Huron Signal.

GODERICH, JULY 27, 1865.

THE BRITISH GENERAL ELECTION.

In a very few days now we may expect to receive returns of the candidates elected throughout the United Kingdom.—The writs were returnable about the 16th inst., and of course, it is pretty well settled ere this what the complexion of the new House will be. It is generally believed that the political aspect of the House of Commons will not be materially changed. There are certain contingencies, however, which may arise. It is within the range of possibility that the venerable Palmerston who has done so much during the past fifty-seven years towards shaping British policy and British politics, and who yet enjoys to such a great extent the confidence of his fellow-subjects, may retire from the Premiership. In that case, if the Liberals retain the mastery, which they are confident of doing, the Premiership will be between the eloquent, able Gladstone and the less able but powerful Lord John Russell. The popular feeling is undoubtedly with the former, but it may be considered best for the interests of the party and of the country generally that Lord John should take the lead, leaving Mr. Gladstone to fill the arduous and responsible position which he has adorned during years past. It was feared that the compulsory resignation of the Lord Chancellor, Lord Westbury, would militate against the old Ministry, as it might be severely handled by the caustic Disraeli and his followers, but it is hoped that the difficulty has been settled by the appointment of Lord Cranworth to the position from which his predecessor was hurled in disgrace.

It is noted as remarkable that a large number of new aspirants for Legislative honors is in the field, amongst them young Gladstone, Mill, Jacob Bright, and others, who, if elected, will undoubtedly do good service for the Reform party. The Radical wing, of which John Bright is a representative man, will in all probability be returned intact. The situation, altogether, is a most interesting one, and the results may exercise an important influence over the future history of the country. The tories would unquestionably like to assume the reins, but the whole course of their policy during the few years past proves conclusively that they wished to avoid a crisis until the final retirement of Lord Palmerston. He may retire, and he *may not*, but if he does, there will step into his shoes one from whom it will be no easy task to snatch the reins of government.

THE PROGRESS OF RECONSTRUCTION.

Notwithstanding that the diligent correspondents of Northern papers furnish every scrap of information tending to show that the South is coming back to amicability, it is obvious that *reconstruction* is making but little headway. The South is beaten but not *convinced*, prostrate but not submissive. A spirit of sullen gloom has settled down upon the people, from which they cannot be aroused either by fair promises or violent measures. They *believed* their cause to be a just one, they put forth superhuman efforts in its maintenance, and when their bleeding country was prostrated by a superior power, assisted by mercenaries from nearly every nation under the sun, they could not feel free to submit in apathetic indifference to their terrible fate. Those who tried to believe that a beaten South would lay down its arms quietly and accept tamely a state of things beyond remedy, were sadly mistaken.—The wounds were too deep, the hatred born of sacrifice and suffering too intense, and the gulf between the sections filled with too much blood, treasure and awful memories to admit of a speedy reconciliation. The South to-day stands in the position of an unarmed man in the presence of his foes, with folded arms and knit brows, remembering proudly the desperate blows he struck, and *perhaps* longing for an opportunity to *strike again*. The leaders of public action in the South accept, as they are *compelled* to accept the triumph of the arms of the North, but beyond this point they will concede nothing. They still lean upon their cherished convictions as to State rights and constitutional privileges, and they deprecate the the establishment of Provisional Governmeets as subversive of every republican principle—as an unwarrantable act of military power, and they contend by word and deed that four years of war has decided nothing but the fact of military force. They may be compelled to oaths of fealty which they regard as empty forms, they may be environed by harsh restrictions which they will study to break through, and in short a thorough reconstruction can hardly be looked for by the present generation. The difficulties of the Washington Government are only commencing. Besides the matter of Slavery, which involves immense difficulties, the political questions of the day are most delicate and difficult of settlement. Disfranchised, the South will be in a state of chronic disloyalty dangerous to good and peaceful government and destructive of material prosperity, and enfranchised it will throw the whole weight of its vote and political influence against the hated Republican party. The mind which is to guide the ship of State through the turbulent breakers ahead must be endowed with great wisdom and consummate skill. Does it belong to President Johnson?

The Guerilla Band.

The capture and incarceration of six boys during the past week reveals the somewhat startling fact that a number of the juvenile Mohawks of this town have been for some time back regularly organized for the worst of purposes, under the name of "The Gorilla Band," the difference between Gorilla and Guerilla being so very slight that the former was invariably used as being easier of pronunciation. Certainly the title was not belied by the facial and craniological appearance of most of the members displayed by constable Hazlehurst, on Friday and Saturday last, at the Police Court. In a town which is *supposed* to be peaceful and well-ordered, a band of juvenile criminals is just as dangerous as though it were composed of strong men—perhaps more so. A boy is more agile and less suspected, and if far enough gone in depravity can apply the match of the incendiary with just as little compunction. This miserable band is composed of boys from twelve to fifteen years of age; they are a low-browed, grimy, ignorant set, and their favorite uniform consists of a collection of tattered rags. Of their officers, the captain and his lieutenant are now in gaol. The headquarters of the band is any old barn or stable that can be secured, and there we are to'd, the boys are in the regular habit of stopping all night, playing cards by the dim light of a tallow dip, and *drinking whiskey*. Hither the results of many a midnight raid are brought, and garden-stuffs, fowls, etc., are disposed of, whilst it is presumable that a division is made of any portable plunder that can be turned into money. The question may and *should* be asked: "How is it that these lads are suffered to roam the streets at night? Have they no parents?" Surely no wise parent in a town possessing such an excellent and costly system of free education can willingly allow his child to grow up in ignorance and become an adept only in vice and crime; and yet the sad truth is patent to the most careless observer. Among the members of the "Gorilla Band," we venture to say there will be found but few lads whose parents have endeavored to impress them with moral principles, and whose actions have been held under proper restraint. The lessons of the week will be of value if they convince the natural guardians of youth of the necessity of discharging the duties pointed out, besides *keeping them off the streets at night*. In any event society must protect itself, and we trust no effort will be spared by the authorities to bring every such offender to justice.

Criminals have their idiosyncrasies, and the Guerillas are no exception: One delights in decapitating innocent goslings, another steals every fancy little dog he can lay hands upon, another has such a taste for horticulture that no fence can keep him out of gardens, etc. Before they are released from the Reformatory prison, it is hoped they will be fit for better employment.

POLICE COURT.

BEFORE C. CRABB, H. HORTON, AND W. M. WHITE, ESQRS.

On Saturday last, four boys, James Gallagher, Albert Kneeshaw, Robt. Johnstone and Aaron McBrine, were charged with having stolen a lot of jewelry from Mr. I. Frederick's shop. Mr. Frederick identified eight pieces of jewelry as his property. All the prisoners except Kneeshaw owned up to the theft. The latter was most ably defended by Mr. F. Haldane, who made his maiden speech on the occasion before a large and admiring audience. The magistrates, however, "couldn't see it," and all four were sentenced to three months' each in the common gaol at hard labor, with a fair prospect of their being sent to the Reformatory.

On Monday, a lad named Rory Mc Kay was brought before J. P's Crabb and Horton, on a charge of having stolen a cash box from Mrs. Leturge, West street. Rory admitted his guilt, but in extenuation said the box on y contained 15cts. Sentenced the same as above.

We understand that His Honor Judge Cooper has determined to send all five to the Reformatory Prison for two years. Is is the best thing that can happen them, and may save them from a worse fate.

Teachers's Associatien.

For some years there has existed an Association of the Teachers of Canada West, whose meetings are annually held at Toronto. The object of the Association may be briefly stated to be the improvement of the art of teaching and its elevation to the rank of the liberal professions. Under the former head are discussed school books, apparatus, discipline, and in fine, everything regarding the internal economy of a school; under the latter are considered, not only everything that regards the Teacher's position in the State, but also, what legislative or other action may be necessary to place the profession in its proper position. Besides the opportunities of instruction thus afforded to each teacher, the Association is itself an engine of no small power, destined to exercise an influence in proportion to the cooperation of teachers themselves. Part of the machinery of this institution are County Associations now existing throughout the greater part of the Province, which send delegates to Toronto. Such an association for this county having been formed under the best auspices, we call the attention of teachers to the following information: The next meeting will be held in the Central School of Goderich on the 29th inst, at 1 o'clock p. m., when the subjects discussed will be 'the propriety of County instead of Local Superintendents,' and 'The advantages of a Central Board to grant Provincial certificates.' A constitution and by-laws will be submitted for consideration and other important business transacted. Through the exertions of the President, Mr. Cameron, the stage proprietors have kindly consented to convey teachers to and fro, on the various roads at half fare. A special stage will leave McDonald's Hotel, Exeter, at 7 o'clock, a. m., on the 29th inst. to meet the 11 o'clock train at Clinton. The Railway authorities have also permitted teachers attending this association to travel for one fare. Arrangements have been made for the accomodation of those who must remain more than one day in Goderich.

Bruce County Town.

Whether the majority of the Reeves of Bruce have their way or not about the Co. Town, they are bound to have a good, substantial gaol at Walkerton. We learn from the *Herald* that the corner stone of that very useful edifice was laid on Monday, the 17th, by indomitable "Joe," and friend Brocklebank, and that any number of newspapers were hidden away in a cavity according to time-honored practice. No amount of opposition from Mr. V. can now change the decision which makes Walkerton the capital of Bruce. The legalizing Bill will be obtained, we think, without trouble, and then the thing is *un fait accompli*. A majority, even in this country, is hard to get over.

A Suprise and Presentation.

On Tuesday evening the 18th inst. Mr. Geo. Cox, of this town, was considerably surprised to see marching into his premises a houseful of young ladies and gentleman, some of the latter bearing upon their shoulders a large black object, and others carrying baskets. It turned out that the black object was a new and elegant sofa for presentation, that the baskets contained materials for a feast, and that the invaders were the teachers of the Wesleyan S. S., who had taken this means of marking their appreciation of Mr. C's usefulness as superintendent of the institution for a long course of years. The following address, which speaks for itself, was read by Mr. Thomas Detlor, after which the teachers, together with Mrs. and Rev. Mr. Whiting and a few friends, indulged in the repast brought in the aforesaid baskets, and spent a few hours together in a very pleasant manner:—

To Mr. George Cox, Superintendent of the Wesleyan Methodist Sabbath School, Goderich.

Dear Sir,—We the teachers and friends of the Wesleyan Methodist Sabbath School, desiring in some humble way to show our appreciation of your valuable services as the kind, constant, judicious and persevering superintendant going in and out amongst us for the past seventeen years, like a faithful shepherd caring for the tender lambs, while we adore the Giver of every good and perfect gift for the grace he has imparted to you, take the opportunity in connection with our annual festivities of presenting to you this useful piece of furniture, which you will please accept as a small token of our love. We wish we had some memento more emblematical of your Christian activity and zeal; that, however, we will endeavor to write upon our hearts, and try to emulate in our lives, as we hope still to labor side by side with you in our master's cause.

The *sofa* we now place in your happy home may remind you in your hours of repose that "There is rest for the weary."

The distinguished, virtuous, and poetical Cowper says:

"Necessity invented stools,
Convenience next suggested elbow-chairs,
And luxury th' accomplished *sofa*, last."

The same poet speaks in the highest terms in one of his poems of "the repose the sofa yields." But nature as well as poetry and friendship, will dictate the utility and necessity of occasional rest amidst your many toils. "The bow loses its spring, that is always bent; and the mind will never do much unless it sometimes does nothing."

We pray that your valuable life may be spared for many years to come, to occupy posts of usefulness and honor in the church of your choice, and as you labor on at God's command, sowing the precious seed and watering it with your prayers and tears, may you have many souls for your hire. "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." "And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."

Signed on behalf of the teachers and friends,

THOMAS DETLOR, Secretary.

Goderich, July 18th, 1865.

REPLY.

Dear Friends,—I assure that no words will express the deep feelings of my heart for the sentiments of Christian friendship and high regard contained in the address which you have presented, and for the beautiful and excellent present accompanying it. Allow me, in return, to express my warmest thanks for both. Whenever I look upon this valuable and beautiful gift it will call to remembrance the doners, and the occasion, as well as the many happy hours we have spent together in our Sabbath School. I hope the present and address will have a tendency to make me better, wiser and more energetic in the discharge of my duty as a Christian and a friend.

Faithfully yours,
GEO. COX.

The Mowing Match at Kippen.

(From our own correspondent.)

As the above match had been announced in your columns; and as you had particularly called the attention of your readers to the fine section of country in which it was to take place, I had no doubt, the Editor of the *Signal*, would have put in an appearance; and would have made one of the crowd who have been discussing the relative merits of the six machines, that have been laying the grass low on the farm of Mr Blair this afternoon. In your absence, which I have no doubt was unavoidable, I have furbished up my old stump of a pencil, and will endeavour to give your readers some idea of the proceedings. It is not to be expected that an humble waif of a volunteer corr. would be able to do justice to such an occasion; that is, the justice which we would expect a veteran member of the Press could give it; yet unvarnished truth may make up for felicitous description; and I am sure my remarks will be none the less acceptable to your readers, when I tell them that I also am a farmer. One o'clock P. M., being the hour fixed for the start, I found myself on the well cultivated farm of Mr. Blair, near Kippen, on the London road, up to time, and 20 minutes to spare, which I spent in noting the different machines entered, and ready for the work. They were as follows, viz: 1st Mr. Callaway, Stanley, owner, Scott & Co., Dundas, manufacturer; 2nd John McKenzie, owner, Clinton, manufacturer; 3rd Glasgow, McPherson & Co., owners and manufacturer; 4th Alex Thompson, Tuckersmith owner, Bell of St. George, manufacturer; 5th McPherson, Glasgow & Co., Fingal, owners and manufacturers; 6th McArthur, Plattsville, Co., Oxford, owner and manufacturer. This done, I note the people present next, and conclude that their number must foot up over 200; comprising many of the intelligent farmers of Stanley, Hay, Stephen, Usborne and Tuckersmith. The day was delightful—just a pet Canadian summer-day—just wind enough to make it agreeable, but rather hot if there had been no breeze—the mowing men said it blew too strong for neat cutting; nevertheless the spectators lifted their hats to the cool fragrance, and said it was just the thing.

Three-fourths of an acre was staked off, as the task for each machine, with about an acre in reserve for a grand promenade of all machines round as a finale. Quick time did not appear to be the great consideration, as by the rules laid down, two hours was allowed—giving ample opportunity to do it well.

The word was given—click, click, away they went; and ere an hour the work was done, and the field finished. Who would break his back swinging an old sythe after seeing so much work so well done by men sitting in an easy chair?

While the machines were at work, it was a busy time; and there was nearly as much running to and fro as at Brussels the night before Waterloo; and the cry was, which is the best? Of course, on this point, there was a variety of opinion, and each machine had its admirers. In fact, it seemed almost invidious, where all did so well, to say which was best; still my own opinion is, and I thing it is the general opinion, that McArthur's Self-Dropping Combined Machine, made the best work, and was the lightest draught in the field. The machine owned by Mr. Callaway, being of nearly of the same construction cannot be far behind.

The Judges—Messrs. Sproat of Tuckersmith, Perine of Stanley, and Sweet of Stephen, appeared to give the work a thorough examination, and no doubt decided which was the best mower—but as they were all combined machines, and as the rules of the Society, say, that the judges are not to give their decision till each machine has been tried at the coming reaping match; a rule by the way, which does not appear to give general satisfaction, many thinking that the work should be judged on its own merits, independent of any other consideration or contingency; as it is however, we will have to possess ourselves in patience, and wait for the Reaping.

At the close of the proceedings, James Anderson, Esq., the President of the Society, in a few brief well chosen remarks congratulated the members on the interest manifested in their matches, as shown by the very large turn out of spectators; and complimented the machine men for the very excellent specimens of their workmanship on the ground; and for the splendid manner in which all the work had been done.

D. L. Sills, Esq., of Brucefield, was next called on for a speech. He is our only sure and certain resort to, on these occasions, for a bit of oratory—being always ready and willing. All who heard him to-day will I am sure back me up when I say that he almost surpassed himself; and that they never heard him do better. Strangers might grumble and mutter something about 'gass,' 'high falutin,' 'spread eagleism,' &c., but every farmer of Huron must have been perfectly satisfied, for certainly Mr. Sills did ample justice to the calling and county. Three hearty cheers for the Queen closed the out of door proceedings. The large crowd began gradually to disperse. The greatest harmony and good feeling prevailed throughout; and I have no doubt that the great majority felt on going homewards, that they had spent a pleasant, and I trust, profitable afternoon.

The Judges, Directors, Machine men and others then adjourned to the house of Mr. Blair, where a sumptous spread awaited them. Mr. Blair fully sustained the reputation of his house for hospitality; and along with the solids, dispensed to all who felt inclined, without stent or favour, a "dhrop of the raal crather," out of a well known, very big bellied bottle. An animated discussion was kept up at the table—all hands vieing with each other in praising our noble County. We ranged Upper and Lower Canada over, but could find nothing to compare with Huron—even the far famed Genessee Valley could not stand the contrast. Here again a cynical stranger, might have said "gass," &c., but as the great bulk of us were Huron farmers, we could not be any thing but well pleased with the conclusions come to. But the best of times will come to an end; and the best of friends must part. Our parting was accomplished after sundry rounds of hard-hand shaking, mutual resolves, and pledges to meet again in a short time to witness another triumph of machinery among the golden grain

With the sun two hours high, your corr. started homewards; communing with myself as I went, upon the great stride we had made from the reaping hook, to the almost perfect machine—and contrasting the gravel road I was riding over, with blazed the foot path I found 15 years ago. It is surely no wonder that my cogitations ended in wondering what Canada will be like 50 years hence.

I endeavoured to ascertain from the obliging Secretary, John Copeland, Esq., when the Reaping match would come off; he informed me that it would not be known until the directors met to-night, and that as soon as agreed upon, it would be advertised in the *Signal*.

In conclusion, I must not forget to add, that the Hay was a splendid crop—and the bottom all that could be desired for a fair trial.

July 18th, 1865.

The Rope-Walking.

By advertisement elsewhere it will be seen that a cheap excursion train from Brantford and intermediate stations will be run on Tuesday next. The walking or "ascension," as it is termed will commence precisely at three o'clock, at which time we expect to see the largest crowd of people about the banks that has ever congregated in Goderich. The exhibition will be open to all, and the nature of the ground is such that twenty or thirty thousand people could witness the noval sight with the greatest distinctness It is probable that there will be several excursions from Lake ports [illegible] the occasion.

Presbyterian S. S. Pic-Nic.—On Saturday last the teachers and pupils of Knox's Church of this town, held a pic-nic in Mr. Park's grove. Not having been present we cannot give anything like a report of the proceedings, but we are given to understand that it was largely attended and successful in every particular.

Incendiarism in Carrick.—A man named Valentine Fischer for setting fire to a building belonging to a neighbor, was brought to Goderich last week to await trial.

Provisions Wanted.—A correspondent writes to say that as great crowds of people may be expected in Goderich on the 1st of August, it would be well for farmers having produce and animals suitable for hotels, butchers, &c., to bring the same in a few days before the great exhibition. It will be remembered that a famine was created in Brantford on the Review day.

Mexico.—It is stated that the United States Government will announce its policy on the Monroe Doctrine and the French occupation of Mexico in a few days. It is also reported that Gen. Grant had said to the Mexican Ministers that "the French *must* leave Mexico!" Will the Federal Government be as outspoken?

☞ The 8th Division Court meets at Walkerton on the 8th of August.

☞ On the 18th, says the *Herald*, the store, dwelling, tavern, &c., of Mr. Schick, Formosa, were destroyed by fire. Loss $3000. Insurance $1200.

Salted.—A lad named Griffis was "sent up" for 10 days this morning for stealing out of Mr. Grace's garden. We hope all garden thieves caught will get the utmost punishment the law will allow.

New Wheat.—Mr. VanEvery informs us that he ground new wheat yesterday (20th.) This is very early indeed.

☞ In their haste to forestall the local papers in items of news, the Toronto dailies often make a mess of it. It was telegraphed to them about the recent fire, that the building "was worth $400, no insurance," whereas it *was* insured for $400 whatever the value may have been.

Robbery this Morning.—Mr. Frederick's Jewelry Store was entered at a side window on Friday last about 8 o'clock and some $30 or $40 worth of jewelry abstracted. The articles stolen were left for repair and were scattered over a work table facing the window. On discovering his loss, Mr. F. caused the issue of search warrants, by means of which constable Hazlehurst very cleverly contrived to secure all the missing property, as well five boys upon whom it was found.—They will come up this afternoon for trial.

To Teachers.—All superintendents and teachers of Grammar and Common Schools wishing to attend the Annual Convention of teachers in Toronto on the 8th of August, can secure *return* tickets free by applying without delay to J. B. McGann, Toronto.

The Pro. Exhibition.—Persons wishing to obtain Prize List and forms for entering articles at the coming Provincial Exhibition, can do so by applying to Mr. G. M. Trueman of this town.

☞ A number of interesting items of local news have poured in upon us, but we find it impossible to squeeze more into this issue. Our patrons generally will agree that we have done well as it is.

The Concerts given in this town by Cheesbro's Serenaders were well attended and gave great satisfaction to the lovers of good music. The playing and singing was all we predicted it would be. Prof. Cheesbro's rendering of such pieces as "Trinity Chimes" was very fine. In "Robin Ruff," "the old Sexton," &c., the magnificent voice of Mr. Horner was heard in all its power of tone and modulation, and he was repeatedly encored. Mr. D. Watson sang exceedingly well, and the instrumental and vocal efforts of the Glee Club were loudly applauded. This company is to give a grand concert on the 1st of August next. The Serenaders wish to return their thanks to the Masonic body for the use of a melodean, and to the Glee Club for its able assistance.

A Fright.—Two little boys belonging to respectable families of this town not making their appearance at their usual early bed-time, on Sunday night last, the parents, naturally enough, felt very anxious about their safety. After searching with lanterns along the river and in every conceivable quarter until midnight, the sorrowing gentlemen turned their steps homeward to find the lads snugly in bed and asleep. It seems they had made up their minds to sleep together against rules, and had slipped unperceived to one of their rooms about dark. When the lost were thus found there was joy indeed.

Miraculous Escape.—A Warning to Marksmen.

On the 21st inst. some parties were engaged in firing at a target on the flats, when two women standing talking on the top of the hill near Mr. Morris' house, had a most narrow escape from instant death A ball struck Mrs. Morris' hair within a quarter of an inch of her head and dashed it across her face. She had her infant grand-son in her arms at the time, and made her escape as quickly as possible. Three balls also passed quite close to Mrs. Reid before she could get out of range. Riflemen should exercise greater caution.

Wesleyan M. S. S. Pic-Nic.—The teachers and pupils connected with the Wesleyan Sunday School of this town held their Annual Pic-Nic yesterday, (Thursday 20th,) at the "Falls." About 10 o'clock, a.m., the assembly, laden with baskets, &c., started from the Church in some 26 waggons and carriages, crowded to their utmost capacity, drove in procession around the square headed by a singing band of children, and enlivened by numerous banners and flags, and then passed over the bridge towards their destination. On arriving at the Falls, cloths were spread, and the provisions disposed of in a very satisfactory manner, after which a few hours were very happily spent in conversation, swinging, play, romping, &c., according to the varied tastes of the diversified company. Everything passed off splendidly, the only accident being at the start, when an old lady dropped out of the back of a light waggon upon the street and was picked up in an undamaged condition.

Literary Notices.

London Society and Churchman's Mag. are to hand from Messrs, Chewett Co., Toronto. The farmer is a very fine number indeed. May be had at this office.

The Atlantic Monthly for August contains papers of rare excellence, and will be read with much interest by those who can fall in with its political views, which are extremely radical. Tickror & Fields, Boston, T. J. Moorhouse, Goderich.

Our Young Folks from the same enterprising firm is a good number, and cannot fail to please and profit young America.

☞ There is a young lady in Henry County, Missouri, not yet sweet sixteen, who is this year cultivating fifteen acres of corn. She does all the necessary work, including plowing, and has undertaken this piece of work to obtain money with which to educate herself. There is true grit in that girl.

Seaforth vs. Immorality.

Some weeks ago, it will be remembered, we gave the particulars of the elopement of a Mrs. Dix, from Seaforth, and of her subsequent return. The "committee of morals," which does not, we trust, include *all* the moral men of the village, having met in caucus, got off the following very original document, which, it is said, has had the effect of driving the woman from the place:—

Seaforth, June 28th, 1865.

To Mrs. Dix, *alias* Mrs Stephenson, Madam,—The committee of morals met last evening, by appointment, and passed the following resolutions, viz: 1st, that you do leave Seaforth within the space of ten days after date, or submit to be ridden on a rail, afterwards to be clothed in a dress of tar and feathers and be carried by force outside the limits of our city. 2nd, Should you afterwards be found within the boundaries of Seaforth, you will then be made to walk the streets naked and be scourged with the rod of Moses. No women of ill-fame are allowed to reside within our city.—You will govern yourself accordingly.

By order of Committee of morals,
J. Rogers, Sec'y.

A Charivari at Bluevale.

The inhabitants of the retired and unassuming village of Bluevale were aroused from their peaceful tranquility on the night of Tuesday, the 18th inst., by some of the most fearfully exciting noises to which it has ever fallen to the lot of country people, in peaceful times, to listen. Muskets, carbines, fowling pieces, and pistols belched forth their contents in tones warlike and terrific, then succeeded the ringing of innumerable cow-bells, blowing of tin horns accompanied with the rattling of tin pans, beating of sticks on board fences, &c. The quiet few, that the whisperings of the previous day had not reached, rushed to their doors and windows filled with alarm as to the cause of a disturbance so unprecedented. However the real cause was not long in being circulated. It appears that a respectable inhabitant of the village named Mr. C. W——, aged 69 years, having experienced the blessings of married life, felt it incompatible with his loving nature to remain any longer a widower. He therefore, having satisfied his mind on the *main* point, and gone through the necessary preparations, was duly united in the "holy bonds of matrimony" on the above mentioned day at 4 o'clock, a. m., to a blooming and experienced widow, (Mrs. R——, lately of Goderich township) who has been fanned by the refreshing breezes of 70 summers. Each of these, now happy couple, has grandsons and grand-daughters sufficiently old to enter the same blissful state. After these *strange* proceedings had been indulged in for upwards of two hours to the gratification or annoyance of the parties concerned; the worthy bridegroom at length yielded to the urgent demand of the "noisy crew," and forthwith they proceeded to the tavern, to make themselves merry and rejoice over their brilliant achievement.

To the Editor of the Huron Signal:

Sir,—Being invited on Thursday last to join a party of scientific gentlemen for the purpose of testing an invention of a distinguished townsman of our own, I may, perhaps, be allowed the use of your columns to make public the result of an experiment which, if successful, will associate the name of G—— with the future success of the British arms throughout the world. I must here digress and state what may possibly not be known to some of your readers, viz.: that the British Government having found the Enfield rifle could not compete with the breach-loading and needle rifles of continental nations, have offered a very considerable reward for any plan by which the Enfield might successfully be converted into a breach-loader, and Mr. G—— "uninfluenced, I am sure, by any mercenary considerations," has hit on a plan which if carried out, and *fully* experimented on, will save the country in one way or other a great deal of money. The gentlemen above mentioned having met at the residence of the intelligent inventor, inspected the rifle, and after a weak, cold collation, proceeded to the spot chosen for testing its qualities, fully convinced that at some future day the name of G—— would be connected with gun-smithing, as well as greatness. After a few preliminary shots with blank ammunition, a ball was inserted with a few grains of powder, and fired with the great nerve of the inventor. This experiment was a decided success, for though owing to the small quantity of the powder the discharge of the rifle was not heard beyond a few feet, yet the bullet was assumed to have hit the object aimed at. Satisfied with the result a much larger quantity of powder was introduced, and fearlessly taking the rifle in his hand, one of the distinguished gentlemen of the Canadian Bar in Goderich, applying his glass to his eye, advanced and without taking any very accurate aim 'fired;' for a few moments we gazed at our friend in speechless anxiety, and then, as peice after piece of the weapon fell from his grasp, "and all danger to ourselves being over" we rushed forward to find our valued friend's remarkable countenance disfigured by powder and distorted by pain, and you can scarcely conceive our satisfaction when we discovered his intellect was unimpaired, as with wonderful self-possession he requested us to "go to the Maitland." Most fortunately with great foresight our entertainers had invited Dr. McD. on the occasion, and he kindly gave it as his opinion that though the gentleman injured was disfigured for life, still there was no actual danger, and consequently, with great cheerfulness, dividing between us the various pieces of the unfortunate rifle, we turned our steps homeward, undecided whether as an invention the experiments of the day had sufficiently tested the desirability of it as a *safe* improvement to the Enfield rifle.

In conclusion, I would remark that some description of the nature of the alterations would be in place here, but I refrain from giving one as I understand the talented inventor has the original model on exhibition at his own house. There our injured legal friend will beguile his hours of pain and sickness by explaining to these who call the effects of the improvement. Trusting you will think the above worth a place in your next issue,

I am, dear sir,
Yours very truly,
LOCK, STOCK & BARREL.

Stanley, July 22nd, 1865.

To the Editor of the Huron Signal:

Dear Sir:—As an an individual member of the municipal Council of the township of Stanley, I desire to thank you for your kindness in from time to time giving insertion in your valuable columns the proceedings of our meetings. The minutes of our last meeting, July 3rd, published in the 'Signal,' I think scarcely does me justice, and I have to request that you will be so kind as to make room for this in your columns, you will oblige me,—many of my constituents—and also others of the ratepayers of the township who have been repeatedly enquiring of me 'what it meant?' viz: that the motion of Thomas Simpson was ruled out of order. I will briefly state the simple facts. A petition was handed into me to lay before the Council signed by John G. Smith, and nearly 120 others, comprising many of the most intelligent ratepayers of the municipality, including the trustees of ten school sections. The preamble of said petition amounted to the following: "The petitioners were desirous that the Council should take into consideration the present system of collecting school rates, thinking that it incurred unnecessary expenses. They would therefore beg to suggest that the Clerk and Collector be paid fixed rates and no perquisites whatever." Now, Sir, I went in favor of the prayer of the petition at once, not altogether that I wanted to save the funds of the township by bringing down the salaries of our officials, although I think in truth that they might do with a little less; still I wish them to be amply remunerated. But I have always thought that the system of per centages was a bad one inasmuch as nine out of every ten of the ratepayers knows no more than the man in the moon how much money our municipal servants actually pocket for their services each year. Holding these views, I moved, seconded by Thomas Baird, That the prayer of John G. Smith be granted. A majority of the Council not being in favor of the change, treated the motion with ridicule, and I was finally choked off with the information that a by-law existed establishing those per centages, and that it was necessary to move to rescind the by-law first. This may be all legally correct; but what was the use, Mr Editor, in moving details when I found a majority against the principal? Your readers in Stanley will now understand why I was "out of order," and the respectable, intelligent signers of the petition will likely think that they should have been less summarily dealt with by their municipal Council.

The present Council may work away with the per centage principle; but it is only a question of time, for I am sure that the ratepayers of Stanley will not rest satisfied till they place themselves in this respect in the same position as the sister township of Hay, and other townships in the County, who swept the per centages away years ago, and found the change successful and beneficial. In conclusion, Mr Editor, I hope you will consider this communication of sufficient importance to give it room in a corner of your valuable journal.

I am your obd't servant,
THOMAS SIMPSON.

The Cricket Match.

To the Editor of the Huron Signal:

Dear Editor,—If you will have the kindness to insert the following lines in your valuable columns, you will exceedingly oblige a great many members of the "Goderich Cricket Club." This club has been recently formed by the law students of the town, (principally by the energetic labors of one) who wished to participate in the game during the "long vacation." At the time of such formation it was distinctly understood (as it is in all clubs) that when a match was to be played the whole club was to impartially chose the eleven that were to play. Last week a challenge came from the Brucefield Club, when two or three of the members picks upon an eleven, leaving 4 of the best players belonging to the club aside. Was this partiality or ignorance? I must presume the former. This, with reason, has caused harsh feelings amongst the members. At the time they chose the eleven to play against Brucefield, they did not even condescend to let a single member know anything about it, presuming they were the whole club. The Goderich Crickoters have always had a good reputation amongst their opponents, and I am not a little sorry to see some of the eleven chosen on this occasion assume their position. Trusting the members will see it all aright, and allow everything to proceed in a friendly spirit,

I am,
Very truly yours,
A CRICKETER.

Imperial Influence to be exerted strongly in Favor of Confederation.

In a dispatch to the Lieut.-Governor of Nova Scotia, Mr. Cardwell, Colonial Secretary, directs him to lay the correspondence between the Home Government and Canada before the legislature of Nova Scotia, adding:—

"You will at the same time express the strong and deliberate opinion of Her Majesty's Government, that it is an object much to be desired that all the British North American Colonies should agree to unite in one government. In the territorial extent of Canada, and in the maritime and commercial enterprise of the Lower Provinces, Her Majesty's Government see the elements of power, which only require to be combined in order to secure for the Province which shall possess them all a place among the most considerable communities of the world. In the spirit of loyalty to the British Crown, of attachment to British connection, and of love for British institutions, by which all the Provinces are animated alike, Her Majesty's Government recognize the bond by which all may be combined under one Government. Such a union seems to Her Majesty's Government to recommend itself to the Provinces on many grounds of moral and material advantage, as giving a well-founded prospect of improved administration and increased prosperity.

"But there is one consideration which Her Majesty's Government feel it more especially their duty to press upon the legislature of Nova Scotia. Looking to the determination which this country has ever exhibited to regard the defences as a matter of Imperial concern, the colonies must recognise a right, and even acknowledge an obligation incumbent on the Home Government, to urge with earnestness and just authority, the measures which they consider to be most expedient on the part of the colonies, with a view to their defence. Nor can it be doubtful that the provinces of British North America are incapable, when separated and divided from each other of making those just and sufficient preparations for internal defence which would be easily undertaken by a Province uniting in itself all the resources of the whole."

A Horrible Fate.—A Man Bitten by a Rattlesnake.

One of the most horrible deaths possible for a man to meet is awaiting Mr. Jacob Shuester, a farmer near Waupaton, in this county, who was bitten last Saturday. Mr. Shuester was in a field mowing hay, when he came upon the snake, and it attempted to crawl away. He cut it in two with his scythe, and as it still gave signs of life, he severed it again within about three inches of its head. It then seemed to be dead, and he stooped down to examine its mouth. He was approaching its mouth with his right hand, when the snake sprang and fastened itself to his right thumb. He sprang to his feet, and after several seconds succeeded in loosening its hold and flinging it to the ground. The thumb pained him terribly, and he ran to the house. It immediately commenced swelling and his agony increased. Neighbors were sent for, who applied remedies of which they had heard. But they did no good, and in ten minutes Mr. Shuester commenced vomiting blood. All the remedies suggested by his neighbors having failed, they "doctored" him until late Sunday afternoon, when Dr. Staples, of this city, was sent for. He arrived at the house, a distance of twenty miles, Sunday evening, He found Shuester in a horrible state of body and mind. His right arm was swollen to four times its natural size, and was nearly black. This color had reached his breast and was spreading over his system. Below the elbow the poison had affected the arm so that its surface was covered with large blisters, which were filled with blood. From one of these the Doctor drew nearly a tea-cup full of blood. The palm of the sufferer's hand, although callcused by labor, was puffed out like a sugar loaf, and blood continually flowed from the wounded thumb. His breath was awfully offensive.

Mr. Shuester retains all his senses. Before he was bitten he was a large, well-built man, and possessed great strength. He is now haggard, as white as a sheet, and his eyes are ghastly.

Dr. S. administered powerful neutralizing medicines, and Mr. Shuester felt somewhat relieved almost immediately. The Doctor stayed with him all night, and left him at ten o'clock yesterday morning with slight hopes of his recovery. When the Doctor left, Mr. Schuester complained of a feeling which was then coming on him for the first time—a sort of benumbing, yet painfully tingling sensation which affected his whole body. He was alive a few days ago. Since that time we have not heard from him.—Wisconsin paper.

United States.

Washington, July 21.—The *Tribune* special says:

The Mayor and most of the magistrates of Alexandria, boldly declare their determination to adhere to the old State laws, and say that sooner than receive the testimony of a negro in their courts they will resign their respective offices. A case in which the testimony of colored men was refused recently occurred in that city. A well-to-do negro was arrested on the complaint of a white man, and in introducing as his only witnesses several colored men, was informed that their depositions would not be heard by the court. On communicating this fact to the officer of the Freedman's Bureau stationed in Alexandria, that officer immediately repaired to the court-room and moved a discontinuance of the trial, on the ground that under the provisions of a circular from Gen. Howard's headquarters the local courts have no jurisdiction in such cases, the officers of the Freedman's Bureau being instructed by said circular to adjudicate all difficulties arising between negroes or between negroes and whites. The justice still persisted in proceeding with the trial. The negro defendant not appearing in court, in compliance with the instructions of the officer of the Freedman's Bureau, the court than gave judgment in favor of the plaintiff, and issued an execution for the seizure of the property of the colored man, over whose residence a guard was at once placed by an officer of the Freedman's Bureau, to prevent the civil officers from executing the order of the court. On learning the circumstances, Gen. Howard immediately addressed a letter to the Mayor, earnestly requesting him to transfer all similar cases to the officers of his Bureau, in accordance with the provisions of circular No. 5 from his headquarters. Should similar cases occur the military authorities will be called upon to enforce Gen. Howard's order.

Capt. Wirse, of the Andersonville prison pen, is to be put on trial next week before the military commission now in session in this city, of which Brig. Gen. Underwood is President.

The vertebral neck bones of the assassin John Wilkes Booth, which were shattered by the bullet which caused his death, are now on exhibition among the other surgical curiosities of the war at the Army Medical Museum in this city.

Herald's special says: The publication of Gov. Perry's speech of July 3rd, has excited a storm of indignant opposition on the part of the more radical supporters of the administration. The governor has, however, had very satisfactory interviews with the President, and most of the members of the Cabinet. They expressed great confidence in the loyalty and patriotism of Governor Perry, and believe that he will administer the duties of the office with a loyal spirit. Governor Perry and accompanying delegation will leave for South Carolina on Monday next.

EMIGRATION TO THE SOUTH.

New York, July 22.—The initiatory movements for inducing Northeners to emigrate to the South, to settle and cultivate the lands of the reorganized States, have been taken by two North Carolina gentlemen, who are now in this city for the purpose of furnishing information to those desirous of seeking homes in that region. These gentlemen who have large quantities of land to offer for sale say that the North Carolinians generally are glad that they are rid of slavery, and are anxious to have it filled up and developed by Northern settlers.

GUERILLAS.

New York, July 22.—The Herald's New Orleans correspondence says the Teeche District, in Louisiana, is at present infested by a desperate band of gurilla thieves, who have so far defied all the efforts of the national troops, with the assistance of the citizens, to capture them. They not only plundered the rural district, but have on several occasions entered Franklin and other towns, and robbed the stores.

TROOPS MUSTERED OUT.

In accordance with the War Department Order for mustering out of service troops whose terms of service expire before the 1st of October next, between 14,000 and 15,000 of Sheridan's men will be discharged.

Murderous Affray.

Poughkeepsie, July 20.—Considerable excitement exists here in regard to an affray which occurred last night on the corner of Main and Water streets, resulting in the death of Thomas de Mott. De Mott approached Wm. Stevens, one of the crew of the four oared boat Floyd, T. F. Fields which was beaten in the great race on Tuesday, and accused him of selling out to the New Yorkers. Stevens earnestly denied the allegation, and on De Mott repeating it, struck him a powerful blow with his fist, knocking him down and breaking his neck. Stevens at once gave himself up to the authorities, and is now in the jail in this city. He had no intention of killing De Mott, and feels deep grief at the result. Coroner Haight held an inquest on the body to-day, when the jury brought in a verdict in accordance with the above facts. Considerable sympathy is manifested for Stevens.

Fracas at the Island of Orleans.—The Quebec Daily News has the following: On Friday evening, five soldiers of the Rifles belonging to a detachment stationed on the Island of Orleans, who had been out during the afternoon were returning to camp, in a noisy manner, two of the party being intoxicated. A party of habitans, to whom the soldiery had become obnoxious, gathered around and a free fight soon commenced. One or two of the soldiers were badly beaten, and ran to the camp for assistance, when they were reinforced, and coming back a general *melee* ensued, in which sticks, stones, and side belts were brought into requisition. The habitans, after a fierce fight, were beaten and chased in every direction. This misunderstanding between the military and the inhabitants of the Island is to be regretted.

☞ The liquor interest is warned by the Boston *Traveller* of the war that is coming upon them. What happened to the slaveholders we are told is to happen to the liquor sellers. The *Traveller* says:—"The slaveholders disregarded the warnings of friends and defied the assaults of enemies for a long course of years, but at the last vengeance came in a way and manner and with a terrific force of which they little dreamed a few years since. So will it be with the liquor-selling interest if they bestir not themselves in time and weed out from among them the disreputable and the dangerous members. The vengeance of the people will one day be aroused and sweep them all without discrimination, the good and the bad, from the land with the besom of destruction."

The Washington Executions.—One of the most horrid and fearful crimes that has ever disgraced the annals of civilization, has been perpetrated by the Executive department of the American government in the predetermined execution of Mrs. Surratt. The details are so fearful and have been so horrid we have felt unwilling to refer to them. But now comes the fact, endorsed by the New York *Tribune*, that Mrs. Surratt was undoubtedly innocent of the crime with which she was charged, and that those who could have proved her innocence was prevented by the military commission from testifying.—[Montreal Telegraph.

Novel Theft.—The Detroit Free Press has the following:—We have heard lately confiscations, burglaries, Break o' Day Johnnies and all kinds of thefts, and of the meanness of a man in Jackson Barracks, who sat up all night to steal a sick soldier's gruel in the morning, but the worst case that has come to our hearing transpired last night at the Detroit Barracks. A soldier stole one pantaloon leg from a sleeping comrade, in order to mend his own unmentionables.

Davis' Health.—It is denied that Jeff. Davis' health is bad, or that he has suffered from confinement. It is believed that he will shortly be removed to Washington to be tried *by military commission*.