Huron Signal.

GODERICH, FEB. 17, 1870.

Weekly Signal is only $1. a year. Semi 2.00.

Cheapest paper in Huron.

OUR INCREASE.

We are happy to say that the reduction of the price of the Huron *Signal* (Weekly) to $1.00 a year in advance has brought in a large influx of new subscribers already. The dollar is a most convenient sum to remit, and hundreds will pay it at once, who would not go to the trouble of making up the extra 50c in stamps. We are heartily sick of the old credit system, and we feel that the cash *down* will be better for us in the long run than a promise to pay $1.50 or $2.00 which is in so many cases unfulfilled. While we have made this great reduction, it is our intention at the sametime to the *Signal*, in every respect, better than make ever before,—if energy and enterprise can effect that object. We trust our many friends throughout the country will do us the favor of sending in the name of at least one new subscriber with their respective subscriptions. If they send ten or twenty all the better.

Can it be True?

The Ottawa *Mail* brings a direct charge against a prominent Canadian statesman which should be thoroughly investigated at once. It is as follows:—

"The rascally conspiracy of which it (the rebellion) was the direct fruit has yet to be exposed. *Sir George E. Cartier was the heart and soul of the rebellion at Red River*, and we distinctly charge him with having caused the whole trouble, by setting an underhand current to work, for the purpose of establishing a purely French Government at Winnipeg. Mr. McDougall, in his Almonte speech, vaguely referred to this fact, but had not sufficient courage to tell the whole truth. Long before any idea was conceived of opposition being offered to the entrance of the Lieut. Governor into the territory, Sir George E. Cartier, through his emissaries, had set the hall of disaffection rolling, and diligently circulated those absurd stories which he knew would rouse the jealousy of a simple people who were entirely devoted to that peculiar class of men to whose support the Honorable (?) Baronet is indebted for his position and power.—The conduct of Sir George was reprehensible in the extreme; but as it only formed a part of his scheme for ousting Sir John A. Macdonald and getting the supreme control into his own hands, we do not wonder at him going to almost any lengths to secure his object."

THE DINNERS.

The Reformers of Perth entertained Mr Edward Blake, M. P. and M. P. P., at a public dinner in Stratford on the evening of the 10th. The affair was a grand success. About 400 sat down to dinner.—Mr. Blake's speech was a master-piece of eloquence and logic. The principal points he made were in regard to purely constitutional legislation and no partizan vetoes. Despite what has been said by the *Telegraph*, in its usual chaste style, Mr Blake showed that Messrs. McKellar and McKenzie were still staunch and true to their principles. His expose of bogus coalition movements was received with rounds of hearty applause. We regret very much that want of space prevents us from giving his speech in full as reported by friend Buckingham.

Poor old, effete Cornwall gave its saint, Sir. John S. a feed on the evening of the 9th. Of the gathering, the Ottawa *Mail* says:—"The whole town was full of sleighs and Macdonalds. In fact, we only saw one rural constituent out of 400 whose name was not Macdonald, and his name was Donald McDougall."

His speech was, as usual, fragmentary, diffuse, illogical and self-glorifying. We propose, however, to declare our disbelief in the report that he made use of oaths in its delivery, or that he wore a shirt collar stiffer, higher, or more formidable than usual on the occasion

In the course of his speech on Thursday night Mr. Blake thought proper to deal with what he termed the 'No-party cry' at considerable length, attributing to the manner in which it was taken up by the people the success of the Government in the last elections. Now, as the 'no-paty' principle owes its paternity to the *Free Press*, it is natural that we should feel somewhat anxious that it should not be misrepresented or overstated."

Oh, Crickey! Mr. *Free Press*. As if everyone of your readers does not know as well that "No-partyism" is merely a cloak for the rank toryism you are ashamed to avow openly! For shame!

TABLE SALT.—In our humble opinion there is a grand opening in Goderich for the manufacture of fine table salt. Of course, a fair fine salt is made by the present process of production, but to enable us to compete with the best Liverpool and Syracuse "table," it will be necessary to set up machinery for kiln drying and crushing. This machinery would not be at all expensive, we believe, and there is not a doubt but it would be a paying operation. If properly ground up for table use, Goderich salt would be unsurpassed by anything of the kind in the world, and there is no doubt it would meet with a ready sale. Let some of our salt men think over the subject.

INTERFERING.—A gentleman in Goderich who, above the signature of "D. D.," corresponds with the Orangeville *Mercury*, has in the last issue of that paper put his oar into the County Printing matter—a subject of which he (wheever he is) evidently knows as little as a bivalvular lamellibranchiate does about the Mosaic Cosmogony. He would have acted more sensibly if he had put the case plainly to brother *Mercury* and let him judge for himself.

INSURANCE CHANGES.

The Provincial Insurance Company have appointed as manager, the well known Mr Arthur Harvey, the author of that valuable work of information, the *year book*, and for some years the active head of the Statistical Department at Ottawa. Following this appointment we are pleased to note the selection of Captain C. Y. Fortier of Toronto as general agent. Captain Fortier is personally known to almost every master who navigates our inland waters, not only as an insurance agent, but as a practical navigator himself, an experienced wrecker, and an equitable valuator These two popular appointments show that the Provincial is determined to do a large and careful business in the ensuing season.

J. C., ZURICH.—Your lines will appear next week.

The Silver Difficulty.

Traders who are compelled, by competition, to take pay for their wares in depreciated American silver, and remit wholesale merchants in gold, have been crying out for years for relief. The same cry has been echoed by all who have been paid for their produce or labor in the same fluctuating medium, and who have had to settle with postmasters, tax-collectors, banks, land agents, mortgagees and others, on a gold basis. No doubt, there has been good ground for complaint, and a remedy is imperatively demanded. Mr. Weir's exportation scheme has, in a measure, but only for a time, reduced the depreciation, and is far from being a "perfect cure." Sir Francis Hincks, with a view to having his name carried down to posterity as the financial benefactor of his country, has published a scheme, a summary of which we gave in our last issue, which he thinks will obviate the difficulty. He proposes to export from the country $3,000,000, at certain fixed rates of discount, to coin a million into Canadian Silver and, after a fixed date, to make it penal to pay American Silver at higher rates than 20 per cent discount; in the meantime issuing a fractional paper currency to supply the vacuum.

A certain air of plausibility overhangs this proposal, which has led even some business-men astray far enough to welcome it as a sound principle of legislation.

The vital question is: Do we or do we not require, for our ordinary necessities of exchange, the amount of coined money in our midst, at present represented by American silver. Every one, at all acquainted with the extent and wants of Canadian business, will at once answer, yes!

This is apparent from the fact, that since further importations were prohibited by a tariff, and Weir has begun exporting, the discount has fallen to 2 per cent; which shows conclusively that the quantity presently in the country is absolutely necessary to the proper moving of produce. And no dealer would object to pay a larger discount *once for all* than be subject to a continual deduction, of even only 2 per cent, on every amount he has to change into gold.

The next question is: If we send the American silver out of the country, will the proposed Governmental issue of fractional currency, or 'shin-plasters,' be an equally satisfactory substitute for it? We unhesitatingly answer, no!

To supply the want of $3,000,000 American silver exported, and the temporary want, while being coined into Canadian silver, of $1,000,000, of this, the Government would have to issue fractional notes of $1,000,000 and would probably also issue the ordinary Dominion notes to the extent of $2,000,000. We disapproved, from the beginning, of the issue of any Dominion notes, without a genuine and everywhere accessible, gold or silver basis. The credit of the country may be sound enough and make an excellent foundation of a currency for purposes of internal commerce. But suppose we had a serious misunderstanding with our neighbors, or any party in power was indulging in a course of reckless extravagance, what would be our relation to the markets of the new world, if the worth of our paper was based on nothing but the value of the Crown lands? We deprecate further progress in the same false direction. If we do not take care, we may by and bye find ourselves placed on the very unsatisfactory greenback footing of our American neighbors and our international credit injured in the same degree as theirs; accompanied by the inevitable demoralisation of periodical "gold corners." We hope our reform brethren will protest against allowing our Government to proceed further in a policy by which they can, by a little hole-and-corner dealing, keep themselves liberally supplied with funds, by issuing Dominion notes, without requiring to ask for Parliamentary allowances. If we consumed all our own produce at the best market prices of the world and manufactured every article we required at the cheapest rates, and had no commercial intercourse outside; these Dominion 'promises to pay,' would perhaps answer as well as gold and silver and be more easily handled. But, while our own markets and the markets of the world are interdependent on each other, it ought to be our object to secure an ever-increasing supply of the most universally acknowledged and least fluctuating mediums of exchange. Let us therefore employ the Government to *strike our coin* but endeavor to keep them from going further into the business of banking than they have already done. It is very easy, for a nominally redeemable paper currency to become practically irredeemable, when it is issued by a Government as a legal tender, only convertible at one, or two places in the entire country.

The 'shin-plasters' proposed would be practically such an irredeemable currency; very liable besides, as Yankee experience has shown, to be counterfeited.

What can be done to keep, within the country, the American silver at present afloat in Canada, and at the same time obviate the fluctuations it has been subject to and the constantly recurring losses it occasions?

We would humbly suggest that our Government should begin to think of American silver, as so much bullion, fresh from Mexico, and treat it accordingly. Let the Finance Minister arrange with the Banks to gradually purchase American silver, at all their agencies for a percentage, *with the Canadian silver which they have at present in their coffers;* fixing the discount at a rate sufficient to cover the bank agency, the cost of coining the necessary amount into Canadian silver, and the expense of purchasing gold with the balance, to be struck into coin of various convenient denominations. If this were Sir Francis Hincks' policy, we would say, by all means, fix a day, after which it would be penal to pay or accept American silver of a higher value than 20 per cent discount.

If once we had a good supply of gold and silver coin in Canada, with the impress of the beaver on it, we would have a starting point from which we could begin to correct some of the banking fallacies into which we are drifting.

THE NEW PROPELLER is progressing fast and will be completed in time for the opening of navigation. Practical hands say the wood-work is an excellent job and they would not be afraid to be out in the vessel in any storm. The boilers and machinery were to leave Buffalo yesterday, (Monday) and will be here about Wednesday. We understand Capt. Rowan has engaged to go as master of her; Byron Wilson, Purser; and Mr. Lee, engineer; all formerly of the *Silver Spray*. We believe Messrs. W. Seymour & Co. will be managers.

THE COUNTY PRINTING.

We have read, with extreme pleasure, a long article, in the *Expositor*, of 11th inst., professing to answer our exposure of the overcharges made by the proprietor, on the County Council, in his printing accounts for 1869. We have to call the attention of the Council to the fact that, notwithstanding any amount of puerile special pleading, not one of the grave charges preferred by us has been explained or rebutted.

The *Expositor* says that if our accusation is true, "the proprietor is a defrauder of the deepest dye," and complains that we did not in "plain English" call him so. When we wrote last, we were charitable enough to suppose that his accounts might have been erroneously rendered, through ignorance. We find now *on his own showing*, that his acs. were *willfully cooked*. We repeat that our measurements of the advertising done by him are correct, and according to the usage of the press; that our calculations are fair and just; and, our accusation being true and open to the strictest investigation, the County Council is, in duty bound, called upon to sift the matter to the bottom, that Mr. Luxton may be either exonerated of all blame, which is impossible, or set down at his own contingent estimate of himself, and branded accordingly, which will be the inevitable result.

The *Expositor* accuses the *Signal* of a "*wilful* blunder" in presuming that the printing committee based their calculations, of the tenders received for 1869, on the previous year's requirements. Granting (which we are not prepared to do without further information) that our supposition was incorrect, the fact remains that the *Expositor's* bill for work done exceeded the *Expositor's* tender by $259.31; $140.07½ of which excess were occasioned, not by the performance of extra work not included in the tender, but by fraudulent measurement of space used in advertising and other kindred manipulations. We do not think we are uncharitable in supposing that, when such an overcharge is made on work that can be tested, the remaining $119.23½ of excess are easily accounted for by a still more elastic principle having been applied to the prices of work that cannot be so easily subjected to a test.

That the important matter of measurement may be clearly understood we reprint verbatim the *Expositor's* criticism of our investigation, into the charge made by him for printing the Schedule of Convictions for March:—

"The *Signal* takes in hand the Schedule of convictions, for March and by a method, more cunning than honorable, shows that it contained 674 lines. But, herein comes the discrepancy, in measuring for us the *Signal* very shrewdly (?) and contrary to usage calculates on the length of a line of our ordinary news measure, perfectly regardless of the actual number of columns in one of those schedules, which, by the way, is *nine*, whereas our generous (?) friend makes it *four and one-fourth*. To any person sufficiently interested, a very little calculation will suffice to show how much of an overcharge was made by this method of reckoning. This explanation applies, substantially, to all the other schedules"

The County Council will notice that a page of the *Expositor* contains just 5 columns, both in the advertising and news department. Does the *Expositor* think the County Council so gullible as to believe, that every time he introduces a rule into the middle of a column he has a right to make them pay for two column's space? We wonder what the *Expositor's* ordinary advertisers would say to such legerdemain. The *Expositor* has the barefaced impudence to say that because the form of the schedule of Convictions requires to be divided off by a certain number of rules he has a right to charge for 9 columns when the space occupied by the Schedule he refers to is only, according to honest measurement, which even he does not dispute, 4½ columns. He has, moreover, the audacity to say that his elastic guage is according to 'usage.' When an honorable newspaper proprietor tenders to advertise at so much per line, he means by a line a space the width of his ordinary column set in the type which he professes to make the standard of his prices.

The *Expositor* justifies the excessive size of type he used in the 1869 minutes, for the purpose of spinning out the number of pages and getting an extra price, by saying that the Council ordered the same type for 1870. We appeal to the Council whether the minutes printed by the *Signal* were not always sufficiently readable. The fact that the Council was pleased to be a little extravagant for 1870, does not justify the *Expositor* in the petty piece of trickery by which he succeeded in getting for 1869 more pay than he would have secured by using a reasonable size of type. Would the Council have suggested the use of this large type if they had known the true state of affairs? We think not.

We are at a loss to understand his so-called explanation with reference to the charge he made for advertising "Lands for Sale for Taxes." He seems to say that the Treasurer asked him to tell how much the advertising would cost per lot. The *Expositor* cannot use the "24-inch gauge." He "deduces" and "estimates" and imagines, and charges accordingly. Thus we find that the price he asked for advertising the Tax Lands was not reckoned by the space used for that purpose but characteristically lumped—the result as usual being an overcharge on the Council. The insinuation that the *Signal* ever spread this advertisement over unnecessary space is false, and we defy him to prove it.

'For work faithfully performed we *will* charge,' says the *Expositor*; yes and for work not performed at all, we must respectfully add. This 'work faithfully performed,' is the few sheets which he printed, of the Schedules of Conviction, for Mr. Linn's office. The type being all ready set up, these sheets, for paper and press-work, would not altogether cost the *Expositor* half-a-dollar, and for this he mulcts the Council in the sum of $14.00. Perhaps this is not a large amount but it would repair a culvert or two, and fill up a nasty hole in a road; being thus much better employed than going into the *Expositor's* pocket for work not performed. The *Expositor* has the bad pre-eminence of being the first publisher in the County of Huron to perpetrate such a piece of meanness.

We ask the County Council to keep out of sight, altogether, the attempt which the *Expositor* makes to confuse the question by asserting, without proof, that if the *Signal* had got the printing for 1869 the result would have been higher than his cooked account. We do not assert that the *Expositor* has cut too much for the County printing. We are willing, on the other hand, to admit that he has reduced it to a non-paying figure. If the *Expositor* makes a contract we demand that he be required to carry it out to the letter. We maintain and have proved that he has, for 1869, overcharged the County Council.

On advt. Schedules of Convictions	67.91½
On "sale of Lands for Taxes	25.06
On printing Minutes	33.10
Sheets Schedules of Convictions &c	14.00
Total overcharge (other work excepted)	$140.07½

The *Expositor* concludes, 'we hold ourselves responsible to the County Council for the due and faithful completion of our County Printing Contracts.' He has appealed unto Cæsar, unto Cæsar let him go. When the Audit Committee enter upon the examination, we expect them to ask all the publishers of the County to appear before them for examination.

THE GUNBOAT.—The repairs to the *Prince Alfred* are making fast progress, and will be finished in due time. The forecastle is being fitted up in excellent style, with 18 bunks, for the crew and fireman. We venture to say, no crew on the lake will have equally comfortable and commodious quarters. The compartment for the marines contains 39 berths, with plenty of space in the centre. The kitchen adjoining will be complete in its own way, with pumps, pantry and store-room, conveniently arranged. To protect the boilers against any damage from shot, in the event of an engagement, the coal-bunkers are to be carried along each side. The fire-engine has been removed from aft into the engine-room and can be used for three several purposes:—In case of a fire, to put it out; in case of a leak to pump the vessel dry; and in case of an enemy attempting to board, the hose can be led on deck to repel the boarders by playing hot water on them. On each side, at the end of the engine-room, a neat apartment is divided off for the engineer and the second-engineer. Then follows the mess-room, around which six state-rooms will be fixed-up for the officers. Of this portion no idea can be given until the decorations are completed. All the partitions are cleared off the deck, that the vessel may be worked, fore and aft, to better advantage. When completed, the *Prince Alfred* will be manned with six guns and iron-plated all over. She will then be a formidable defence to our coast. Mr, Simpson, of Toronto, the contractor, is performing the work in an efficient and trust worthy manner.

POLICE COURT,

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 9, 1870.

Mrs McCaig was arraigned before his Worship, the Mayor, charged with stealing a pocket-book, in Mr. Arthur Hamilton's store, belonging to Mrs. Fritzley. She pled not guilty.

Mrs. Fritzley, sworn.—Was in A. Hamilton's store yesterday afternoon.—Had a pocket-book when she went in. Missed it at the counter, there was a $5.00 bill in it and 25 cents in silver. Did not speak to Mrs. McCaig about it. There was no body went out but Mrs McC. at the time. Did not see her take the pocket-book.

Mary Jane Reid, sworn.—Mrs. McCaig got some change from Hamilton's boy and let some fall. She saw her pick up a black leather pocket-book. She thought it was her own, and took no more notice of it. She thinks she walked away at once. She was standing beside Mrs. McCaig. She could not be mistaken in Mrs. McC.

Master W. C. Cox, sworn.—Does not know Mrs. McCaig. Saw a woman pick up a black-purse in Arthur Hamilton's store. Does not know who the woman was.

Rev. A McKidd, sworn.—Was in A. Hamilton's store yesterday afternoon. Mrs. McCaig and Mrs Fritzley were there. Mrs. McC. was paying for some goods she got. She left the place she was standing in, went a little further forward, and bent down. She immediately left. He saw Mary Jane Reid there and heard her make the same statement she did now.

B Hazlehurst, sworn.—Was Auctioner at A Hamilton's yesterday afternoon. Mrs. McCaig was there the whole time. He missed Mrs McCaig; and after she had left, Mrs. Fritzley said she missed her pocket-book 'a moment ago.' He stopped his sale and went for Mrs. McCaig as Mary Jane Reid said she saw her take it. She denied having taken it and said what she stooped down for, was her handkerchief; which she said she had over her arm. This she had not. It was not 5 minutes from the time he missed Mrs McC. till Mrs Fritzley said she had lost her purse. Mary Jane Reid said at the time that she saw Mrs McCaig pick it up.

B Tranor, sworn.—Went to Mrs. McC. house and advised her to give the purse up if she had it. She said she had not got it, and all she stooped down to pick up, was a 5 cent piece.

His Worship said he was compelled to send Mrs McCaig to trial. He felt convinced of the truthfulness of Mary Jane Reid and on the strength of that he was sorry to be compelled to commit her. He was willing to accept bail, Mrs McCaig in the sum of $100 and two sureties in $100 each. Mrs. McCaig (after being warned that anything she said would be taken down) protested against his Worship taking the evidence of such a young girl against her. His Worship said he had no doubt of the truth so far, and however slim the evidence, was compelled to act on it.

DANGEROUS.—On Friday last the wind suddenly shifted to the East from the N. W., parting the lake ice from the shore line. A number of our fishermen, not wishing to lose their tackle, took boat, crossed the open space of water, anchored to the ice, and proceeded to their nets and lines. After toiling for some hours they got them up, but after wading almost waist deep to where the boats were, they found that embarkation was a hazardous experiment. Some of them had to throw away tackle and fish in order to save their lives, which they all succeeded in doing, we are glad to say.

ACQUITTED.—Mrs. McCaig, charged with the larceny of a purse, dropped by a Mrs. Fritzley, was brought before the County Judge in Interim Court, on Monday, and acquitted—the evidence not being deemed conclusive.

NEW CONNEXION ANNIVERSARY.—We omitted to notice that the pleasure of the evening was very much enhanced by the excellent singing of Mr. R. Parker and his juvenile choir. Considering that he had not been training the children for over a week, their performance was very creditable indeed.

MRS SIMMS CONCERT POSTPONED.—We are requested to notice that the Promenade Concert advertised, is unavoidably postponed, on account of the indisposition of Mrs. Simms and the absence of two gentlemen who had kindly offered to assist her. Due notice will be given of the date at which it will be held, and we hope then to see a bumper house.

THE NILE WESLEYAN M. ANNIVERSARY.—We have pleasure in noticing that a Tea meeting is to be held on Thursday, 17th inst., at 6, p. m. The Rev. W. H. Poole, Storer and others will give addresses.

SWEDENBORGIANISM.—The Rev. John Parker, of Toronto, has been lecturing in Sharp's Hall, Seaforth, on the Church of the "New Jerusalem." Seaforth gave him very slim audiences.

CLINTON.—A very successful skating carnival was held on Tuesday evening last. It was largely attended by representatives of Goderich and Seaforth, as well as Clinton.

REV. DAVID INGLIS' LECTURE.—All who want to hear an able lecture on a splendid subject, will keep themselves disengaged, and go to the Wesleyan Church, on Monday, at 7.30, p. m., when the Rev. D. Inglis, of Hamilton, is to discourse on "Dr. Chalmers." Let the audience be worthy of the lecturer and the subject.

THE FANCY-DRESS CARNIVAL.—We thought the last of Mr. Gooding's Carnivals, which we reported, was as successful as any display of the kind could be. Last (Thursday) evening's gathering eclipsed all its predecessors, both in numbers and style of dress. Clinton was largely and tastefully represented. The lady judges were Mrs. Gardiner, Mrs. Finlay, Mrs. Radcliffe, Mrs. Henry Horton and Miss McGran; and the gentlemen judges, Messrs. H. Gardiner, R. McKay, J. H. Finlay, C.E. Archibald and R. Edmonson.—After careful consideration the prizes were awarded as follows:—Lady, in best character, Miss Rebecca Elwood as "The Girl of the Period." Gent, in best character, Mr. Ord, as "Courtier in the reign of Charles XII." Girl, in best character, Miss Gooding, as "Topsy." Boy, in best character, Master Savage, as "John Chinaman." Mr. Crabb's prize, for the *worst* character was taken by John Barnes, as a "Dilapidated Bummer." We believe both spectators and skaters left the rink very much satisfied. The Battalion Band played in its usual excellent style.

NEW CONNEXION ANNIVERSARY.—The meetings of this body on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday last, were largely attended and realised a handsome sum. The Sermons, on Sunday, were preached by Revds. W. Tindall of Howick and D. Smith, of St. Mary's. The missionary meeting on Monday was addressed by Rev. Mr. Robertson, President of the Conference, Rev. W. Tindall, and Rev. Joseph Brown, of the M.E. Church in this town. The Soiree on Tuesday brought together a very large crowd and, in addition to the speakers last named, who made excellent speeches, the Rev. James Seiveright, of St. Andrews Church, also addressed the meeting in his usual interesting and vigorous style. The 'creature comforts were all that could be desired. We congratulate the new Connexion on the success of their meetings. A happy gathering, in the shape of a social, met on Wednesday to dispose of the 'fragments.'

Drainage of Swamps.

Mr. Weatherald, Engineer, left Goderich on the 15th inst. for the purpose of examining swamps in Grey and McKillop, with a view to their drainage by the department of public works Toronto. What about the Hay swamps?

WESLEYAN M. ANNIVERSARY.—We have to apologize for omitting to notice the Tea meeting in the W. M. Church in this town, on Monday 31st January.—The Rev. W. H. Poole delivered an excellent lecture on "Music," and the Rev. A. McKidd followed with a highly interesting and suggestive address on "Astronomy," embodying some of the recent discoveries in the science, and eloquently directing the attention of the audience to the Great Author of all. A very pleasant evening was spent.

ACCIDENT.—While the lady of Mr. Malcolm, Seaforth, was entering the door of her house, on the evening of the 8th inst., her foot slipped from under her and she fell forward, her head coming in contact with the sharp edge of the door-cheek, inflicting a deep wound in her forehead, an inch and a half in length. Dr. Campbell of Seaforth, was called in and dressed the wound, which is now doing well.

BLIND ASYLUM.—A deputation from Goderich, composed of Messrs, W T Hays, M. P. P., Isaac Carling, M. P. P., Dr. McDougall, Robert Gibbons, Warden, and J. S. Sinclair, had an interview with the Attorney-General on Monday. with the object of getting the Blind Asylum located in this town. The Town Council offer 50 acres of land for the purpose.

GODERICH TOWNSHIP.—A special meeting of the Council is to be held at Holmesville, on Monday, February 14th, for the purpose of appointing a Clerk.

Mary ann Smith, whose imprisonment in a convent, because she left the Catholic to attend the Methodist church, caused excitement a year or two ago, has escaped from St Mary's Convent at south Orange, N. J. She is now living under the protection of a Protestant family in New York.

REV. DAVID INGLIS' LECTURE.—We are requested to notice that the Sons of Temperance were unavoidably compelled to postpone the lecture on 'Thomas Chalmers' from last night, to next Monday evening, in Knox' Church at 7.30 o'clock. The Rev gentleman was as far on his way as Paris, but found that on his arrival by the Great Western, the Grand Trunk train, with which it is advertised to connect, had left We hope those who proposed to attend last night will be on hand, next Monday.

ASHFIELD.

PORT ALBERT Feb. 9th, 1870.

MY DEAR SIGNAL.—As you always take an interest in the wellfare of your readers, I hope you will lay before them, those few facts. You will remember the narrow escape from death of the pedler Smail, a few weeks ago, when Dougherty flung an axe at him. This village was again thrown into excitement on Monday, the 7th inst, when some fellows living four or five miles north of this, indulged themselves in drinking and gambling; afterwardsin quarrelling and threatening; and lastly two of them presented knives at each other. Whether they have any wounds, I can't say. I know one of them, the father of 7 or 8 children, went home with his vest and shirt torn to rags I wish such characters would stay at home, and give us peace. I earnestly hope the neighbours will seek to avoid their example.

Yours truly,

A SUBSCRIBER.

The Red River Convention.

The Convention met, as summoned, at Fort Garry, on the 26th ult. Riel spoke favorably of Mr. Donald Smith's commission and instructions. Mr. James Ross, also, advocated reconciliation to Canada. Mr. Smith was accordingly called in and received a warm welcome; Riel remarking that, now Canada had begun to treat them with respect, they were willing to meet her on fair and friendly terms. Mr. Smith then requested to know the terms the convention would propose, that he might be enabled to say how far he could promise to comply with them. Riel proposed a committee of three French and three English delegates to draft a proposal and the convention adjourned to meet again, on a future day, for its consideration.

Wonderful Phenomenon.

Goderich, Feb. 12th, 1870.

Editor Signal,

Dear Sir,—May I inform you that on Saturday morning last, at about half past four o'clock a most magnificent spectacle displayed itself over the heavens, from beneath a dense mass of dark clouds, in the south. The Aurora Borealis sent its flashing lights across the sky, like waves of the sea on fire, in variegated hues, similar to the beautiful colors of the rainbow, flashing continuously with a slight crackling noise, as I have before witnessed on only one occasion, in the year 1839, in the presence of Lord Seaton, a former Governor General of Canada. I may add that the Rev. Mr. Poole's lady, of this town, also witnessed this very beautiful phenomenon, which, after about thirty minutes, was swept away by a darkness covering the heavens until daylight.

Your obedient servant.

J. B. BLUETT.

☞ The funeral of Gen. Wyndham took place at Montreal on the 12th inst., with great pomp.

J. C. Mc., Bayfield—Sorry to disappoint you, but as your paper would be sure to create a religious controversy, which would be contrary to our general policy, even if we had room for it, we must beg, respectfully, to decline its publication.

LUCKNOW.

Feb. 4th, 1870.

To the Editor of the Signal.

On the 27th of last month, a letter appeared in your issue from Dr. Tennant, and my intention on reading it was to let it pass unnoticed. Many persons have urged me to reply, especially as the statements are incorrect.

It is a painful subject, and one that must be approached with delicacy, for the sake of the feelings of the living and in respect for the dead The depraved curiosity of the public is not the proper court in which such matters should be tried.

In reference to my letter. he says, it 'hails from one, who claims (whether justly or not. I cannot answer) to the medical profession." This, at least, seems strange as Dr. Mennant more than once has read over my license for this province, holding it, at the same time, in his own hand

As to his personal attacks and insinuations, I will waive all considerations, as beneath the dignity of a gentleman to heed, and unworthy of one to make. The removal of the tumor from Miss Savage's neck was more serious than taking off a thigh or an arm. You must be aware that such operations demand the presence of more than one medical man, when they can be procured, as unforeseen complications may arise, that one person is utterly unable to hold at command

Dr. Tennant says that his *crime* consisted in performing the operation alone.

Professionally, Mr. Editor, it was worse than a crime, it was a medical blunder, which resulted in death.

In reference to the size of the wound made, I stated on oath that it was about five inches long, and maintain it was so.

Dr. Tennant's statement about this point is extremely disgenious and unfair and I scarcely think he can be ignorant of the exent of his own operation. There was a cut externally about two and a half inches in length and a deep one extending back below the skin about the same length. I put my finger into it before his face, and he was looking at me here and then. As to his remark about my confounding the two cuts, one made by him and the other by Dr. McCrimmon, it was only for a moment I dip so, as the side of the neck operated on was turned to the wall, and I did not see it from the dimnes of the light. I had the body purposely turned, and Dr. Tennant assisted to turn it, and is well aware that I at once rectified my error

In his letter he states that there was no artery cut, and the bleeding was not greater than he expected.—Surely Dr. Tennant has given no heed to his statement. Now sir, I assert that he did cut more than one artery or two, not as a matter of opinion but as a fact. I heard Mr, Patterson on his oath swear that about a quart of blood flowed from the wound. Where did this blood come from? Could such a quantity flow from uninjured vessels? Could a deep incision large enough to remove a tumor as big as a duck egg, be made in the most vascular part of the neck, without cutting some arteries? It is simply impossible. Was the arteries secured that supplied the tumor? It was impossible for Dr. Tennant to secure arteries that he was utterly unable to see, in the hole two inches and a half deep, and further, did not secure those he might, according to his own statement He should have never closed the incision till he had the arteries tied. He should have had no cavernous opening, but have been able to see whence the blood exuded. How many cut arteries there were in the whole two and a half inches in length, no one knows.

I again state that Dr. Tennant or any other medical gentleman could not be justified in operating alone in such a case when others, to devide the onus, were so easily obtained.

In his reference to my looking at the neck of the deceased, I beg to remind him that I did so in the presence of Mr. Patterson. I used no knife in removing the clot, and had no idea, whatever, that there would be an inquest, but as the wound looked strange, I was anxious to see it, and used not a particle of violence about it. His insinuation about the manipulation of the thyroid gland, is at least unfounded, uncourteous, and a matter at which I can afford to smile

Dr. Tennant does not thank me for my lenity and kindly informs me of my duty on my oath. I was ever taught to lean to the side of mercy, when on my oath, but let me remind Dr. Tennant in his own words, that "a fair, honest, open and thorough investigation" of this matter, especially before a reasonable jury, might end in a verdict very different from the first one.

It is extremely unseemly, such letters as these from one professional man to another, and especially over the dead. Our relatives have been bereaved and writing on the subject. I feel, can do no good, now nor call her back from the grave.

You shall not probably hear from me again. Mr Editor, on this subject, and neither Dr. Tennant nor 'Truth' shall likely call forth more, although I have not said half that might easily be said on the subject. I am sorry that Dr. Tennant seems to consider lenity on my part so closely allied to perjury, and in any future case I shall know how to act in the matter.

If Dr. Tennant thinks himself aggrieved by my remarks, I advise him to have the body of deceased disinterred and a fresh inquiry commenced, when he can have all the extras of the case laid before an unbiassed jury.

I hope you will give space to this in your widely circulated paper and oblige

Your obedient servant.

JOHN H. GARNER, M. D.

For The Signal.

At the door-step, sitting lonely;
Only me—me only;
Waiting for my my little band
To glad me in my new-found land.
Listening to the minstrelsy
Of the dark night's mystery;
Feeling mournful, by the sighing
Of the night winds, slowly dying;
Whispering farewell to each flower,
Lisping music thro' each bower.
Night is hushing those to sleep;
Those who laugh, and those who weep,
While, at the doorstep, I sit, lonely;
Only me—me only.

J. B. BLUETT.

Goderich, Feb. 12, 1870.

Bruce Items.

☞ The *Review* has been greatly improved, lately.

☞ A new foundry has been started in Paisley, by Messrs. Laidlaw & Robinson.

☞ The County Council has decided that, hereafter, no sheep killed by dogs, wit hin the county, shall be paid for.

☞ Kincardine is entirely at the mercy of the first fire that breaks out—no fire bell, no engine, no hooks or ladders and no water supply.

☞ Kincardine longs to become a railway terminus. It would be the best thing that ever happened to it.

☞ Immense numbers of dressed hogs and live cattle have been sent East from Bruce, this year, by way of Goderich.

Gottlieb Kobischky, who lived on a farm in the neighborhood of Neustadt, Township of Normanby, hung himself last week. We believe he did not live on the best of terms with his wife, and for some violence offered to her he was sent to Owen Sound gaol, having failed to find sureties to keep the peace. The amount required was very large and he appealed against it, got at reduced, and we believe found sureties and got out of gaol. He was in Walkerton on Monday of last week on some business.—On his way home he stopped at Carlsruhe, made his will, and went home and hung himself. It is said his wife had left him after the quarrel, for which he was sent to gaol, and refused to come back and live with him. He was in good circumstances, and a native of Poland.

CANADA.

The Grand Orange Lodge of Ontario East meets at Belleville this week.

A man named Jones, a disciple of whisky Mason, is making great havoc among the Belleville liquor dealers.

There are at present about 120 patients in the Montreal general hospital. A great number of them have received their injuries from falls on the slippery sidewalks. The small-pox ward still remains empty.

At a meeting of the Presbytery of the Canada Presbyterian Church, of Montreal, held yesterday, it was resolved that a call be given to the Rev. Dr Burns, of Chicago, and that the salary to be offered be at the rate of $3,000 per annum.

A son of Tahourenche, or, 'Break of Day,' Chief of the Huron Indians at Lorette, has passed as notary, at Quebec, being the first member of an Indian tribe ever admitted to the profession.

H R H Prince Arthur arrived from Boston last evening at Montreal.

Mr. Begg, Collector of Customs at Fort Garry, has arrived in Montreal.

The London *Times* opposes the Government proposition for promoting emigration to Canada.

Montreal, Feb. 10.—The remains of Lt-Gen. Sir Chas. Wyndham arrived at the depot this morning. The same train brought Lady Wyndham and Capt. Hudson, A D C. A Guard of Honor of the Rifle Brigade received the body, and conducted it to Gosford Street Chapel. The funeral announcement has not yet been made.

This afternoon an inquest was held on the body of Mr Robert Kelly, proprietor of the Brockville *Central Canadian*. Mr. Kelly came to Ottawa some days ago, looking for compositors, and while walking in Lafleid's Hotel last night, he dropped on the floor and suddenly expired. Verdict 'died from apoplexy.'

St John, N. B., Feb. 10.—The House met to-day with customary formalities. The Governor delivered a speech.

A man named O. F. Parsons from St. Catherines was arrested at Belleville on a charge of forgery, preferred by a man named Brown of Napanee. Parsons was taken to Napanee last night in charge of a constable, where he will be tried.

Ottawa, Feb. 10.—All the Cabinet Ministers are in town. As the session draws nearer, the reticence of Ministers becomes greater. A few weeks ago it was possible to get an inkling of what was going on. Now it is next to impossible. The measures are finally settled, and the speech prepared. There will be a good programme to give plenty of work.

Another Pioneer at Rest.—The Milton *Champion* has the following: George Kennedy, Esq., the founder of the village of Georgetown, and one of the oldest residents of Esquesing, died on Wednesday, the 26th ult., aged over 70 years. About fifty years ago he came to Esquesing, then almost a wilderness and was witness of all the changes and improvements which have made Esquesing one of the wealthiest and most advanced townships in Ontario. His mortal remains were accompanied to their last resting place by a large and sorrowful assemblage.

HIGHLY DESIRABLE.—We are pleased, says the Trade *Review:* to learn that a movement is on foot at Toronto to establish a line of steam communication between Lake Ontario ports and those of the Maritime Provinces. This is a move in the right direction, and we hope it will be heartily sustained. The great drawback at present existing to successful trade between the eastern and western parts of the Dominion is the want of cheap and ready means of communication. A line of steamboats plying steadily during navigation between the east and west—bringing Halifax and St. John's into constant communication with Hamilton and Toronto and intermediate ports—must rapidly increase our inter-provincial trade. It is understood that a company is speedily to be formed to accomplish the object we have referred to, and it is expected that millers and others interested in the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick trade will supply the largest part of the funds necessary for the purpose

Hon Mr Aikens has been in Toronto during the week, but has returned to Ottawa. It is said he avoided meeting his old Reform friends as much as possible. He is said to feel exceedingly uncomfortable since the return of the North-West Governor, because of the attitude of the Cabinet. Some people, not often wrong in guessing, predict a ruction shortly.

WOMAN BURNED TO DEATH IN DUNDAS.—The *Banner* says that a woman named Ann Burns was found lying horribly burned in her house in Dundas on Tuesday night. It appears that the deceased had been out visiting on the Monday evening and having returned to her home, where she lived all alone, had lit a lamp and sat down at the table where she had placed it, when by some means it had upset, the contents of the lamp being spilled on the upper part of her body, which being ignited from the burning wick, had quickly overpowered the deceased. Her face arms and neck were terribly burned.

The Quebec *Chronicle* says our plucky little friends, the British sparrows, so often sung in rhyme and celebrated in prose, are bravely passing through a Canadian win