

# The HURON SIGNAL

DEVOTED TO COUNTY NEWS AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

GODERICH, ONT., FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1887.

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### THE HURON SIGNAL

Published every Friday Morning, by Mc GILLICUDDY BROS., at their Office, North of GODERICH, ONTARIO.

FRIDAY, MAY 6th, 1887.

It is not about time Mr Porter arranged with the Minister of Public Works for the erection of the public buildings in Goderich?

The men who wanted fair play for Dr Kane and Hill Smith are now swearing that William O'Brien must not be heard. That's what they call "British fair play."

MR LAUBIER is moving to effect the repeal of the Franchise Act, on the ground that it is unfair and expensive. If Sir Charles Tupper means anything by his professions of a desire to economize, he cannot apply the knife to a more vicious excrescence than this.

CHARLES RYKERT has been chosen chairman of the public accounts committee of the House of Commons. An examination of the private accounts of Louis Sands would lead to the belief that the member for Lincoln is an expert in financial matters.

It is now claimed that the Government left Curran's Home Rule resolution an open question. They did so because their experience of last year proved that they could not close it. Sir John and Robert Porter, however, did all they could against it, but equal rights to all men in every portion of the British Empire is a principle that can no longer be trampled under foot with impunity.

No better evidence is wanted than the Government was party to returning officer Dunn's crime than their action in the vote on the question in the House. Every man of the 109 who voted against Mr Skinner's motion voted to compound a felony and endorse a theft. Robert Porter, of Simcoe, the accidental member for West Huron, voted in favor of the theft.

CONSIDERABLE time has passed since Mr Coulter, the member for Haldimand who was counted out by Judge Upper, publicly stated that the judge was drunk when he committed the act. The Tories at that time said that Mr Coulter would be brought before the courts for making the statement, but up to the time of writing the threatened punishment has not fallen upon him. One thing is certain, Judge Upper has been lowered in the estimation of every right thinking man in Canada, whether he was drunk or sober when he committed the crime.

#### Dunlop.

AN OCTOGENARIAN.—Eighty summers and winters have not damped the ardor in that genial son of Erin, P. O'Meara. He can still answer the violin in good style in a "matt Irish jig," ring a number of good songs, with a delightful brogue, and tell thrilling anecdotes of days gone by in a most graphic manner. After a week's visit here he has returned to his home near Benn Miller.

TOUCH HIM GIN YE DAUR.—From last week's item copied from the Stratford Beacon, one would think Stratford had a host of champion quill pitchers, but notwithstanding the boasting of the architect, the Dunlop people will stick by the architect. The Stratfordites may not be willing to see him cock-of-the-walk, but whether they are or not, we can tell the Beacon our architect 'fears nae foe,' and when he returns from the classic city in the fall we expect to see at his belt the scalps of all the noted quillers of the thriving city of Bardonia.

#### Edmeston.

A. Knight has erected a new wood house for Wellington Oliver. This is the first building of the season.

Joe Rose has added a sulky plough to his farm improvements. Jack will not be so tired after his day's work now. He will be able to go for a walk in the evenings.

Saratoga is losing its population once more. Mr and Mrs H. Feagan have removed to Goderich, they will sail to Algoma after navigation opens, where they intend to make their future home.

G. E. Wilson is back again to Saratoga. George looks hale and hearty, he has engaged with his brother Henry as gardener.

Joe Smith is the early bird this season. He finished seeding the 25th ult, and has got a bag of potatoes planted. Who is ahead of him!

The Bloomington correspondent must be sick or perhaps his pen is worn out. If that be true we hope he will get a new one that we may hear from him again. BRAVER.

### TORONTO LETTER.

#### Musings on Various Matters in the Queen City.

**A Backward Glance—Real Estate Boom—The Fire System—Young Liberal Conservatives—Old Acquaintances—City Schools—A Model Sunday School, and a Veteran Superintendent.**

TORONTO, May 3d, 1887.

At the time of writing genuine May weather has arrived. The season is a week or two backward, but now the warm weather is likely to come with a rush. The boats have been running a couple of weeks, but there is as yet but little traffic on the lake.

Building operations will be lively this season if the carpenters' strike does not interfere. Real estate has been booming during the past five years, and although some are pessimistic enough to shake the head suggestively and say "Remember Winnipeg," yet the consensus of opinion among business men is that real estate in Toronto has not yet been run above its value and that no panic need be feared in that quarter, with tumbling values and crushed fortunes as the result.

The fire system of Toronto is still kept up to the highest standard. It is a sight to see the engines and hook and ladder carts get out when there is an alarm of fire. The horses move at the sound of the alarm with the precision of clockwork, and are harnessed by an automatic process, and go tearing along the streets towards the scene of the fire much more quickly than I can describe it. Some day I may describe the mode more fully.

I dropped into the Young Liberal club rooms the other evening, and heard the boys debate. They have some rattling speakers among them, and there is a candor, a vigor of address and independence of thought and a courageousness of utterance exhibited by the speakers that make the proceedings interesting as well as instructive. The club will close its regular meetings for discussion for the season by a banquet to be held in the Walker House in about four weeks' time.

By the way, the Young Conservatives have rooms in the same building, and meet the same evening. It will surely shock the feelings of my friend Mr F. W. Johnston to learn that the Y. L. C. A. will hold a convention soon. Those who remember his allusion to the "Prodigal Sons" at the meeting in the skating rink, will see that a change has come over the spirit of the Conservatives so far as conventions of their young men are concerned.

D. O. Cameron, formerly a law student in Goderich, now practicing as a barrister in partnership with F. McPhillips, also a former resident of Goderich, read a paper at the Young Liberal club meeting on Monday evening on "The Mineral Resources of Canada." The paper was learned and practical one, and has attracted already the attention of some who are desirous of putting Mr Cameron's knowledge of our mineral deposits to a rather more practical account. McPhillips & Cameron are working up a nice little practice as lawyers, and as both gentlemen have many personal friends in Goderich, perhaps this little paragraph may not be without interest. And this reminds me that there are dozens of former Goderich folk residing here. I will look up the names and doings of some for a future letter.

One cannot keep his eyes shut while on the streets, and, therefore, I cannot help seeing the belles of Toronto. I mean the Toronto girls. Brunettes prevail, and one sees two pair of dark eyes to one of blue or even of grey. And yet I have noticed that the majority of the ladies of the "old families" are blondes. There are the facts, make what you like out of them. And that reminds me that the foolish habit of bleaching the hair is very prevalent here. But as the girls cannot bleach their eyebrows, things don't always match.

It may not be considered orthodox for a newspaper correspondent to write about a Sunday School, but as I have never troubled myself about observing the articles, acknowledging the confessions of faith, or submitting to church discipline generally, as such, I will also exercise the same liberty in writing, and give your readers the benefit of my observations on matters, persons and things, even if I may at times go out of

the rut of "orthodox" newspaper correspondence.

"No pent up Utica contracts our powers. But the whole broad universe is ours."

I paid a visit to the Northern Congregational Sunday school on Sunday afternoon. I received a warm welcome from Mr H. J. Clarke, (of the firm of Copp, Clarke & Co.,) who is regarded as one of the best superintendents in the city. There are larger Sunday schools in Toronto, but few, if any, have a better staff of teachers, or leave more pleasing memories with those who have attended, either as teachers or scholars. The greatest drawback to this school is that the premises are rather small, and the intermediate classes are consequently crowded together. Mr Clarke has been superintendent of this Sunday school for twenty-seven consecutive years, a length of service that can be equalled by only two other superintendents of the city, Mr Kerr, of St. James Presbyterian S. S., and the superintendent of the Richmond Street Methodist S. S. The Northern Congregational S. S. uses the colored illustrations for the lessons which have become so popular, and the main room of the school is adorned with banners bearing scripture mottoes—one for each year. Mr Clarke is apt and thorough in handling, the lesson in the desk review, and is not of the order of superintendents who don't care to try anything new in matter or method.

The library is conducted on a rather novel plan—at least so it appeared to me—but it is a good idea. The pupils of the school are divided into two classes, seniors and juniors, and a catalogue is printed for each division. A copy of the catalogue is given to each boy and girl desiring books, when the scholar goes over the list, striking out all the books not desired. The catalogue is then handed to the librarian, who writes the name of the scholar on the catalogue, and places the latter in the cabinet with the books of the school. As each of the remaining books is given out to the reader, the title is struck off the catalogue, and so there is no difficulty in the librarian seeing what books have not been read, and he can easily make a choice of a book that the scholar is willing to receive, as all the books not desired, together with the books already read, are marked off the catalogue.

May 4.

I witnessed the procession last night in honor of Lord Lansdowne. An immense concourse assembled to witness the proceedings, but the welcome was of a negative rather than of a positive character. There was little or no decoration of a public or private sort, the cheers were few and weak, and compared with the ovation tendered Lord Dufferin fifteen years ago, the proceedings were tame. The file and drum bands were out in full force, followed by Young Britons and small boys carrying torches, and there were a number of private carriages in line, as well as the vehicles carrying the city officials; yet, considering the crowd of onlookers, there was a listlessness and a lack of enthusiasm that showed that the Governor-General has not yet touched the popular heart. The fine evening, so clear and summer-like, and Toronto's love for display, brought together an immense concourse, but it was not nearly so enthusiastic as that which greeted Hanlan a few years ago when his aquatic honors were fresh.

There is some talk here of preventing William O'Brien from speaking in Toronto on the question of the Lansdowne evictions. I am inclined to think there will be lively times on that occasion, but as I believe in freedom of speech, I will be there to hear Mr O'Brien.

#### Leoburn.

Mr McWilliams, a student of Knox College, Montreal, preached here last Sunday. We understand he will be engaged for three months by Knox church, Goderich.

Dr. Wm. H. Aborn, after a pleasant visit among old friends, has gone to Zurich to see—but a little bird whispers, "Hush!"

(Left over from last week.)

The Rev. Mr Black, who has been assisting Rev. Dr. Urs for the past three months, bade goodbye to the congregation in a few well chosen remarks. During his brief stay he had visited among many of the homes of those who attend the church, his genial manner winning friends. He performed one wedding service while with them.

### THE THREE BY-LAWS.

#### Mass Meeting in Victoria Opera House.

The Speeches on the Occasion—The Questions Asked from every Stand Point—Facts and Figures for the Electors—Unanimous Expression in Favor of the Scheme.

Quite a number of the ratepayers turned out Wednesday evening to hear the waterworks, electric light, and agricultural park by-laws discussed.

Shortly after eight o'clock the mayor took the chair, and explained the object of the meeting. Three by-laws would shortly be submitted to the ratepayers, and he and the council believed it to be in the interest of the town that a meeting should be had where the different schemes would be discussed. He believed that good water was absolutely required in Goderich, and the other schemes although not in the list of necessities would, beyond question, prove to be in the public interest. The present time was a critical one in the history of the town, and he hoped that every intelligent voter would prove that he had the interest of the town at heart by voting for all three by-laws. He would not enter at greater length upon the questions, but would call upon other gentlemen who had come to the meeting prepared to address the electors.

Councillor Butler was the first speaker and was warmly received. He began by stating that there was a great difficulty in taking up the subject owing to the extent of it, but thought it would not be out of place to go back to the inception of the scheme. He then gave a history of the agitation for public improvements, with which the ratepayers were familiar. The council had time and again been berated for not attempting to lift the town out of the slough, and now that the council had taken definite action he hoped the people would back them up with their votes. The council did not do anything without the consent of the people, and if the people desired the public improvements they should vote for them a week from Thursday. The council had done its work, and the matter now rested with the voters. A committee had been appointed to investigate the waterworks, and the waterworks, samples of water had been analyzed, and found to be impure, an artesian well had been sunk and the water obtained therefrom had been analyzed by Mr. Rice, a competent analyst, and found to be satisfactory; but even if that water had been analyzed and found to be impure, it would not do anything without the consent of the people, and if the people desired the public improvements they should vote for them a week from Thursday.

The electric light was a trifling matter, because it was proposed to operate it in connection with the water-works. A cry had been raised that the centre of the town would be benefited by the passing of the waterworks by-law, but that was a fallacy. You could not improve the heart of the town without the outer sections receiving corresponding benefit. The town was like the human body—if you nourish the stomach the extremities receive a benefit, but if the stomach is not properly cared for, the extremities will suffer. The electric light was a trifling matter, because it was proposed to operate it in connection with the water-works. A cry had been raised that the centre of the town would be benefited by the passing of the waterworks by-law, but that was a fallacy. You could not improve the heart of the town without the outer sections receiving corresponding benefit. The town was like the human body—if you nourish the stomach the extremities receive a benefit, but if the stomach is not properly cared for, the extremities will suffer.

	Pop.	Debt.
Whitby	3,140	66,500
Guelph	10,000	229,000
Palmerston	1,824	53,000
Collingwood	9,915	65,000
Stratford	10,000	300,000
Windsor	9,000	270,000
Sarnia	6,500	163,000
Goderich	4,000	39,000

On the electric light scheme he had only to say that it was the light of the age, and had come to stay, for street lighting. It would cost only \$85,000 or \$85,500 to light up Goderich, and he knew of no town that could be more

atisfactorily lighted. It was also probable that gas would be run in connection with it, for it was now found that instead of being antagonistic the two systems of illumination were, in fact, each having its own sphere. For extensive illumination the electric light took first place, and for a convenient domestic light, for heating purposes and the driving of machinery gas was fast coming to a front position. Down in London they use the "Crooks" system by electricity. The bar-rooms are lit up by electric light, and at eleven o'clock p.m. the light is shut off, all around is thrown into darkness, and the fellows in the bar-room become paralyzed. (Loud laughter.) The adoption of the proposition would give work to our laboring men in the construction, and would thus prove of some assistance to the town. He hoped to see every voter poll his ballot in favor of the by-laws Thursday week. (Loud applause.)

Mr Garrow on coming forward was loudly applauded. Three things were necessary to properly enjoy the water, food and air—and it was important, if possible, to secure all three. In Goderich we had two of these essentials—we had fine, bracing, pure air, and we had, (even amongst the poorest) a fair supply of healthy food. The only lack in water, if he could secure it, was a reasonable expense, he felt that he had a right to appeal to the public spirit of his neighbors so that they would help him to obtain it. (Hear, hear.) If once inaugurated it would be an easy matter to give the water supply to every home in town. Although it was not a great deal of additional cost, the scheme as contemplated, although many thought it only benefited the heart of the town, covered an extent that would practically benefit three-fourths of the population. It would extend to the extreme end of West street to the extreme end of West street; from the end of North to Britannia Road, and traverse the entire length of Victoria st. It had been said that the laying of the mains would cost almost the entire estimate, but this was not so, for a certain sum had already made offer to put down the pipes of the proposed system for \$17,500, and this offer included largely the main pipes, which were well known to be the most expensive. The other streets of the town not served in the proposed scheme, would be served by smaller pipes by aid of annual expenditure. The waterworks proposal was not a scheme for a locality or for individuals, but was in the interest of the town and the people generally. The actual increased expenditure, supposing it cost the amount estimated, would not be more than four per cent. on the value of the property, and a \$500 property, was there any freeholder who would attempt to blight the scheme because he would have to pay that additional amount? If there was such a one he had not heard of him. Besides the saving in insurance and doctor's bills, there would be a saving in the amount of the additional taxation. The scheme could only fail through the ignorance of those who voted against it. As to the Park by-law he considered that was a foregone conclusion. It was already bought, and if we voted down the by-law we would not discuss it at length. He would not discuss it at length. He also advocated the Babcock distinguishing system in connection with fire protection.

Mr Arch. Dickson believed we ought either to sink the town or do something. He was in favor of everything in the bill.

Mr James Sheppard said now was the time for men to raise the standard of the town. Since the abrogation of reciprocity nothing had been done to help the town, but he believed tonight a forward movement was commencing. He believed if proper action were taken prosperous times were yet in store for Goderich.

Ex-Mayor Horton believed the series of by-laws would carry. His only anxiety was that the incurring of the debt would not interfere with the granting of railway aid when necessity arose. Every ratepayer should watch the matter carefully before voting against either of the by-laws.

Dr. Holmes corroborated the statements of Messrs. Williams and Rice in regard to the sanitary conditions.

The clerk then explained the mode of voting, and a closed meeting was brought to a close.

#### Exeter.

Fine weather.

The roads are again dusty. Where is the watering cart?

Large crowd of farmers in town on Saturday last.

Charles A. McDonald will leave for Chicago in a few days. He has disposed of the insurance business.

Gypsies were in town last week, but no horse trades.

We notice large loads of furniture leaving the furniture rooms of Messrs Rume & Andrews. They are "pushers."

Jas. Westcott, who left Exeter for California a short time ago on a prospecting tour, we are sorry to say, is about to return here.

We understand, but cannot say how far the report is true, that N. D. Hurdon and H. McIntosh will have a trotting race for \$25 a side in a few days. The horses to compete will be "White Flyer" and "Rarus."

We are glad to learn that the members of the English church will erect a new church here during the coming summer. Thomas Truett has devoted the sum of \$500 for the erection of the edifice.