S. S. No. 8, was read and filed.

By-law No. 1 1874 appropriating the Municipal Loan Fund money coming to this Township to the liquidation of Railway debt was read a third time.

Moved by D. McIlwain, seconded by E. Gaunt, that by-law No. 1 as now read be passed. Carried.

Application from Robert Barmby for Tavern License for St. Helens' Hotel was read.

Moved by E. Gaunt, seconded by C. Durnin, that Robert Barmby's application be granted in accordance with statute and by-law. Carried.

Application of Thomas Burns for a Tavern License for Belfast Hotel was read.

Moved by D. McIlwain, seconded by Wm. Kinahan, that Thomas Burns' application be granted in accordance with statute and by-law. Carried.

Applications from John McRuoid, McPherson & Kennedy, and Wm. McIntosh for shop license, and Robert West for tavern license, all from the village of Lucknow were read and filed.

Moved by C. Durnin, seconded by D. McIlwain, that John Bowers be License Inspector at a salary of $2 for each certificate.

Moved in amendment by E. Gaunt, seconded by Wm. Kinahan, that Geo. Weatherald be License Inspector.

For amendment, Gaunt and Kinahan.

For motion, Durnin, McIlwain and Girvin. Motion carried.

Moved by E. Gaunt, seconded by D. McIlwain, that the Reeve sign the following cheques.

Robert Mooney	Bal. of salary	$26 00
" "	Reclamation	10 00
" "	Postage	8 00
C. Girvin	Council fees for two last meetings in 1873	4 00
E. Gaunt	do	4 00
D. McIlwain	do	4 00
C. Durnin	do	4 00
Wm. Kinahan	do	4 00
James Glen	for 20 cords gravel	5 00

Moved by Wm. Kinahan, seconded by C. Durnin, that this Council now adjourn till call of Reeve. Carried.

Robert Murray, Tp Clerk.

CANADA.

$6,200,000 worth of fish were taken in Nova Scotia last year.

A new paper has been started at Tiverton called the *Watchman*.

Mr. Clarke, M. P. P., has introduced a bill providing for the application of the ballot to municipal elections.

The parties accused of complicity in the Biddulph abduction case have been committed for trial.

It is reported that a protest it to be entered against the return of Mr. Crowell Willson for East Middlesex.

The proposal to abolish tolls failed to commend itself to the judgment of the County Council lately in session at Kingston.

The city of Toronto, with a population of 60,000, has 64 Sunday Schools, comprising 125 teachers, and 11,200 scholars.

The steamer Cumberland was sold at Owen Sound on the 10th instant to satisfy judgments in the Sheriff's hands. She realized $38,000.

The large freight house of the Great Western Railway, at St Catharines, was burned on Thursday night. Loss, $7,000.

The majorities for Power and Jones in Halifax were, for the former, 2,336; for the latter, 2,145. These are the largest majorities in the Dominion.

The funeral of the late Bishop Guigues, of Ottawa, was an imposing demonstration of the esteem in which the deceased was held by all classes and all creeds.

The wholesale hardware house of William McGiverin & Co., Hamilton, which suspended some weeks ago, has again resumed business under the style of C. Cameron & Co.

Last week Mr. William Orr, butcher, Lucknow, purchased from Mr. J. Gaunt, of Waw