Huron Signal,

GODERICH, APRIL 6th, 1871.

A Hundred Million Dollars.

AND A HUNDRED MILLION MORE.

Every true Canadian looks forward with delight to the time when the Dominion will extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and its main Railroad become the highway of both hemispheres. But this much to be desired result cannot be hastily consummated. We have been anxious to see British Columbia unite her destinies with us, and would be the very last to throw any needless obstacle in the way. We would have been willing to sacrifice not a little to secure for future generations a Canadian sea-board on the Pacific. We object however to mortgage our prosperity for half a century, oppress ourselves with unreasonable taxes, and retard the progress of every other section, even for such an addition to our territory. The scheme of the Macdonald-Cartier administration is one of those reckless, extravagant and unstatesmanlike measures, which should be resisted and execrated throughout the length & breadth of the land. The proposal to ignore a fundamental principle in our Constitution—that principle on which our parliamentary representation is based—would be sufficient alone to call down upon it unreserved condemnation. The population of British Columbia, by all accounts, is not over 50,000 or 60,000. Of these only from 12,000 to 15,000 are whites and the balance Indians and Chinese. To them it is proposed to give a representation of 6 members in the Dominion Parliament, or about 1 to every 2000 of the white population. Here in Ontario we are content with one to every 20,000 of our population, because this is the proportion we are entitled to by the Confederation Act. Thus playing fast and loose with a national constitution, as was done in the case of Manitoba and now proposed to be done in the case of British Columbia, is a course of action fraught with serious danger to our future. Between Manitoba and British Columbia there is territory sufficient for several provinces, and a continuance of such violations of relative rights might culminate in swamping the legitimate influence of the already populous Provinces, and the deplorable end would be the dismemberment and not the extension of Confederation. But this aspect of the question is not the most serious. To induce British Columbia to unite with us, the debt of the Province amounting to $1,666,620 or $30 per head of the white population, the ministry desires the Dominion to assume, involving a yearly interest-charge of $100,000. The government have further pledged themselves and seek to pledge Parliament to commence within 2 years and finish within 10 years 3000 miles of railway, which they estimate will cost $100,000,000, but which is more likely to take $200,000,000, considering that the greater part of the route would be through a barren and rocky country. If the latter amount should be required (as no doubt it would) it would cost the Dominion in interest the further sum of $120,000 a year. The pretext was made that government was not to build the line but that it would be constructed by a private company, to be paid in grants of land. In consideration of the grants being given by British Columbia to such a company for this purpose, the Dominion is asked to pay that Province another $100,000 a year as compensation. Whether built by a company or not, it is quite obvious the money would have to be raised by Canada, and the national exchequer would be held responsible for it, for all time. Even Sir Francis Hincks had to confess that no capitalist would undertake the scheme without a subsidy of $1,250,000 per annum, which he coolly expected the Dominion to pay. Then when the line was completed, if it did not pay, which it would be little likely to for a quarter of a century, who would keep it up? Who, indeed, but the Dominion government at the probable rate of five millions a year more! And all this, Macdonald, Cartier, Hincks and Co., had the hardihood to say that they had agreed to do for British Columbia in the form of a treaty, which Parliament was bound to approve but had no right to discuss When they found they could not succeed in this line, they tried the more indecent course of insinuating that though it was proper to hold us, these terms to British Columbia, as they been agreed upon by Parliament, it did not follow that the Dominion should be very particular in carrying them out. We believe that in the eyes of the country this scheme will seal the doom of John A. Macdonald. He was at one reading able to carry a majority of the House with him, in spite of the gallant resistance of Mackenzie, Blake, Mills, Holton, Angin, Dorion, McDougall, Jolly and a host of other able men. The final vote was 91 for the government and 70 against. In the minority, in every amendment, we were pleased to find the names of Cameron and Whitehead, of Huron. The whole affair is shameful and preposterous and will, if carried, be an effectual barrier against Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island casting in their lot with us. Such a financial policy would soon make our indebtedness per capita as heavy as the fearful burden which oppresses our American neighbours. It will be an evil day for Canada when the Government are allowed, without having obtained or sought information and on mere suppositions statistics, to pledge themselves to rush us into debt at the rate of millions of dollars a year, for an object good in itself but not worth to us at present one tithe of the price demanded, and when they are permitted to prostitute our national honor and use, without being hood d down, the immoral argument that the object being gained we should be allowed to disregard our pledges. We are satisfied of the opinion of Ontario on the subject, and we know that the members who voted with the government to carry through this nefarious scheme, will meet just such a reception as the "axe-grinders did last month. The plea that British Columbia will fly into Brother Jonathan's arms, if these terms are not granted, is mere bunkum and is the same course of conduct that "Chaling Foe" preached to the Nova-Scotians and to the insurgents at Red River with the view of obtaining the famous *better terms*. "Fair and softly goes far in a day" in building up nationalities as in lesser matters, and we would rather wait some time for the acquisition of British Columbia than double our national debt and exclude Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island. If Sir John A. Macdonald and his followers force such an outrage upon us, we be to them when they come to account for their stewardship, before their sovereign—THE PEOPLE.

One Explanation Wanted.

The straight course of M. C. Cameron Esq., at Ottawa, has given an emphatic contradiction to the insinuations of his political ill-wishers that he is less a Reformer now than when he asked the suffrages of the South Riding. His vote and influence have been steadily given on the side of the liberal party, as we were always assured they would be. We only want one explanation. On the 27th ultimo Mr Blake's much-mangled measure to secure the independence of the Senate, by providing that senators should not be eligible for appointment to offices in the gift, and which would be likely to make them the tools, of the ministry, was brought up for disposal. There voted for Mr Blake's measure 57 and against it 58, the nearest approach to defeat John A. has had, this session. Mr Cameron's name did not appear on the division list and the question is asked: Where was Mr. Cameron? We have no doubt our member can satisfactrily explain his absence and we should like him to do so at once.

POSTMASTER GENERAL'S REPORT,

We have received, through M. C Cameron Esq., M. P., the Postmaster General's Report, up to 30th June, 1870. The business for three years past is thus tabulated:

Year	No of Post Offices	Estimated No of letters for 1 year	Revenue	Expenditure
1868	3,625	18,100,000	1,094,719	1,08[illegible]
1869	3,756	21,920,000	974,064	[illegible]
1870	3,820	24,500,000	1,016,707	1,16[illegible]

The following new arrangement is proposed:—The introduction of what are known as 'post cards' in the United Kingdom, and the convenience which is stated to have attended their use, have induced the Department to make arrangements for the manufacture of similar post cards for the use of the public in Canada. These post cards will be sold at one cent each, and may be posted for any address within the Dominion—and will be conveyed to destination, and be delivered in like manner with letters—the one cent covering the cost both of the card and of postage.

The Packet service with the United Kingdom has carried during a year:—

	LETTERS.	NEWSPAPERS.
To and from Canada	1,218,104	1,321,718
To and from U. S	212,653	91,25[illegible]

Between the United States and Canada 2,223,000 letters were interchanged. The letters Registered are estimated at 1,000,000, only 72 of which in any way miscarried, 33 of these being made good by the parties responsible for the casualty. The Dead letters numbered 324,291; 190,000 of which were prepaid and the balance unpaid. The money order business is summarized as follows:—

Year	No of offices.	Amount issued
		$
1868	615	3,342,574
1869	559	12,551,552
1870	556	3,898,747

And the following was the result of last year's business:—

Net Revenue	$21,418.71
Cost of Management	19,187.97
Profit	$2,230.74

In the Savings Bank department the total deposits from 1st April 1868 to 31st

	NO	AMOUNT
Dec. 1870, were	60,991	$3,353,205.00
Withdrawals	20,958	1,430,701.40

Showing the satisfactory result of about $2,000,000 deposited in small sums, the average being $50,00, no doubt chiefly by the working men of the country.

The following were the contracts entered into for carrying the mails in this neighborhood:—

Amberley to Lucan	$52.00
Bandon to Seaforth	150.00
Bayfield to do	340.00
Belgrave to Varnoch	30.00
Clinton to Porter's Hill	117.00
do. to Wingham	147.00
Exeter to Hamley	38.00
do to St. Mary's	295.00
do to Sarepta	52.00
do to Parquhar	68.00
Goderich to Kincardine	875.00
do to Lucknow	350.00

Also confining ourselves to this neighborhood, we find the Salaries &c., of Postmasters up to 30th June 1870 to be as follows:—

Name of office	Revenue	Commission, and allowance, for extra duty	Allowance for stationery.
	$	$	$
Amberly	101.24	36.50	2.00
Auburn	152.50	39.15	2.00
Bayfield	311.72	92.66	2.00
Belfast	111.71	41.65	2.00
Belgrave	124.64	43.00	2.00
Bennullet	61.05	14.61	2.00
Berne	103.24	27.42	2.00
Blanevale	225.45	56.61	2.00
Blyth	292.34	79.53	2.00
Brussefield	187.40	50.20	2.00
Carlow	69.54	21.70	4.00
Clinton	2148.40	638.50	6.00
Crediton	149.97	39.81	2.00
Dungannon	190.34	48.86	2.00
Egmondville	298.75	59.57	2.00
Ellimville	40.54	9.96	1.67
Exeter	806.55	224.35	6.00
Farquhar	48.60	11.69	2.00
Goderich	8608.48	1212.20	24.00
Gorrie	384.31	114.27	2.00
Hay	31.06	8.93	2.75
Hill's Green	39.00	9.84	2.00
Johnson's Mills	39.21	8.52	2.00
Kinburn	85.65	19.56	2.00
Kintail	55.83	18.15	2.00
Kippen	131.03	34.99	2.00
Lakelet	54.69	18.32	2.00
Lucknow	561.50	258.01	2.00
Marnoch	38.71	9.79	2.00
Morrisbank	54.35	27.75	2.00
Nile	60.96	20.61	2.00
Port Albert	71.08	19.12	2.00
St Helens	133.46	34.97	2.00
Sarepta	32.54	14.10	2.00
Seaforth	2504.80	714.73	20.00
Wingham	630.19	266.64	2.00
Wroxeter	72.60	17.10	2.00
Zurich	625.58	262.20	4.00
	267.99	71.87	2.00

There turn above reminds us very forcibly of the insufficient remuneration which Country Postmasters receive for the responsible duties they perform.

How They Love Him.

The other day one of the Montreal Volunteers proposed "Three groans for Sir George Cartier," Minister of Militia.—They were heartily given. Served the scurvy, little chap just right.

Town Talk.

☞ We would remind those interested of the Sale of Household Furniture &c. by G. M. Trueman Auctioneer on Wednesday, 5th inst (to-morrow,) at the residence of the late Mrs Dunlop, Dunlop's Hill Colborne. For particulars see advertisement in another column.

POSTPONEMENT.—We direct attention to the advertisement postponing the sale of the valuable business stands, corner of Market Square and Hamilton st., from Tuesday, 4th April, *till Wednesday 12th April at 10 a. m.*, at Mr Trueman's Sale Room. The sale is unavoidably postponed on account of the owner being unable, through business engagements, to be present until the latter date.

A FINE LOCATION.—We would direct the attention of manufacturers to the sale of Logan's Wool Factory, advertised in this issue.

THE SPORTSMEN OUT.—We see occasionally of a morning, some enthusiastic sheoter, out with his gun over his shoulder. So far there has been no luck as, though both wild ducks and pigeons have passed over in flocks, they have been too much of the "highflyer" order to be reached from terra firma with powder and shoot. Why not try the experiment of getting up in a balloon?

SPECIAL SERVICES. — Revival services have been held every evening this week at 7.30 o'clock, in the New Connexion Church, conducted by Rev. W. Smyth, and will be continued throughout next week.

ODDFELLOWSHIP.—We are glad to hear that a Lodge is about to be opened in Kincardine. The inauguration will take place some time in May.

MILITARY DRILL—The pupils of the Central School are now being weekly put through their facings by the Principal. The practice cannot be too highly commended. Amongst the larger boys a company could be got up, that would not be despised in the hour of need.

OUR SALT MANUFACTURERS are determined to keep the market they have, and be content with the very low price at which salt now is. They are also to try the experiment of shipping in bulk, by which they will no doubt secure a foot-hold on the other side.

PETITIONING- Our salt-manufacturers have sent petitions to the House of Commons and Senate, praying for the re-consideration of the decision of the House in Committee, at the second reading of the Tariff Bill, to take off the duty on salt and other imports. Dr. Coleman and Mr Hagyes of Seaforth, have gone down to supplement the petitions by word of mouth. There is room for a faint hope that they may succeed.

THE FIRST TRIP.—On Saturday, at 6 p. m., the *Wm Seymour* left Goderich for Kincardine with a full cargo of Freight and a large number of passengers. She returned to Goderich on Monday at 3 a. m., and left for Sarnia the same evening. So early a first trip is unexampled on this coast. The propeller, as repaired, behaves beautifully and has much larger capacity for cargo.

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY.—J. J. Wright Esq., the President, calls the Annual meeting of the St George's Benevolent Society, for the appointing of officers for the year and the transaction of other important business, at the Maitland Hotel, on Friday, 7th April at 7.30 p. m. A full attendance is requested.

CONCERT OF SACRED MUSIC.—The inauguration of the magnificent new organ, built for the Wesleyan Church by T. F. Roome Esq. Toronto, will be celebrated by a Grand Concert of Sacred Music, to be given on Wednesday evening. As Professor Blackburn, organist of the Church of the Holy Trinity Toronto, will preside at the organ, a treat in instrumentaliation may be expected of no ordinary kind. The most part of the programme has been excellently provided for. The Choir of the Congregation will be assisted by Dr and Mrs Thompson and other able vocalists whom our citizens are always delighted to have the privilege of listening to. We hope the public will not lose the opportunity of enjoying a musical feast, of an order that seldom comes in their way at home.

LACROSSE.—A meeting will be held at the Grand Jury Room in the Court House on Wednesday evening next at 7.30 for the purpose of forming a Lacrosse Club. All lovers of the game are requested to attend.

ARCHITECTURE.—We would call the attention of the public to the advertisement of W. Hick, Architect. We have frequently urged on Mr Hick to open an office, having seen several of his plans and known for years his abilities in Architectural drawing, as well as a practical mechanic. We would here say that no building can be constructed properly without a well-digested plan. This is seldom though of by those who build small houses. Every man has an idea of the structure which he means to build. He determines perhaps pretty nearly its form and size, leaving the details to be adapted as the work advances. The consequence often is a series of mistakes. Deficiencies and misarangment make their appearance usual; when it is too late to correct the evil. The expense of obtaining a proper plan in the objection of some. The short sightedness of this view has been shown in the necessity which it so often involves of additions and alterations, which cost perhaps far more than an architect's fee, and fail to satisfy after all. We would recommend any one that proposes building to give Mr Hick a call, and we feel satisfied they will not repent it. He opens in a few days in Jordan's Block

SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS.—The examinations of the Central and West Schools will be held on Wednesday and Thursday of this week.

EASTER SHOW OF BEEVES.—The Butchers in our market have this season excelled themselves in their preparations for Easter consumption. Nine splendid fat cows and heifers, costing in the neighborhood of $700, and weighing in the aggregate 14500 lbs have been purchased by them, the finest lot ever seen in Goderich. Of these Mr. Thomas Andrews has 4 head; Mr. Steve Andrews 3 head and Mr. George Hilton 2. The heaviest is a large cow fed by Mr. George Cheney, Tuckersmith, weighing 1580 lbs and the next (the fattest of the lot) a three year old heifer fed by Mr. Samuel Carnegie Jr. weighing 1550 lbs.—

GODERICH TOWN COUNCIL.

MARCH, 31st 1871.

The Regular meeting of the Town Council was held this evening. Present the Reeve in the chair, the Deputy Reeve, Councillors Clifford, Savage, Crabb, Dancy, Davison, Gordon, Smith, Passmore. The minutes of last meeting were read, approved and signed The resignation of John McPherson, as License Inspector, was read and accepted. It was moved by Mr. Horace Horton, seconded by Mr. T. M Dancy that Mr. Eric McKay be appointed License Inspector for the balance of the year. It was moved in amendment by Mr Crabb that Mr. Thomas Hood be appointed License Inspector for the balance of the year. Mr. Passmore seconded the amendment. The Clerk explained that Mr. Hood was not qualified by last year's roll. Mr Crabb accordingly withdrew his amendment and Mr. Eric McKay was appointed. A letter was read from Mr. George H. Parsons enclosing a petition to the government from 100 residents of the town asking such changes in the Harbor plans, as would not deprive those interested of dock accomodation, and asking the Council to adopt a resolution in conformity therewith and forward it to M. C. Cameron, Esq., for presentation. Mr Horace Horton supported the object and after some discussion, Mr. Horton moved and Mr. Dancy seconded—That a Committee consisting of the Mayor, Dancy, Detlor, Doyle and Horton be appointed to draft a memorial in accordance with the Petition—asking the Minister of Public Works to take the matter into his favorable consideration—Carried. Finance Committee recommended that the sum of $5,00 be paid in full of Mr. Skimmings account—Carried. Petition of W. Seymour & Co., R. Hawley, F A Robertson, J. V. Detlor & Son, C. Crabb, &c., &c., was read requesting the Council to put the docks, presently dilapidated, in a state of repair. Mr. Sinclair thought, as a large portion of the taxes was paid from that quarter a reasonable amount of money should be expended to repair the docks Mr. Savage was under the impression that a street ran there, and that it was the duty of the town to keep it in repair. Mr. Crabb said there was a wharf allowance as well as a street allowance. If the Town of Goderich put them in repair tolls should be charged which would belong to the town. It should be ascertained who the wharfage belonged to. If the property-holders could get a charter for the wharfage opposite their property, they would keep it in repair, and then they should be allowed the tolls as allowed to be charged by Act of Parliament. If it belonged to the Canada Company they no doubt transferred it to the Grand Trunk, and the Grand Trunk has now given up all its rights to the government. If the Council could join with the property-holders interested and get a charter, the matter might be attended to by those interested and they could be reimbursed by tolls. Mr. Horton said the ownership had never been clearly defined. But if the Town has a street there it should be fixed. Really the docks were a disgrace to the town and he was ashamed every time a strange steamer came to discharge If the street were repaired, the property-holders would no doubt repair the docks, if they got any reasonable control of them. Mr. Sinclair moved, seconded by Mr. Savage, that the Council recognise the necessity of putting the street along the harbor quay and the docks thereon in an efficient state of repair and appoint a committee of the Mayor, Crabb, Savage, Dancy, and Sinclair to consider the question ascertain the probable cost of necessary works and report to next meeting of Council. Messrs Smith and Davison deprecated the appointment of special committees, when there were Committees for the purpose. Mr. Davison thought the cost would be pretty serious. It was our duty to repair the wharf if it was ours, and it would be necessary to ascertain this, and also how the dredging would affect the matter. Once that was satisfactorily ascertained, the work should be done. Mr. Crabb said in an interview with the Minister of Public Works it was distinctly stated that Government would not make a Harbor of Refuge without the entire control of the Harbor, and Mr. Brydges stated, at several interviews, that he was prepared to give them this control. There could therefore be scarcely any doubt about the subject. But the town was not in a financial position for a thorough repair. A temporary repair would be useless. But the Council should put the street, which was of the width of 55 feet, in thorough repair. Though the repair of the dock would benefit him largely he was conscientiously opposed to the expenditure. He thought the Council should go into the question at once and instruct the Road and Bridge Committee to repair the street. Moved by Mr. Passmore sec. by Mr. Smith that the Road and Bridge Committee view the harbor street, ascertain the probable cost of repairs and report to the next meeting of Council. Mr. Crabb suggested that Mr. Sinclair should embody in his motion a request to the Clerk and Treasurer to make up a statement of our financial affairs, including our indebtedness. It might then be possible to borrow a few thousand dollars for the purpose and throw the burden a little off the shoulders of the present ratepayers. Mr. Horton thought the case was getting complicated and that Mr. Passmore's amendment should be passed by the Council. Mr. Passmore's amendment was carried. Petition of George P. Parsons to change course of Harbor hill drain, which was washing away one of his lots. Referred to Road and Bridge Committee Petition for a plank side-walk on West St. and offering to pay half the cost by Alexander Wallace and John Brackenadge granted. A petition to the same effect on Kingston St. opposite Cox & Macdonald's grocery, granted. The Street Inspector's report was read and received. Account of T. Andrews. Relief $2.00, ordered to be paid. Mr. Sinclair moved and Mr. Davison seconded that shade trees be planted and protected on the whole of East Street and on West St. from the Montreal Bank to the Maitland Hotel—Carried. Moved by Mr. Savage, seconded by Mr. Crabb that Mr. Philip Nunn be appointed by this Council to pound all pigs and geese running at large on the streets and receive the fees for the same—Carried. Account of J. B Somerville relief, $16.64, ordered to be paid. Harry Reed, for Emigrants, board, $1,00, ordered to be paid. Whitely & Elliot relief $2.75 ordered to be paid. W. T Hays account $30,00 for defending an action of replevin. Finance Committee. Moved by Mr. Sinclair seconded by Mr. Gordon that every person planting shade trees opposite residence or property shall after the second year, if they are living and protected, receive a premium of 25 cents per tree—Carried. The Auditors Report referred to Finance Com. Mr. Runciman, the drainage contractor proposed that in lieu of personal security the Council should retain a larger per centage of the contract price. Mr. Crabb moved and Mr. Passmore seconded that 25 per cent be retained from him—Carried. We believe the drainage contract was then signed.

A MAGNIFICENT INSTRUMENT.—T. F. Roome Esq. of Toronto, and his travelling agent Mr. Greenwood are now engaged, in the Wesleyan Church, putting together the splendid organ constructed by Mr. Roome for the Rev. W. S. Blackstock's congregation. The stops, sixteen in number, are as follows:—open diapason, stop bass, stop treble dulciana, viol di gamba, flute, principal, trumpet, tremulant, pedal organ, C. C. C. to F., Bourdon (16 ft), Violon (8 ft), Gamba major (4 ft). The instrument has a pedal coupler, pedal check, wind signal, two composition pedals and swell. The pedal action is new and believed to be incapable of getting out of order, and no other organ in Ontario has like this one, three stops on the pedals. The internal machinery, necessarily intricate, is of the very best workmanship, under the ready control of the performer and thoroughly adapted to do its work. The largest pipe is 9 ft 9 inches long by 7¼ inches in diameter, and the smallest ⅜ inch long by ⅛ inch in diameter. Mr. Roome casts the metal of the pipes and makes them in their entirety in Toronto. The whole is enclosed in a handsome Gothic case, 11 feet wide, 15 feet high and 7 feet deep; to be grained walnut. The front pipes range from 9 ft 9 inches in length and 7¼ in. in diameter, to 5 ft in length and 4in. in diameter, with an elegant diapred design, in salmon color and gold, on a beautiful green ground, terminating at the bottom in *fleur de lis*. All of these front pipes are speaking pipes and are as useful as ornamental. The weight of the whole will be over 2½ tons, in two thousand pieces, and the cost $1100. Five or six competent judges in Toronto have tested the organ and pronounced very favorable opinions on it. Another simlar has been ordered for Bishop Lewis' Church in Ottawa. We heartily congratulate the congregation on the acquisition of an instrument so highly calculated to enhance the appearance of the church and ennoble the service of song; capable of giving full expression to both the sublimity and tenderness which should be characteristic of christian praise. We are only too apt to neglect the asthetics of religion, and we hope this effort will give an impetus to the entire community. We had the privilege of listening to the instrument, played by Mr Greenwood, for a few minutes to-day. The tuning was not finished, nor yet half the power on which it will finally have. The quality of tone is extremely fine and the effect of the soft stops very sweet; some of the clear flute like notes being perfectly inchanting. We expect a grand result when preliminaries are over.

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS.—We are constantly pestered with these and invariably consign them to the waste basket. Parties wishing to ventilate their opinions on public matters, whether they wish their names to appear or not, must give them to us in confidence as an evidence of good faith. These remarks apply, amongst others, to "Observer," Goderich Township.

WARNING.

GODERICH, APRIL 3rd, 1871.

To the Editor of the "Huron Signal."

DEAR SIR.—Allow me through your valuable columns to inform some young gentlemen in this town, that if they continue to annoy the *Maple Leaf* Debating Society in the Grammar School, as they have done for the last few evenings by throwing heavy stones against the door, their names will be made public as they are very well known,

Your obedient servt.,

A DEBATER.

A GODERICH BOY.

From the *Belfast News Letter*, of March 4th, we clip the following:—

THE NEW SHEAR-LEGS.—Yesterday, preparation, were commenced for raising the new shear-legs which have been erected at the Abercorn Basin for the Harbour Commissioners, and it is expected they will be hoisted into position to-day. These appliances for raising masts, boilers, &c., to and from vessels, are the largest of the kind in Ireland. They are 105 feet high, and will be able to lift up to 50 tons, which can be easily removed from a vessel to the quay or *vice versa*, and lowered into the proper place with comparative ease. They will be worked with two reversible engines. The cost is about £2,000. They have been made by Messrs. Courtenay & Stevenson, from designs furnished by Mr. Lizars, C. E., to all of whom the design and workmanship are highly creditable. These shear-legs will be of great utility in connection with the rapidly-increasing trade, and will afford immense facilities for the removal of such heavy materials as those for which they are intended.

The Mr. Lizars referred to is the talented son of our esteemed townsman D. Lizars, Esq., Clerk of the Peace, whose success, attained by persevering industry, we are pleased to have the privilege of chronicling.

COLBORNE.

SABBATH SCHOOL CONVENTION.—A Township Convention was held at Smiths' Hill on Friday, 31st ulto, at which six schools were represented. There were two sessions, one in the afternoon at 2 o'clock, and the other in the evening at 7 o'clock. In the afternoon, the chair was occupied by Mr. John Varcoe and the following addresses were delivered:—"Sabbath Schools and their organization" by the Rev Mr. Dunkley; "Local Conventions" by Mr. H. J. Nott; "The Teacher's Preparation and Duty" by Rev L. O Rice. An interesting discussion took place on each subject. A Township Teachers' Association was then formed with the following officers:—President, Mr. John Varcoe; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. H J Nott; Directors, Messrs Andrew Dart, James Hetherington Nicholas M Morrish, John Million and Barr; to meet half-yearly. There were present visitors from the Nile and Dungannon. At the evening meeting, which was well-attended the hall being crowded, Mr. Rice was the first speaker, delivering a capital address to "Parents." Rev James Seiveright, Goderich, followed, addressing the "Teachers and Children" in a very interesting manner. Mr. Dunkley spoke on "Temperance" to the children, expressing the desire to see the pledge introduced into Sabbath Schools. Mr. Nott followed up his subject of the afternoon by dilating on the usefulness of Conventions, concluding with some happy remarks on several Sunday School topics. Mr. R. Treleaven, Dungannon, gave a short address expressing his pleasure at the success of the Convention and hoping it would be a stimulus to the Sabbath School workers of the neighborhood. Mr. Wm Young was the last speaker. He expressed himself very much pleased with the meeting—the first of the kind he had been at, and he had enjoyed himself very much. He was sorry to say, since he had given the use of the Hall two of the rate-payers had written him complaining of his doing so, and he would not be able to give it again; except for the hour on Sunday, until he brought the matter before the Township Council. A choir formed from the Smith's Hill School, contributed by their singing very much to the pleasure of the meeting.

AMBERLY.

(From our own Correspondent.)

The approach of spring although evident is rather tardy, and very fitful in its advances. One day we have softly sighing breezes, and mellowing sunshine, nicely commingled with the garrulous and happy chatterings of the Blue Jay, the cawing of the rooks, and the melodious descant of the smaller, but more harmonious tribes of feathered vocalists, that merrily lilt about from spray to spray, quoting their sweetest anthems in honour of the blooming season's impending advent; ali emulous in their varied strains and warbling cadences, not only to eclipse each other in the outpourings of their tuneful homage at the shrine of indulgent nature, but, also, to maintain an indisputable ascendency in the scale of vocal excellence, over their ambitious and petticoated rival—Jeanie Watson—(alias *the Caledonian Hedge Sparrow.*) Next day we have the ground freshly coated over with snow; and all the chilling and benumbing agonies of a mid winter atmosphere piping around, and tickling our ears and noses, in a manner too boreal to be misunderstood. Cattle sheep and fowls cowering and shivering in sheltered places, wrapt up in solemn cogitation concerning the bleak state of their prospects, in the altered state of things since yesterday; and lowing, bleating and cackling to all passers by, with looks of utter bewilderment, and hungry anticipation: and little pigsnuable to solve the rooting problem of life, beneath the lightly frozen surface of the soil, running around grunting, snorting and squeaking in every key of vociferous euphony, and appealing frantically to man and to Nature against the inconsistency of the inevitable crisis, and shewing all manner of disposition not to *accept the situation*, and virtually—(if *pigs do possess any virtue at this season*,) tearing out their own bristles, in hoggish despair, as some lately defunct legislators are said to have torn off their own habiliments on sustaining discomfiture at the recent Parliamentary elections.

BUSINESS.

Commerce on the lake seems to have opened in reality. Several vessels have been seen within the past week, passing upwards and downwards. There appears to be no loose ice floating about to endanger navigation; and if the winds do not in some instances prove too boisterous, the floating, or marine trade of Canada may henceforth be carried on without any interruption arising from winter influences. Messrs David Thorburn and Brothers have just completed a new, and extensive outlet for the lumber trade, and will open the season in a few days, or at least as soon as confidence can be placed in the state of the lake.

SUGAR MAKING.

Sugar making is going ahead at full steam just now.—After a temporary dry up at the beginning of the season, which clouded over the prospects of the *Maple tree Farmers* for the time being, the alternation state of the weather has since proved more auspicious than was even at first conjectured; and many who had already been reckoning the best part of their labours lost, will ultimately come out favoured with an abundant reward for their time and trouble: some having already realized from 700 lbs to 1,000 lbs of dry sugar, besides a vast quantity of excellent molasses.

AGRICULTURAL.

Most speculations of winter life, are fast giving place to the preparations for Agricultural pursuits. Some farmers have had a great amount of their ploughing done in the fall and will consequently be found in a forward state of means to meet the approaching seed-time. Those who have much ploughing still to do, are now beginning—especially in fields of a boddy surface; and on the main every department in country life appears to be in good unison with our most sanguine hopes of a prosperous year in husbandry of all kinds. Fall wheat is for the most part, in a very promising condition, with the exception of what has been sowed on flat marshy fields, where the late heavy frosts have spoiled and blighted it to some extent. Horse and Cattle feeding, such as Oats and Hay, is however rather difficult to procure, being in general far to find, and costly to purchase.

THE MINISTER'S HORSE.

The gift-horse hitherto mentioned as having been, to some extent subscribed for by the members of Mr. Grants' congregation, and to be given to that gentleman as a tribute of the respect they entertain towards him as their pastor, has not yet been purchased; the subscription however is understood to be pretty well advanced, and it is to be hoped the Revd. gentleman will soon be equipped to his comfort and satisfaction, as the state of the roads at present, makes his journeyings a very irksome and laborious task. In conjunction with the above remarks, it is currently reported, also, that a testimonial of that, or a somewhat similar nature is on the tapis for the *Signal's* Amberly correspondent as a token of the appreciation in which his contributions are held by the readers of that journal. I hope the award honorable will be made to the proper person as there are more than one in this locality who seem desirous of disputing that person's identity! Mistakes are best rectified before they occur. This is meant *phor phun*—Go ahead patrons!

MEDICAL.

Dr. Waldon our village physician from his unassuming and gentlemanly bearing since his residence here, as well as from his skill in the treatment of his patents, and other intrinsic merits, is fast becoming a public favorite; and although we cannot naturally wish our neighbors more than ourselves to be often, or seriously, affected by sickness, disaster, or any of the numerous ills which flesh is heir to, we certainly augur for him as much patronage in his profession as the circumstances resulting from our liability to the ordinances of providence may render it necessary for calling his services into requisition.

THAT MARRIAGE.

The marriage in high life, of which I made mention some weeks ago, has, I am given to understand, been postponed until June. The chief cause of this delay, in a matter so momentous, is I believe to be attributed to the express wish of the parents of the "Fair Intended;" who although willing enough to consummate the alliance still, in devout obedience to an old established doctrine in their Code of Natural philosophy, object to having the nuptials celebrated in the month of May, as was formerly suggested. Averring as they do with double suavity that acertainold Scottish proverb, which runs to the effect that, *Gif ye marry in May, Ye'll rue for aye!* is just as true as *beak print*. Of course some people claim the distinction of being endowed with more microscopic powers of vision than their less erudite neighbours; and are doubtless more conversant thereby, with the laws of fate, which may naturally enough account as in the present case, for avoiding nuptial engagements in this inauspicious month of May! For my part I can see as far through the lid of an old Teakettle as most other people can; but through the crust of this old mythological problem I really *can not* see. Verily, good reader I say unto you, the march of intellect too often lies through a Wilderness. The following little ode, written not many centuries ago, by one William (not) Shakespeare, seems somewhat apropos to this affair:—

Strike the iron while 'tis hot,
That's a maxim od but true;
Promises are soon forgot,
And lucky chances few.

CHORUS—Sing hey sing ho, for the wind and the rain!
This world's but a faithless world on the main

Quick to heat and quick to cool,
Weld the iron while it glows,
Love is a fickle little fool,
And owns both wings and toes.

CHORUS—Sing hey sing ho for the wind and the rain!
'Tis a happy heart that may ne'er complain,

Idle dalliance sours the mind
Passion is a changling known,
Vows are often made of wind
And man to break them's prone.

CHORUS—Sing hey, sing ho, for the wind and the rain!
When broke they seldom mend again,

Constant chafing wilts the rose
Life is but a little day
June may lower in stormy and snows
Cull your flowers in May.

CHORUS—Sing hey sing ho! for the wind and the rain!
And a wilted flower ne'er bloomsagain,

Ashfield.

To the Editor of the Huron Signal.

31st March 1871.

Now Misther Iditor, I wud rather spake til ye than rite as I am bad at spellin but a man of yure larnin wil no what I mane. I jist want to till ye Reformers a bit of my mind and show yez how ye wil drive the country to rebilyun.

Yez hav turned out poor misther Hase and I am afeard it wil be the mans of his lith. Now yese wud lik to kil al the Govermint min in the same wa. Sure didnt the Govermint mak dolar bils as plinty as fish in Huron by jist makin a picter on paper and were wilin to giv us these for our vote, only for ye. Sure didnt Misther Hase til me himself he wud fine ivry ould poket I had wid no bils if it wasnt for yeopposition votin' bribery down? Bad lucke to the min that wil hinder the Govermint from givin a poor man a dolar for his vote. Havnt the Govermint a rite to do what they lik wid the munny they ask thimselves? I wud lik to rite more til ye about this, but mi blud is bilein wurse than Huron in a thunder storm. I wud rather swing mi shelaly than the pin. By the powers of Black snakes if I had at him wid mi shelaly I'd chase him to the ruins of Babylun quicker than they iver went to Parlimint But excuse me, Misther Iditor, I expect yese git a fu dolars for ritin for these fellers and I dont blame ye. But if ye wil jist coll at mi place, (I lives on the lake shoar and mi name is Pathrick O'Wee but theyse call me Wee Pat and ye can call me that same) I'll trate ye til a drop of the best, as shure as mi nam is

PATHRICK O'WEE.

Fairfield.

To the Editor of the Huron Signal:

SIR:—In your issue of the 2nd inst. is an article headed, Stephen, from the pen of Voter, in which he fallaciously attacks me, and it is my duty to reply. Voter suspiciously charges me of being a member of the Tranquillum, but he says supplied to his first article on Stephen. Suspicion, in many instances, is the precursor of much mischief and ill feeling. Suspicion, actuated Voter to write his first article. Jealous-minded people, are not only ashamed of themselves, but also of their friends; this is the case with Voter, or his proper signature would have been seen at the conclusion of his article. Analogy, in many instances, being a sure guide to truth, informs me, who Voter is, for there is such a similarity subsisting between his first article and a certain character that occasionally perambulates our neighbourhood, which makes him an easy subject for identity, by any detective of only ordinary ability. Voter, writing from a malicious motive, of the proficiency of the school, says, that my evidence is good authority, that is, if it is accurately written, before he in consistently states, that I am an inefficient Teacher. If Voter acknowledges me efficient in the former case he must do so, in the latter, or otherways acknowledge a direct contradiction, for, making such glaring changes in so short a space, he is no judge of any means inefficiency. Voter says, that he understands that I wished to be relieved from the school, but the trustees, would not let me go &c. Some persons understanding often becomes impaired, through abnormal aberration of intellect; this undoubtedly, is the case, with Voter's mind, or he never would have penned that falsehood, for I never expressed such a desire to any one. He says, he heard it remarked that I was an ex-slave-driver. Who ever conceived such an idea but Voter himself? With the same propriety, I might say that I heard it remarked, if Voter wished to teach school, all he need do, is to instruct his many offspring from the female darkies of the South. Combing a youth's head with a stick of rather a large diameter. If his head had been similarity combed, he would have had a better understanding. Through charity for a cure of Voter's obtuse intellect, I would be willing to be mulcted out of twice ten dollars if I could effect a cure on him, and make his senses more acute, though a decoction of this kind of med