The Huron Signal.

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

VOL. XXVII. NO. 1. GODERICH, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21, 1874. WHOLE NO. 1405.

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 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 occupied measured by a scale of solid Nonpareil.

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

YEARLY AGREEMENTS:

The following rates will be charged to merchants and others who advertise by the year,—

One Column	1 year	$60
" "	6 months	35
" "	3 months	25
Half "	1 year	35
" "	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.

☞ 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 printed while you wait. Orders by mail punctually attended to.

Business Directory.

M. NICHOLSON,
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. 13:40-1y

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

Dr. Cassidy,
McGill College
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., Office, Hamilton Street, Goderich, Ontario. aw102

Ira Lewis
BARRISTER AND ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, AND 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 aw52 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. 1y.

W. R. SQUIER.
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, SOLICITOR in Chancery, &c. Goderich, Ont.
Office, Auheson'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. Offices at Dixie Watson's, Official Assignee,
aw7-1f Goderich, Ont.

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

HUGH HAMILTON
CONVEYANCER AND GENERAL LAND Agent, Crown Lands Office, Goderich, Ont.
Money to Lend. 138

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, Lawson & 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. PATENTS 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. w-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

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.

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 congeal 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, &c.
I consider Stock's oil cheaper at $1.00 per gallon than olive oil at 50 cents. Yours respectfully,
F. W. GLEN, President.
For sale only by
G. H. PARSONS & CO., Hardware Merchants, Goderich.
SOLE AGENTS, 1312.

$5 TO $20 per day. Agents wanted (male or female) to work for us at their own homes, or all the time; than at any other business. Particulars free. 1356-7y. STINSON & CO., Portland, Maine.

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, 4th May, 1871. aw73-1y

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.
INTEREST LOW.—TERMS OF REPAYMENT EASY.
THE CITY OF TORONTO PERMANENT BUILDING AND SAVINGS SOCIETY
Advances money at reduced rates for from 2 to 20 years. Loans repayable in instalments to suit the borrower.
Full information given on application.
R. H. KIRKPATRICK,
1378 Agent at Goderich.

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. 29th 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

AGRICULTURAL
Mutual Assurance Association
OF CANADA.
LONDON, ONT.
CHAS. T. DOYLE, of Clinton now represents this popular Company exclusively, for the Town of Goderich and Township of Colborne, in addition to his late Agency limits, viz: McKillop, Grey, Morris, Howick, Turnberry and Wallace. All parts of Agency visited periodically. Parties desiring insurance in intervals will be called on by addressing
CHAS. T. DOYLE,
1398-2m Box 39, Clinton.

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 Property 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.
1317 Next Signs, Goderich

Hotels.

BRITISH EXCHANGE HOTEL,
MARKET SQUARE GODERICH.
GAPT. 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 Every Wednesday and Saturday.
TO AND FROM NEW YORK AND GLASGOW, Calling at Londonderry to land Mails and Passengers.
☞ Passage is booked and forwarded to and from all Railway Stations in Great Britain, Ireland, Germany, Norway, Sweden or Denmark and America, as safely, speedily, comfortably and Cheaply, as by any other Route or Line.
THE NEW DEPARTURES.
From Glasgow. From New York.
Sat., Sept. 23d....IOWA.....Mon., Oct. 16th,
Sat., Sept. 30th....CALEDONIA...Sat., Oct. 21st
Sat., Oct. 7th....ANGLIA.....Sat., Oct. 28th
Sat., Oct. 14th....COLUMBIA...Sat., Nov 4th
And every Wednesday and Saturday thereafter from Pier 20, North River, at noon.
RATES OF PASSAGE PAYABLE IN CURRENCY,
To Liverpool, Glasgow or Derry:
First Cabin, $65 and $75, according to location
Cabin Excursion Tickets (good for 12 months) securing best accomodation, $130.
Intermediate, $38. Steerage, $28.
Certificates at LOWEST RATES can be bought here by those wishing to send for their friend
Drafts issued payable on presentation.
Apply at the Company's Offices or to
MRS WARNOCK,
Goderich, Ont.
Goderich Oct. 23 1871.

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, Black Oils, Yellow Oils, Dye Stuffs of all kinds fresh and good,
Fellows' Compound Syrup Hypophosphites, Radway's Medicines Ayer's do Worm Medicines for Children, Bowel Complaint remedies, the best in the world, try them, Pain Killers, too numerous to mention, Sarsaparilla, Cod Liver Oil, Hair Oils, Castor Oil, Lamps, Lamp Glasses,
Bond' 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.
1385

Goderich Harness Shop
W. A. MARTIN
HAS pleasure in announcing to the public of Town and County that he has purchased the Harness business of Mr. Isaac Halliday, on Hamilton St. After having served his apprenticeship with Messrs W. & H. Martin, Goderich, W. A. H. has been employed for the last three years in the best Harness Shops in Chicago, and is now prepared to make up
LIGHT AND HEAVY HARNESS,
HORSE-CLOTHING AND SCOTCH COLLARS, in first-class style and with despatch. Orders promptly attended to.
Trunks, Whips, Curry-Combs, &c., &c.
N. B.—Fly Sheets constantly on hand throughout the summer.
Goderich, June 23, 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 extended him in the past, and to announce that he has removed to the new premises in Acheson's Block, West Street. He would call special attention to the
RUSSEL WATCH
for the sale of which he is Sole agent in Goderich. A large stock of Watches from Messrs. Rigland Sylas Webber in Gold and Silver cases.
He has 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 1872 1302

Poetry.

England.

(*From the Albion.*)

If in the heart of man,
There is a cherished spot;
It is the love of home,
And I forget it not.

For England is my country,
Borne constantly in mind;
With thoughts of friends and kindred,
That I have left behind.

The monarchy is ancient,
The glory it is grand;
And men of worth and dignity,
Hold office in the land.

Our commerce is extended,
Beyond the boundless ocean;
Our loyalty is blended,
With freedom and devotion.

The people great and happy,
I love their honest mirth:
God bless my native country,
The land that gave me birth.

Cavalry Song.

Our good steeds snuff the evening air,
Our pulses with their purpose tingle;
The foemen's fires are twinkling there;
He leaps to hear our sabres jingle!
HALT!
Each carbine send its whizzing ball:
Now cling! clang! forward all,
Into the fight!

Dash on beneath the smoking dome,
Though level lightnings gallop nearer!
One look to heaven! no thoughts of home:
The guerdons that we bear are dearer!
CHARGE!
Cling! clang! forward all!
Heaven help those whose horses fall!
Cut left and right!

They flee before our fierce attack!
They fall, they spread in broken surges!
Now, comrades, bear our wounded back,
And leave the foeman to his dirges!
WHEEL!
The bugles sound the swift recall:
Cling! clang! backward all!
Home, and good-night!

TWO EVENTS IN A QUIET LIFE.

IN TWO CHAPTERS—CHAPTER THE FIRST.

It was the third of December, and the fourth was fixed for my wedding-day. For some weeks the weather had been bitterly cold, we had had great heavy fall of snow, then a few days of hard frost, and now the air was again filled with large feathery flakes. At four o'clock, when I went to my own room wearied out both in mind and body, it was nearly dark.

My uncle's house, of which I had been an inmate for some years—for I was an orphan—was in a remote part of Cambridgeshire, five miles from a town, and it may easily be imagined what an event a wedding was in such a quiet village. Every one, including myself the bride elect, had to work hard for days beforehand, and my aunt had little sympathy for the weak or the idle.

Two or three guests had arrived, and as there now seemed nothing more to be done excepting to entertain them, I was sent up-stairs to rest until seven o'clock, when my intended husband and his groomsman were expected. The dog-cart was to be sent to meet them at Eldon station, about three miles off.

I found she was in luxury of a bright fire burning in my grate, with an easy chair cosily drawn up to it. For a moment or two I warmed my frozen fingers, and then I went to the window, and leaning my cold forehead against the colder pane, looked out upon the dreary landscape. The moment was come in which to realize my position.

For weeks I had been in a dream—a passive, hopeless creature, carried along, as it seemed, by the will of others to a certain end—now on the eve of my wedding day I felt miserably awake. Could there be no respite—nothing to hope for?

"Ah, Harry! Harry!" I exclaimed, "Where are you now? Why this long, long time without a line, without a word! Have I not, in spite of taunts and entreaties, waited the seven years promised, and more? Was it not only when the bread of charity grew too bitter, and no means permitted me for earning my own livelihood—when not hope remained of seeing you again—that I gave way?

"Twice I refused Mr. Denton's hand. What could I do when he offered it the third time? I mean, Heaven knows I mean to make him a good wife. I am grateful to him, for why should he choose me—a girl without a penny, and no heart worth having? They say I have a pretty face; I suppose that was it. Harry used to like my blue eyes and wavy hair years ago.

"This is the last night I may think of you Harry, the bonny lad I loved so well! Where are you now? Still beyond the wide Atlantic, striving for the money to enable us to marry? or, as they would wish me to believe, dead? I am in sore distress, Harry, Surely, bound up as we were in one another, my spirit can hardly thus be moved without stirring some chord in yours, wherever you may be—whether in far America, or in that still stranger and more unknown country from whence no traveller returns.

"God help me," I cried in my anguish; "God help me, I sorely need it!"

Then I opened the window, and looked out over the flat country so still in its white shroud; and I gazed up into the grey, stony sky, but it was obscured by the flakes of snow, which came down thicker and thicker, until at last nothing else was to be seen in earth or heaven.

"Miss Nellie! Miss Nellie!" said the warning voice of the old housekeeper; "what are you doing, my dear? Trying to catch your death of cold? and to-morrow your wedding-day!" She drew me away, and closed the window. "I've got a nice cup of tea for you; come and sit down, lovey, and drink it. I don't wonder you feel anxious like, for it's awful weather."

Then the good old soul sat down by the fire, and told me various stories, which she assured me were authentic, of similar circumstances, and how when her own mother was married in Staffordshire, the wedding party had to walk to church over the tops of the hedges on frozen snow.

Then my aunt came in; she was naturally a stern, managing woman, and we had never been very good friends; but she spoke kindly to me then, and told me not to be anxious if the train were delayed a little. My uncle soon followed her, and gave me a kiss, saying "Cheerup, Nellie! they'll be here sooner or later."

Ah! what a hypocrite I was! none of them knew my dread of the coming morrow; how I had prayed like a criminal for a reprieve. And yet, to do myself justice, I did honour Mr. Denton; I meant to obey, and hoped in time to love him. But the hours passed on, and even I began to grow anxious for his safety.

Ten o'clock came, and the groom had not returned from the station. Old Wilkie, the gardener, who had managed to struggle in from his cottage, about a hundred yards distance, gave it as his opinion that they would not come that night.

"Lor' bless you, sir," he said, "James knows what he's about, and he'd never cross Eldon Moor such weather as this; it's as much as their lives are worth."

My uncle kissed me again. "Never mind, Nellie; they won't hurt in the station for one night, with a big fire and we'll have them over the first thing in the morning;" and so at last we retired for the night.

To bed, but not to sleep. A new hope had sprung up, which I hardly dared acknowledge to myself. If the storm would only continue until after twelve o'clock the next day, so as to make the wedding impossible, who could tell what might happen next? I might be taken ill; had I not pains in all my limbs, and was not my head burning already?

I rose several times during the night, and looked out. Still snowing heavily, as far as I could see. In the morning there was no change, and a very gloomy and depressed party met at the breakfast-table. A few unsuccessful attempts were made to be cheerful during the meal, but when it was over all was silence, except an occasional whisper from one of the anxious faces at the windows, trying vainly to peer through the thick white veil.

That it was useless to dress, all had agreed, and wrapped in a large shawl, I lay on the sofa by the fire, with my eyes fixed on the clock. Ten o'clock—eleven.

At the half-hour my heart almost stopped beating. Twelve o'clock at last—and so the reprieve had come. But hardly had the final stroke sounded when a maid-servant burst into the room.

"Come quick, sir; there is a messenger!"

My aunt and uncle followed her quickly. I rose also, but staggered and sank back on the sofa.

"Sit still, Nellie," said my bridesmaid, Mary Lee; "I'll come and tell you all about it," and she ran after them, followed by the other guests.

They seemed a long time away, and at last I get up, and like one in a dream groped my way to the kitchen.

It was a large, gloomy place at any time, and that morning there was no light from without, the panes were so blocked up with snow, only the fire lighted up the group before me. The messenger—a tall, strong navvy, but evidently much exhausted—sat by the hearth, the melting snow forming a pool around him. My aunt, seated at the table, looked as if she were fainting, while my uncle questioned the man in a subdued voice. Every face looking pale and horrified.

"What is the matter?" I asked, and my voice sounded to myself as if it were a long way off.

"There has been an accident with the dog-cart, Nellie," said Mary Lee, putting her arm round me.

"Is any one hurt?"

A pause. Mr. Denton is hurt, my dear" said my uncle.

"Much?" I whispered, for my voice seemed to have gone from me.

I looked from one to the other as no answer came, and then my uncle tried to lead me away.

I understood now how it was.

"He is dead?" I said, and fell heavily on the stone floor.

CHAPTER THE SECOND.

It is about two years since I wrote anything in my diary, for I seem now too busy to attend to it, and yet things have altered very much in the last two years. My surroundings are changed, and I trust there is a change for the better in myself. During my long illness, which followed that awful snow-storm, my aunt heard of the death of her son-in-law in India, my cousin Edith's husband, and it was arranged for the widow and her only child to return to the old home. This rendered my presence even less necessary than ever, and made it all the more easy for my dear old friend and doctor to propose a scheme he had formed for the mutual benefit of his wife and myself, as he kindly put it.

It was for me to live with them as companion, housekeeper, and in fact daughter, for they never had children of their own, and his wife was a confirmed invalid. With this new home health returned both to body and mind. For some years I had lived in a world of my own, with but one object and one end in view. I thought that I tried to do my duty—to bear patiently the monotonous routine of my uncle's house—not to reply to my aunt's often harsh words, taught in the schools, made flannels for the poor; and yet I lived really and truly for myself, with but little sympathy for those immediately around me.

There was a different atmosphere in Dr. Fanshawe's house. His noble, untiring work amongst the sick and suffering filled me with wonder and admiration, and so did the patience and unselfishness of his gentle, ladylike wife, who had been confined to her couch with a spinal complaint for many years.

In a few months, however, came a great trial. The strong man fell sick, and died: I nursed him to the last, and I promised never to leave his poor wife. It was a sad blow to her at first, but borne with her usual quiet resignation. Now she is quite cheerful again. I know she thinks her time here will be but short, and the hope of a happy meeting with him she loved is her chief solace. I too am resigned and happy. The doctor's will has removed one source of anxiety as to the future, and I am now eight-and twenty, and feel that I can settle down thankfully in that state of life in which it has pleased a good God to place me.

I can even write calmly of Harry, who I know is alive, and getting on well. Of course he is nothing to me now, and I dare say has almost forgotten me in all these years. Well! such things will happen in the chances and changes of life, but I shall never forget him. He will choose some other wife, and I hope they will be happy, but she will not love him better than the Nellie of old.

Here I was interrupted by a ring at the bell, and a note. To my great surprise it was from Mrs. Leedon (Harry's mother), asking me to call upon her in the afternoon. What could she want? Nine years ago she and my aunt broke off the engagement between Harry and me.

Ah! it was a hard and cruel time! We were, as they said, foolish, penniless young creatures; but then we loved each other, and he was willing to work, and I to wait. But that was all over now.

After our early dinner I made the invalid comfortable for her afternoon nap, and started for my two-mile walk.

A bright winter afternoon, clear pale sky, hard roads, and glittering hoar-frost lying on trees and hedges. I soon reached Mrs. Leedon's cottage. She looked, I thought, much aged, and there was an unusual nervousness in her manner.

After a little attempt at conversation, she said, "Ellen, I hope in what happened some years ago you gave me, at least, credit for commendable motives."

"Mrs. Leedon," I replied hastily, "that time is long past, and I have no wish to recall it."

"But, my dear, you must see now what an imprudent thing an engagement would have been."

"I rose to go. "It is all over, Mrs. Leedon I repeat. Right or wrong, what was then done can never be undone."

"Stay a moment, Ellen. What I have to tell you is of such importance, that I must beg you to hear me patiently." She took me by the hand and drew me to the sofa by her.

"At that time I acted, as I still think, for the best; but two years ago I fear I made a mistake—that is, your aunt and I. Soon after your engagement to Mr. Denton, I received a letter from my son, enclosing one considerably after date, enclosing one for you. He told me that he proposed coming home in few months, and as he had now an appointment which would enable him to marry, he hoped to persuade you to return with him as his wife. As your uncle had forbidden any correspondence, he enclosed the letter for you in mine."

"And why did I not have that letter?"

"Be calm, Ellen. Indeed, my dear, I am now very sorry. I took my letter to show to your uncle and aunt, and by their advice destroyed the enclosure. They thought you were at last settled in your mind, and happy; and, of course, I wished to avoid such a terrible upset as a renewal of the past would have caused."

"It was a shameful breach of trust, Mrs. Leedon," I exclaimed vehemently, "and cruel, very cruel! I was no young child to be treated so," and I buried my face in my hands. Where now was my boasted self-possession? I was sobbing bitterly. At last I raised my head. "And what did Harry say when he heard of it?"

"My poor child," cried Mrs. Leedon, "he said nothing—only that there was now no reason for his return to England."

"I must go now," I said faintly, for I felt worn out and miserable. "Do not send for me or ever speak of it again, please."

Her eyes were full of tears as she accompanied me to the door.

"Try and forgive me, Nellie. I would give much for you to meet each other again. At all events, he knows the truth now. Don't think too hardly of me!"

As I crossed the field which lay between Mrs. Leedon's house and the high road, my mind was full of confusion; grief and indignation predominated, and then a wild hope suddenly sprang up, but that brought me to myself. "This is madness," I thought, "I am but laying the foundation for future disappointment and sorrow."

Before I passed through the gate I folded my hands upon it, closed my eyes, and muttered, "Thy will be done;" then I dried my eyes and walked quickly homewards. As I gazed round on the wide, flat fields and straight road, I could not help likening the landscape to my life. Sameness, monotony, and, when it should please God to take my own kind friend from me, great loneliness. And yet it need not be unhappy. Summer would come in its season to brighten the fields, and now the hoar-frosts was sparkling in the sun. And then I had the privilege of a straight path of duty which could not be mistaken.

The long road seemed to stretch on to the horizon, and straight before me the sun, round and crimson, had just touched the earth.

The road was very lonely, and as I could only see one solitary human being approaching me in the distance, I quickened my steps, for Mrs. Fanshawe was apt to be nervous when I was out late. As he approached, I perceived he was a tall man, wrapped in a plaid. My eyes were too much dazzled by the sun for me to see his face, but I thought he was looking earnestly at me. He walked a few steps past me, and then returned, saying, "Will you kindly direct me to Mrs. Leedon's cottage at Earlswood?"

I turned round and looked at him, then I involuntarily held out my hands. They were warmly clasped, and in a moment I was pressed to his breast.

"Harry!"

"Nellie, darling, are you glad to see me again?"—*Cassell's Magazine.*

Public Works—A Reform.

(*From the Ottawa Times.*)

Under the late administration, if contractors were people who could be made at all available for partizan purposes, their relations with the Government were too often permitted to be of the laxest description. In the matter of tendering for important public works, a firm, or a "ring," would put in as many tenders as the number of variations into which their names could be formed. And the prices would be as various as the tenders. The object of all this was, this Brown, Jones, and Smith, having, say nine tenders in for a particular job, would be able to decline on behalf of the several firms into which they had ostensibly, if not fraudulently, formed themselves, all below the highest. Mr. Mackenzie is aiming a blow especially at this system. He has determined that no tender shall be considered, unless there be attached the actual signature, and the nature of occupation, and place of residence, of every person or member of a firm tendering. There will be required, too, as amply set forth in the notice calling for tenders, satisfactory security on real estate or by deposit of money, public or municipal securities, or bank stock, to an amount of five per cent of the bulk sum of the contract. Ten per cent of the progress estimates will invariable be retained until completion of the work. To each tender also, must be attached the *actual signature* of two responsible and solvent securities.

The system of making advances on the working plant of contractors, which, contrary to all correct business management, has prevailed, Mr. Mackenzie has resolved also to terminate. To such an extent had this medium of relationship and sympathy between the Government and contractors been cultivated, that the Board of Works now has liens upon working plant, that, if closed peremptorily, as they perhaps ought to be, would put the Government in possession of the largest contractors' outfit the world ever saw. All irregularities, of this or any other character, Mr. Mackenzie has determined shall be stamped out. The line of strict business practice is the only rule that can commend itself to public approval, or by which the public service can be effectively conducted, and the country may be assured that, whether they thereby stand or fall, the present Reform Administration, to use a phrase now become common, will fight it out on that line.

William Tell Outdone.

We take the following account of an extraordinary feat at shooting, from the Detroit *Free Press*:—"A few days ago two young men living in Detroit, anxious to exhibit their nerve, laid a wager with a third party, which resulted in some rifle shooting of an extraordinary character. A dozen apples were procured, and one of the gentlemen stood forty feet distant from the other, who shot with a rifle each of the dozen apples in succession from his friend's head, after the manner of the late William Tell. Not satisfied with that, the apple-holder procured a common pasteboard match-box cover and held it close to his head between the thumb and finger, and in that position permitted his friend to fire three times at it, each shot going 'plumb' through the centre.

The Temperance Societies of Lower Canada are going to exercise their influence in the coming election. The Witness says that efforts are being made to bring out staunch temperance men, or at all events to secure such pledges from candidates offering as will secure their support in such temperance measures as may be brought before Parliament.

Men do not gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles. In politics, as in morals, we shall reap as we sow.—*Leader.*

Montreal Telegraph Company.

We take the following sketch of the Montreal Telegraph Co. from an article in a late issue of the *Canadian Illustrated News*:—

The Montreal Telegraph Company was incorporated in January, 1847, when the science of telegraphy was yet in its infancy.

Some few gentlemen (most of whom have since departed this life) had the temerity to embark their capital in this, at that time considered, fanciful enterprise, one of whom was the late Andrew Shaw, Esq., who became its first President, and retained that office for four years and was succeeded by Sir Hugh Allan who has filled that responsible position ever since.

It may be fairly said, and that without the slightest disparagement to other gentlemen connected with the Company, that its marvellous progress has been due in a large measure to Sir Hugh Allan's great energy, business capacity, and comprehensive views of what the wants of the country were in respect of telegraph facilities, and to the enterprising spirit in which he, and the different boards of Directors, over which he has presided, have ever been ready to meet those wants. As an instance of the desire of this Company to extend its facilities to even the most remote districts we cannot do better than mention the establishment of the line to Gaspe, and we are assured by persons resident in that district that nothing short of a railway could be a greater boon than this telegraph extension has been.

Indeed, it is difficult to say to what extent this Company, while making remunerative returns to its shareholders, has influenced the material progress of the Dominion at large.

Any retrospective glance at the career of the Montreal Telegraph Company would be incomplete that did not refer to Mr. O. S. Wood who was its general superintendent from the commencement of the enterprise in 1847 till 1865, when he resigned. To this gentleman's skilful, careful, and economical management, has been attributable to a great extent its efficiency and consequent pecuniary success, and we may add that Mr. Wood left the service of the Company taking with the sincere respect and esteem not only of the Directors but of every *employee*.

On Mr. Wood's resignation, the management of the Company underwent some changes. Mr. Dakers, the Secretary, while still retaining that position, undertaking the general management of the Eastern Division, comprising the Province of Quebec and New Brunswick; and Mr. Dwight, of Toronto, assuming that of the Western Division, comprising the Provinces of Ontario, and Northern New York, being assisted in their labours of superintendence by Mr. Grant, of Montreal, and Mr. Toye, of Toronto, respectively, and Mr. Bourne was appointed to the duties of Treasurer and Auditor.

At about this same time Mr. Bethune, of Ottawa, and Mr. Pope, of Quebec, were appointed District Superintendents, and this *personnel* of the Company has continued unchanged.

Our readers may find the following exhibit of the progress of the Company interesting:—

1847.	
Capital	$60,000
Miles of wire	540
Number of offices	9
Number of Messages	33,000
Persons employed	35
1873.	
Capital	$1,500,000
Miles of wire	20,000
Number of offices	1,150
Number of messages	1,750,000
Persons employed	1,700

In addition to the number of messages transmitted, between eight and ten million words of news reports are furnished to newspapers in the course of a year.

In 1847, the telegraph extended from Quebec to Toronto, with only one wire. In 1874 the main lines are as follows:—

		Miles.
From Sackville to Detroit,		1,800
" Montreal to Portland,		300
" " Owego,		300
" " Ottawa Dist.		300
" Toronto to Buffalo,		120
" " Sarnia,		170
" " Southampton,		160
" " Ottawa,		275
" Buffalo to Goderich,		160
" " Amherstburg,		230

and on these trunk routes the wires are of course numerous, and from these branch out lines in every direction, until there is scarcely a village of any consequence without its telegraph office. Communication is had direct from Montreal to the following important points in the United Stated:—

New York, Albany, Boston, Whitehall, Utica, Oswego, Buffalo, Detroit and Portland.

It is worthy of note that while every possible telegraph facility has been afforded to the country a steady reduction in the rate of charges has been made.

In the early days of telegraphing in Canada the rates ranged from 20c to $1.50, but gradual reductions have from time to time been made by the Montreal Telegraph Company until now messages can be sent to any part of the 1,800 miles of territory interlaced by its wires for the small sum of 25c, the only exception to this uniform rate being in favour of places within twelve miles of each other, the charge in such cases being only 15c.

It will, we think, be obvious that we in Canada enjoy, under a private Company, far cheaper telegraph rates, in proportion to distances, than prevail in Great Britain under Government management, and we think also that any one who has had experience in telegraphing in both countries, will bear us out in our opinion that we also enjoy a more efficient service.

We have understood that Sir Hugh Allan was greatly instrumental in bringing about this uniform rate. He had a conviction that the Company could earn a fair dividend at the low uniform rate and at the same time confer an inestimable benefit on the country at large and popularize telegraphing indefinitely. In spite of warning notes of protest and disapproval from every Telegraph Company on this continent, his opinion remained unchanged, and he succeeded in impressing his convictions on his colleagues, the uniform rate was adopted, and the consequence is that to-day telegraphing from being as it were a luxury, has become a common necessary of life within the means of every one.

England's Debt and Wealth.

The whole national debt of Great Britain, amounting to $3,700,000,000, and all British municipal debts estimated at $500,000,000, are held by English capitalists. Bonds of other nations, including those of political and municipal subdivisions of other countries, are owned in England to an estimated amount fully equal to the total British debt. The debts of all kinds due to capitalists of Great Britain by the nations of the East yield, it is stated, $500,000,000 per annum, indicating at a general average of from six to seven per cent for interest, a principal $8,000,000,000.

Just so. Sir John A. Macdonald has for the last twenty years been sowing the wind and now he is reaping the whirlwind.

Ashfield.

COUNCIL MEETING.—An adjourned meeting was held at Alton's Hotel, Lucknow, on the 31st day of December, 1873. All the members present.