Huron Signal.

GODERICH, - Jan, 26th, 1871.

VOLUME XXIV.

This number of the WEEKLY SIGNAL begins the twenty-fourth year of its existence—a lease of life of which no country journal need be ashamed. In both town and county numerous other sheets have fretted and fluttered for a limited period and then expired; but still the SIGNAL notonly exists but "renews its age like the eagles." Are we egotistical in believing, in the words of a stirring English song, that

"There's life in the old dame yet!"

And why do the people support the SIGNAL? Because it always has been, as it ever will be while we control it, in sympathy with the steadily advancing spirit of progress; because every hand that, from our seat, has wielded the "grey goose quill" has done so, as we promise to do, in the interests of the people; because every plan for the development of the material resources of Huron has been and will be here fostered, aided and encouraged; because, unpurchased and unpurchaseable as without boasting we can claim to be, corruption in high places is exposed and honest, liberal and economical government persistently fought for; because every opinion is conscientiously formed and honestly expressed, without fear or favor; because, in short, the SIGNAL has been and is the consistent exponent of enlightened public opinion and the persistent advocate of 'the greatest possible good to the greatest possible number.' Having thus thought and written *for the people*, it is only fair that we should live and prosper *by the people*. Individually we have only a five months' record to point to. It is not a long time, but it is long enough to satisfy us—and we are grateful to be able to say so—that we have passed the critical period of a change of management, not only without loss, but with a clear and distinct gain. Some have deserted what the sweet singer of Ashfield has called 'our standard good, old Huron's local' but others have stepped into their places and more besides, and we do not despair of bringing all old supporters, even though Goderich is not as in times past their market, back to their allegiance, and rallying round the "standard" hundreds of others. We have to confess that our sheet is not as large as it ought, or as we desire it, to be. We endeavor in the meantime to make up for this by using small type, condensing the news, and fixing the subscription price at *the low figure of* ONE DOLLAR. This being considered, we give *more reading matter* for the money than any of our contemporaries. Having now, as the phrase goes, "felt our feet" in connection with the enterprise, we think we can promise our patrons that, before this volume has run its course very far, we shall be able to present them with a sheet they will have no fault to find with in any respect. As we desire the advancement of the interests of the country, not only by our opinions, but also by *the publication of the people's opinions*, a reasonable portion of our space will always be available for short, pithy and well-considered letters on questions of the day, and particularly questions of local importance. Wishing specially to cultivate the department of LOCAL NEWS we shall be glad to receive a weekly record of events from correspondents in all sections of the county—only remarking that in news above all other things "brevity is the soul of wit." We are obliged to those correspondents who are now sending us regular bulletins and before the month is out we expect to have no part of the county unrepresented by one such. While it is of great importance to us to receive such correspondence, we would impress it on our readers that they should take a pride and pleasure in giving publicity to the facilities, industry, enterprise and progress of the localities where they reside, as in doing so they may amongst other advantages accruing induce fresh settlers (and capital as well) in that direction which (and we refer particularly to villages) but for their information, weekly kept before the public, might very probably have floated elsewhere. A contemporary, the *St. Mary's Vidette*, so aptly expresses our views on 'local newspapers' that we cannot do better than reproduce the following article:—

"A master passion is the love of news.

Not music so commands, nor so the Muse:
To news all readers turn, and they can look
Pleased on a paper that abhor a book."

"So Crabbe says; and he must be a crabbed and illiterate fellow indeed, who would 'go back' upon such wise and truthful verse. There are somewhere between 14,000 and 15,000 newspapers printed in Europe and North America, which are supposed to have a regular patronage of 40,0000,000, and the casual reading of as many more. Probably one-half of the mental bone and sinew of the social and political world of these two continents is directly moulded or controlled by the Press; while those classes who permit no journals into their houses, are as clay to the potter, in the hands of the intelligent and thoroughly informed. Aside from being the best educators and guides of families, the local paper, especially, is an absolute necessity to the county and community where it is published. All the city papers in the world cannot supply the place of the home paper. That should be the first-love of every man and woman, for with the paper is the locality identified.—The paper gives the county and town where printed much of their importance in the word, and gives in detail the local news, which cannot be obtained by any other source. Every week's paper is so much local history, and the rise, development and growth of the town and county can be measured and recorded only by the local newspaper that is constantly recording its items People do not always appreciate their home newspaper. They measure the value of a paper by the number of columns it contains. The home paper, at any price, is the cheapest paper one can take. Although the number on our own list dozens and scores of men who had never before welcomed a newspaper [illegible] into their dwellings, and while many journals from a distance circulate in our midst, it is a lamentable fact that a very large proportion of the community are still as destitute a Fejee Islanders."

North Riding of Huron.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The Annual Meeting of this Society was held, in the Orange Hall, Clinton, on Thursday the 19th inst., at 1 p. m., Humphrey Snell, Esq., President of the Society, in the chair. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. The Directors' Report and Treasurer's Abstract (which we shall give next issue) were read and adopted. A communication was read from the Provincial Association requesting Secretaries of Local Societies to be careful to give representatives appointed by them to the Provincial Society properly authenticated credentials. The following officers were elected for the current year:—

Humphrey Snell, President.
W. J Higgins, 1st Vice do.
R Gravenlock, 2nd Vice do.
S Malcolmson, Secretary.
M McTaggart, Treasurer.
R. M Racey and Nicholas Robertson, Auditors.

DIRECTORS.—T Taylor, E. Wawanosh; W O Fowler, Tuckersmith; J J Fisher, Colborne; R Cole, Hullett: Joseph Rye Goderich; James McMichael, Hullett; C Morrow, Clinton; John Mason, Hullett; and Charles Proctor, Morris.

It was agreed that the Annual dinner be held in the end of February next, the details to be arranged by the committee.

South Huron Agricultural Society

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Directors of the above Society, met at Shaw's Hotel, Kippen, at 10 a. m., on the 18th inst. The most of the officers, and Directors present. The business of the past year was settled up. The Books submitted to the Auditors, Messrs. R. Brown, Esq., of Zurich, and Geo Jackson, Esq., of Egmondville—and the annual Report of the Directors for the 1870, prepared and adopted; which finished the Directors of 1870, and the meeting broke up.

At about 2 p. m., the annual meeting of the members was held in the same place. There was about an average turn out of members, and the meeting was organised by the President, Geo Anderson, Esq., taking the Chair. The minutes of the last annual meeting were then read by the Sec'y, approved of by the meeting, and signed by the President. The annual report of the following Branch Ag. Societies, viz: Tuckersmith, Stanley, Hay, the Usborne and Stephen Union, and the Goderich Horticultural Society, were then received. The annual Report of the Directors for 1870 was next read. The salient points of the Report were, that during the past year the Directors had held a spring Show for Entire Horses and Bulls, and had paid out for Prizes at the same, $94. Also a Fall Show had been held at which $376, had been paid out for prizes; and a Plowing Match at which $247 has been awarded in prizes. The very handsome sum of $518.75, had been received by the Society in donations and contributions. The total receipts for the year had been $1356.88. Total expenditure $1309.76, leaving a balance on hand of $47.12. Upon the said report being read, it was unanimously resolved that it be received and adopted.

The meeting then got to work to elect Officers and Directors for the current year. Upon regular motion, each nomination being separately moved and seconded, the following gentlemen were duly declared elected Officers and Directors for 1871, viz: President, re-elected, Geo Anderson, of Stanley; 1st Vice President re-elected, Arch Bishop, of Usborne; 2nd Vice Pres., Wm Bell, of Tuckersmith; Secretary, re-elected, Hugh Love, sen., of Hay; Treasurer, re-elected, E Crosswell, Tuckersmith; and for Directors, James Dickson, Goderich Town, Wm Wise, Goderich Tp, Thos Simpson, Stanley, Wm Wilson, Hay, Richd Manning, Stephen, Jas Pickard, Usborne, Jas McLean, Tuckersmith, and Dr Coleman, and M Y McLean, for Seaforth, and also that R Brown, of Zurich, and Geo Jackson, of Egmondville, be re-elected Auditors for 1871. A communication in the shape of a circular, from the Hon Mr Skead of Ottawa, complaining of the manner in which the selection had been made of the place in which to hold the Provincial Exhibition for 1871, was read by the Sec'y. Upon motion, a committee of five was appointed to consider the matter, and report to the meeting in half an hour. Upon motion, it was carried unanimously, That in future this Society retain one dollar for their next year's membership, from all parties taking prizes of two dollars and upwards. The committee, on Mr Skead's circular, then reported, that whilst this Society regrets that irregularities have occured, as stated by Mr Skead, we still think it would be injurious to the best interests of the Agricultural Association to disturb the vote as taken. We are also pleased to observe that the Council of the Ag. Association have taken steps to guard against irregularities, such as those complained of, for the future. Upon motion, the report of the committee was adopted, and the Secretary instructed to send a copy of the same to the Hon Mr Skead. The President was then voted out of the chair, and Dr Coleman, by motion took the same. A vote of thanks was then carried unanimously to the President, for the manner in which he had performed the duties of his office during the past year. The President briefly thanked the meeting. Moved by G Jackson, sec. by T. Simpson, that the thanks of this Society are due and are hereby tendered to the Secretary and Treasurer, for the care and ability they have manifested in carrying out, and fulfilling the duties of their respective offices. In introducing his motion Mr Jackson, complimented the said officers, and concluded by stating that it always gave him great pleasure to look over their books—motion carried unanimously. The meeting then dissolved.

After the business meeting, the company assembled adjourned about 7 p. m., to the dining room, which was very handsomely decorated with evergreens for the occasion. Mr James Shaw, the obliging host, had prepared a splendid dinner; two large tables literally groaning with substantial supports of turkey, goose and juicy joints while were a very pleasant exchange for the dry, though necessary, details of business. Mr Anderson, President of the Society occupied the chair, and Mr Bell the vice-chair. At the request of the chairman, an impressive grace was said by Dr Coleman and "fall to" became the order of the day. The sparkling eyes and unremitting attention of the host testified his satisfaction at the gusto with which the hungry guests entered on the labor of love and rapidly demolished the well-vivers. The appetites of the diners gave out long before Mr Shaw ceased his solicitations to be allowed to replenish empty plates. The cloth having been removed and all kinds of drinkables supplied, embracing according to Mr Shaw's rapidly rehearsed catalogue, "whiskey, brandy, rum, gin, wine and raspberry," letters of apology for absence were read from M C Cameron, M P; Isaac Carling, M P P., Professor Buckland, Mr Massey (Massey Manufacturing Co.) and Mr. Benjamin Bell, of St. George. The absence of Mr James Dickson, Director of the Society, was also apologized for, as the duties of his office were at this season specially onerous.

Mr. Anderson then said all knew the object of the gathering. It was to give each other mutual information on subjects relating to the advancement of the interests of Agriculture. He hoped although the distinguished men from a distance, expected here as speakers, had on this occasion failed them, those present would speak freely and stick to the subjects allotted to them. He then proposed the toast of the "Queen" which was drunk with enthusiasm [illegible] General. The next toast from the chair was the "Volunteers;" and the gallant fellows, who bravely turn out to defend our hearths and homes, in the hour of danger, would have been inspired with fresh courage and new incentives to deeds of heroic daring, if they had seen and heard the genuine feeling which the toast evoked. Major Coleman and Capt. Jackson replied in happy terms, recapitulating the story of the resistance to Fenian aggression from Ridgeway to Pigeon Hill, and expressing the assurance that if ever a foeman should again desecrate our soil not only would the volunteers rush to the front, but every man, woman and child in the country would be ready to back them up. Mr. Carmichael sang very sweetly the pathetic song of "Castles in the air" which was followed by an admirable agricultural, ballad very happily rendered by Mr. Wm. Bell.

The "Agricultural Interests of Canada" came next on the programme, coupled with the names of Messrs R. McMordie, R Manning, W Wilson and H Love, Senr. Having been duly honored the speeches of the respondents were called for. Messrs McMordie and Manning thought they were entitled to plead their youth as a reason why, in the presence of so many 'grave and reverend (agricultural) signors,' they should not be the first to broach this important subject. Mr. Wilson came to listen and not to speak. Mr. Love, though neither the last nor laziest, had been suffering from bronchitis for six weeks and under the hands of Dr. Coleman and begged to be excused; expressing his regret at so many, well able to instruct the meeting, being so backward. After the capital song of the "Maple Green" by Mr. Dick, the "Commercial interests of Canada" were toasted, coupled with the names of Dr. Coleman, Mr. Jackson and Mr. James Pickard. The Dr. made a very eloquent tracing the wonderful ramifications of modern commerce by which every region under the sun is made tributary to every other region and paying a deserved tribute to the energy and enterprise of Canadian Merchants. Mr Pickard followed in a few remarks, and Mr. Jackson spoke of the new markets we had found for ourselves since the abrogation of the reciprocity treaty, expressing the hope that we should soon be restored to friendly commercial relations with our neighbors. Mr Dick delighted the company by singing "Tibbie I has seen the day" in an inimitable manner. "The Railroad interests of Ontario coupled with the names of Mr W Wilson and Mr Brown followed. Mr Wilson remembered Huron 30 years ago when the pioneers could reach their intended locations only by following the Lake shore. In those times the taxes were only 50 cents to 30 dollars as present. But the farmers were better able to pay the large amount now than the smaller then. By and bye the Grand Trunk Railroad came here and then we had to build Gravel Roads to take us to the Grand Trunk. Where, however, there was not competition there was apt to be imposition. He was up to Goderich the other day and he saw 30 or 40 teams come to the market at one time with pork and when he came down to Seaforth that market was crowded also. The Grand Trunk did not give sufficient facilities for shipment. The consequence was that the stores home near the large markets were crowded beyond their capacity and as produce could not be shipped as fast as it came in the farmers did not get the price they should. He hoped they would get the new Road from London here soon. Mr. R Brown said the Londoners were determined to build the road. The leading merchants had already contributed $50 each to raise the $5000, which would probably be required for preliminary expenses. He thought they had a pet route of their own which they would come to Huron to advocate as soon as they had got it surveyed. But as they could not build the road without Township bonuses if that route would not be supported they would agree to build the one that would. Mr. Charles Whiteman very musically expressed his displeasure "At the fellow (wandering somewhere around the neighborhood of Kippen) that looks like him", which likeness involved him in all manner of scrapes; after which the "Agricultural Prospects of Huron" were drunk to and Messrs Anderson, Oliver Wilson and Ramsay asked to reply. Mr Anderson made a few appropriate remarks as a settler of 26 years standing on the progress which had been made, since he threw in his lot with the County; the labor-saving machines which has been invented, and there is reasonable hopes we might entertain of largely increased prosperity in the future. Mr. Carmichael appropriately struck in with the ditty "Let us live by the Way" and Mr Dick followed in "Erin's Isle." The next toast was one of the most important of the evening, viz:—"The importers of thoroughbred stock" coupled with the names of Messrs Taylor, Manning and Love. Mr. Love was ashamed of the farmers that they could not pick up something to inform each other upon, in the absence of the big guns. He had little right to reply to this toast, as he was not like some others an extensive importer of improved stock. What little his means would allow him, he had endeavored to do. Shippers of rough cattle had lately lost money, as such fetched only from 4 to 6 cents per lb in the Buffalo market the other day while good stock in Guelph fetched from 12 to 14 cents. The breeding and importing of good stock were intimately connected with our future prospects. The wheat crop had failed, not so much from midge as blight and a cloud seemed to hang over the farmers of Huron. There was too much borrowing going on. From his own experience he believed one-third of the farmers were under mortgage. He did not say that discourage any one but to incite all to make an extra effort to get rid of incumbrances. The manufacture of butter and cheese and the raising of beef stock all par; while the course of cropping they necessitate will recuperate the impoverished soil. All we want to dispel the cloud hanging over us is perseverance energy and letting wheat alone for a time. In New Jersey, 24 years ago they had exhausted farms as did we have. The farmers bought their bread and turned their attention to dairy and stock. After 10 years seeding and pasturing, they again sowed wheat and raised the heaviest wheat crops in the Union. America imports cattle largely from us and strange to say Cochrane is importing back from Canada. A short time ago cattle buyers were over here as far as from Utah. We are getting to have a world-wide reputation and let us cultivate it. Dr Coleman treated the company to "The bald Orish gentleman" which he rendered with a beautiful bogue and then proposed "Local Manufacturers and Mechanics" coupled with the name of Mr Matheson of the *New Era*, that gentleman replying in an able and exhaustive speech.

To round us not to go too far Mr Carmichael sang, in a very pathetic manner "The Drunkard's Ragged Wean", which was received with much acceptance. The President then proposed "The Press" coupled with the names of Mr Young of the *Signal* and Mr McLean of the *Expositor*, these gentlemen replying. Mr Love rendered the "Cane of Gourie" with much feeling. The toast of "Municipal Institutions" was replied to by Mr. D Wanless, Mr T Simpson and Mr R Brown. Mr. Wanless thanked the proposer for coupling his name with the toast, although many others better deserved it. He thought our local matters deserved more attention than any others at our hands. We had a good system and we should take care not to mar it by local jealousies. Mr Simpson considered the choice of our Municipal representatives of much more importance to us than our parliamentary representatives. According as those affairs were well managed would be the prosperity of the various Townships. He had always tried to do his duty and was pleased to think he had the confidence of his municipality. Mr Brown and Municipal matters in Hay went along famously. He was proud [illegible] 6 years in succession. The only trouble he was the constant changes in the Municipal Law, almost one every session. It would almost take a Philadelphia lawyer to follow them. After Mr. Carmichael had sung "When the kye cam' hame" Mr. Young proposed the "Directors of the South Huron Agricultural Society", which was warmly drunk, Mr Anderson replying. Mr Wilson proposed "the Kippen Reaping and Mowing Society" coupled with the name of Mr R McMordie; who in reply said it had now been in existence 7 years, doing a good work in giving farmers an opportunity of judging of the various new machines at work, which was the only thorough test of reliability. Mr Shaw replied to the toast of "Host and Hostess" like a sturdy Briton. If the company only enjoyed themselves he did not care whether he made money. He had done his best to make them comfortable and would do so whenever they thought fit to honor him with their presence. After singing "Auld Lang Syne" with hands linked in true fraternal fashion around the board, the meeting broke up at three o'clock in the morning; all having enjoyed themselves immensely.

THE BIBLE SOCIETY.—We would draw attention to the fact that the annual meeting of the Bible Society will be held in St Andrew's Church on Friday, 27th inst, at 7.30 p. m. The Rev St. George Caulfeild, agent of the Society, will be present to address the meeting, as well as clergymen of the locality.

Municipal Law.

We have on our table an overgrown volume of 405 pages, purporting to be an act to consolidate and amend the law respecting Municipal Institutions in Ontario. From the appearance of the thing we should say it was rather an attempt to multiply, expand, complicate and prevent the possibility of ordinary people understanding anything about, municipal enactments. If any County Councillor who feels lonesome and finds it difficult to pass the evenings of this week in a pleasant manner away from the loving wife of his bosom and the lovely olive plants that are growing up around his table, we shall have pleasure in lending him this volume; guaranteeing that if it does not enchain his enraptured attention and make the hours pass like minutes, it will at any rate lull him to sleep and purchase conduct to pleasant dreams. As the Reeve of Hay well said at the Annual Meeting of South Huron Agricultural Society 'it would take a Philadelphia lawyer all his time to follow the changes in the Municipal Law." We think the 'collective wisdom' of the County, in Council assembled, might do worse than officially protest against any more crude, undigested and indigestible legislation in regard to Municipal Institutions. The cost to the Province of this ponderous draft of a Bill that may never pass into law would be an interesting enquiry.

Getting Wild.

When the *Star* is cornered and cribbed it is very apt to get wild and overstep discretion. Last week that organ was content to answer for its f. *No* nit is prepared to say that the Census Commissionership has not been applied for by nor promised to "any individual whatever." This is claiming a very intimate acquaintance with the contents of governmental pigeon-holes, which we should have thought only confidential Secretaries likely to possess. How does the *Star* come, to be so well-versed in the matter? Are you quite sure Mr. *Star* that a "high joke" was perpetrated on us, or won't you be candid and say that you did *expect* the Census Commissionership; that you did *make an effort* to get it; that you were *disappointed* when you found it was not coming to yourself but even worse when you thought it might fall to a deserving townsman; and that it was not John A. but Sandfield you felt was ungrateful for all your arduous services? It is dangerous to confide even in one bosom friend! We are not afraid to prophesy, that *some Poolsnap* has just got the office! and we should not wonder if it turned out to be *the very Poolsnap* who lately, as we said before, came up to stroke the *Star's* ruffled feathers; and of whom our soft-voiced cotem would be prepared to say that next to the *Star*, *Poolsnap* is the man for Macdonald's money. We shall see!

I. O. O. F.

HURON LODGE, No 62—The installation of the officers of this Lodge, for the ensuing half year, took place in the Lodge room on Thursday evening, 20th inst. The ceremony was conducted by M. W. D. G. M. Gibson, of Stratford and W. D. D.G. M. Barnes, of Mitchell, Brother Corey, of Stratford acting as W. G. M. The following were the installed:—

Bro. Robert Hogarth	N. G.
" Isaac E. Tons	V. G.
" Daniel Campbell	W. R. S.
" William Donaghy	W. P. S.
" W. T Hays,	Treasurer
" F Lawrence	C.
" W Armstrong	W.
" George Cox	Chaplain
" Thomas Huckstep	O. G.
" M Hardy	I. G.
" D McKenzie	R. S. S.
" Lisham	L. S. S.
" Beck	R. S. N. G.
" Inglis	L. S. N. G.
" Sloan	R. S. V. G.
" McPhail	L. S. V. G.

The Brethren adjourned to Bro. Bingham's Restaurant, where a very handsomely got-up oyster-supper was ready for them. After supper, the chair being occupied by Bro. Hogarth and the Vice-chair by Bro Tons, racy speeches were made in response to the various toasts, excellent songs were sung, and a very happy time was spent. This Lodge is becoming strong and prosperous; now numbering about 50 members, although only 6 months organized. Every week witnesses the introduction of good, sound, material into the membership and it may reasonably be expected, as M. W Bro. Gibson said that Huron Lodge No 62 will become one of the star-lodges in the Ontario jurisdiction, and a leading propagator of the principles of FRENDSHIP, LOVE and TRUTH.

Board of School Trustees.

The Regular meeting of the Board was held on Thursday evening the 19th inst, all the members present. The newly elected members, viz: Messrs. Detlor, Crabb, Ferguson and Swanson took the usual declarations of office and their seats. A Lefroy Esq, was re-elected Chairman of the Board for the current year. W Mackay, Esq., was elected Secretary. The following Curators were appointed, viz: Mr Jas Bisset for the Central School; Mr Robt Dott for East St and St David's Ward Schools and Mr T Neaton for West St. School. The following gentlemen were appointed the Committee of Contingencies for the current year, viz: Messrs. Crabb, chairman, Swanson and Nairn. The appointment of Local Superintendent was laid over. An application from Professor Oakley, for the use of St. David's Ward School for lecture purposes, was received and filed.

Town Talk.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL MEETING.—This meeting took place on Monday evening, 23rd inst., when the Church was quite filled. Mr. C. Crabb occupied the chair in his usual happy manner. Addresses were delivered by Revds. E. W. McKay, A. E. Griffith, Seaforth, and James Seivright, Goderich. Some good music was sung at intervals by Mr. Parker's juvenile choir, and a very pleasent evening was spent.

INGLIS'S WOOL FACTORY.—We are glad to hear that this firm has just received and is preparing to fix up a quantity of new manufacturing machinery, in all their departments; and they will now be able to do custom and merchant work to better advantage and more expeditously than heretofore.

TOWN COUNCIL—The regular meeting will be held in the Town Hall on the evening of Friday, 27th inst.

SHOCKING!! on Sunday, about 11 p. m., our wakeful citizens experienced two distinct and heavy "bumps" as if some was using a battering-ram against the door or side of the house, and the more sleepy-headed thought that one or two of their children had fallen out of bed or that the eave-trough had yielded to the frost and burst. Morning after, thoughts lead to the conclusion that we have again experienced a slight shock of earthquake, so universally was the sensation felt. Our contemporaries will probably enlighten us. Between 1 and 2 (Tuesday) morning a number of citizens had a similar experience. Is the millenium really coming?

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.—The usual annual services of the New Connexion Church will be held this year as follows:—Sermons on Sabbath 5th Feb. and Tea Meeting on Tuesday 7th. Further particulars by and bye.

THE HON MALCOLM CAMERON will lecture in town to-morrow evening at 8 o'clock and on Sabbath at 3 p. m. the subject on the latter occasion being 'Christian Temperance.' Bills will be circulated giving the place of meeting. The veteran Temperance Reformer will be worth hearing.

WESLEYAN SOCIAL.—The social given by Mrs Allen, on Tuesday evening last was a very successful affair. Rev. W. Smyth delivered a short address; John Moseley Esq., recited a very beautiful poem of Schiller's; and Mr. T Jordan read an original essay. Capital Music was supplied by Mr and Mrs Clark, the Misses Trainer and Messrs Thomson and Harry Smith.

The Band played at the Skating Rink on Wednesday evening, the music was good but not quite enough of it to please spectators and skaters The ice was in good order, and the young folks seemed to enjoy themselves amazingly. We were glad to see such a large attendance of ladies and gentlemen (skaters and spectators) as both Band and Skating Rink ought to be encouraged.

EXTRAORDINARY VITALITY.—A sow belonging to Mr. J Towsley of Colborne, was lost in a snow drift, on the 27th of Dec, On the 12th of January, the thaw released her from her snow prison after remaining for sixteen days in the drift. She came to the barn-yard of Mr. E Man adjoining, and was quite lively searching for food, and from appearance might probably have lived a week or more without any After being taken home and fed carefully, she has quite recovered.

CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE.—On Sabbath afternoon, the Hon Malcolm Cameron lectured in the Court House, to a large audience, on 'Christian Temperance.' He insisted that it was the duty of every Christian to abstain from anything by which a weaker brother might be made to offend or stumble; that the authority of the Bible condemned the use of 'strong drink;' that the voice of science as represented by such distinguished men as Professor Miller and Sir J. Y. Simpson was against it; and that each one of the audience in his and her own experience had seen the baneful and melancholy results of indulgence in alcoholic liquors; all having known some of our brightest intellects and warmest hearts who had, in consequence, wrecked both mind and body and gone down to dishonored graves. We regret that the crowded state of our columns prevents us from giving a *resume* of the vigorous, logical and pointed arguments of the eloquent, welcome lecturer.

ENNISKILLEN SALT CO.—We hear a company of 8 townsmen have associated themselves under the above title, for the purpose of boring for salt on the property of Mr Robert Gordon, at the old Railway Station. We hear the contract for the derrick has been let to Mr Geo Graham, and for the boring to Mr James McCourt, Go ahead gentlemen! This property is very suitable for this purpose, as it commands a leading road and we presume a switch can easily be obtained to the track, so that all teaming will be saved; which is a very important item.

THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF HURON.—meets this day (Tuesday) in the Court House, on the arrival of the mail from the east.

MINUTES OF HAY.—Crowded out of this issue.

W. B. AMBERLY.—We are not forgetting to write, but our removal has turned us upside down.

SKATING CARNIVAL.—Mr Gooding announces a grand dress carnival at the skating rink on Friday, 27th inst. The Brass Band will be in attendance and commence to play at 7.30 p. m. Skaters will have a gay time and spectators will witness a pleasant and brilliant sight. Turn out in force!

PENNY READINGS—We would remind lovers of literary recreation that the Penny Readings take place in the Temperance Hall on Friday the 27th inst, at 7.30 p. m. A capital programme is being prepared and we hope to see a large audience.

NEW CONNEXION SOCIAL.—The Social on Friday evening 20th inst, was a very pleasant and successful affair. Quite a large gathering assembled and after a Rev Mr. Smyth took the chair Mr. Young then read N. P. Willis's powerful poem "The Leper" and the Rev W. S Blackstock made an interesting and instructive speech. Pleasant music was discoursed at intervals by young ladies connected with the congregation.

A TRUMPING HAGGIS.—Mr who desire to make or renew acquaintance with the "great chieftain of the pudding race" will bear in mind that a giant specimen is to be seen and tasted at Carmichael's Hotel Seaforth, on Wednesday, the 25th January.

AN OLD FRIEND.—We are very much pleased to see that our old, esteemed townsman Mr. J. A. Mackelar, formerly of the Commercial Academy, has been appointed Principal of the St. Mary's Common Schools. We are sure he will do credit to the confidence of his supporters at the Board of Trustees, and we wish him very great success in his new and useful sphere of labor.

Great Western and Wellington Grey and Bruce Rail Roads.

BRANCH TO KINCARDINE—The following important letter has been received by Mr. Thomas Gibson of Wiarton, from the Great Western R. R. We have pleasure in the interest of the important section of the county concerned, in giving it all the publicity we can.

HAMILTON, Jan. 19th, 1871,

THOS. GIBSON,
Chairman of the Delegation.

DEAR SIR—We have the pleasure of advising you that after carefully considering the proportion of your delegation to give a Bonus of $6000 per mile for the construction of a Railway from the Wellington Grey and Bruce to Kincardine, we feel fully justified in recommending the scheme to the attention of our Board of Directors as one that will be mutually advantageous to the County to be served as to the Great Western and Wellington, Grey and Bruce Railway. In the meantime we trust you will take the necessary steps to promote the passage of the By-Laws without delay.)

Yours faithfully,
JOSEPH PRICE, Sec-Treas.
of Canada Board.
W K MUIR, General Superintendent.

FELLOW'S COMPOUND SYR. OF HYPOPHOSPHITES will not only supply the waste going on in the brain, but will enable the mind to endure a greater tax than before. It will impart vigor and promote clear conception to the intellect. It will strengthen the nerves and give power to all the involuntary as well as the voluntary muscles of the body.

Price $1 50 a bottle, 6 for $7 50. Sold by apothecaries and by F. Caulfill & Co., wholesale agents Montreal.

TWO QUESTIONS EASILY ANSWERED. Why should we worry with colds? Because they are great protection to the throat and lungs, and add much to their perfect appearance. Why should we use "Bryan's Pulmonic Wafers?" Because when used for coughs, colds, bronchitis, throat and lung diseases, they act like a charm. Ministers and Lawyers, use them, physicians recommend them, and singers and public speakers say they are the very best medicine in existence for the cure of such complaints. Sold by all medicine dealers, at 25 cts. per box.

LUCKNOW.

On Saturday evening of last week a meeting was held in the Town Hall, to hear the report of the Delegates that were sent to Hamilton to learn concerning the standing of the W. G. and B. Railway Company; and of the course that company intends to take in South Bruce. The meeting was well attended, and among the rest was Mr Dyas, civil engineer, on the L. H. and B. line. This gentleman had the brazen audacity to push himself into notice, though he well understood that he was no way concerned in the business to be transacted. It was moved and seconded that Squire Parris take the chair, and that Mr Cliffe be Secretary—both motions were unanimously carried. As Mr. Dyas felt such an itch 'to let his joys be known' it was resolved that he first occupy the floor. The speaker began by stating in substance that on account of so many lines running to other markets, London was obliged to build this line in order to secure a portion of the trade. Showing evidently that personal interest was their actuating motive, and not the development of the country through which the line might pass. However, as it is evident from the Municipalities that the company would have to bridge over for the want of bonuses, the scheme need not trouble men as it is more likely to be a thing of heaven than one of earth. He stated that Kincardine was the objective point as the merchants of that place already made it their market, and that the people of that place and Huron Township would give it their warmest support. Mr Dyas stated they were likely to be *the* chosen company as they were about to receive from the government one third of what would build the road, and that the city of London, notwithstanding their inability to discharge their indebtedness to the Municipal Loan Fund, were going to grant a bonus of $100,000. He also stated that the Route in view was free of hills—that their right of way would cost them little or nothing, and that they were promised already $4,500 per mile from London to Wingham. If these statements are all true the question is where are they going to spend all their money? As Dyas vouches they are going to have no CHAMPAGNE SUPPER!—As a guarantee that all this and more too would be done in post haste, he referred to the standing of the wholesale and retail merchants of London. He continued this strain until he exhausted his superfluous gas. He wound up by waving imaginary missiles at the W.G. and B. Co, and their working that the merest tyro in railway tactics could ward off if real without exertion. From his display of bank bills it was thought by all that he possessed more money than argument, he proved this while speaking, and he satisfied himself of the fact before he left the house.—So much for the "Wild Irishman." The delegation, which consisted of Messrs. Somerville, Campbell, McIntyre, Andrews and Murray, stated that they got on the W. G. and B. road at Alma and were in Hamilton in a very short time where they were very kindly entertained by the directors of that road. They were next introduced to the directors of the great Western road and were by them acquainted with all particulars, the latter showed them their very extensive engine shops in which there were some 51 men employed, doing all kinds of work connected with the road. From the Correspondence they were shown, it has been the intention of the Great Western, for some time past, to render them any assistance they require in prosecuting their work in Bruce. In a word, Mr. Muir stated that if there can be a reasonable bonus secured in South Bruce, that they would go on with the work, and have it completed in two years from the time of granting the bonus. Now it is understood that the Reeves of the North intend to assist those of the South in obtaining a County bonus and in all justice they should do so, therefore there can be no doubt that a branch of the broad gauge will be secured on the Southern survey, and thus settle the much agitated question of railways in Bruce.

OBITUARY.—It is with feelings of regret that the decease of Mr. Jas Henderson, 1st Concession of Kinloss, is announced. His death took place on Friday last in the presence of a number of his neighbors. Deceased was a bachelor of some 50 year of age, and he returned, I understand, to the last in complete possession of his faculties. He was a native of Scotland, and came to this place some twenty years ago where he remained till the time of his death. He was one of the earliest settlers in the locality, and by frugality and industry amassed a nice property. His mortal remains were interred in the burying ground at South Kinloss Presbyterian church, on Monday 16th inst, and were followed to the place of burial by a large number of the neighbors.

The Gravel Road Debentures

REPLY TO MR. T. M. MCMICHAEL.

To the Editor of the "Huron Signal."

SIR—In the issue of the *Expositor* of 12th inst., I observe a long article over the signature of Mr. Thomas McMichael, setting forth, first, that he had vanquished the Market "fee" question in regard by the *goodness corporations of Goderich and Seaforth*. As I don't intend to take up time or space in discussing that question; as I think enough has already been said about it, let it rest on its merits. But, sir, I wish to put him right in a few other matters more particularly connected with County Improvements, and the Northern Gravel Road By-Law. The reasons he gives for voting against the purchase of said road are:—"the Town of Goderich built the road as a speculation from which they expected to receive large dividends, and had they been realizing 20 or 40 per cent on their outlay they would not have requested the farmers of Huron to purchase it from them." Now Sir, as to this last clause there is not a word of truth in it, as to the Town going into it as a speculation; neither did the Town build the road; that assertion is also untrue. The facts are these, the Municipal Corporation of the Town lent to a Joint Stock Company the sum of $60,000, taking a Bond of said Company for $[illegible] with interest at six per cent, allowing them a Bonus of $[illegible] in carrying out the work; the Company put in of their own money $20,000 making in all $80,000. From this statement of facts I would ask the Hullet philosopher, if $40,000 was not enough for the Town and Company to lose, besides the accrued interest on the above sum which amounts to over $20,000 more, making in all $100,000. For the truth of the above statement I would refer any rate payer in the County to John Bell Gordon, Esq., Secretary of the Northern gravel road company who resides in Goderich. Again sir, although the philosopher is a very wise man in his own *conceit*, still, I am prepared to show that his statements with reference to the disposition of the $400,000, borrowed for building the County gravel roads, are incorrect and not true. My worthy friend will be taken by surprise and shocked, when I tell him that all the share the Town got of the $400,000 was $2,568, which was spent in improving the Bridge hill, in this Municipality. I ask was the above sum an equivalent for this corporation which paid the highest County rate of any Municipality in the two counties for many years before and after the above amount was borrowed, which I am prepared to show? The Town of Goderich A. D. 1855, was assessed for County purposes as shown in June minutes of that year for the sum of $6903,00, whereas the united Townships of Hullet and Morris for the same year, were assessed at the sum of $3241,00 showing a difference of $3752,00 which this Town paid over and above both Municipalties. This state of matters continued until the year 1859 when the *grasping* Town of Goderich got some redress. The next matter I shall touch upon is the expenditure on the Maitland Bridge. He says for building and repairing the said Bridge and Bridge Hill cost this County the further sum of $35,-874; this statement is also incorrect, as a By-law was passed in A. D. 1853 by the United Counties to raise by debentures the sum of $22,000 for the erection of the Maitland Bridge. Now, Mr. Editor, I am prepared to show that the County of Bruce paid their full share of the above sum. Then again in 1856, a further sum of $10,288,00 was put in the estimates for the same purpose, a full share of which the County of Bruce also paid. Then for the cost of reconstruction of said bridge in A. D. 1863, the amount was raised by direct taxation, so that not one dollar was taken from the $400,000, borrowed in in 1857 for the building or repairs of said bridge. I say again that all the Town got out of the gravel road debentures was $2568. In the year 1869 the Town of Goderich paid to the County as interest and sinking fund on the above debentures the sum of $3247,70, being $689, more than we received altogether out of the fund. Now Sir, I will just see how the same account stands with the *Philosopher's* own Municipality; it got out of the above Debentures the nice little sum of $38,600 and paid for interest and sinking fund in 1869, the sum of $3025,93, being $221,77 less than this Town paid in same year which only got $2568 as their portion of the $400,000. My worthy friend tries to show that the Municipalities of Ashfield, Colborne and the Town of Goderich got collectively the sum of $69,042, which he says is $7546 more than their just proportion. Now Sir, I am prepared to show that all these Municipalities got out of the above mentioned sum was $29,536 as shown in the June minutes of 1869. I will here ask the question how he came to leave out West Wawanosh, a Township that got over ten miles of its front gravelled by the Northern gravel road company, and all it received from the above mentioned debentures was $2,400. I would ask was this an equivalent for a Township of forty two thousand acres? I would now ask the Philosopher was it through ignorance or duplicity, that he left this Municipality out in the cold, which got more of its front gravelled by the Company than the Township of Ashfield. Now Mr. Editor I think I have said about enough to satisfy any reasonable man that had the gravel road By-law passed, no injury or loss would have occurred to the County as the road was valued by two