The Huron Signal.

"The Greatest Possible Good to the Greatest Possible Number."

VOL. XXVII. NO. 5. GODERICH, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY. FEB. 18, 1874. WHOLE NO. 1409.

The Huron Signal,

(ESTABLISHED 1848,)

One of the Largest Papers published in Canada, printed and published at Goderich, Ontario, every WEDNESDAY MORNING, at the Office, Montreal Street, adjoining the Market Square, by

J. J. BELL,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

TERMS - $1.50 per annum, in advance, $2 if credit is given. No paper discontinued till all arrears are paid, except at the option of the publisher.

RATES OF ADVERTISING:

Eight cents per line for the first insertion, and two cents per line for each subsequent insertion.

Business cards not exceeding 6 lines, $4 per annum, from 6 to 10 lines $5.

The number of lines to be reckoned by the space we prefer measured by a scale of solid Nonpareil.

Advertisements without specific directions, will be inserted until forbid, and charged accordingly.

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One Column	1 year	$60
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"	3 months	25
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" "	6 months	25
" "	3 months	15
Quarter "	1 year	20
" "	6 months	12
" "	3 months	8
Eighth "	1 year	12
" "	6 months	8
" "	3 months	5

This agreement is to be confined to the ordinary business of commercial houses and for such it will not be held to include Auction Sales, Removals, Co-Partnership Notices, Private Advertisements of individual members of firms, Houses to let or for Sale, &c.

For the above rates will in all cases be strictly adhered to.

Advertisements intended for insertion in any particular issue should reach the office by noon on Tuesday.

The large circulation of the SIGNAL makes it an unsurpassed advertising medium.

JOB WORK OF ALL KINDS

Executed with neatness and despatch. Bills rendered while you wait. Orders by mail punctually attended to.

Business Directory.

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SURGEON DENTIST.
Office and residence, West Street. Three doors below Bank of Montreal, Goderich. 1311-1y

John Campbell, M.D., C.M.,
(Graduate of McGill University, Montreal),
SEAFORTH.
OFFICE and residence—One door south of Ross' Hotel, Main street, and opposite McCallum's hotel.
Seaforth, April 23rd, 1873. 1367

G. C. Shannon M.D.
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., &c., Goderich, Ont. 1249-1y

DR. McLEAN.
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, CORONER, &c., Office and Residence third door east of Central School

Dr. Cassady,
M'Gill College
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., Office, Hamilton Street, Goderich, Ontario. sw102

Ira Lewis
BARRISTER AND ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, SOLICITOR-in-Chancery, County Crown Attorney, Goderich, Ont. Office in Court House.

Cameron & Garrow.
BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS-in-CHANCERY, &c. Office, Market Square, Goderich.
M. C. CAMERON w52 J. T. GARROW.

H. L. DOYLE.
BARRISTER AND ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR-in-Chancery, &c., Goderich, Ont. 1357

ELLIOTT & WATSON
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, SOLICITORS, IN Chancery, Conveyancers, &c. Crabb's Block, Goderich.
MONEY TO LEND. 1373

Sinclair & Seager
BARRISTERS, &c., Goderich.
J. S. SINCLAIR CHAS. SEAGER, Jr
Goderich, Dec. 1st, 1871. ly.

W. R. SQUIER.
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY AT LAW, SOLICITOR in Chancery, &c. Goderich, Ont.
Office, Acheson's Block, West Street, Goderich. 1353

P. F. WALKER,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW AND SOLICITOR-IN Chancery, Conveyancer, Notary Public, &c. Office, opposite the Post Office, West Street, Goderich, Ont. 1378-6m

G. CAMPAIGNE
LAW CHANCERY AND CONVEYANCING. Officer at Dixie Watson's, Official Assignee, sw7-tf Goderich, Ont.

Malcomson & Keating,
BARRISTERS, ATTORNEYS, SOLICITORS, &c. Clinton, Ont. w35
MONEY TO LEND.

HUGH HAMILTON
CONVEYANCER AND GENERAL LAND Agent, Crown Lands Office, Goderich, Ont.
Money to Lend. 134

JAMES SMAILL,
ARCHITECT, &c., &c., COURT HOUSE SQUARE Goderich. Plans and Specifications drawn correctly. Carpenters' Plasterers' and Masons' work measured and valued. 1307-1y.

Buchanan, Lawder & Robinson
HAVE on hand all kinds of Sashes, Doors, Blinds, Mouldings, and Dressed Lumber, at the Goderich Planing Mill. 1309.

J. T. DUNCAN, V. S.
GRADUATE OF ONTARIO VETERINARY COLLEGE.
OFFICE AND STABLES,
Newgate Street, Fifth House East of Colborne Hotel.
N. B.—Horses examined as to soundness. 1313

PATENTS
FOR INVENTIONS
EXPEDITIOUSLY & PROPERLY
secured in Canada, the United States and Europe.
PATENT guaranteed or no charge. Send for printed instructions. Agency in operation ten years.
HENRY GRIST,
Ottawa, Canada,
Mechanical Engineer, Solicitor of Patents and Draughtsman.
Feb. 11th 1871. w4-1y—

NOTICE.
MISS BARNES in returning thanks to her friends in Goderich for past patronage, begs to say that she is now prepared to give Lessons on the Pianoforte and Cabinet Organ and in Singing. Residence opposite Mr. Savage's, Colborne St. 1363

CARD.
MISS SKIMMINGS, Teacher of Music on Piano Forte and Organ. Terms as usual in advance. Residence, Stanley Street, Goderich.
January 5th. 1874. 1403

RESTAURANT.
JAMES VIVIAN
HAS REMOVED HIS RESTAURANT TO Acheson's New Block, West Street, where he will be glad to see all his customers and the public generally.
FRUIT, VEGETABLES, OYSTERS, &c., &c. in their season.
HOT AND COLD MEALS AT ALL HOURS.

THE ACADEMY
FOR YOUNG LADIES UNDER THE direction of the Sisters of St. Joseph will be re-opened on
WEDNESDAY Jan. 7th 1874.
TERMS
Tuition per quarter, ... $3 00
Music, Instrumental, ... 7 00
" Vocal, ... 5 00
Guitar, ... 5 00
French, ... 2 00
Drawing, ... 4 00
Payment quarterly and in advance. Plain and ornamental needle-work do not form extra charges to pupils.
Jan. 6th 1874. 1403-6m

Meetings.

GODERICH LODGE NO. 33
G. R. C., A. F. A. A. M.
THE REGULAR COMMUNICATION is held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30 p. m. Visiting brethren cordially invited.
W. DICKSON, Sec.
Goderich, 6th May, 1871. sw73-1y

Money to Lend.

$25,000
TO Loan on Farm or Town property at 7 per cent. Apply to
G. CAMPAIGNE, Solicitor, &c.,
Oct. 30th, 1871 41tf Goderich.

MONEY TO LEND.
ON IMPROVED FARM PROperty, at 8 per cent simple interest per annum. Apply to
SAMUEL SLOAN,
Colborne Hotel.
Goderich, 8th Oct., 1872. 1338

MONEY TO LOAN
AT LOW RATES OF INTEREST.
FREEHOLD Permanent Building and Savings Society of Toronto.
For particulars apply to
A. M. ROSS,
Agent at Goderich.
Secretary and Treasurer,
CHAS. ROBERTON,
Toronto. 1343.

MONEY TO LEND
At Greatly reduced Rates of Interest
THE undersigned has any amount of money to loan from two to fifteen years, at a low rate of interest and favourable terms of repayment, payable by yearly instalments; rate of expenses will defy competition.
HORACE HORTON
Appraiser for the Canada Permanent Building & Savings Society, of Toronto.

INSURANCE CARD.
The Subscriber is agent for the following first-class Insurance Companies
PHOENIX of London, England.
HARTFORD of Hartford.
PROVINCIAL of Toronto.
BRITISH AMERICA, of Toronto.
Fire & Marine business done at the lowest possible rates
HORACE HORTON
Office Market Square, Goderich.
Oct. 27th 1870. w36-1y.

Insurance.

THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON AND GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY.
Available Assets, $27,000,000.
Losses paid in the course of Thirty-five years exceed
FORTY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS!
Claims by CHICAGO FIRE estimated at nearly $3,000,000, are being liquidated as fast as adjusted WITHOUT DEDUCTION.
Security, Prompt Payment, and Liberality in adjustment of its losses are the prominent features of this wealthy company.
FIRE and LIFE POLICIES issued with very liberal conditions.
Head Office, Canada Branch, MONTREAL
G. F. C. SMITH, Resident Secretary, MONTREAL
A. M. ROSS, Agent for Goderich

WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.
HEAD OFFICE TORONTO.
CAPITAL STOCK.....$400,000
SURPLUS FUNDS.....208,369.60
RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30th 1871. 357,858.26
HON. J. McMURRICH
President.
B. HALDAN Managing Director.
FIRE & MARINE INSURANCE AT Lowest Current Rates.
SPECIAL LOW TARIFF OF RATES, COVERING Insurance for one or three years on detached Dwellings, Churches and Schools with contents, in Cities, Towns and Country places. These rates and terms of policy particularly favorable to the Farming Community.
First Class man wanted for a travelling Agency for the townships outlying this Town. Apply in writing with references to the undersigned for transmission to the Head Office.
D. WATSON, Local Agent.
Goderich 12th Sept. 1871

GODERICH AGENCY
OF THE
Trust and Loan Company of CANADA.
Incorporated by Royal Charter.
CAPITAL—ONE MILLION POUNDS STERLING.
Funds for Investment.
LOANS made on the Security of approved Farm or City or Town Property for periods of Five years or to suit the convenience of Borrowers, and either repayable at expiry of time or by annual instalments. Payments in reduction of Loans will be accepted at any time on favorable terms.
Approved Mortgages purchased.
G. M. TRUEMAN, Agent
Market Square, Goderich.
1317

NEW CONVEYANCING & LOAN Agency Office, Blyth.
W. H. G. COLLES,
Conveyancer, Solicitor in Chancery, and Attorney of the Law and Equity Courts of Ireland, Genealogist, Land, Loan and Estate Agent, Law, Life and Fire Insurance, and General Agent.
Has opened an office in Blyth, at the late residence of Dr. Hutchinson, next house south of the Registry Office, Deeds, Wills, Mortgages, &c., carefully prepared; Titles and claims to Irish Estates investigated, and Law Business in Ireland transacted in connection with a First-Class Dublin Firm; Genealogies traced and Pedigrees prepared; Forty Years Experience; charges moderate. Money to Loan—private funds, and for Public companies, Debts collected. Notes protested and collected.
Office next house south of Registry Office.
1407

STOCK'S EXTRA
MACHINE OIL
Has been in general use for the past two years and giving the best satisfaction, as may be seen by testimonials from many of the leading houses in Ontario. It will not compeel in the coldest weather, it is therefore suitable for the lightest and fastest, as well as the heaviest machines in use.
TESTIMONIAL
From the Joseph Hall Machine Works, ——
I consider Stock's oil cheaper at $1.00 per gallon than olive oil at 90 cents. Yours respectfully,
P. W. GLEN, President.
For sale only by
G. H. PARSONS & CO., Hardware Merchants, Goderich.
SOLE AGENTS,
1312.

Hotels.

BRITISH EXCHANGE HOTEL,
MARKET SQUARE GODERICH.
CAPT. W. COX, - PROPRIETOR
LATE OF THE HURON HOTEL.
A continuance of the favor and support of the Commercial and Travelling public that was accorded before the fire, respectfully solicited. 1334

ANCHOR LINE.
STEAMERS SAIL FROM NEW YORK EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY.
PASSENGER ACCOMODATION UNSURPASSED
Rates of Passage from Sun Bridge or Buffalo to Glasgow, Liverpool or Londonderry, Cabins $65, $75 and $80 Gold according to location. Intermediate $30 gold, Steerage $31 gold.
DRAFTS ISSUED AT LOWEST RATES.
For passage or further information, Apply to
HENDERSON BROTHERS,
7 Bowling Green N. Y.
Or their Agent MRS. E. WARNOCK, Goderich.
1407

NEW DRUG STORE!
SIGN, RED MORTAR,
East Side Market Square.
J. BOND
Of 26 Years' Practice,
NOTED FOR PURE DRUGS.
IS just receiving from European and American markets weekly the following articles:—
Drugs, Chemicals, Sponges, Hair Brushes, Flesh Brushes, Large Stock of Tooth Brushes, Hair Restoratives, Hair Dyes, Perfumery, Atkinson's Lubins Magnolia Balm, Laird's Bloom of Youth, Lily White Tooth Paste and Powder, Sea Salt for Baths, Patent Medicines, Lamps, Black Oils, Lamps Glasses, Yellow Oils, Dye Stuffs of all kinds fresh and good,
Fellows' Compound Syrup Hypophosphites.
Edway's Medicines
Ayer's Worm Medicines for Children,
Bowel Complaint remedies, the best in the world, try them.
Pain Killers, too numerous to mention,
Sarsaparilla,
Cod Liver Oil,
Castor Oil,
Bond's Tonic Bitters,
the best in the world for
DYSPEPSIA,
Any quantity of Certificates can be produced if required of its efficacy.
Horse and Cattle Medicines.
1335

THE
Very Thing Wanted
NEW HARDWARE STORE
In GODERICH
OPPOSITE MARKET HOUSE.
SIGN OF THE CIRCULAR SAW
THE SUBSCRIBERS BEG TO SAY THAT THEY have just completed opening out an Entire New and
COMPLETE STOCK OF
HARDWARE.
of all kinds which will be sold at prices that defy competition. Before purchasing elsewhere. Please give us a call.
B.—Ball of Goods sold, next week
G. H. PARSONS & CO
Opposite The Market House
Goderich June 23rd 1871.

DOMINION CARRIAGE WORKS.
R. J. WHITELY
BEGS TO THANK THE PUBLIC for the liberal patronage accorded him in the past and to announce that he still carries on Carriage and Sleigh making in all its branches, at the old stand, opposite E. Martin's Colborne Hotel. Carriages Buggies, Waggons, and everything else in his line kept on hand or made to order of the best material and in the most workmanlike manner.
REPAIRING PROMPTLY EXECUTED.
Goderich, 25th Feb. 1873. 1358

OPENED OUT AGAIN.

DOUGLAS McKENZIE
Watchmaker & Jeweller,
DESIRES to return his sincere thanks to the public for the patronage bestowed on him in the past, and to announce that he has returned to the new premises in Acheson's Block, West Street, He would call special attention to the
RUSSELL WATCH
for the sale of which he is Sole agent in Goderich. A large stock of Watches, Clocks, Rich Jewellery, Watches in Gold and Silver cases, Rich Gold Guard Chains, and a large and well selected stock of
JEWELLERY
of all kinds which he will sell cheap.
REPAIRING DONE AS USUAL.
A CALL SOLICITED.
D. McKENZIE.
Goderich November 11th 1873 1321

Poetry.

A Skating Glee.

Fleet as the shadows glide
Over the ice we fly,
Swift as the swallows ride
Under the starry sky!
Every heart beats high;
Ecstacy rules the hour;
Thousands of forms sweep by,
Showing their graceful power;
Curling, whirling,
Gliding, sliding,
Over the ice they sail.

Bluest of skies above,
Smoothest of ice below;
Bound to the steel we love,
Ever and on we go,
Over the gleaming floor,
Over the frozen tide,
Skimming the peopled shore,
Merrily now we glide,
Curling, whirling,
Gliding, sliding,
Over the ice we sail.

Shouting our words of glee,
Singing our songs of mirth,
Happier souls than we
Never were found on earth.
On, like a petrel's flight,
On, like the swiftest gale,
On, like the flying gale,
Over the ice we sail,
Curling, whirling,
Gliding, sliding,
Over the ice we sail.

The Broken Merchant.

CHAPTER I.

"Will you take another cup of coffee?" said Mrs. M to her husband, as he leaned, in an abstracted manner, over the breakfast table.

"Eh? I think you," he answered, in a half peevish tone, and rising abruptly, took his hat and left the room.

To the eye of the careless observer that house was the abode of plenty, contentment and happiness. Mr. M had been married about two years. His wife—one of a thousand—and one little, smiling cherub, who was beginning to exhibit those winning and playful ways that parents, of all others, find so attractive. And if their establishment was not splendid, according to the ideas of modern nabobs, there was something throughout which spoke the refinement and elegance of the owners. They knew how to apply and to enjoy rationally the wealth wherewith Providence had blessed them. The time they had spent together had rather strengthened than diminished their attachment, formed as it was, on mutual worth, and highly cultivated endowments.

But to return: Mrs. M. followed the retreating form of her husband with an anxious and tearful eye, and then leaning her head upon her hand, gave vent to her agonized feelings in a flood of tears. She did not hope for her husband's return before the hour for dinner, and having for several days marked his altered demeanour she had in vain striven to fathom the cause, and had hoped over this to have some explanation; but it was plain that he shunned her society, and for the first time shut her out of his confidence. Yet he was certainly not at ease, and evidently anxious to evade any conversation on the subject. She had preserved her equanimity, may, even appeared gay, in his presence, but now that she was alone her long suppressed anxiety broke forth, an agony it took her long to subdue. Yet she had in some measure regained her tranquility, when Mr. M. suddenly entered. His heart smote him for his conduct to his wife—yet he dreaded to tell her that he was a—bankrupt!

He knew her worth and her confiding tenderness, but he wished her dream of happiness to last as long as possible, and he in vain essayed to tell her unshrinkingly that an unfortunate speculation had wrecked them from affluence to poverty. Yet the traces of anxiety and suffering which lingered on the countenance of Mrs. M determined him; and seating himself beside her he made a candid and full disclosure of his altered circumstances.

"And is this all?" said Mrs M in a gay tone; "is it the loss of a few thousand—the probable sacrifice of a few superfluities, that you have feared to tell me?"

"But consider, Helen," said Mr. M, "you as yet know nothing of poverty from actual experience. It is easy to dream of love in a cottage, and rural scenes devoid of care, but when poverty, that biting fiend, comes in person, and strips us, one by one, not only of the elegancies but the actual comforts of life, we feel that there is more of bitterness than poetry in his actual presence."

"We shall see," she said gayly, and seating herself by the piano, poured forth such a glad strain of harmony that Mr. M himself yielded to its influence, and confessed that they might even yet be very happy.

"But," said he, "should you be compelled to relinquish even this—"

"Then my voice will be left—see how I can sing." And she did sing so sweetly that she convinced her own sceptic husband that something there was of which poverty could not rob them. He felt relieved already of half his misfortunes, now that his wife knew his circumstances, and bore his altered fortunes so calmly. He ate his dinner with composure, and returning to his store set himself to a thorough investigation of his affairs. He found them not so bad as he had first feared, and though his business must be suspended, and his style of living contracted, yet he hoped to pay all his debts, and trusted to the future to retrieve the present.

Such was his communications to Mrs M. "And yet," he said, "when I think of the advantages you must relinquish,—the privations you may have to encounter, I confess my spirit sometimes misgives me as the prospect."

"We will see," said Mrs. M. "First, here is a large house for three of us; I have often thought, in passing a neat, snug house, how comfortable it looked."

"Well."

"Then there is a quantity of useless furniture which I can seldom trust a servant to keep in order. Some are careless and some do not know how. Then, the house and furniture disposed of, we shall not want the servants—another perplexity gone. Then, the things gone, we shall not be expected to give parties and dinners—another material item in the vexations of life. Again, in our snug little house, none but our real friends will take the trouble to find us out—more time saved. So, you perceive, on every hand we will be the gainers."

But, though Mrs. M's affection for her husband, and her own excellent understanding, prompted her to treat the present posture of affairs so lightly, and though she held herself ready to make any sacrifice with cheerfulness which circumstances might require, yet she knew and felt keenly that the draught which adversity compels us to swallow is indeed bitter. She knew enough of society to be aware that in the circle which prosperity draws around us there are always some who look with envious eye on our condition, and would exult at our fallen fortunes; but, whatever she felt, she saw that her husband felt it more, and vowed that no repinings on her part should add one atom to his perplexities.

CHAPTER II.

Ring, ding, went the bell, at an early hour, in the house of Mrs. Deborah Greenwood; and the servant ushered in Mrs. Marshall.

"Have you heard the news?" said she, after a few preliminaries.

"What news?"

"Oh, only that Mr. M has failed—positively lost everything!—a great speculator, they say. But, do you know that it is hinted that his habits are, in secret, quite dissipated, and that he has lost heavy sums at the gaming table?"

"But," chimed in Mrs. Greenwood, "what is to become of poor Mrs. M? she will have to lower her pretentions, I'm thinking."

"After all, it is no such great pity," observed Mrs. Marshall; "I never could see what there was in her more than other folks, that every one should go mad about Mrs M's good taste, and Mrs M's good temper, and Mrs M's surpassing abilities. Trust me, that when it is known that Mrs M is poor, she will be no more courted than any of us.

This very charitable tete-a-tete was interrupted by the arrival of another visitor—Mrs Bell. She had more of genuine kindness in her nature, and heard of Mr M's misfortune with unfeigned regret, not excepting his habits of dissipation and the suggestion of wanton extravagance on the part of Mrs M "I have been a frequent visitor to their house," said Mrs. Bell, "at all hours, and have thought their domestic arrangements among the best I have ever seen, and I have looked upon them as a pattern of conjugal happiness."

After a few moments spent in miscellaneous conversation, Mrs Bell apologized for her short stay, saying that "as she had just heard of Mrs M's misfortunes, she felt inexcusable in appearing to neglect her—at a time, too when her mind must be exceedingly sensitive on the subject."

"Just like yourself," said Mrs Marshall, "and by your leave I will bear you company—for really I am quite curious to see how she carries herself at present."

"And I too," said Mrs Greenwood, "as the morning is fine, will be one of your party."

We will not scan more minutely the motives which severally prompted the trio as they started together for a call on Mrs M They found her at home, dressed neatly but plainly, and were received with much politeness and cheerfulness, and she conversed with so much affability and even vivacity, that Mrs Marshall and Mrs Greenwood often exchanged glances, as much as to say, "Poor thing! she evidently does not know her husband's condition, or hopes to conceal it." Not so Mrs Bell; as the others rose to depart, she excused herself for remarkingby the remark that as Mrs M was fortunately alone, and not having any particular engagement, she would spend the day with her.

This was a most welcome communication to Helen for she felt that the judgment and experience of Mrs Bell would materially aid her in maturing her private plans for the future. To her, therefore, she made a plain and candid statement of the circumstances, adding that though Mr M hoped, by giving up all his effects, to satisfy all just demands, yet there would be but a slender pittance left and that considerable time must elapse before he could be again engaged in any profitable business."

"And now my dear friend," continued Mrs M., "I am going to communicate a little plan of my own, which, in Mr M's present good state of feeling, I have deemed best not to communicate to him; for he is not yet sufficiently reconciled to his condition to think calmly of my submitting to any exertion for a livelihood. But, why not? I know of no laws of equity which fixes a stigma on any effort a wife may make, however severely the husband's ingenuity may betaxed. Briefly, then, I have thought of turning to account those accomplishments which some have thought proper to compliment me on possessing. I think I could be content in a small house in a less expensive part of the town, and that besides attending to our little domestic duties. I could find time to instruct a few young ladies in music and drawing. And I must throw myself upon the generosity of my friends for patronage."

Mrs Bell warmly seconded the views of her friend, and promised to use the utmost of her influence in her behalf.

CHAPTER I...

It was a pleasant morning in the month of June when Mrs Bell's carriage stopped at the small but neat cottage house in the upper part of the city, and, having alighted, gave orders to the coachman not to call for her until evening.

She was shown into a neat parlour, where a genteel and happy looking woman was engaged with a group of young ladies, whom she was instructing in some elegant fancy-work; but as the lesson seemed nearly concluded, she begged she might not be any interruption, and gently seating herself on the sofa, took a leisurely survey of the scene around her. The apartment to some would have seemed plainly furnished, but yet there was such a display of neatness and order in the arrangement that it at once suggested to the mind the idea of comfort and contentment.

Mrs M.—for she was the lady of the mansion—soon dismissed her little company, and prepared to entertain her guest with the same cheerfulness and urbanity which had distinguished her more prosperous days. I will not say that she felt more happy, but it was evident the pleasing consciousness of performing her duty and lessening the cares of a husband deservedly dear to her, more than counterbalanced the trouble of performing it. She was one who did not place her dignity in the mere equipage of wealth; and it would not have been less conspicuous even in the most abject poverty.

As the dinner hour approached, Mrs M apologized for a short absence, meritly observing a playful manner that her domestic establishment was not extensive. But little did her friend imagine, when the well-ordered and well-dressed dinner appeared, together with the neatly attired and elegant hostess, that a single servant constituted her whole establishment. At dinner Mr M appeared—not the dejected, broken-spirited man, but the happy husband and father, whose home was of all places on earth the one happy place for him. It was true their home was no longer the resort of promiscuous visitors; for "they lived so far, so very far up town," that it was not possible for their fashionable friends to visit them often; but then the little circle who knew and appreciated that worth which could survive the decay of fortune made up enough of society to a couple mutually happy in each other and contented in their lot.

Months and even years passed away; children grew up around; friends were multiplied, and wealth increased; and Mr M is now among the wealthiest of our citizens; but he has often declared that but for the praiseworthy magnanimity of his wife he should never probably have risen; that had he been met with impatience or repining, when his spirit was already goaded almost to madness, he had probably destroyed its elasticity for ever; or if, in the commencement of his second career, he had been subjected to what might have been deemed justifiable demands of his wife, instead of the careful husbanding of their slender resources, the road to his ascent had been rendered difficult—perhaps for ever inaccessible.

Presence of Mind.

BY REV. F. W. HOLLAND.

There is one grand quality signally neglected, almost never taught, nowhere prized at its true value, seldom preached upon, yet certain to avert many a disaster and deliver from many a peril. Were parents and teachers accustomed to show their young ones how self-command in some unexpected emergency, as in outbreak of fire at midnight, would not only save themselves, but rescue a whole company of friends or fellow pupils, were the various means of escape shown, and the necessity of instant decision enforced, many a valuable life (to say nothing of property) would be saved. So intelligent a community as ours ought not, in this advanced period of thought, to be so easily overwhelmed by calamity, when one woman's prompt and resolute aid would stop the stream at its fountain head. If it is replied, as it will be, that some persons are born without this gift, my answer is that Peter the Great was born without the capacity to endure the sea, Frederic Second with a perfect terror at battle, Paley with indisposition to rise early, Judge Story with a disgust at law books, Washington with impetuous passion—yet all conquered their natural weakness, and so can we if we feel the necessity.

From various quarters facts have come to me of every sort, illustrating in women and children even, the power of overcoming panic and turning apparent disaster into an occasion of royally sublime virtue.

Instances there are, as we all know, of mothers rushing in frantic fear from a burning dwelling, then remembering the dear baby they left asleep in its little crib, and flying back through the open passage, to perish vainly in a whirl of mad flames. At the first alarm it would have been easy enough to have seized the child and secured its safety with her own, because the air currents were then cut off, after the room and hall had given the fire free passage through the house, her own sacrifice came too late to be of any service.

Another mother I have in this State, awakened from profound sleep by the fierce light in the room, forbidding her husband and from opening her window till she had unfastened a chest of clothes, and let her child down to the ground; then she followed herself, without any serious injury from the stifled flames, and not even a very severe fright, for she had taught herself self-control, and so she was always ready to use the means and all the means God and Nature had put in her hands.

The custom used to be universal in Ireland, of storing powder in the garret of every great country house. The great-grandmother of the famous Mrs Elgeworth had sent a sagacious servant girl to procure something in great haste, when the mansion was fired, and was asked for her reason, which she had carried with, out any candle-stick, she answered, "she was stocking in the stick of black-ing out there." Not a moment was to be lost. Mrs. Elgeworth flew up stairs, dashed the candle upon the floor, and fell herself, overcome by nervous excitement. She had saved the house and all within its walls.

That capital old story book, Sanford and Merton, tells a story, founded on fact, of a party of girls pursued by a wild bull in an open field. The eldest lassie turned full on the mad beast, and faced him. Mr. Bull paused a moment in surprise. Then he renewed his advance, and the noble girl made the best retreat she could, facing him still, and cheering her little companions to hurry away. Her calmness seems to have been respected by the great beast, for he only drove her steadily out of his domain, giving all her party and herself time to leap the fence without harm.

A far better story I remember of an English family taking tea in the garden back of their bungalow, one sultry eve, in Upper India. Suddenly a grand Bengal tiger made one of the company. The gentlemen, even an army officer, seemed paralysed with fear. One woman alone was master of the occasion. She sprang open a large, red umbrella right in the face of the beast, who resented so unusual a reception by leaping over the green hedge and making for the thicket, where he had been hiding. Would not this same genius of improvising means have made this lady perfectly invaluable on a shipwreck, in midnight conflagration, in burglars' attack, in epidemic disease, in the field hospital of an army, in the panic of a crowded assembly, in a railroad collision, in thousands of lesser disasters always aggravated by lack of self-control!

When only thirteen, Sir Astley Cooper showed this rare gift. A little playmate had been crushed by a cart-wheel. He was bleeding to death. There was not half time enough to get a surgeon, Astley brought out his silk handkerchief, tied it about the wound, stopped the bleeding effectually, till the surgeon could take the child in charge, whom Astley had really saved. And this event was the principal one to determine that choice of his profession, which made him such such a signal blessing to mankind.

The name of Eli Bream ought to have some permanent record. A railroad bridge had just been destroyed by fire. An express train was approaching. Eli was determined to hazard his life to save others. He ran to meet the advancing engine, spread his little arms as widely as possible and succeeded in gaining the engineer's attention, who stopped the train just in time to prevent another disaster like that at Norwalk.

The best wine I have kept to the last. Manning, a West India merchant, was sitting on a log on the shore of Jamaica, while his companions were bathing. Suddenly he saw a shark making full upon them. Had he cried "shark," one or both would have been overcome by fear. "Fellows, look here," he cried, "you swim miserably. Here is the best repeater in all Jamaica for the one that comes in first. Now, do your best." So he kept cheering and stimulating, now one, now the other.

Farnum relaxing his stroke, he reproached him for giving up so easily, when he was sure to win if he only pursued. At last he rushed into the waves himself, his red handkerchief streaming from the end of a stick, to divert the man eater. When Farnum was safe upon the sand, and was told his peril, he fell flat as a log, proving how helpless he would have been out at sea.

Origin of Plants.

Peas are of Egyptian origin.
Celery originated in Germany.
The chestnut came from Italy.
The onion originated in Egypt.
The nettle comes from Europe.
Tobacco is a native of Virginia.
Rye originally comes from Siberia.
The citron is a native of Greece.
The poppy originated in the East.
The pine is a native of America.
The mulberry originated in Persia.
Oats originated in North Africa.
Parsley was first known in Sardinia.
The pear and apple are from Europe.
Spinach was first cultivated in Arabia.
The sunflower was brought from Peru.
The walnut and peach came from Persia.
The horse chestnut is a native of Turkey.
The cucumber came from the East Indies.
The radish originated in China and Japan.

The Railway Policy.

From the Monetary Times,

The Pacific Railway policy of the Government is in the main sound, and as such has been accepted by the country. One of its principal features lies in the postponement of the section that would pass over the rugged and difficult country north of Lakes Huron and Superior, the most expensive to construct, and at present the least needful. The north shore can be penetrated by means of the rivers with which it is intersected, as far as the agriculturist, the miner, or the lumberer will need to go for some years to come. In the meantime, we are to utilize the navigation of these great inland seas in summer, and to reach Fort Garry in winter through the States, as we now reach the Atlantic seaboard. From the east we are promised a section of road connecting the mouth of French River with the south eastern point of Lake Nipissing; and thence eastward another railroad is to be extended till it connects with railroads already in existence. We do not know, of course, on what information the practibility of a railroad south of Lake Nipissing is assumed. It is a point of contention; and the question is, whether there be in existence reliable evidence by which it can be settled. From the west end of Lake Superior a railroad is to be made to Fort Garry, and another from Pembina, both of which will be collateral branches of the main line, when the whole work is completed. When Fort Garry is reached, progress is to be made towards the Rocky Mountains, at such rate of speed as the circumstances and the finances of the country may require. Work is to be commenced on the Pacific section at the same time as on the eastern sections. The section most urgently demanded is that from Pembina to Fort Garry. The next in order would naturally be the section from Lake Superior; and next after that, if it be not, as it probably will, be going on at the same time, the connection east of Lake Huron, from the mouth of French River. This road, as we understand it, is to be built by a private company, aided by a subsidy from the Government, either in land or money, or both. If land, the Government of Ontario will be required to make a grant. British Columbia will have to be asked, the Premier informs us, to extend the time—now only eight years—for completing the whole work. The request may be supported by the argument which the burning of the railway records at Ottawa supplies. When we once reach Fort Garry, the interior of the country can be penetrated, by navigating the Saskatchewan, to near the Rocky Mountains. Over the mountains we believe the building of a waggon road, as suggested, would be pure waste. Whenever we set to work to obtain the means of crossing the mountain, the railroad is the only instrument worth thinking of for this purpose.

When we have achieved what is here sketched out, we must remember that, with the exception of the Pembina road, we shall have only the means of summer communication. But we believe this means will suffice to enable us to throw populous settlements into the Valley of the Saskatchewan. The only difficulty will be in winter. Water carriage for produce is so much more economical than railroads that we may count on its continuing to be used for long distances after the railroad has been completed.

Now that it is decided that the Government shall build the railroad, without employing the agency of a private company, some decided measures will have to be taken to prevent members of Parliament being interested in the contracts. Much noise has been over the discovery that a member of Parliament was interested as a stockholder with one of the thirteen directors appointed by the late Government. If the possession of that interest would have been liable to influence that member in his votes on this question—and it was always contended that this would be the effect—it furnishes a reason why a law prohibiting members of Parliament from being stockholders should have been passed; but none for denouncing the arrangement as if it were a monstrous breach of law. A man of a high sense of honor might have refused to put himself in the position condemned; but how many of the censors who are making a cheap display of virtue would have refused to take advantage of a like opportunity? As there will be no stockholders now to be dealt with, what we have to fear is Members of Parliament becoming interested in the contracts. Men have stood up in the Senate and House of Commons and declared that if Members of Parliament were not legally allowed to be stockholders, they would descend to the arts of the smuggler and defy the law. That is no reason why the law should not be made strong, but the contrary. Let it, in view of this gigantic work, be made a high crime and misdemeanor for any member of either House of Parliament to become interested in a contract with the Government.

Open Weather, '37 and '73.

The singular mildness of the weather for the season, is the subject of remark, not only throughout Canada but also in the States. On Monday, the 5th, the river in front of the city was entirely free from ice, and boat traffic was resumed. The ensuing day and night of frost has ended in a heavy downpour of rain, and the St. Lawrence is still unbridged, a thing unheard of since the notable winter of 1837, while the hills and exposed portions of the land have lain entirely exposed to the frost, although that has not been severe. The winter of 1837 differed in some respects from the present. The weather in November of that year not being so extremely severe as that of November, 1873, navigation on the St. Lawrence was, however, carried on till the 20th of December. On the ninth of the month an urgent despatch coming to Quebec from Sir John Colborne, calling for a wing of the 83rd Regiment to be sent to Montreal, Col. Dyde, then agent for the steamers, despatched the entire regiment on board the steamer St. George on the 10th December, and she arrived here after a passage of 36 hours, meeting with no delay from floating ice, while the Government employed steam boats between the city and Sorel, until the 20th inst. That season the river did not take till the 25th of January, and the whole winter was one of remarkable mildness, rain frequently falling. A gentleman well qualified to judge says it is very improbable that there will be any crossing over the river this season until the same date. The delay is causing much inconvenience to farmers on the south shore. In 1837, also, a vessel took from the wharf at Toronto a large party of ladies and beaux, who stood in fear of the rebels. Toronto Bay is this year again open.—*Montreal Paper.*

IRONING SHIRT FRONTS.—In a first-class laundry, starch is made in the usual manner; to a pail of starch a whole sperm candle is used. When the linen is dry, it is dipped into the cold starch and ironed in the ordinary way; then it is damped with a cloth, and the polishing iron pressed over it. This is an ordinary smoothing-iron, ground off so that the edges are all rounding. To this last manipulation the linen is indebted for the peculiar lasting glossy which all admire so much, but which many housekeepers have vainly striven to have upon the wristbands and bosoms of their husband's shirts.

Public Men and the Press.

It will be a very gloomy day for this country, when there is not a considerable number of newspapers able and willing to candidly examine the characters of public men. If we reflect an instant, we shall see that the existence of an intelligent, firm, and disinterested press is an indispensible condition to the success of representative government in modern times. We could not make free institutions work without it. We are not a community of Athenian democrats—we cannot all get together in a public place, and talk over the claims to confidence of public men, most of whom we know personally. We must have the best agents we can get to transact our public business and we can only select them on the knowledge we get through the newspapers. Very few of us have any other means of information, and the intimate knowledge a few influential men may have concerning candidates for public favour, would be useless in our country if it could not be communicated through the papers.

Most people, even the sensitive public servants we have referred to, will acknowledge these truths in the abstract. But they shrink from their application. Yet we must have them applied. The people must know all they can fairly learn about the men whom they are asked to employ. In his private business, every careful citizen investigates a man's character before he trusts him. He often investigates a great