Huron Signal.

GODERICH. C. W., NOV. 1, 1864.

THE PROVISIONAL COUNCIL OF BRUCE.

A CRISIS—RETURN TO HURON PROPOSED!

A Re-Construction of Bruce, Grey, Wellington, Huron and Perth asked for!!

After an existence of seven or eight years, during which it has succeeded in nothing serious that it has undertaken, the Pro. Council of Bruce now announces to the outside world that it has been a most complete failure. At the meeting held in Walkerton last week, after an unusually stormy discussion, the following resolution was adopted by a majority of *two*, the vote being *yea* 12, *nay* 10:

"Moved by Mr. Gunn, Reeve of Bruce, seconded by Mr. Adair, Reeve of Southampton, That as all the efforts of the Provisional Council of the County of Bruce and of the people of Bruce, during the last seven years, towards the settlement of the County Town Question, or any other matter of importance to the interests of the County, have been futile and unavailing, and whereas the meetings of said Provisional Council, and other meetings connected with voting on By-Laws, and other business originating with said Council, as also the salaries and other expenditure of the staff of said Council, have entailed upon the ratepayers of the County of Bruce an immense expenditure of time and money to no purpose; and whereas there is every prospect of a further interminable contest, with no prospect of any satisfactory results, this Council, in order to avoid such ruinous expenditure in future, do petition Parliament for the repeal of all acts having reference to the separation of Bruce from Huron; and the settlement of the County Town Question; the abolition of the Provisional Council; empowering the Council of the United Counties to assume the financial and all other necessary business of the County; and also to petition the Legislature for the remodelling of the tract of country comprising the Counties of Grey, Bruce, Huron, Perth and Wellington, and its redivision into new counties of compact form and size, in order to avoid the clashing of opposing interests which inevitably exists in all counties of irregular form and unwieldy extent. It being understood that an expression of the mind of the people, on this measure, be had at the January election."

In the *preamble* of the above motion we heartily concur. It may safely be taken for granted that if *ever* a decision could be reached upon the County town question, seven years should be sufficient, and it is perfectly legitimate to infer that a settlement would not be arrived at for *seven years to come*, because there is not the slightest indication of a return to united action, on the part of the members, if such a laudable spirit ever existed, which is more than doubtful. Hence, the only course open is, as we suggested about a year ago, to dissolve the Provisional Council altogether. It is a thousand pities such an extremity should have to be resorted to, but we cannot see that there is any alternative. Think of the vast sums of money spent upon the County Town Question alone, in special meetings and regular meetings—in obtaining Acts of Parliament and getting them annuled, in passing By-Laws and rendering them inoperative, in purchasing a site and backing out of the bargain, in letting contracts and paying damages, because, in the space of two or three weeks, the party of the first part had changed its mind! If the sum total could be placed before the people of Bruce, it would astonish them as much as a long running account generally does in the case of a private individual. To this vast expenditure of energy and money must be added large amounts spent upon surveying, advertising and taking the vote on abortive road schemes. Yes, taking all that is past into consideration, patriotism demands that the people should be led to feel that a Provisional Council in a state of *chronic dead-lock*, is a luxury they cannot afford and will not tolerate.

This ignominious failure of the unhappy Pro. Council of Bruce is not attributable to the stupidity of the gentlemen who, from year to year, have been sent into it; on the contrary, we venture to assert that no county in Canada West can bring forward a cleverer set of public men. But has not this very cleverness been the principal cause of the disputes, and caucuses, and failures, which have ultimated in the present crisis? The clever men of Bruce are not confined to any one locality, else the county-town matter would have been settled years ago. Each one of the five or six competing villages has its little knot of leading men, who have contrived while endeavoring to secure what they consider their own interests, to retard the progress of the county as a whole. The keen ones of Kincardine have been fully matched by the shrewd ones in the interest of Walkerton—backed by the exertions of the indefatigable Joe Walker, who has spent more time and money, and travelled more long journeys than was ever undertaken before, perhaps, for the sake of a county town—the clever gentlemen of Saugeen have been checkmated by the representatives of Paisley's interests, and Port Elgin, Riversdale and Pinkerton's Mills, have, now and then, held their heads as high as any other place. How, in the name of common-sense, could such a scatterment of talent result in anything short of a crisis? A lot of blundering, easy-going fellows, would have met after the separation from Huron, and after eating a good dinner, washed down with a few glasses of So-and-so, would have settled the whole thing in a jiffy. But the fates willed it otherwise, and, as Mr. Gunn's motion says, there is no immediate prospect of a "better time coming."

We fear, however, that we must stop with the preamble, for it is certainly asking too much that Huron, Perth, Wellington and Grey, should have the whole of their municipal machinery stopped and remodelled merely because the clever Reeves of Bruce cannot make up their minds as to where they would like their county town, after having had Acts of Parliament, By-Laws, and votings innumerable upon the subject. We cannot answer for Grey and Wellington, but we know that Huron and Perth get on pretty comfortably, despite the alleged "clashing of opposing interests," and we do not think they would seek any remodelling not demanded by the people. A reconstruction for purposes of representation we would not object to, and, in fact, have advocated, but with all due deference to the gentlemen of Bruce, we shall, until we get more light on the subject, set down this *reconstruction scheme* as one of the chimeras which have cost their own county so much, with this additional disadvantage that an attempt at such re-construction and a *failure*—not the most unlikely thing in the world—would involve four other *large* counties in a mess of trouble and suicidal strife. Without condemning it further until its promoters have an opportunity of explaining themselves, we are inclined to think, if first impressions are to be trusted, that the scheme will prove abortive.

NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE OF TORONTO.—In reporting the proceedings of the Montreal Dinner to the Delegates, the *Leader* and *Globe* of Monday surpass anything in the way of newspaper enterprise ever attempted in Canada, and their feat would be no disgrace to the world's 'thunderer' of London. The *Globe* gives nine long columns of speeches received by telegraph, but the *Leader* is the giant of the occasion, its report being double that length at least. Beautiful as those speeches appear in print, it is almost impossible to conceive the amount of labor expended upon them. The stenographer first takes them down *verbatim*, with flying fingers, then he must transcribe his notes for the Montreal telegraphist, who transmits the matter letter by letter to Toronto, where the operator reads by sound, his words being re-reported as it were by long-hand writers. Then the weary work of the compositor commences, and so on until the last proof is read and the forms 'justified.' What a stiffening of wrists and aching of heads there must have been before this mammoth report reached the light! Having experienced something of the kind on a smaller scale, we can the better appreciate the amount of labor performed in such a short time. Truly a *live* press indicates a live, *progressive* people!

THE ST. ALBANS RAIDERS.—It is understood, says the *Globe's* Montreal correspondent, that the confederate plan in the event of a decision by our Courts that the raiders shall be surrendered, is to carry an appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in England. It is reported here in well-informed circles that the Washington Government has despatched notice to Great Britain of its intention to increase the armament on the lakes as a measure of protection on the frontier,—six months' notice being required, if I recollect aright, by the terms of the treaty of Ghent.

☞ A fellow in Toronto, on Sunday evening last, while under the influence of *delirium tremens*, stripped off all his clothing excepting an under garment, and mounted to the top of his house, where he held forth to a large audience, telling them if they did not amend their ways they would be damned. He was brought down by the constables.

THE WAR.—Beyond a report that Grant is about to make a fresh on-to-Richmond movement, we have no later intelligence from the seat of war.

European News.

THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE DEAD.

CAPE RACE, Oct. 29.—The steamer *City of Manchester*, from Liverpool on the 19th via Queenstown on the 20th, has passed. Her news is four days later. The Duke of Newcastle is dead. The new steamer *Ontario* went ashore near Yarmouth, and will prove a total wreck. A commercial panic has occurred in Rio Janeiro. Four banks have suspended payment—liabilities £1,000,000. The London *Times* thinks it is not uncharitable to suppose that the Federal accounts just now are made as favorable as possible to suit the political emergency. It declares the prospect of continued war as most melancholy and depressing to the whole world, and as presenting the greatest reproaches to mankind. The American advices received by the *North American* has no particular interest in England. A rather more hopeful feeling prevailed in English commercial circles on the 17th; but on the 18th there was renewed gloom and depression. The funds were well sustained, but speculative stocks continued to decline. There was an increased demand for discount at the Bank of England. The commercial depression still continues. The additional failures include twenty Liverpool firms interested in the American trade.

LONDON, October 20.—The political news to-day is of an unimportant character.

LIVERPOOL, October 19.—Breadstuffs still downward. Flour heavy. Wheat very dull.

THE AMERICAN WAR.

NEW YORK, Oct. 29.—The 'Tribune's' correspondent, at Warren Station, 27th, says:

This morning the entire army is in motion, with six days rations, and ammunition for any emergency. The movement is a left flank, and on the extreme left Gregg's cavalry is swinging around towards the South Side railroad and the Appomattox; then comes the 9th corps in martial array; the first division lapping the cavalry with rattling artillery; and the other divisions extending to the 5th corps, upon the 3rd and right division of which, as upon a pivot, the revolving line is turning, while the two divisions of the 2nd corps are keeping time with the movement as a reserve.

The immediate objective point of the movement is the South Side Railroad and the Appomattox river, in a circle of existing fortified lines. Our line being once extended to the river, with this natural barrier between us and the main rebel army, it will be a very easy matter, as will be seen by a reference to the map, to keep the Danville railroad, on the south side of the Appomattox, constantly cut by cavalry raids.

It is impossible to foresee at what point the movement will stop, but I do not think that the plan is to extend the movement, particularly at this time, further than the Appomattox. Then the Danville Railroad, south of the Appomattox, will naturally be the next objective point of attack.

Gen. Grant has just arrived from City Point, with four orderlies and two days rations. He yesterday sent all his body guard of cavalry to join Gregg's cavalry on the extreme left.

The skirmishing has already commenced as the train that leaves this leaves for City Point.

Secretary Stanton's bulletin, later in the evening, says:

A dispatch from Grant, received late this evening, informs the department that an advance in force, for the purpose of reconnoissance, was made yesterday by Warren and Hancock. In the evening the enemy attacked Hancock vigorously, but were repulsed; but our troops, their purpose being accomplished, were withdrawn from their advanced position.

British North American Confederation

AN AMERICAN VIEW OF THE QUESTION.

(From the New York Post, Oct. 25.)

Though the doors are to be left open for the ultimate admission of the great north western provinces, the present government will embrace only the colonies of the east, known as the Canadas, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward's and Newfoundland. If the reader will take the trouble to examine a map of this part of North America, he will find that it includes in its extreme length and breadth eight degrees of latitude and forty of longitude, and has an area in round numbers of about four hundred thousand square miles. The remarkable elongation for the federation, compared with its cramped width, renders it anything but symmetrical to the eye, while the territory contiguous to our frontier is separated from us by a few natural boundaries. Maine cuts into it like a wedge.

Yet great states have existed in Europe with border lines as artificial and with as amorphous a shape. The Dutch republic is a case in point, and our northern neighbor has yet another resemblance to that celebrated nationality. Holland is a country of rivers, a network of canals, an inner valley with an enormous sea exposure; so, too, the one fact that a study of the map of this incipient power will impress upon a thoughtful mind is the omnipresence of water. Physiology teaches us that the minutest cellwork of the human organism is provided with its little blood vessel, which restores the decayed tissue and removes all useless matter. Now what the blood of the heart is to man, water communication is to a nation. It means commerce, cheap freight, and, in all cases where there are great internal resources, great wealth.

The tidal wave of the descending river current washes four-fifths of the new federation. Nova Scotia is a honey comb of harbors. Between Halifax and Cape Canseau there are fifteen havens, twelve of which are deep enough for ships of the line. In New Brunswick we are told that "hardly any part of the country is destitute of some stream, of greater or less size; and in some parts of the interior a canoe can be conveyed with equal ease to the Bay of Chaleur, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, or the Bay of Fundy." But it is in the Canadas that we see most clearly how prodigal of help nature has been to the new federation. From St. Mary's River to the ocean, that marvellous chain of great inland seas, Huron, Erie, Ontario, are as it were a great river expansion which narrows into the St. Lawrence and falls into the Gulf. Into this flows the Ottawa, draining eighty thousand square miles of land; into it also flows a thousand streams of greater or less breadth, but all of them with a sufficient fall to give impetus to innumerable water-wheels. What nature has failed to do, art has accomplished, and the Falls of Niagara and the rapids of Long Sault have been surrounded by deep ship receiving canals. While these great highways of travel prepare the way for rapid inter-communication and cheap transportation, the climate offers no insuperable obstacle. The Gulf stream warms the maritime Provinces in winter, drenching them, indeed, too often with mist and rain; but, says Prince Edward's Island, which curiously secures the advantage of a clement sky without the accompanying fog. But if there be damp sea-breezes there is also health, and the singular longevity of the people has passed into a proverb.

In the Canadas the winters are sharp, but the summer is correspondingly hot, and vegetation springs up with swift and exuberant life. The severity of the cold season has also much abated since the forests have been cut into; the winters of New Brunswick have, it is affirmed, been shortened two months by this one cause. The Frost, it is true, freezes up the rivers in December, and interrupts the regular passage of ships, but the country is already possessed of many hundred miles of railway, and when the Intercolonial Railroad is completed there will be an unbroken line of communication from the ocean to the farthest interior.

The resources of the Provinces are confessedly very great. The waters of the inland valley and the outlying gulf swarm with fish. The back country is filled with extensive forests, and the soil is everywhere admirably adapted for the growth of cereals. At Ottawa and Saguenay 800,000,000 feet of lumber are turned out by saw mills every year. Part of this is exported to Europe, part is sent to the United States, and part is employed in ship-building, which is itself a prominent branch of industry. The lumber business is constantly on the increase, and as early as 1857 exceeded the agricultural product.

The Canadas and Nova Scotia are also certain to be great wheat growing countries. In the latter province vast alluvial marshes have been reclaimed from the sea and protected by artificial dykes. Upper Canada, wedged in between Lake Huron and Lake Erie, is extremely fertile, with a rich vegetable mould four feet deep, abundantly irrigated, and at present only partially tilled.—Wheat is the grand staple, but barley, oats, buckwheat and potatoes are raised to great profit. Where the soil is not adapted for the plough, it is nevertheless excellent for pasturage, and horses, sheep, cattle, as well as the products of the dairy, not only satisfy the home demand, but supply foreign markets.

The fisheries are another marked feature of wealth. Cod, hake, halibut, haddock and schools of mackerel fill the Bay of Chaleur, slide up along the shores of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, swarm in the harbor of St. John and the mouth of the Bay of Fundy. Alewives follow the tidal streams and are seined in vast quantities. The net bursts with their weight of manhaden, which are caught for their oil, and in Newfoundland the business of extracting oil from the seal is almost outrivalling the cod trade.

But it is in its geological configuration that the prodigious importance of the new Federation is most distinctly discerned. The extreme east abounds in gypsum, in excellent limestone for building purposes, in plumbago, iron ore and coal. The carboniferous region covers an extent of one thousand square miles, while gold in the hard quartz has made the Maritime Provinces almost a second Australia. In the West, too, copper and silver have been found, and only wait the coming of the capitalist to return an abundant harvest. Besides all this, the Hudson Bay Company make Canada a mart for its shipment of furs, and the point of departure for its Indian traffic.

ACCIDENT.—On Friday afternoon last an accident occurred to Alfred Bates. He was carrying a bucket full of cement up to the roof over Mr. Kirk's store, and had reached the top of the ladder and set the pail on the roof, when one of the rounds on which he was standing gave way. He naturally tried to grasp something to prevent his falling to the ground, and doing this he upset the cement, which was burning hot, the liquid striking his face, completely covering one eye, and running the whole length of his right arm. It is doubtful whether he will recover, or, if so, whether his eyesight will be unimpaired.—[Norfolk Reformer.

☞ It is stated that the number of members to meet in the Legislative Chamber at Ottawa, under the new arrangement, will be 194, and the rooms will require to be enlarged.

☞ It is denied that the pirate Semmes has left Liverpool.

☞ Snow five inches deep fell in Western Virginia last week.

☞ The rate of assessment for the Town of Cobourg has been fixed at one dollar in the pound.

GRAND TRUNK R. R.

TIME TABLE.

GOING EAST.

Express dep. 9 a m. Mixed 12 m & 4.30 p.m.

GOING WEST.

" Arr 4.30 p m, Mixed 10.40 a m & 4 "

WOOD WANTED.

Parties who intend paying their subscriptions in Cordwood will please bring it on right away. Don't bring us a lot of miserable knots.

Town & Counties

☞ A large new foundry, styled the 'Empire,' has been started in Hamilton.

☞ We have to thank a Minnesota friend and subscriber for a file of daily and other papers.

☞ A species of caterpiller has been playing the mischief with the turnip fields in the township of Waterloo.

☞ We notice by our namesake, the Saginaw *Bay City Signal*, that frost has set in very early in that region.

☞ The Bruce *Herald* records the death of Mrs. Joseph Walker, of Walkerton, a lady very much respected for her natural kindness of heart.

☞ A fellow in Goderich, a few days since, seeing some green printing on the back of a Bank of Montreal bill, declined receiving it in payment, saying he was not going to be fooled by any of their greenbacks, nohow! Fact.

HARPURHEY.

No less than 550 head of beef cattle have been shipped from this station during the month of October by Messrs. Fowler and Case, principally to the American side.

☞ In setting up the Root Crop report of the Co. A. S., our printers made the very common mistake of taking J. for an I. and printed Isaac Salkeld when it should have been *John* Salkeld, as 2nd best in Carrots.

☞ The "Canadian Quarterly Review" is the title of a very useful little work edited by Mr. George D. Griffin, of Hamilton. Its articles on commerce, banking, &c., display considerable ability. For price, &c., see adv.

KINCARDINE.—A very nice, orthodox bonfire and torch-procession was got up in Kincardine, when the result of the recent election became known. That was quite right and proper—such another occasion for triumph may not occur again for a long time!

☞ N. T.—Your touching poem commencing with

"In the Fall of the year
It doth appear
That the leaves yellow and sear
Doth sadly disappear,"

is in too melancholy a vein for our columns, and is respectfully declined.

The Horse Thief.

The *Free Press* of the 26th says:—It will be remembered that a few days since a man was arrested charged with stealing a span of horses from a person living in the County of Bruce. On Monday night last, Detective Trainor, of Goderich, arrived in London, and took formal possession of horses and thief, returning yesterday. The man will, of course, be tried at the Goderich Assizes.

SKATING RINKS.—We observe that skaters are already looking after their favorite rinks. Could Goderich not sport such a luxury? Will not some of our men of money and leisure set the matter afloat and establish a safe and convenient rink for the exercise of this most healthful and innocent of all winter amusements. It could be done without the slightest difficulty!

MADAME ANNA BISHOP, the celebrated Cantatrice will give a farewell concert in Crabbs New Hall, on Saturday evening next. It will be remembered that Madame B. refused to sing here some years ago on account of some difficulty about a piano. On this occasion no disappointment need be apprehended, as several of the best instruments in town are at her disposal. The Concert will be well worth attending, and we hope to see a full house.

CATTLE FAIR TO BE HELD IN GODERICH.—It gives us pleasure to announce that a Fair for the purchase of fat cattle and hogs (live) will be held on the Market Square in this town on *Wednesday the 16th of November*, when a number of dealers have promised to be in attendance for the purpose of purchasing. We would advise those of our farmers who have available stock to bring it in on the occasion. They will, however, be sufficiently alive to their own interests not to require much urging.

PAISLEY.

DEAR SIGNAL,—You will no doubt, have observed in reports of the late declaration in Owen Sound, that our mutual friend, John Gillies, Esq., at the close of the performance, entered a four-horse carriage occupied by Messrs. McPherson, Angus Morrison and Jackson, and headed a procession through the streets. Very pretty, certainly, and all that, but permit your cor. to hint that one of the leading reformers of Bruce must have felt rather queer in such companionship. However, wonders will never cease!

PETER GONE.—The worthy postmaster of Lucknow informs us that a subscriber, Peter C., who has taken the *Signal* for three years without paying for it, has—*left for parts unknown*. Good bye, Peter! The printer's blessing be with you! May that little bill haunt you by day, and nightmarical elephants walk over you when asleep! May regiments of tom cats fight pitched battles under your window when you are awakened by the elephants, and may you finally be elected member of the U. S. Congress! Gentlemen hoping to escape these and other pleasures of the kind, will, in future, see to it that the printer is paid before they "leave for parts unknown." A wink's as good as a nod to a blind horse.

TEESWATER.

The Ploughing Match in connection with the Culross Agricultural Society came off on the 18th and, considering it was the first match held in Culross, it was in every respect a decided success. The prizes were awarded as follows:

MEN.—1st prize, Alex. Forsyth; 2nd, Jas. Reid; 3rd, Wm. Little; 4th, Adam Davidson.

BOYS.—1st, John McKenzie; 2nd, James Gibson; 3rd, James Ballagh.

ATLANTIC MONTHLY.—The November No. of this able American Magazine has been received from the publishers. Ticknor & Fields of Boston, and is a really valuable addition to the wealth of our literary table. Sold at this office. Contents:—Leaves from an Officer's Journal, Riches, The Vengeance of Dominic de Gourgues, Lina, Chas Lamb's Uncollected Writings, To William Cullen Bryant, House and Home Papers, The New School of Biography, The Last Rally, Finances of the Revolution, Through Tickets to San Francisco: A Prophecy, Sea-Hours with a Dyspeptic, The Twentieth Presidential Election, Reviews and Literary Notices.

TOWN COUNCIL.

The principal subject up at the meeting of Town Council, on Friday evening, was the cutting off of water from Smith's tannery by the new drain. It was argued by several that the corporation would be held liable for damage done, while others contended that the Council could sink drains quite irrespective of private interests. The matter is to be looked into by a committee which will report we presume at a meeting to be held this (Tuesday) evening. Mr. Longworth did not bring up the motion of which he gave notice. The costs in the case of Longworth *vs.* Corporation are to be assumed by the Town, which will only come to about £35 0 0, and the fence is to be replaced as well. Mr. Leonard gave notice that at next meeting he will move that the Councillors receive remuneration for their services. Being emphatically a "Peoples' Candidate," Mr. L., of course, only intends this as one of the very good jokes he perpetrates now and then.

A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER.—By reference to the time table in another place it will be seen that an important change will take place in the running of trains on and after Monday next. There will be three trains per day each way, and the express will leave at 9 a. m. and arrive at 4:30 p. m. If this time is kept up punctually it will be one of the greatest conveniences we have ever enjoyed through the railway. It is only proper to state, also, that freight is delivered at Goderich with greater promptness than ever before. Goods arrived this week on the same day that invoices came to hand—something worthy of notice in our experience. It gives us sincere pleasure to accord praise when it is due.

The "Signal" as a Farmers' Paper.

Thanks to the exertions of our numerous correspondents throughout the Counties, we have been enabled to give our agricultural friends the proceedings, generally at length, of every Agricultural Demonstration held within the Counties, for this season, up to the present moment. In this respect we have accomplished far more than was ever thought possible before, and we are happy to say that our enterprise is appreciated by those for whom we labor, many friends interesting themselves in sending in the names of new subscribers. A continuance of our present patronage will impel us to still further efforts to make every man feel that he receives full value for his $1.50, without which no newspaper can maintain a respectable existence. The circulation of the *Signal*, which is far greater and more general than that of any other paper in the two counties, stamps it as *the* advertising medium. In proof of this assertion we are at all times prepared to exhibit our *bona fide* subscription lists, or the wetted paper for the respective issues, to intending advertisers, which course is preferable to any loud mouthed boasting. Farmers, support your county paper.

FATAL ACCIDENT LAST NIGHT.—About 8 o'clock last evening, Duncan Lamont, second-engineer of the *Niagara*, then lying at our dock, having taken supper as usual, started ashore with a bundle under his arm, intended for his washerwoman. The watchman of the boat lighted him over the gangway, and warned him against passing between the edge of the dock and a pile of wood, but the poor fellow preferred that way because, as he said, it was driest. The watchman then requested him to stop a moment and he would get upon the 'arch' with his lantern. In the moment of intense darkness that followed the momentary disappearance of the light it is supposed Lamont tripped against a line; at all events the watchman heard him fall into the water. Every means was used, by throwing lines, &c., to save the struggling man, but all was in vain. He sank finally before aid could reach him, and before the body had been recovered—about an hour afterward—life was extinct. Deceased was a steady, reliable, unmarried man, about 40 years of age, and is believed to have friends living at Collingwood. He was a native of the Highlands of Scotland. A coroner's inquest held by Dr. McDougall, returned a verdict in accordance with the facts we have recorded. It is proper to say that the unfortunate man was quite sober at the time of the accident, and could doubtless have saved himself had he been able to swim.

THE RIFLES.

Although it was a very rainy day, the Company was out yesterday morning for target practice to the number of thirty. Many missed the mark altogether—but some of the crack shots came well up. M. J. Wright and H. P. O'Connor scored 27 points each in ten rounds, and as this was 'medal day,' they 'fired off,' Wright scoring 11 and O'Connor 10 in 5 rounds, and the medal going to Wright (from O'Connor who has borne it for the last year) by one point.

Mr. Davison was in command of the company, Captain Seymour having intimated to them when leaving the Armory that he was too unwell to go out in such weather.

There was some doubt about the accuracy of the 'flagging' and also of the scoring, at which work Judge Cooper seemed to be rather new; but it was conceded that the two champions *did* tie, and they fired off their ness. Some said they deserved a medal each for such shooting on such a day, and we think so to. We wish Mr. M. J. Wright joy of his medal, but hope also that some other member of the Rifles, who has

"A steady aim for the bounding game,
And heart that fears no foe."

will run him close for it this time twelve-month. The gift of this medal by Capt Seymour has done good. Officers are excluded from competing. It is for rank and file and sergeants only.

Harpurhey Ploughing Match.

Reported specially for the Signal.

The Ploughing Match in connection with the Harpurhey B. A. S. took place on the farm of George Sproatt, Jr., Esq., Tuckersmith, on Wednesday the 26th inst. The day was a particularly fine one for the season, and the turn out of ploughman was beyond anything of the kind ever witnessed in the County before. No less than twenty-one iron ploughs started upon the respective allotments, principally from the manufactory of Mr. John Grey of Egmondville, to whom and to Messrs. Watson & Co. of Seaforth the society is deeply indebted for the very generous manner in which they assisted in making up a Prize List worthy of the great occasion. The land was in pretty fair condition, with the exception of an occasional stone which made the boys shrug their shoulders, *'girn,'* and back up a little. The ploughing was admirable, especially that of the junior class. The old country stagers will have to look well to their laurels, or they will be snatched away by the 'rising.' Success to them! is the aspiration of your 'attentive correspondent,' whose delight it is to keep the old *Signal* posted up in all that denotes progressiveness. I witnessed the Provincial Ploughing Match, and I firmly believe, that, taking land into consideration, ours was superior in many respects.

The Judges were James Ross, James Sutherland, and James Greave, and the following was their award:

MEN.—1st Prize, Wm. Walker, $10:00, by Mr. Grey, with a Grey plough; 2nd, Robert Cameron, $5:00—McTavish plough; 3rd, Wm. McCrae, $3:00—Imported plough; 4th, John Whittet, 2:00—Grey plough.

BOYS' CLASS.—1st Prize, Wm. Chesney, $5:00, from Watson & Co., with a Grey plough; 2nd, Sam'l Carnochan, $4:00—Imported plough; 3rd, John Dale, $3:00—Grey plough; 4th, Alex. Broadfoot, 2:00—do. do; 5th, James Chesney, neck-yoke, by Mr. Grassie, with do do; 6th, Wm. Cameron, $1:00—do do.

It is almost needless to say that Mr. Sproatt treated the ploughmen and others with true Tuckersmith liberality, which, as you have no doubt often experienced, is bountiful in the extreme. "God speed the Plough," and so say we all!

CLINTON PLOUGHING MATCH.

Reported Specially for the Signal.

The ploughing match of the Clinton A. S. took place on Friday last on the farm of Mr. Robert Cook, Huron Road. Although the forenoon was damp and drizzling, the day, on the whole, was not a bad one. At the hour announced for starting, (10 o'clock) seventeen competitors were on the ground, but owing to some bungling no work was done before eleven o'clock. Previous to starting the ploughmen were informed by the directors that the time allowed for ploughing ¼ of an acre each was *four* hours, and no prize would be awarded to persons exceeding that time.—Ploughing was to be 5½ inches deep, with level sole, and no help was to be allowed after the stakes were set, and that two inspectors had been appointed to see that these rules were carried out. Some of the ploughmen went to work as if they intended to adhere to the rules, and of course did not take as much pains as they would have done had they been aware that an extension of time would be allowed. Others, however, were cute enough to pack their work, and even to get others to do it for them. The level sole and 5½ inches deep was also overlooked by a good many when it suited. I have been at many ploughing matches, but I must say that some of the judges on this occasion were guilty of conduct such as I have never witnessed befor and hope never to see again at a match where anything like honourable impartiality is expected. Why sir, they so far forgot themselves as to find fault with some of the ploughmen *while at work*, a proceeding that might well be doubted if it could not be proven beyond a doubt, as also the fact that they (that is, *some* of the judges) encouraged certain men to go on as they were doing and it would come all right, which was directly contrary to the rules laid down by the directors at starting. I have reason to believe that some of the ploughmen were so much disgusted with this scandalous conduct that they slashed away, glad to get away as soon as possible from a place where they could not hope for *fair play*. Two of the competitors got through in 3.30, the rest finished between that time and 5.0, and in fact some to whom prizes were awarded *had not finished* when the judges finished their arduous labors. If that doesn't cap the climax—then I will eat my hat, to use a very common phrase. Surely, in a match for a M. I. C's medal, every man should have been kept to time, or else it should have been understood that time was no object, which in the opinion of impartial spectators would have changed the result most materially. I am sorry to have to write in a strain of complaint, but a sense of duty compels me to *tell the truth*, although somebody's corns should be trampled upon. The following is the Prize List:—

FIRST CLASS—1st W. McRae, of Stanley; 2nd R. Cameron; 3rd J. Whittit.

SECOND CLASS—1st H. Cowan; 2nd T. Sallows; 3rd A. Green.

THIRD CLASS—1st Stewart McDougall, 2nd John Dale; 3rd P. McDougall.

FOURTH CLASS—1st J. Herbison.

The Medal presented to the Society by Hon. D. McDonald, M. L. C., was awarded to W. McRae, as being the best ploughman on the field.

After the close of the out-door proceedings, the ploughmen and a number of others adjourned to Mr. Andrew's Hotel, Clinton, and partook of a capital dinner, which you may well suppose they were in a condition to appreciate.

CULROSS EXHIBITION.

The Seventh Annual Exhibition of the Culross Branch Society was held in the Village of Teeswater, on Wednesday, 12th Oct. The day was rather unfavorable, being cold and bleak, and the roads were very bad; but notwithstanding all this there was a large concourse of people upon the Show ground and the number of articles both in Stock and Produce far exceeded in quantity what the most sanguine friends of the Society anticipated. After the duties of the day were over a considerable number of gentlemen sat down to dinner in the Teeswater Hotel, after dinner and the usual loyal toasts, several very able addresses were delivered; song and sentiment followed each other in rapid succession until a late hour, when the company separated, every person seemingly well pleased with the whole day's proceedings.—The following is the prize list:—

Draught horses, Alex Gibson, 2nd A Little; brood mare and foal, David Clydesdale, 2nd Hugh McKague; two yrs old colt, Robt Scott, 2nd Alex Campbell; one year old colt, Dav'd Clydesdale, 2nd Alex Gibson; saddle horse, Thos Freeborn, 2nd P B Brown.

Bull, Hugh McKague; bull under 2 years, Alex Forsyth; bull calf, H Richardson, 2nd John McKee; milch cow (grade), Wm Button; milch cow (native), Alex Forsyth, 2nd Wm McLennan; two years old heifer, Jas Wilson, 2nd Jas Wilson; one year old heifer, Jas Wilson, 2nd James Reid; heifer calf, Hugh McKague, 2nd Alex Forsyth; working cattle, Jas Wilson, 2nd John Logan, 3rd Saml Tappley; three years old steers, Andrew McKague, 2nd Thos Davidson; two years old steers, Alex Gibson.

Ram, John Inglis, 2nd Alex Gibson; ram lamb, John Inglis, 2nd Hugh McDonald; two ewes and lambs, John Inglis, 2nd J Inglis; pair shearling ewes, Alex Gibson, 2nd John Inglis.

Boar, Alex Forsyth, 2nd P B Brown; brood sow, Wm Fessant, 2nd Adam Davidson.

Fall wheat; Alex Forsyth, 2nd A Gibson, 3rd John Inglis; spring wheat, John McKee, 2nd A Little, 3rd A Forsyth; barley, John McKee, 2nd Sam Tappley; oats, Hugh McKague, 2nd James Wilson; timothy seed, John McKee, 2nd John Walker; flax seed, John McKee, 2nd Sam Tappley; pink-eye potatoes, John Logan, 2nd Fleming Ballagh; potatoes (any kind), A Little, 2nd P Ballagh; swede turnips, Wm Button, 2nd Hugh McDonald; turnips (any kind), Wm Button, 2nd Alex Forsyth; beets, F Ballagh, 2nd J K McLean; carrots, John Walker 2nd Saml Tappley; corn, A Little, 2nd H McDonald; tomatoes P B Brown, 2nd John Watt; cabbage, Jacob Dosman, 2nd P B Brown; onions, P B Brown, 2nd H McKague.

Butter, Hugh McDonald, 2nd J Inglis, 3rd A Campbell; cheese, Robt Scott, 2nd John Walker fulled cloth, Wm Jarvis; flannel, John Walker; blankets, John Bell; socks, John Inglis, 2nd J Inglis; mittens, J McKee, 2nd John Inglis; quilt, John Inglis, 2nd Allan McLean, 3rd H Richardson, crotchet work, John Logan; maple sugar, A McKague, 2nd Thos Davidson; hop yeast bread, P B Brown, salt yeast bread, Thos Fairbairn; gentlemens' boots, John Watt, 2nd John Mack.

JOHN LOGAN, Sec'y.

COURT OF CHANCERY.

His Lordship Vice Chanceller SPRAGGE, opened the Court at Goderich on Saturday, at 10 a. m., Judge Cooper as Registrar. A fair number of the members of "the profession" present. Mr. Blake and Mr. Roaf of Toronto, Mr. Curran of Hamilton, Mr. Smith of Stratford, and the members of the Goderich bar.

At the opening of the Court, His Lordship addressed the members of the profession to the following effect:—

"Since I last met you, Gentlemen of the Bar; and within the past few days, one of the Judges of this Court has been removed from us by death. It is known to you, as well as to myself, how ably and how faithfully he discharged the duties of his office. I may be permitted to add my experience of nearly fourteen years of almost constant judicial intercourse, with my brother judge. I have seen during all that time, the most untiring devotion to duty; the anxious desire to do right; the apprehension, the almost nervous apprehension, that through oversight, or error in judgment on his part, any one should by possibility suffer wrong; the earnest desire and endeavor to come to a right decision: and all this, not for the mere sake of his reputation as a judge; for that I believe was the least of the motives that actuated him; but because he knew and appreciated the very important duties he had to discharge; and was resolved to discharge them faithfully; and, to the best of his ability. You, gentlemen, I have no doubt have given credit to the learned Judge whose loss we mourn, for the high qualities that I have ascribed to him: for you have seen the fruits of them in his judgments; and have learnt by your own intercourse with him, to revere his character. You know well with what great learning and ability; with what perfect uprightness; with what unswerving integrity; he discharged his his duty. No judge ever went to the grave with a clearer conscience; none could leave behind him a more unsullied name. I have spoken to you of his admirable qualities as a judge; with these he united, indeed you know, great kindness and gentleness of disposition, and goodness of heart, and the faith and life of a Christian.

The Vice Chancellor spoke with much clearness though with evident emotion, and was listened to carefully and silently by the bar and a large number of people who were in court at the time. All seemed to feel that Canada has lost a great Judge and a good man.

Lammiman vs. Burns.—Blake for pltff, Rose for deft. This was a suit to set aside a voluntary mortgage, made without consideration, as being a cloud on the title of the present owner. The defendant claimed to hold the mortgage as a good conveyance and sought to have the account taken in the usual way in a 'foreclosure' or a redemption suit. The plaintiff called James M. Holstead, who swore that had conveyed the land knowing of the existence of the mortgage, but he had been informed by Mr. Foote, an Attorney at Harpurhey, that there had been no consideration for the mortgage, and therefrom he did not consider it necessary to notify the purchaser under him of its existence. Several other witnesses were examined and gave evidence to the same effect. Defendant called no witnesses. A decree was pronounced ordering the mortgage in question to be delivered up to be cancelled.

Hamilton vs. Hamilton, creditors' bill for an account, Davison for pltff., Curran for dft. *John Moffat* sworn for plaintiff, and some papers put in. Ordered, that Bill be retained for six months, with liberty to apply. Plaintiff to have his costs to the hearing. It seems to be the impression of the Court that the Estate might probably be wound within the the six months without the farther intervention of the Court.

Scottish Maternal Instinct.

One day—so goes this popular tradition—as Sir Alexander Murray was strolling down the avenue, he saw the Laird of Haystoun, mounted on his white pony, approaching, as with the intention of visiting Dun Hall.—After the usual greetings, Murray asked Haystoun if that was his intention. 'Deed, it's just that,' quoth Haystoun, 'and I'll tell you my errand. I am gaun to court your daughter Jean.' The Laird of Blackbarony (who, for a reason that will afterwards appear, was not willing that his neighbor should pay a visit at that particular time) gave the thing the go-by, by saying that his daughter was o'er young for the laird. 'E'en's you like,' quoth Haystoun, who was somewhat dorty, and who thereupon took an unceremonious leave of Blackbarony, hinting that his visit would perhaps be more acceptable somewhere else. Blackbarony went home and immediately told what had passed. Her ladyship, on a moment's reflection, seeing the advantage that was likely to be lost in the establishment of the daughter, and to whom the disparity of years was no objection, immediately exclaimed, 'Are you daft, laird? Gang awa' immediately, and call Haystoun back again.' On this the laird observed—(and this turned out the cogent reason for his having declined Haystoun's visit)—'Ye ken, my dear, Jean's shoon's at the mending.' (For the misses of those days had but one pair, and these good substantial ones, which would make a strange figure in a