

THE HURON SIGNAL

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GODERICH, ONTARIO.

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By general admission it has a larger circulation than any other newspaper in this part of the country, and is one of the most valuable and interesting papers in Ontario.

TERMS:—In Advance, postage prepaid by publisher: \$1.00 for twelve months; \$1.00 for six months; 50c for three months.

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JOBS PRINTED:—We have also first-class jobbing department, including and planning the most complete set of lead and tin types for printing out work in Goderich, are prepared to do business in that line at prices that cannot be beaten, and of a quality that cannot be surpassed.—Terms Cash.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1881.

KINGABING harbor is down in the estimates of \$4,000 for improvements, and the Reporter signs that it was not \$20,000.

The Toronto Mail says:—"Mr. Farrow has a great disregard for the flimsy graces of oratory." So he has; so he has. But what amazes us is that the Mail's Ottawa palayer allowed so much truth to appear between the stripes of whitewash with which he coated the elongated representative from North Huron.—[Continued.]

SIE CHARLES TUPPER, who has been very low with inflammation of the lungs, is about to go on a three months' visit to the South of France, in the hope of being fully restored to health.

DAKOTA has been visited by a great storm, and in some portions of the State half the cattle have perished from cold and starvation. On Tuesday last, the first train from Chicago for forty days reached Pierre. The winter has been exceptionally severe.

HON EDWARD BLAKE will be banqueted shortly in Toronto. The affair will be an important one, inasmuch as it is expected that the leader of the Opposition will outline the policy of the party. We understand that it is Mr. Blake's intention to visit the Maritime Provinces during the summer. He will be grandly received by the sojourners by the sea.

The dilly-dallying of the Government in connection with the vacatorship of the Custom House of Toronto, is the cause of much comment. The ground, taken by Mr. Blake on the question, when it was discussed in the House the other day, was that as the House had been vacant for a year, either a collection or a new one for the year is not necessary. The Minister of Customs intimated that the Government would fill the vacancy as soon as it thought it necessary to do so, from which it may be assumed that the necessity has not pressed itself upon the Government. The office has been vacant over twelve months. It seems to us that if the present staff be sufficient to transact the business to be done for that length of time an additional official is unnecessary. It is evident that the place is being kept warm for somebody in the favour of the Government, or it would have been filled long ere this.

The N. P. boom is always in some other town, and the emigration from Canada to the U. S. is reported to be smallest in those papers furthest from the scene of the exodus. Even some papers published nearer home, like the Exeter Times, fail to see or hear of the rush to the Western States. That journal has the effrontery to state that but 5 per cent of the persons leaving for the West go to Manitoba. If that proportion were kept up in Goderich this year, the number of persons leaving this town for Manitoba would be close upon 1,000, or one fifth of the entire population. We are sorry to have to state these facts, but the mis-statements of the Government organs need to be corrected. It is nonsense for any paper to declare that for every man from Huron who goes to the Western States, twenty go to Manitoba.

THE BOERS are chiefly colonists of Dutch extraction, and are said to be a pious and thrifty people. They have much sympathy in their fight for independence, inasmuch as Great Britain is seeking to annex Transvaal against the will of its inhabitants. The sturdy stand made by the colonists cannot but command admiration, ever though the unfortunate troops defeated by them are our own soldiers. Some idea of the character of the Boers may be gathered from the following "national song":

Hands off! Stand back! Leave us alone! You shall not rob us of our own; We will be free! We will be free! God and the right shall our standard be. Our fathers' sweat and our fathers' blood Have soaked the ground on which they stood; Our mother's tears, our mother's toil, Have hallowed our best Africa's soil. This is our land! This is our land! Reclaimed by our good fathers' hand: Reclaimed by them, we claim it now. As guards made by the yeoman's plough. We ask but what is just and right, For shall it from our grasp be kept, For fatherland and freedom will we die Or live victoriously.

G. H. S. LITERARY SOCIETY.

The "Literary and Musical Competition" on Friday Evening last.

The entertainment given by the above Society, on Friday evening last, at the North St. Temperance Hall, was certainly one of the most successful and pleasing efforts of the kind to which we have listened for some considerable time, and much credit is due to the executive of the Society for the energy and discrimination it has shown in bringing to us an entertainment of this kind.

The hall was packed almost to its fullest capacity, and the very best of humor prevailed during the whole performance. The entertainment took the form of a "literary and musical competition," "sides" having been chosen from the members and ex-members of the society, and judges appointed to decide the questions as to which of the two had acquitted itself with most honor or credit.

The first "side" was led by Miss Addie Jenkins and Mr. R. Miller, and the second by Miss Henderson and Mr. G. Cobblestick; and Dr. Ure, Dr. Williams and Mr. P. Adams acted as judges on the occasion. The following is the programme presented:

PART I. Chorus—"All Together,"—Members. Reading—"The Island of the Scots,"—Miss A. Recitation—"Charles Edward at Versailles,"—Miss K. M. M. Recitation—"Tender Eyes of Blue,"—Miss J. Ferguson and C. Meldrum. Dialogue—"Selection from Julius Caesar,"—Messrs. McMillan and Hall. Duet—"The Swallow Homeward Fly,"—Misses J. Ferguson and C. Meldrum. Recitation—"Address to an Egyptian Mummy,"—Miss K. M. M. Reading—"The Old Piano,"—Miss C. Williams. Chorus—"Men of Hanoi,"—Members.

PART II. Chorus—"Dominion Hymn,"—Members. Reading—"Ballad of Breakneck,"—Miss S. Duet—"Merrill's Song,"—Misses J. Cooke and C. Selection from "The Lady of the Lake,"—Messrs. Davidson and Cobblestick. Dialogue—"Upward and Onward,"—Mr. W. Donald. Recitation—"The Polish Boy,"—Miss Maud. Chorus—"Marsellaise Hymn,"—Members. Full Chorus—"Auld Lang Syne,"—Both Sides.

It cannot, we think, be doubted that this Society is doing an excellent and important work among its members, for whatever of time or attention may be diverted through its agency from the dry text-book work of the pupils attending the High School, it will be amply repaid for by the increased zest which the school relaxation from, or variation of, employment will lend them. So much of the sustained "grinding" work which the pupils of this school unfortunately require to perform is enervating, and a variety of employment, although it may not reduce the actual amount of work performed, has a healthful and recuperating effect. A glance at the above programme will show at once how difficult a task its sponsors had laid out for themselves, and of course it could not be expected that amateurs, some of them of the freshest sort, would acquit themselves therein in a manner altogether satisfactory.

The Westminister Review for January, reprinted by the LEONARD SCOTT PUBLISHING CO., 41 Barclay St., N. Y., completes the present quarter of the four Reviews so regularly issued by the above-named house. Notwithstanding the competition of numerous other periodicals, both foreign and domestic, we have reason to believe that these same Reviews still hold a prominent position in the world of literature, from their intrinsic worth, as well as from the low price of subscription. We cannot suggest any better authority to which our views may turn for a record of the leading views on all sides of the principal topics of the day. The contents of the present number, which is an unusually full one, are as follows:—"The Progress of Shipbuilding in England";—"Plato as a Reformer";—"The Early History of Charles James Fox";—"The Irish Land Question";—"The Science of History";—"Afghanistan";—"Bimetallism and the Finance of India";—"India and our Colonial Empire";—"Contemporary Literature."

We especially recommend a perusal of the elaborate article on the "Science of History," which, taking for its text Draper's History of the Intellectual Development of Europe, seeks to give an answer to the question:—"Is History an exact Science?"

The Syndicate and the N. P. To the Editor of The Globe. Sir,—As an instance of the faith the people in this vicinity have in the "Syndicate and N. P.," I might mention that there was a meeting held in this village to-day by a large number of our farmers and farmers' sons to arrange about the rights and mode of emigration to the North-West. It was ascertained that 111 would start on the 22nd, and out of this number there was only one solitary individual who signified his intention of going; as far as Emerson; all the others are presently located in Dakota. I might further add that the party are taking about 100 horses, and that this is only the first lot that are leaving these parts, as other large parties are moving for the other side at later dates. This is what is going on within a radius of five miles of this place, and I understand this county (Bruce) and Huron are being vacated in a like manner. Is there no possible way of directing our people to our own North-West? Perhaps our friends who gave our country to the St. Paul Syndicate can answer this question. Yours very truly, JOHN TRENEVER, Chairman.

Lucknow, March 11, 1881. This forenoon several members of the city press met by appointment and presented Mr. C. W. Dedrickson with a purse containing \$50. Mr. Dedrickson leaves Toronto for the States, having accepted the position of manager of the Donaldson Theatrical Company. The notice which Mr. Dedrickson gave his brethren of the press was very short, the telegram summoning him away only having arrived yesterday, but for all that a number of newspaper men met to-day to give him a good "send off." The purse was presented on behalf of those present by Mr. Brooks, of The Telegram, in a few words, and after remarks from Messrs. Ross, Pirie, Brown, McLean, Kerrigan, Ald. Piper, Lowry and others, the company proceeded to the G. W. R. Depot and said good-bye to their brother Bohemian.—[Telegram.]

AWAY OFF IN THE WEST.

First Impressions of South-Eastern Dakota. From our own Correspondent.

The country is one vast rolling prairie, intersected by the Missouri, Big Sioux, James and Vermillion rivers. These are imbedded from 50 to 100 feet below the general level, affording excellent drainage to a large tract of country. The quality of the land, I should judge, is excellent; especially is this the case in the river valleys, which extend from one-half to six miles wide, of splendid alluvial soil, and generally quite dry. The upland is of a grayish colored surface soil, resting on a yellow clay, quite porous, very easy to cultivate, and producing the finest vegetation with the least possible amount of labor; and if the frequent and refreshing showers that bless Western Ontario could be given to this country, it would indeed be a paradise for farmers. But unfortunately, this country is too far West; too near the arid tract of central America; and lying between the wet and dry belts, very severe droughts often occur extending for six months, and the farmer sees his beautiful crops parched and withering fruitless upon the ground. So serious, indeed, are the drawbacks, that I have been credibly informed that a full crop has not been obtained oftener than once in five years.

The climate, as I have already hinted, is dry; the principal rains fall in June and July. The winters are cold, with frequent wind storms, but usually no great depth of snow. This winter there is about two feet, and the ground has been covered since the middle of November and still remains, these last days of February; but I am told this is very exceptional, and usually the ground is nearly bare, and frozen very deep, preventing the cultivation of fall wheat, and I am afraid of clover also.

The supply of running water is limited entirely to the rivers; there are almost no brooks or springs. The underground supply is strongly alkaline over large tracts. But the great and paramount difficulty here is the almost entire absence of timber and coal. The only timber I have seen or heard of is a soft wood called cotton wood, and no better for fuel than poplar or basswood, and this is only found on the islands and borders of the Missouri river. To a Canadian's eye, it seems exceedingly cold and bare to pass over hundreds of miles without seeing a tree larger than a man could carry on his shoulder. But to me, the bleakness of all bleak objects, is the 12 x 16 house of the new settler, no barn, no shed, no orchard, no fence; nothing but a lump of straw, the snow two feet deep, the frost at 30° below zero, the wind howling, and the nearest neighbor, one and often two miles away over the trackless prairie.

Stock raising has been gone into largely, but this winter has materially lessened the enthusiasm of stockmen, as large numbers of cattle have perished; but this loss could be avoided by the erection of proper sheds and by providing a sufficient supply of hay, which can be obtained in abundance for the mere trouble of cutting and stacking, and I have no doubt but stock raising will ultimately become the most profitable industry of the country. Sheep are also being tried, but I have not heard the results.

In consequence of the large number of railroads that are being pushed westward through this Territory, there is a wild speculation in building cities, as they call them here; but I am afraid very few of these will become cities indeed. This rush has the effect of producing a large amount of employment at high wages to mechanics and labourers during the summer; but the winter here is little better for employment than in Ontario, while board is generally from \$4 to \$5 per week. As usual, there is an abundance of store-keepers, and, as for clerks, I would not advise them to come here unless they can speak German or Norwegian, as a large number of the settlers are of these nationalities. Americans and Canadians are mostly found in the towns, although they own a quarter or half-section of land a few miles in the country.

But although there are serious drawbacks in this country, I do not forget that there were even more serious difficulties to face in the early settlement of your own highly favored Ontario. There the settler had the mighty forest to face, to carry his first year's provisions on his back ten and fifteen miles through the forest, over creeks and fallen timber and through swamps, while here he can hitch up his prairie "schooner" and drive right to his location, unhitch his team and start his plough, plant his potatoes and corn, living in his wagon all summer if he chooses; plenty of grass for his stock and plenty of excellent hay to cut for winter use, with railroads almost everywhere at easy distances, and no roads to make to get to market. But a settler must have means, say \$1,000, or he will have to hire out to make it, and if he has a family this will be no easy matter.—W.

Saltford Tailoring.—Saltford has long been wanting a tailoring establishment, and Mr. McLaren has determined to supply the need. He has opened out next to the Union Hotel.

SPALLION.—Mr. J. O. Stewart, has sold a fine two year old stallion to Mr. Leahan, of the Union Hotel, for \$350. It is not necessary to cross the ocean to get a good horse nowadays.

About Wire Fences.—Port Hope Guide: There cannot be the least doubt that if our rural municipalities were able to compel owners of land adjacent to roads that were liable to become blockaded in winter to take down their fence or build one of wire, that a great boon would be conferred on the travelling public.

BRUSSELS.

CURLING.—A match was played at Listowel, on Monday last, between 3 rinks of the Brussels and 3 rinks of Listowel curlers, which resulted in favour of Brussels by 13 shots. The following is the score:

LISTOWEL. RINK NO. 1. W. Clime, R. Laidlaw, W. Bell, P. Scott, G. Galloway, F. Scott, Geo. Ford, J. Campbell, Skip, 25. RINK NO. 2. R. McMillan, C. R. Cooper, J. J. Hamilton, A. Wilson, R. Ferguson, R. McKinnay, W. F. Clarke, A. Morris, Skip, 19. RINK NO. 3. D. D. Campbell, A. Stewart, A. F. Clime, A. Cosens, F. Sharp, A. Veal, J. Coutts, J. Webster, Skip, 18.

STUPID DEATH.—Mr. Alex Stewart of the late firm of Scott, Stewart, blacksmiths of this place, died rather suddenly on Tuesday afternoon. Mr. Stewart has been incapacitated for some time past by the cause of death being attributed to dilatation (or enlargement) of the stomach. He has been a prominent member of I. O. O. F. for a number of years.

CARNIVAL.—A carnival came off in the Brussels Rink, last Monday night. A number of elegant costumes were to be seen, and the arrangements throughout were complete, which reflects great credit on Thos. R. Smith, the manager.

FOR KANSAS.—John and Robt. Nott intend starting for Kansas on Thursday next. They take with them four valuable horses for stock purposes, and should the country harmonize with their expectations, they will locate there at an early date.

A BRUTAL FIGHT.—A few days ago Alex McKenzie, 6th concession, Kincardine, and a young man named Evans, of the same township, engaged in a brutal and bloody fight in Kincardine. It appears that the same two had a fight at Armon, on the Agricultural show day, and that their blood had not cooled down even yet. During the fight which took place the other day both were badly used up. McKenzie had his thumb chewed, his face cut, eye blacked and back of his head gashed. Evans secured two black eyes and cuts too numerous to mention.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The Meeting of the Central School Board on Monday Evening.—Principal's Monthly Report.

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Board of Public School trustees took place on Monday evening last, the following members being present: Messrs. Crabb, chairman, Buchanan, McGaw, Swanson, Cooke and Ferguson.

THE PRINCIPAL'S MONTHLY REPORT for February, which was as follows:—The number of pupils attending the Goderich Public Schools during the month was 732, of whom 402 were boys and 330 were girls.

The following table shows the number on roll, the average attendance and percentage of attendance in each Division:—

Table with columns: Teachers, No. on roll, Av. att., P. Cent. av. att. Rows include W. R. Miller, Miss Trainer, Bond, Blair, Hoover, Harries, Sleigh, McMahon, Traquair, Longworth, Jamieson, Drummond, Cassidy.

After it had been read, the Chairman submitted the question as to whether it should be advertised.

Thereupon some discussion took place, the opinion being expressed by one or two of the members that this abstract report should be published, in order that the public might be advised of the use to which the Board had put its money. A majority over-ruled this opinion, however, and on motion of Mr. Cooke, seconded by Mr. Ferguson, the report was simply received and filed.

A COMPLAINT. Mr. Cooke stated that the caretaker of the Central School had informed him that certain of the boys attending that school were in the habit of returning after the school had been dismissed and rifling the desks. The mode of operating of the boys was this,—instead of passing out at the door when being dismissed for the night, they turned into a stairway leading to the cellar and remaining there till all became quiet; they then returned to the rooms and committed the offense mentioned above. Instructions were given to have the stairway leading to the cellar so secured that it would be impossible for egress to be made there.

The Principal reported that Miss Traquair had been ill and that he had substituted Miss Trainer during her absence. Board then adjourned.

THE ERA OF PADS. The Pharmacist thus pithily exposes the folly of the modern mania for medical pads:—"We refer not to the foot-pads, who are indeed, plentiful enough, but to those little specimens of medical upholstery now hawked about for almost every ill that flesh is heir to,—instead of philosophizing here who were wont to hold up the temporary success of the Perkins' tractors as an example of a superstition once prevalent among the people, and to congratulate themselves on the intellectual superiority of the age, stand in amazement as spectators of a repetition of the folly of faith. Already we have 'lung pads,' 'kidney pads,' 'headache pads,' and of course will soon have 'head pads,' 'stomach pads,' 'warm pads,' etc. Ere long we may expect enterprising firms to advertise as complete a line of pads as they now do of elixirs or sugar-coated pills. The padites or padies appear to believe that remedies permeate the body, as do bullets, in a direct line, regardless of teguments, tissues, or circulating fluids."

If anything further was wanted to show that the N. P. is a rich man's tariff, we need only point to the last amendment of it which reduces the duty on fine folks' satins to 25 per cent., while cotton, which is in universal demand by the poor, remains taxed as high as 40 per cent.

VICTORIA HALL.

ONE NIGHT ONLY.

SATURDAY MARCH 5TH.

THE FAVORITE. COOL BURGESS and COMPANY.

General Admission 25 c. Reserved Seats 50 c. To be had at Moorhouse's Book Store.

MANITOBA EXCURSIONS. Greenway will start another EXCURSION TRAIN on WEDNESDAY, 16TH MARCH, 1881.

CONNECTING with the one over G. W. R. same day. Concentrate at CENTRALIA, FREIGHT MONDAY BEFORE.

APPLY TO THOS. GREEWAY, Centralia. or to W. H. WHITE, these Agents, Kincardine.

CHANGES in fat afternoon at their church.

STOLEN.—was entered party, and taken there.

On Saturday residence of Jos. Richard destroyed fire originated the second stovepipe, were at home were saved, headway, insurance, 1 considerable last spring. There was Howick Ca.

PROPERTY estate of the 25th ult.; a Wm. Messall for \$400 Wm. Epple farm to the Bluevale Leach for T. A. Mills at Bluevale The prices notably for the selling

are busily wood and materials for this summer.

HYMEN which put occurred inst., at a K. M. E. W. Wheatlan G. McKee Donald E united i After par the wedd by "hippi the mar that of th couple p Dakots

OLD—sold his: Morrish, Bessie Bethel Rev. T. Maple mence i made o in gener we will "SHIRAZ

The fe successful ments o written during t Class Stewart Class Morrish Stevens C. O. O. Class Scott, B art, 497 art, 486 Class Moore, Vanstot Chas. J Chas Church LeTaux