river, at a point opposite Mr. Bull's on the Base Line Road and Boundary between Huliet and Colborne.—Carried.

A number of accounts were read and referred.

The Council then adjourned.

FRIDAY—FOURTH DAY.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment, when it was

Moved by Mr. Sproat, seconded by Mr Girvin, That Mr. Cox be instructed to have two copies of the assessment roll stitched in pasteboard covers of sufficient size for each municipality—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Sproat, That the County Engineer be instructed to open sufficient outlets for the removal of the water lodged on the side of the Gravel Road between Seaforth and Egmondville, recommended in the report of gravel road committee.

Resolved that the printing and advertising be let by tender for the present year.

Resolved that a vote of thanks from this Council be tendered to Wm. Weld, Esq., editor of the *Farmers' Advocate*, for his courtesy in furnishing the members of this Council while in session with copies of this valuable paper, and that the Clerk be instructed to convey the same.

Report of the Gaol and Court House Committee was read and adopted.

Moved by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Brown, That the sum of Two Hundred Dollars, be granted to assist in repairing the boundary line between Stanley and Hay, at the crossing over the cranberry marsh.—Referred to Finance Committee.

Report of the Finance com. was then read, the Council went into Committee of the whole Mr. Young in the Chair.

Moved by Mr. Bishop, seconded by Mr. Brown, That the petition of George Fraser be not granted.—Lost.

Moved by Mr. Messer, seconded by Mr. Snell, That no reduction be made on account of arrears in the toll gate rent in Mr Seller's case.—Lost on a division.

Moved by Mr. Bishop, seconded by Mr. Brown, That No. 44 be referred back to the Finance Committee for further consideration.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Hannah, That No. 33 of same report be referred back so far as the petition of John Thompson and others, with reference to the Town line of McKillop and Hullett is concerned.—Lost.

Mr. Morrow then resumed the chair, when the report as amended was confirmed.

Moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Hannah, That the sum of two hundred dollars be granted to aid the townline between the townships of McKillop and Logan, provided the county of Perth give an equivalent sum—Lost.

Supplementary report of the Finance Comm. was read and adopted.

The Council then adjourned.

SATURDAY—FIFTH DAY.

Council assembled, minutes of previous day read and approved.

Report of the School Committee was read, when the Council went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Evans in the chair, when it was

Moved in amendment to the report that the Rev. C. C. Johnston be Local Superintendent for the Township of McKillop—Carried.

The Warden resumed the chair, when the report as amended was adopted.

Moved by Mr. Girvin, seconded by Mr Gaunt, that the County Engineer be instructed to examine the boundary line between the townships of West Wawanosh and Kinloss, with a view to put the line in a proper state of repair and report at next meeting of Council—Carried.

Report of the Printing Committee was then read, recommending that the tender of Mr. Donaghy be accepted, when the Council went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Brown in the chair, when it was

Moved in amendment by Mr. Sproat, seconded by Mr. R. Brown, That the Co. Printing be given to W. T. Cox.—Carried on a division by a majority of 1.

Mr. Morrow then resumed the chair, when the report as amended was adopted.

Moved by Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Perkins, That in the opinion of this Council, we have no right to supply wood for the offices of the Sheriff, Registrar, Clerk of the Peace, Clerk of the Surrogate Court or County Attorney, and that the Clerk of this Council be authorised to communicate with the Co. Solicitor and the Attorney General for Ontario, regarding the same, and the replies to be laid before the Council at its June meeting.—Carried.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The finance committee reported, recommending as follows: Ac. J. Brooks $1.50, to be paid; petition of Mr. M. Hardy granted; petition of Geo. Fraser granted to the extent of $20.09; do John Thompson not granted; John Nairn, sen. $50; Wm Cowan not granted, $3000 to be appropriated for boundary line purposes; petition A. Knox granted 150 in full; recommend $100 for deaf mute Pringle; recommend statements in Treasurers report be published; acc D. Gordon $9.30 be paid Rev. Mr. Daniel 17.00 l.s. paid Jno Walker $22.19 paid; petition W Clarke to be filed; do of J. Knox, granted; T. J. Moorhouse $19.53 paid, R. Horton $179.-76 paid, Sheppard & Strachan 27.47 paid, R. Doig 8.63 paid, E Holmes 4.00 paid, Wm Smillie paid, T. J. Moorhouse 12.03 paid, recommend that 100.00 be sent to treas. of volunteer monument fund Toronto, R D Bonis 110.00 paid, M C Cameron 30.25 do, McMaster & Co 136.95 do, L Eliard 4.93 do, C Carrol 60.64 do, D. H. Ritchie 50.00, petition of John Sellars be not granted but that a note for 100.00 be rec'd from him, petition Jas Longbottom laid over till June, W. T. Cox 91.57 paid, petition of Jno. Thompson and others not granted, sundry recommendations with reference to items in solicitor's report, Motion of T. Simpson be not granted, Motion of A. Brown in reference to indigent man Brown, be not granted, Motion of Dr. Coleman 106 not granted, Motion of Mr. Evans fyied, Engineer's Acs. J. Knox 5.00, A. Bay contingencies 5.70, A. Knox 27.00, W. Bennett 16.25, F. Rumball 50cts, A. Kennedy 24.25, J. J. Rennard 27,75, R. M. Racey 93cts, J Fair 6.29, W. Gregg 3.40, T. Downey 32.00, W. Bowig 5.00, W. Leckie 532.00, J. Fox 8.50, J. McDonald 14.00, Ac. W. J. Kay proportion certified to be paid.

(For amendments, &c. see minutes.)

By-Law No. 4, 1868, appointing the Salaries of the County Officers, was then read and passed.

Moved by Mr. Mallough, seconded by Mr. Young, that the thanks of this Council be tendered to Chas Morrow, Esq Reeve of Hullett for the able and efficient manner in which he filled the chair in the absence of the Warden—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Perkins, seconded by Mr. Hannah, that this Council do now adjourn to meet again on Monday the first day of June next—Carried.

Thomas Hood died composing—and that to a humorous poem. He is said to have remarked that he was dying out of charity to the undertaker, who wished *to turn a Lively Hood.*

STONE EDGE.

A TALE.

CHAPTER I.

THE LONE MOOR.

(Continued from fourth page.)

During the next fortnight Ashford entirely ignored the visit, and was only somewhat more cross and oracular than usual. In those very secluded regions where events are rare, a fact is none the less esteemed or supposed to be worn threadbare as a topic for conversation because it has been used every week for thirty years or more. One day as he came in from the field to dinner he began as if he had never mentioned it before: "They're bad uns at Youlcliffe. Joshua Stracey had sold me a keow (now come eight year,) was the best i' th' all country side, says he; and I says to he, warn't she queer about the shouters? And he says to me, she were a rare milker, and there weren't such a one not nowhere round; and Toosday she were just swelled like a barrel, and o' Sunday marn'n she were lead! And he said she were overdruv! and we were a matter of four hours coming from Youlcliffe."

Now this grievance of the cow was of ancient date and bitter memory. Old Ashford had gone to law about it, and had lost his suit, and his wrongs rankling in his mind came rambling out whenever the sluice of words was opened, however far removed from the outrage itself. He had long been friends with Joshua Stracey, one of the sharpest cattle-dealers about; his slow, obstinate old nature taking great pride in holding its own against a man who got the better of most people. "He never choused me," was his frequent boast. At last, in an evil hour of confidence over their ale, he told his crony of a certain filly on which he had his eye—"the owner didn't know what a rare nag 'twould turn out"—and Ashford had offered some low sum, which the man refused; but they were drawing closer, and were haggling over a matter of five shillings, when Joshua stepped in privately, bought the foal over his head, reared it, and sold it for a large sum. Ashford never forgot nor forgave this enormity; and when the two old men met at market or fair there was much ado to prevent their fighting. A sort of feud, a bitter hatred and desire for revenge arose, brooded over in a manner in which we can hardly conceive in these days when one feeling and idea succeeds another so rapidly that none have the time to rankle as they did in the old days. Therefore it was with undiminished rancor that old German once more began on his wrongs as he flung himself down on the three-cornered chair, ready for his dinner.

"He'll coine to the gallows yet, he will, and I dunno see what call ony o' mine hae to go to Youlchiffe at all."

Nobody replied. Lydia was putting the last touch to a sauce-pan containing a savory something in which onions bore a large share; and Cassie, who was ironing her little bits of finery for the next day, removed them in much haste. Her father cast a grim look at her, and then at German, who had just come in from the field, and stood against the dresser talking to his sister as he waited for his dinner. Ashford did not like to see people enjoying themselves, and he therefore turned sharply on the lad.

"German, there's a moudewarp* ma's no end o' wark alengside the Bogie's Mead. Why han't ye act a trap till it, I say? Ye're a pretty fellow for a farmer."

"I'll see to a trap, but Cassie mun bring some wire from Youlcliffe. I han't got none. Is the pottage ready, mother? It's a very pretty smell isonions," German, to make a diversion.

"They're but poor critturs down at Youlcliffe," the old man went on, sententiously, "and as proud as turkey-cocks, I wouldn't go near 'em not for sixpence. I cum of an ancient, old family, I do; and Broom's nobbut i' th' public line, for all they cock their heads so high. The king he says to my ancestor—they was out hunting, and Warrior Ashford he had a big gray horse against over every thinck. 'Sir King Henry VI. says he, "Sell me that horse; and my ancestor he says, "No, please your majesty, not at no price,' 'What!' says the king, riled like, "is there nowt as you'd sell him for? I'll gie any thing ye ask.' 'Well,' says the warrior, 'if ye'll gie me Shining Cliff for a bedding-nook and Briery Bed for a watering-place, I'll take them for the horse.' Then one of the courtiers ups and says, 'Why, they're two of the best estates you've got hereabouts, please your Majesty.' 'King or no king,' says King Henry VI, 'I'll keep to my word;' and so he did, and he took the horse, and gived the warrior the property, and there the best part of the estate now."

"The warrior mun ha' been a big man o' war, a judging by his word," said Lydia, turning to a formidable weapon which hung by the fire, and too happy to keep the conversation on interests three hundred years old. "I allus think o' Gideon when I hear tell on un."

"It mun hae been queer, too, a skewering chap right through wi' that long bit o' steel," added the unwarlike German, anxious to help his mother in keeping off aggravating topics by this historical line of discourse.

"Ye dunno know nowt about it," said his father, contemptuously. "Then wos fine times in the ould days, and there's nowt like it now. There's the wakes as Cassie ma's such a rout about" (the poor girl had not uttered a word) "why, they're nothink to what they were i' th' ould times. I've a heerd my grandfather tell how they used to dance and make merry wi' the bag-pipes. Where's the bag-pipes now I'd like to know?"

"What's them?" said German.

"They're pigs' bags as ye squeeze music out on," answered his father, rising to go back to the field; "but it's o' no use a-aining to yo' as is so ignorant like, and has never seen nowt!"

"He mun be a queer un, mun Joshua," said German, curiously, to his sister as they went out. Joshua was almost the only stranger of whom he ever heard, and the commodity was too rare, even by name, at Stone Edge, for the dissipation of talking of him to be desired. "Hearken by feyther, and he-mun hae horns and a tail. I should like fine to see un."

"Nay, dunna thee say so," said Cassandra; "he mun be a bad un. "What for would'st thou want to hae any deelings wi' bad folk?" she added, anxiously, with a woman's fear of stepping out of the ancient ways. German was turning into the yard to drive the cart-horses out to water at the great stone troughs in the lane, and she followed him with a jug and a pail, for the water was considered better for tea and the dairy than that of the well in the house. She pulled a green fern-leaf as usual, and put it where the rill trickled over a stone out of the hill-side, and thus made a tiny spout for the water, and as she stood waiting for it to fill her cans, and the big cart-horses drank at the lower trough with a loud inspiration, the tips of their noses daintly set on the surface of the water, German went on:

"Joshua have a got a lad, Nanny telled me, as were up at Morehead arter his feyther's business last Wisuntide. Every body goes i' th' world but me. Feyther mun think my yead's like yon balls upo' the stone posteses, as I'm never to have an out. There's a fire-tail," said the boy, interrupting the recital of his wrongs to throw a stone at a red-start.

"I'm main glad thou'st missed the poor bird," said Cassie, smiling. "Twouldn't ha' mended what's amiss wi' thee to hae broken its wing. I'm a'most sorry that it's I as was ast to aunt Bessie's. I've a big mind to to let thee go ithstead."

"Nay," said the boy, "that would never do; thee and me's not one for aunt Bessie. Wimen likes wimen mostly for to chatter wi' un. But mebbe thou could'st bring in a word for me, cosy like, not all one as a message fra me. There were a cart one fair time, I heard, at Youlcliffe," he added, "wi' a hen and a bear, or summat o' that sort, inside, and a big pictur outside. Buxton's boy telled me. There's a many things to be learnt down i' th' town too, as thou knowest nowt about—how should a wench?" said German, with the magnificent contempt of boydom for femality. "Cattle and prices, and plows, and sick like; and I dunno scarce know my own uncle not by sight sin' I were a little un, as could learn me a' them things; and what for?" he added, bitterly. "Because my grandad left his money as he chused. I dunno care for's money, but 'tis hard as I canna go and see the wild beasts and the world a bit, when, as one mid say, it's a' at one's own aunt's door. And then feyther threeps it at me as if it's my fault!"

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CHAPTER II.

THE WAKES.

THE wakes are a very important institution. In the Puritanic tabooing of amusement among the Methodists in the hills it is one of the few opportunities for it which has still been left undisturbed. "The feast" is determined by the saint's day to whom the church of each village is dedicated, although the fierce old Puritan-Protestants who celebrate it would be horrified if they knew that they were keeping a "Papist festival."

On the Saturday before they began Cassandra, with a beating heart, set out with her bundle in her hand containing her new gown—the admired "spot" upon this her first outing into the world, with much the same feelings that a young lady performs her entrance into the same. "There is a great deal of human nature in the world."

"Thee mun just get to Youlcliffe as thee can, said her father, sulkily.

"German, thou'st put oo thy kytle* an'll carry thee sister's things to th' auld mill, I'll be boun," whispered Lydia. "It shall be thy turn next, my lad," she added; "he wunna gie consent for both yet a while."

Six miles of the white limestone road, dusty and glaring, made even Cassandra's strong young limbs glad to reach her aunt's door. She had not been to Youlcliffe for nearly seven years, as since the quarrel about the money her father had never allowed her to go near the place; and it was with a curious feeling of strangeness and knowledge that she made out the little square red house of which its owners were very proud, with a border of brilliant flowers in front—marigold and stock and larkspur.

Mrs. Broom was leaning over the wicket-gate, and welcomed her niece from afar loudly and warmly. She was a little round, fat woman, with a pleasant, jovial face, adorned with a cap whose ample border, the same width all round, with red and yellow flowers at regular intervals, rivaled a sunflower in magnificence, or even the great sun himself—a relic of the old public days.

"Well, child, and it's kindly welcome thou art, and a long time thou'st been a coming; but I reckon it ain't thy fault; thou'st ha' been main glad, I take it, to come out o' you dull place. And now let me look at thee arter all these years. Thee'st got thy mother's eyes and hair, and a good deal o' her look; but, eh, thee'st a long way off o' her I. She were a bonny lass; she were like me, only she were small. Thee hast thee feyther's height."

Other people were of opinion that Cassandra was very much handsomer than her mother, but who ever heard relations acknowledge this? A patronizing shake of the head is all that the prettiest girl ever gets, and "Ah, but you should have been her mother in her prime." In fact, beauty ought to have died out of the world altogether in such repeated failures as poor nature is supposed to make.

"See, thee, child," said the old woman, proudly doing the honors of her ten feet of pleasure ground, and taking hold of a China rose; parson paid five shilling' for it not a twelvemon' back, and gardener giv' me a slip. Ain't it a beauty? But this wind sore daunts flowers, it jades 'um a very deal. And now come in, dearie, a ma' thyself at whoam."

And very much at home Cassandra began soon to feel as she went up and down helping her aunt in the multifarious preparations of that very notable woman for the feast. She had not been there very long when a tall, pleasant-looking young fellow looked in the door.

"I'm main sorry Master Broom ayn't to home. I'd a massage for him, and feyther's in a vast o' hurry for to know the answer."

"Sit ye down, Roland Stracey, and bide a bit; ye'll be sure for to see him long o' five minutes or so; he's a sore one for's tea, is th' ould man; he cunna abide to wait, can't Nathan. Here's my niece from Stone Edge."

Cassandra gave a little start, and looked curiously at the son of her father's foe. She was a little frightened and a little flurried, but she was only shy, not awkward; and though she blushed, she smiled, and though she drew back in place of forward, she did not look the less attractive for that. She was a very pretty picture, with her modest beauty and her courteous shyness. A beautiful girl is very interesting to most people (ill-regulated minds, as the worshippers of ugliness nowadays would say), so is the daughter of one's father's enemy; but to combine both attractions is to be irresistible, both before and since the days of Juliet; and accordingly Roland Stracey found the long into which Mrs. Broom's five minutes expanded only too short, and he even thought Nathan's arrival exceedingly ill-timed at the end of it. Not that he had much to do with Cassandra; he hardly indeed spoke to her, but he was very eloquent to her aunt; and though he was son to cattle-dealer of no great reputation, he was a modest, well-behaved young fellow—"a quiet lad" as his father said rather contemptuously; and he made himself so agreeable to Mrs. Broom, who had known and loved his dead mother, that she asked him to look in for tea at the wakes. At last, having long outstead his time, with his father's future reproaches sounding in his ears, he got up unwillingly to go. He turned when he reached the door, and looked back at Cassandra his mute farewell. The evening sun shown on her tall and noble form and the grand outline of her features, which seemed to transfigure the little gray old parlor. "She's like a queen," said poor Roland to himself, humbly. "What am I that she should fancy me?"

The next day was Sunday, and Mrs. Broom was bustling about in her bonnet nearly an hour before it was necessary to start for service.

"We're main proud of our spire, said she, as she panted up the steep path and squeezed with infinite difficulty through the narrow stone openings which serve as stiles, "and it's as pratty a congregation as lives."

As they performed what to Cassandra was the awful ceremony of walking up the middle aisle many a head turned round to look, and Cassandra, in her nervous shyness, took the notice which she excited as a reflection on her bonnet, which she perceived by the innate perception of millinery (which after all is only a phase of observation inherent in most women was of the wrong shape, and on the rest of her clothes, which she felt certain were of the wrong fashion; and therefore, when she reached her uncle's pew, she sat down in a humiliated state of mind and hid her face gladly. By-and-by the less devout worshipers came in as the clergyman appeared, and she observed Roland Stacey walk into a pew not very far off—where, however, she could not see him except by turning her head a little and this only happened once, when her aunt, roused by "the Belief" out of the sleepy fit, knocked down her umbrella and her book and her handkerchief and her spectacles, and Cassandra, in a blinding state of confusion at the commotion and her own groveling under the bench necessary to recover the property, turned her head the least bit in the world for sympathy toward Roland, and caught his eyes fixed probably on the preacher (her own head and the pulpit were both in a straight line from him), in which case his strict attention did him the greatest credit.

The old church was grander than any thing she had ever seen. There were most original old frescoes, representing the Apostles with big staring eyes, and scrolls issuing out of their mouths bearing pious observations, which went sprawling over the chancel arch and roof in a great expenditure of blue, supposed to represent heaven. She thought she had never seen anything so beautiful. Indeed, except the involuntary appeal to Roland, she never once thought of him, but was absorbed in the magnificence about her and the splendor of the music, where three fiddles, a bassoom, and a violoncello were all struggling for the mastery, screeching like mad.

(To be continued.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, FEB. 6, 1868.

THE MEANNESS OF THE THING.

Have our South Huron friends ever thought of the consummate meanness of Mr. Carling's having objected to the validity of a class of votes which he was most anxious to secure for himself.—Prior to the election, and as long as he had a chance of securing what he elegantly termed the Dutch vote, he, sometimes alone, sometimes along with Mr. Ritchie, and anon dragging a diminutive shadow at his heels, stumped up and down the concessions of Hay, pleading as if for dear life. Mr. Carling eat *sauerkraut* by the peck, took in sausage by the yard, washed the pabulum down with oceans of *lager*, paid big prices for hides, learned a few words of German, and announced to his hopeful central committee through Podsnap the scribe, that a "large Dutch vote might be relied on in Hay and Stephen." But, alas, the honest Vatterlanders prove too true to their liberal instincts to be deluded by even the honied Carling, into voting for toryism, hence defeat, chagrin, and the petition against the very votes the tories would have given almost anything to secure! The result of this act of stupid meanness will be that henceforth the Germans of Hay and Stephen will be still more unanimous in supporting liberal candidates. We pity the next man of the Carling stamp who asks for their vote and influence, that's all.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

THE MONEY OR WAR.

We have the following from that most reliable source, the Associated Press reports of the United States:—

New York, Feb. 1.—The *World's* special says the tergiversation of Secretary Seward is of avail no longer. Another and higher authority has determined upon the course which is to be pursued in respect to the claims of the United States Government upon Great Britain. I am authorised to state most confidently and decisively that the legitimate demands which have been too meekly urged by the Secretary of State upon the British Cabinet are to be forced at whatever hazard. The new British Minister, Mr. Thornton, will probably be presented to the President on Tuesday. Although the addresses that are to be exchanged may be guarded and serene, the fact yet remains that a speedy and satisfactory response must be made by the British Government to the ultimatum of the Executive of the United States, or else a declaration of war against Great Britain must inevitably ensue.

The above would be somewhat startling were it not for the well-known tendency of American newspaper correspondents to pervert facts, and other circumstances connected with the subject. The President has been quarreling for a long time with the Congress, and he no doubt thinks he might possibly unite parties and secure for himself the Presidential nomination by plunging into a war at all hazards, but every sensible American knows that the people of the States are in no position to enter into a new war, and that England's power *was* never greater. Hence the Congress would never be mad enough to allow the President to commit such a blunder. We agree with the *Leader* in thinking the threat a "bull" thrown into the money market by a knot of sharp Washington operators.

The Land Improvement Fund.

Mr. Blake, in the House, on Wednesday, brought up the subject of the Land Improvement Fund, moving for a return of petitions and correspondence. It was a distinct understanding on the part of the Government when the Crown Lands of Huron and Bruce were sold that one-fourth of the fund realised with regard to one class of lands, and one-fifth of another class should be reserved for improvement purposes, but notwithstanding repeated applications the settlers have to this day been deprived of their rights. Notwithstanding the denial of the Hon. Premier, who must have forgotten the circumstance, Mr. Dickson and others pressed the matter persistently but could get no satisfaction. The matter deserves the earnest consideration of our representatives.

SOUTH RIDING E. D. A. SOCIETY.

We are requested to announce that a meeting of the directors of the above Society will be held in Brucefield, on Wednesday, the 12th Feb., at 1 o'clock p.m. A full attendance is requested.

JUVENILE CONCERT.

Mr. Ward, with his juvenile class, will give a concert in Crabb's Hall, on Friday evening, Feb. 7th. There will be 60 young vocalists present, and a real treat may be expected.

TEMPERANCE SOIREE.—The Soiree under the auspices of the Good Templars of this town will come off in Crabb's Hall, on Thursday evening the 13th inst. Alex. McNabb, Esq., of Toronto, is expected to address the audience. A large turn out is expected.

A FIT REPRESENTATIVE.

After a great many trials and failures, a certain class of Americans have secured a fit representative amongst the disaffected of Europe, in the person of George Francis Train. With the utterances of Mr. Train on this continent, the general reader is well acquainted. Whatever subject Train has taken up has been surrounded by a halo of the very purest of *bifalutin* glory. On ordinary American subjects, George Francis could out-Brownlow Brownlow himself, and put to shame the celebrated Brick Pomeroy. But when he approached the subject of "goldarned Britishers," he was the raving maniac of oratory F. or the utterance of unmitigated balderdash against Britain, we would back Train against Brownlow, Pomeroy, Barnum, Seward, Greeley, and Bennet all rolled into one.

Some men are determined to cut a figure in the world regardless of consequences. One man by the singularity of the method adopted in committing suicide—another by shooting awkwardly at the Emperor of France or the Czar of Russia. Train's dodge was to take steamer for England, get a fellow-adventurer to inform against him as a Fenian, and then, when arrested, whistle "Hail Columbier" and make a general fool of himself. Train uses the Atlantic telegraph to say to his friends that he has been released, and is going to sue the quaking Derby Government for £100,000 stg.! Having duly entered this modest claim, the illustrious humbug crosses the channel and begins lecturing to the disaffected class of the Irish—is carried a mile on Hibernian shoulders, and "tears things up by the root" generally. Yes, Train *is* a fit representative, but we would ask any respectable American how the government of the U. S. would like it if a man of the oratorical ability of, say D. L. Sills of Seaforth, were sent to the disaffected Southern States to create a flame of passion? What would be the result? The foreign interference would be seized at once, and his mouth effectually stopped. We predict that such a fate awaits the "consarnedly smart" George Francis.

A CASE OF RESUSCITATION.—On Wednesday morning last (29th), Mr. D. Ferguson of this town purchased a quantity of fresh herrings, amongst which, as sometimes happens, were a few nice perch. The whole lot was frozen quite hard. Mr. F. threw one of the perch into a pail of water to thaw it and when he went to look at it a few minutes afterwards he was astonished to find the fish swimming about quite lively. We saw the astonished perch and can vouch for it that it was a real case of resuscitation, if not a very common on.

FROST.—The frost has been very keen here for some weeks past, and the sleighing is better and steadier than we have seen it for years.

CARNIVAL.—There will be another skating carnival at the Goderich Rink on Wednesday, the 12th inst. Look out for your dresses.

DULL.—Business generally throughout the country is remarkably dull just now.

APOCRYPHAL, that all objections against the petition of Mr. Carling have been overruled, and that he is *sure* of obtaining the seat if they have. Tory enthusiasm is not always well founded, *vide* the election returns for Huron.

SALT VISITORS.

A number of gentlemen from Syracuse, the great salt depot of the States, arrived in Town on Tuesday, the 28th inst., and are staying at the Huron Hotel. Providing satisfactory arrangements can be made, in the purchase of land they intend to commence the manufacture of salt on a large scale. After a careful inspection of all the derricks, they visited the works now in operation, and expressed themselves highly pleased at the quality of the salt and its able management under the superintendence of Mr. Walker.

☞ Any person wishing for an opening for a respectable hotel could not do better than buy the stand advertised by Mr. Copeland.

Distress in Europe.

The London *Times* describes the distress at the east end of London as vast and heartrending. The number of persons in receipt of out door relief is upwards of 40,000, but the measures adopted, while they fail to meet the need, are actually increasing the amount of pauperism, and are demoralizing the district.

Very sad tidings have been received in Paris from almost every part of France. Trade and manufactures of Lyons were paralyzed by a variety of causes, in which the uncertainty prevailing as to the political future, had no small share. Hunger and destitution were making sad havoc at Nantes, Rouen, and even in Bordeaux, where the mildness of the climate does away with one cause of suffering. At Lille, starvation is epidemic, and in Paris the distress was very great.

A Negro Outrage in Kentucky.

In Frankfort, Kentucky, a negro committed a rape on an Irish girl, 15 years of age, and afterwards threw her over an embankment at the railroad tunnel, breaking her shoulder blade, and otherwise injuring her. The negro was arrested and lodged in jail. To-night a crowd of infuriated citizens assembled, and forced the jail, took the negro out and hung him to a tree on the top of the precipice where the young lady was thrown down.—Several shots were fired into his body while hanging. The governor knew nothing of the object of the mob until they had taken the prisoner from the jail, when he ordered the adjutant-general and his assistants to rescue the prisoner, but without effect.—[Detroit Free Press, 30.

Distress in New York.

The amount of misery and destitution existing in New York city is strikingly brought to mind by the announcement, in the recent annual report of the Police Department, of the number of wretched and homeless creatures who nightly seek shelter, particularly at this inclement season, at the station-houses. The aggregate number of this class who have been accommodated with lodgings upon naked wooden platforms, without beds or bed-clothing, in rooms just warm enough to protect them from suffering by cold, during the last six years, makes up a grand total of 603,500, or an average each twelvemonth of 86,214.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,
Toronto, 31st Jan. 1868.

To the Editor of the Huron Signal.

DEAR SIR,—The idea has gone abroad that North Huron and South Huron were each to obtain, under the new Agricultural Bill, separate grants of $800 each, and I am informed that certain meetings were convened to carry out that idea. I have to inform you that there is no such intention in the Bill, but merely to give the grant to the whole county as usual (only reduced $200). I shall do all in my power to get what seems to me an act of justice (viz., an increased grant) to our large and populous county, but I don't wish parties to be led away by the meetings held. The meetings no doubt were held under the supposition that separate grants were to be made, but in reference to the Agricultural Bill, it will be seen that the intention is only to give Huron one grant. Your insertion of this letter will oblige,

Your truly,
W. T. HAYS.

With reference to the above we may say that the Warden called for the formation of Electoral Division Agricultural Societies under the provisions of the old Act. He was right in doing so, inasmuch as it was uncertain *what* the new would provide, or whether it would pass at all. The fact that the people of Huron have formed two separate societies under the old act is an additional argument for liberality on the part of the government. ED. SIGNAL.

London Correspondence.

LONDON Jan. 31st, 1868.

Several weeks have now elapsed since I last wrote the SIGNAL, but I can assure my friends in Goderich and vicinity that I have not been unemployed, in fact, the arms of business have held me so firmly in their grasp that I had almost forgotten that I had any one outside of our own little city to whom I owed a line.

A few days ago the detectives discovered an establishment manufacturing, or rather with the machinery and utensils for the manufactory of, highwines, working under the name of a manufactory of National and Dominion Bitters. Dr. C. C. Jerome, the properitor, tried hard to prove his innocence, that he was in no way defrauding the excise, and that he only had the necessary apparatus for his legitimate business, but it was no go, and after a lengthy examination he was found guilty and fined $300 with the confiscation of his establishment. The fine has been paid to the city, but he has forwarded to the Local Legislature a petition, signed by the whole of the city council and also by the police magistrate before whom he was convicted, to regain the amount of his fine.

To-day we hear of the arresting out of a gang of coiners, as yet, however nothing definite can be elicited from "the brigade dressed in blue" as to the where abouts of the rascals or who they are, and I believe no arrests have yet been made. The papers have been requested not to publish anything until the whole band has been captured. London is becoming famous for its great criminality.

So far we have had but just enough snow to make sleighing excellent, and the rattling of the wagons has only died away a short time; there can be but two or three inches of snow on the level, at most any where around London. Evening surprise parties seem to be all the rage—every night the joyous sleigh-bells mingled with the ring of merry laugh and pleasant song may be heard as some party or other leaves the city, for trip to the country, but all life is not seen in the surprise party. The rink every night is crowded with skaters, and often till a late hour, scarcely an evening, if you wish to pay a visit, can your friends be found at home, like you they are endeavouring to find pleasure away from home.—more anon.

LENTULUS.

County to Pay Criminal Justice Costs--Jurisdiction in Larceny.

To the Editor of the Huron Signal

SIR,—As there appears a strong desire with both parties,—and seemingly with all parties,—in the legislature of Ontario, to mould the future destiny of our province, by a fair start in economical and just legislation for the people, permit me as an observer and treasurer of facts, to suggest the following for the consideration of our own members in that legislature, and of the people of this county.

1. Let the jurisdiction of the magistrates in each county be increased, so as they can decide in all cases of simple larceny and pilfering to the extent of ten dollars in value of the articles stolen, &c., with power to imprison under six months. Let there be also a power to appeal to the county judge, if the sentence is excessive. The magistrates have already jurisdiction in all cases of assault, and of by-laws, and of dog killing of sheep, &c. At present, the magistrates have no jurisdiction in larceny, except as to juvenile offenders, the act as to such is so often overlooked. See statutes of Canada, p: 1148. The act is an important one.- All major crimes such as arson, burglary, robbery, murder, maiming with intent, &c., to remain to be tried as at present.

2. The costs of the criminal administration of justice, should be borne by each county. At present part is paid by the county and part by the government. The adoption of this reform has been already mooted in the legislative assembly.

As to the first, many cases of very, very small amount of importance, have been sent to the Quarter Sessions, and to the Assizes merely because the magistrate had no jurisdiction, the same being *larceny*.—Cases where the amount of value was only ten cents, have been heard before the Sessions and Assizes. The grand jury and petit jury, (being paid direct by the county) with lots of witnesses, have to wait as to such trival cases, when if the power existed, the magistrate could have decided the case.

As to the second, the amount of crime for the Sessions or Assize courts, in each county in Ontario, is not the same. In the counties of York, Wentworth and Middlesex, the amount is far greater than in Waterloo, Perth, Huron, &c. The costs will be proportionably greater, and, though indirectly, the county which hardly produces any crime, has to bear a share of such costs. Again, there would be then in my humble opinion, (if a reform is adopted) a much greater anxiety and action on the part of the tax paying inhabitants, for *the repression of crime*. This may very innocently raise the thoughts of some, a tax paying people, to enquire and think of: "what is the great *cause* of poverty, distress, and incentive to every variety of crime?" What causes so much iniquity, social and individual, to exist, and be before magistrates, or the Sessions or Assizes? I hope that some others more able than your correspondent will be induced to make a consideration of the above. The officials of the county are not interfered with in the above matter.

Your obedient servant,
ENQUIRER.

Stratford, Jan. 24, 1868.

Town Council.

Council Room Jan. 31st, 1868.

Present the Mayor, Deputy Reeve Councillors Rumball, McKenzie, Passmore, Smith, Seymour, Cameron, Detlor, Clifford Cattle, McKay and Leonard.

Minutes of last meeting were read, approved and signed.

A petition from the Inn Keepers praying for protection against unlicensed houses and shops who are in the habit of selling liquor by the glass was received.

The following accounts were read and referred to the finance committee.

D. Gordon, $13.50 Alx. Nasmyth $13.50 Samuel Pentland, $9.00 B. Hazlehurst $9 Parker & Cattle $5.72.

The Chief Engineer was allowed $1.10 a week for the purpose of keeping a lamp burning in the fire engine, to keep it from frezing during the cold weather.

The following Committees were then appointed.

Finance.—The Mayor, the Reeve, Councillors Cameron, Seymour and Detlor.

Road and Bridge.—Messrs. Rumball, Clifford, Passmore, McKay, Hays.

Court of Revision Assessment and By-Laws.—The Mayor, Reeve, Deputy Reeve Cameron and Hays.

Cemetery.—The Reeve, Hays, Clifford, McKenzie, and Smith.

Fire Department.—Clifford, McKay, and Deputy Reeve.

Harbour.—The Mayor the Deputy Reeve, McKay, Rumball Leonard, and Detlor.

The contract for printing for the current year was renewed with W. T. Cox for the same amount as last year.

The salary Committee reported the following which after discussion was adopted.

1st	that the Clerk receive the sum of	$300
2nd	that the Treasurer	" 130
3rd	that the Assessors each	" 60
4th	that the Collector	" 120
5th	that the Street Inspector	" 150
6th	that the Inspector of license	" 25
7th	that the Auditors each	" 12
8th	that the Bell-ringer	" 100
9th	that the Inspector of weights and measures	" 10

By-Law No. 1 of 1858 was then read and passed for appointing the various officers as follows.

Mr. James Thomson Clerk; Rev. C. Fletcher Treasurer, Walter Hick and Amos Martin Assessors, Angus McKay Collector, James Small Street Inspector, Mark Whiteley License and cord wood Inspector, Bernard Trainer Inspector of weights and measures, Morris Bell-ringer, Nicholas Doyle pound-keeper.

W. Smith moved seconded by G. McKenzie, That the selectors of jurors receive the sum of fifteen dollars for the whole of the services performed by them, to be divided equally among them. (Carried.)

Mr. Rumball gave notice that at the next meeting of council he would introduce a By-Law repealing the present By-Law suppressing saloons, and that licences be issued, therefor, said license to be not less then $100.

The collector received an extension of time for the return of his roll until the 15th of Feburary.

A committee of three consisting of Messrs Horton, Leonard and Cameron was appointed in order to place the overdue interest against the northern gravel road company in some Barrister's hands for collection.

The council then adjourned until the last Friday of Feburary at the usual hour.

ASHFIELD.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment at Black's Hotel, Dungannon, on the 17th day of December, 1867, at ten o'clock in the forenoon. All the members present. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. Moved by Donald McIntyre, seconded by Patrick Clare, that the sum of four dollars be paid John Stothers, for two sheep killed by dogs, and one dollar for his costs—Carried. Moved by Donald McIntyre, seconded by Patrick Clare, that Henry Holland be paid the sum of five dollars and a half for cutting Canada Thistles on the W. ½ 9, con. 2, E. D. the said amount to be charged to said land—Carried. Moved by Donald McIntyre, seconded by Patrick Clare, that Allan McKenzie, John McNiff and James Webster be refunded $1.00 each for mistake in dog tax—Carried. Moved by Donald McIntyre, seconded by Patrick Clare, that John McKenzie, jr., lot 9, con. 13, W.D. be appointed Returning Officer for North-west ward, in place of John McKenzie, sen., deceased—Carried. Moved by Donald McIntyre, seconded by Patrick Clare, that the following accounts be paid: T. J. Moorhouse, $13.08, W. T. Cox, $37.20—Carried. Moved by George Armstrong, seconded by Donald McIntyre, that John Grundy be paid $4.50 for repairing scraper Carried. Moved by George Armstrong, seconded by Maurice Dalton, that Alexander McKenzie, George May, and James Dalton be refunded the amount charged against them for Statute Labor, as they have performed the same—Carried. Moved by Donald McIntyre, seconded by Patrick Clare, that the Treasurer be paid $4.50, being his account for postage and stationery—Carried. Moved by George Armstrong, seconded by Donald McIntyre, that Patrick Cantwell be refunded the dog tax charged against him, through mistake of the assessor—Carried. Moved by Geo. Armstrong, seconded by Maurice Dalton, that John McKenzie be refunded one dollar and forty-se