be yours—if you saw her the morning only to bid an eternal farewell, why should you tremble that you have discovered in her the worst of certain attributes, essential to your happiness? The loss she is, the loss has she is."

"True all true, but there is not much reason in love, though there is plenty of impulse. I cannot tell why I love Rose more now that I feel she is forever hopelessly lost to me, than I ever did when I promised myself that one day she should become my wife, but so it is."

"So it is," repeated Maud Merriton, softly, while every tinge of red forsook her cheek, and she placed one hand upon the piano near which she stood, for support.

"But what did Miss Vivian say this morning?" asked she, directly, as with a great, though silent struggle, she forced back her composure and her strength.

"Say? she said nothing," replied Percy, bitterly. "Made some frivolous pretext about my taking care of that poor girl the other day—the girl that her own brother's dog was tearing down as he would a doe, and complained that it was long since I had been there—but it was plain enough to a blind man like me, that the whole story was, she wanted to be rid of me, without saying it in so many words."

"And you parted in anger?"

"No, not on my side, at all events. I was sorry—sorry that she could feel so, sorry that she could speak so—sorry that I had ever seen her, and that I should see her no more. I can hardly tell all the feelings that made me so miserable, but I know anger is not among them."

"And what will you do now?" asked Maud, with tender sympathy.

"Do? About what?"

"About—for want of some one—something to care about," stammered Miss Merriton, with an awkwardness very foreign to her usual self-possession and easy flow of language.

"I don't know," said Percy, sadly, as he leaned his head upon his hand, and fixed his eyes musingly upon the fire. "I have always loved Rose since I can remember—first as a playmate, then as a sister—and for months past as my future wife."

"And that you now know, she can never, be," said Maud slowly, and with so strange an undertone of joy sounding through the outward sadness of her voice, that even preoccupied Percy noticed it, and looked suddenly up at her.

"One would think you were pleased at my misfortunes?" said he, bluntly, and not without acrimony.

"I? No, my friend, nothing that distresses you can please me. Is not sympathy one of the first requisites of friendship?" asked Maud, averting her face, and, taking a bit of embroidery from the table, she bent sedulously over the trifling employment.

"And you are my friend?" asked Percy, in the forlorn voice of one who claims his last dependence. "Good, kind Maud, you will not forsake me with all the rest of the world?" asked he, imploringly, as he took her hand in his.

"No, Percy, I will never forsake you, so long as my affection can lighten the burden of life upon your shoulders," said Maud, looking suddenly up with such a glow of tender, womanly love beaming all over her face, that the young man could not choose but read its tell-tale message from the heart.

With a feeling almost of horror, he dropped the hand he had taken, and springing from his chair moved aimlessly about the room. Upon the table lay a volume of new poems. Mechanically he opened the cover; within was written in a delicate hand,

"Rose Vivian to Roland Crowninshield."

In the flush which burned across his brain, and made the letters swim before his eyes, he could not see that the three last words were written in a feigned hand, evidently an imitation of the two first—a playful forgery. Merently saw what he naturally thought a proof that Rose was already the affianced wife of his brother. Shutting the book with a hasty motion, he strode up and down the room, gnawing his under lip in silent rage.

"Does this girl love me?" though he, as his eye fell on Maud, who, bending over her work, was hoping against hope that Percy had perceived nothing more than a sister's friendship, in the words she had last spoken. "And if she does—if one, only one of all the world still loves me, can less than my poor aimless life testify my gratitude? If she loves me—but perhaps she does not. I am adding cocombry to my other failings—why should she?" And with a smile of bitter self contempt, the young man glanced toward the superb head, and hesitated. An other moment, and hurried on by an impulse which he did not seek to analyze, he threw himself upon the sofa beside her, and seized her hand.

"O Maud," said he, in hurried tones, "be more than friend to me, be all, be the nearest and dearest friend a man can have be my wife? With you to cheer and encourage me, I will soon gain wealth, station, all that you can desire, all that my father's dying words commaud. Maud, will you wait for me till then? O Maud, will you be my wife?"

As the impetuous young man poured out these confused sentences with feverish eagerness, Miss Merriton turned deadly pale, and shuddered visibly.

"What have I said—what have I done to betray myself?" murmured she, in a tone of deepest humiliation. "No—no, Percy," added she, aloud, "I will be your friend—your sister—nothing more. You do not love me—you love Rose. You said yourself you loved her better now, than ever in your life before," said she, turning in agitation towards him, and pushing him away with both her hands. The young man caught those slender hands in his, and pressed them to his lips.

"I was a fool! I was mad," cried he. "O Maud, it is from a return of that very madness, I ask you to save me. Give me a hope to cling to, lest I sink and perish in this sea of despair."

"Can I save you—can I help you?" asked the girl, eagerly, as she ceased struggling to withdraw her hands. "Is it really and sincerely for your own sake, that you ask me to be your wife?"

"For my own sake? For whose else should it be? O Maud, do not make me vain," whispered Percy, drawing the shrinking form closer, close, to his side, until the blushing face was hid upon his breast. Stooping, he pressed upon her brow the kiss of betrothal, but even while he murmured:

"My Maud, now!" he raised his eyes, and gazing through the window opposite, across the intervening valley country he saw the tall white chimneys of Vivian Lodge, relieved against their background of black fire, and the lover's heart contracted as it it had been compressed within the iron hands of stern remorse.

"My Maud now!" repeated he, resolutely while his cheek grew white, and his mouth grew cold and hard.

"O Percy, are you sure, are you very sure, that it was for your own sake?" whispered his betrothed.

"Maud, believe me, when I say, your love is the only love I have in life—the only tie that binds me in existence," said Percy, solemnly, and if the voice had in it more of desolation than of hope, more of the despair of disappointment, than the joy of triumph love, Miss Merriton was not now in a mood to perceive it. The words alone entered her ear, and sighing with very excess of happiness she nestled closer to her lover, as she said:

"And that is well, for I love you, dear Percy—I love you!"

The young man drew her still closer to his side, and absently smoothed the glossy hair that fell across his breast, but he did not speak, and still his gloomy eyes were fixed upon the distant darkening hillside, and still the hard line of his closed lips remained unsoftened.

It was at this moment, when the senses of each were deadened by their own hearts, that the heavy curtains falling across the arch which divided the drawing-room from the middle room beyond, were very slightly divided, and a glittering eye eagerly scanned the interval through the opening. Quite a minute passed in this scrutiny, but the subjects of it remained unconscious and immovable as if they were carved in marble. Maud's face hidden upon her lover's breast—he, upright and stately, one arm clasping the slender form of his betrothed, the other hand smoothed her night-black glossy hair, and his eyes never wandered from that distant hillside.

A minute passed, and then the curtain was carefully closed, and a noiseless footstep left the music-room, and crept away through the conservatory. Five minutes passed, and a horse's footstep crushing the gravel of the drive, broke the twilight silence.

Maud started in affright, and would have fled, but Percy held her close.

"It's only Roland going to pass the evening at Vivian Lodge," said he. "Don't leave me, darling—you must not leave me alone just now."

"But my mother," murmured Maud, bashfully. "I must go to her—how long I have been away from her—and I shall tell her, shall I not?"

"Certainly, dear, and ask if I may see her. Now that I am to be her son, we may dispense a little with etiquette, I think."

"But I don't want any one else to know—not yet, at least," said Maud, softly.

"That's my own wish," replied Percy, with an air of relief. "But I would not have suggested the idea, for it is your right to choose whether the world shall know your goodness or not."

"My goodness, say rather my happiness!" whispered Maud, as she deftly withdrew herself from her lover's arms, and glided from the room.

The night was older by three hours, than when Percy Crowninshield, betrothed himself to Maud Merriton, and the full moon was pouring down a flood of shimmery light that made her reign only a paler day, when two figures strolled upon the veranda of Vivian Lodge, and presently down the steps to the garden, where they sauntered up and down the broad gravel walk for some minutes in silence. The lady was the first to break the silence.

"See, Roland," said she, "how the dew hangs in the rose bushes, and sparkles like the diamonds in a court lady's dress. There must be a wedding in Fairyland, and queen Rose has put on her jewels to attend it. She only waits till we intrusive mortals are out of the way, when she will assume her true form, and the revel will begin."

"Speaking of weddings," returned her companion, apparently not hearing anything of what she had said, except the one word which chimed with his own thoughts. "Speaking of weddings, Rose, I will tell you a secret, if you will promise as you used when we were children, to never, never tell."

"When we were children!—I wish we were children now," said Rose Vivian, moodily.

"What, don't you ask about my secret?" cried Roland, with an impatient attempt at gayety. "I had thought by means of that to startle you out of the reverie which has absorbed you all this evening. I wish some fair lady would muse upon my perfections so intently."

To be Continued.

☞ By a recent "gift enterprise" swindle "Clark, Webster Co.," of N. Y. made a handsome fortune.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, NOV. 21st, 1867.

NOTHING DONE YET!

We read the reports of the speeches made in the House, and also the sentiments of private correspondents at the Capital, and the conclusion we must arrive at is that, "Nothing has been done." Nay, more, that nothing of the slightest importance is likely to be done during the present short session. The fact of the matter is that Ministers are not ready with their measures. As the *Globe* truthfully remarks the leading ministerial leaders were so thoroughly imbued with the idea that it was right, proper and their bounden duty to run from constituency to constituency during the long election contest to hold up the strong hands here, and prop up the feeble knees there that their visits to Ottawa during the Summer were few and far between, and their attention to the pressing public business of the country of the most discursive description. And now, having placed in the mouth of the Governor a Speech which foreshadows measures requiring prompt attention and gravest deliberation, they sit quietly behind their desks, smiling good-naturedly at the eloquent sallies of the Tuppers, and Howes, and Greys, and all and sundry who are willing to ventilate their views without pressing matters involving ugly questions touching governmental delinquency Government organs, which hold out in the sides shows of tory politics, hold up their hands in hypocritical horror and declare that those Opposition fellows are wasting the precious time of the House, and they go so far as to count up what it costs per day. Such rubbish will not be swallowed by the people of the country. The passage of the answer to the Address was a foregone conclusion, and none knew better than Ministers that if they had got upon their feet manfully and said, "Now, gentlemen, so much for explanations—now for business," the time wasted in the debate that was not a debate—to use a Hibernianism—would have been curtailed by one half. The result of the little session will be a vote of credit—a political *carte blanche*, and a number of notices upon the journals. That is all. No settlement of the Tariff question—no Militia Bill—no decision as to the route of the Intercolonial Railway—no action, in short, upon any of the really important questions alluded to with more or less distinctness in the address. Such a state of affairs is discreditable in the extreme, and we should be happy to find that our prognostications are not borne out ere the session closes.

THE NOVA SCOTIANS.

The gentlemen representing the small Province of Nova Scotia are determined to make a good deal of noise. Since the opening of the debate on the Address it has been Howe and Tupper, Tupper and Howe, and, by this time, the House of Commons must be thoroughly sick of Nova Scotia and her particularly smart men. Mr. Howe says he is willing to accept Confederation and vote for good measures from either side of the House. Why then, in the name of all that is reasonable does he not settle down quietly and allow the Address to pass so that the business of the country may be entered upon in real earnest. There are many things in connection with the governmental policy and the establishment of the Confederation, which, in our humble opinion, might be managed differently, but it is obviously useless to take up the time of the house just now with a re-hash of arguments which could only have had the least weight at the time of the holding of the Quebec conference. This wrangling between the Nova Scotians is worse than useless. It bodes ill for the harmonious working of a Dominion Government.

MR. CAMERON'S SPEECH.

We publish to-day the speech of the hon. member for South Huron, on the exceptions raised by the representatives from Nova Scotia to the Union of the North American Colonies. The honorable gentleman is reported as follows by our special correspondent at Ottawa:—

MR. SPEAKER,—I did not intend to offer any observations to this house at this stage of the proceedings; the debate has already assumed so wide a range—has continued for a week, and although there are no amendments submitted to the house, and there is nothing particularly objectionable in the address itself, the business of the country has by this protracted discussion been unnecessarily delayed. The conduct of the government, who have charge of the public business of the country, and who are responsible to the country for it, in encouraging the continuance of this discussion, is by no means to be commended. Why, sir, by the culpable connivance of the government the debate on the address was adjourned last evening as a sort of compliment to a *soiree* held for the benefit of some Protestant asylum in the city. If the business of the country is to be delayed whenever some public gathering takes place in this city, the sooner members of this House know it the better. (Hear, hear.) I would not have deviated from my intention of not addressing this house at present, had it not been for some observations that have fallen from the hon. member who has just resumed his seat, (Harrison) deprecating the introduction of party politics into this house, and claiming for the conservatives of Canada the honor of carrying through Parliament all the great measures of reform that adorn the statute books of Canada. While addressing to this House a few general observations on the attitude of Nova Scotia, the conduct of ministers during the elections, and the remarks of the hon. member for West Toronto, may I claim the indulgence of the house, always so considerately extended to new members. (Hear, hear.) During this lengthened debate, I have listened with great earnestness to the eloquent and able speech of the hon. member for Hants, (Howe) the equally able addresses of the hon member for Cumberland (Tupper), from their respective party points of view, in order to judge for myself how far the people of Nova Scotia had just ground of complaint against the existing Union. On the conclusion of the able speech of the leader of the Government party from Nova Scotia—himself the solitary representative. [Cheers.] I concluded that the Nova Scotians had no valid ground of complaint against the Union. At the conclusion of his second speech, I waivered in that opinion; and when he sat down for the third time, I made up my mind that if I were a Nova Scotian I would use all constitutional means for ultimate redress. [Cheers.] I have said, Sir, that I did not intend to offer any lengthened observations to this House in the reply to His Excellency's Address—although, perhaps, the unusual importance of that State document, the many, and the varied topics of peculiar interest to the people of Canada, and especially, from my point of view, to the people of Western Canada covered by it,—the exceedingly uneasy position of our financial affairs in that section of the Dominion, the inevitable result as we contend of the unnecessary and mischievious intermeddling by the late Government with our monetary institutions, all challenge more or less discussion. But, Sir, I reserve any observations I may deem it advisable to make on these points, until the Government shall bring down the measures foreshadowed in the Address, and the Minister of Finance, whoever he may be, shall have brought down his budget and explained his financial policy. And, Sir, I take this course, as I have always believed is the English practice, departed from that country, in but exceptional cases, of permitting the address to pass almost unchallenged, and thus throwing on the Government the whole responsibility of the position. [Hear.] That as I understand it does not commit any honorable member of this House to the policy enunciated in the address, nor can it be construed into an expression of confidence in gentlemen on the Treasury Benches. Besides, Sir, as a general rule, amendments to the address, and speeches on the address, critising the policy of the Government before that policy is fairly before the country, can serve no good practical purpose, simply retards the public business of the country, and occasionally gives to a weak and unwieldy administration a good excuse for not proceeding with that public business. [Hear, hear.] But, Sir, as our present meeting is under very exceptional, and were it not for the attitude of our friends from Nova Scotia, most auspicious circumstances, more latitude must be allowed to hon members. [Hear, hear.] To a very considerable extent I sympathise with the people of Nova Scotia in their grounds of complaint as to the mode in which the Union was carried. I think, and have always thought, that the scheme was unnecessarily hurried, [cheers]—that, in fact, it was pressed on the people of the Provinces by their Representatives in Parliament, without that consideration with and approval by the electors, necessary to give any great political scheme, and especially, Sir, one of the magnitude of Confederation—which has given to the people not simply a new Government, but has changed the constitution under which they lived, —a firm hold on the hearts of the people—without which no amount of legislation can make it palatable to the people. [Cheers.] But, Sir, in this respect the people of Nova Scotia have no more just ground of complaint than the people of the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario—in neither of which was this great question submitted to the electors at the polls. Doubtless the political exigencies of the hour necessitated immediate action of some kind on the part of those in charge of the scheme of Confederation, as it is well known to us in the west that the then Government of Canada occupied their places as mere tenants at will, charged with the important duty of effecting the Union of all the British North American colonies in the speediest but at the same time in the most constitutional manner, and if they failed in this respect the blame rests in the representatives and not in the people. (Hear, hear.) And perhaps, sir, a change of men, or a change of administration, nay, even a submission of this question to the people at the polls, where every one who has had the misfortune of being actively engaged in a political campaign full well knows that a thousand and one side issues immediately spring into activity, and occasionally over shadow the leading question intended to be submitted to the electors; and that, sir, might postpone indefinitely the union of the colonies. I doubt if even our friends from Nova Scotia, with all their hostility to the Union, would assume the responsibility of such a position. (Hear, hear.)

Now, Mr. Speaker, if the objections urged by our friends from Nova Scotia are based, not so much to the union itself as to the unconstitutional mode in which it was effected—and that I gather to be the fact from the powerful speech of the hon. member for Hants, the leader of this opposition—then, I say, now that the union has been effected, it is not better to quietly submit to the very cavalier manner in which the governments of of at least three of the colonies effected by it treated the electors of these colonies, and put up with the uncourteous and unconciliatory manner in which it was accomplished, than now, by a course of agitation on the subject, peril the existence of the union, and endanger what the honorable member for Hants, himself, has spent many, many years of his most useful public life to accomplish. (Cheers). But, Mr. Speaker, I apprehend that in this almost unanimous opposition there is something more than a mere exception to the mode in which the union was brought about. I am afraid that the fame of our Canadian Financiers, and the reputation of our Canadian statesmen for honesty and economy in our public affairs, has not made too favorable an impression on the Nova Scotia mind. (Hear, hear.) With a full treasury themselves, without any of the misfortunes attendant on commercial disastors and bank failures—with financiers just honest enough to make both ends meet, and just prudent enough, and practical enough, to keep the annual expenditure within the annual revenue, it is not at all to be wondered at, with the history of Canada, and Canadian finances, before their eyes, if they fear that the fruits of union will be to add largely to their annual burdens; that duties will be raised and taxes increased to meet the accumulated expenditure necessary to carry on five governments, and that in order to meet the enormous annual deficits exhibited by the Minister of Finance during the last ten years, there will be an annual tinkering with the tariff, and an annual intermeddling with the banks, likely to unsettle all commercial transactions; and in the strong language of the present Minister of Public Works, when in opposition: "It will again become necessary to give another vigorous turn to the taxation screw." (Cheers.) I regret that we cannot offer much consolation to our friends from Nova Scotia on this point. The little we can offer, they are, however, freely welcome to. Allusion has been made by previous speakers to the missionary labors of members of the Government during the recent elections. In Western Canada we were favored with many visits of the kind referred to. The electors took advantage of such visits to charge the Government with corruption, extravagance, and the mis-management of our public affairs. In reply we were told, (of course it was just at the eve of an election, when ministerial promises in this section of the Dominion are rather unsafe things to depend on) that as confederation was now an accomplished fact, "all old things had passed away, and a new world had begun." And I can assure our friends from Nova Scotia that we were promised, in very pleasing and penitential tones, that if we would only forgive the sins of the old administration—if we would only let by-gones be by-gones—if, using again the strong and vigorous language of the minister for public works, we "would only not persist in raking up the bones of the buried past," the Government would "sin no more." (Cheers.) The electors of Ontario, with much doubting, took the missionaries at their word, and sent to the House a majority prepared to give the Government a fair trial. And our friends from Nova Scotia must just do likewise; take them on trial. Wait until the policy of the Government is developed—until the budget is brought down, and we see whether or not the honesty and economy promised before the elections are likely to be carried into effect after. If not, I am sure the hon. member for Hants will find many members of this House prepared to back him up in attempting to secure an economical administration of our public affairs, and above all, sir, in dealing out even-handed justice to the people of Nova Scotia. And if, as events develope themselves in this House during this session, the hon. member and those associated with him from Nova Scotia, find that the Government of this great country—the members of this House and the people of this Dominion are not prepared to do ample justice to his native Province, I can at least promise him the vote of one western Canadian member to aid him in the repeal of this union. (Cheers.) Allusion has been made by the hon. member for West Toronto to the existence of parties in this House, and deprecating their continuance in the New Dominion. He asserted as an historical fact, that the country does not love to Reformers all the great measures of Reform obtained by this country. Partially I agree with him in that opinion. He asserted as another historical fact, that Canada was not indebted to the Conservative party for all the good measures under which this country has grown and prospered. I entirely concur with him in that opinion. And he asserted as a true historical fact, that the conservative party was the real liberal, progressite party. I dissent *in toto* from that opinion. Now, sir, he referred to the Representatives from Nova Scotia—who are anti-unionists and therefore non-progressive as evidence of this fact. It so happens that of the eighteen members who follow the hon. member for Hants in hostility to the union, nine are conservatives. (Cheers.) I think the House will agree me that my honorable friend's illustration is exceedingly unhappy. (Hear, hear.) Then, sir, my hon. friend adverted to the settlement of the Clergy Reserves—the Seignorial Tenure and Representation by Population by Coalition Governments, as indicating his assertion that we owe in this country all past measures of Reform to Governments of that character. Why, sir, every school-boy in the wide dominion knows that the settlement of the Clergy Reserves and the Seignorial rights, and there removal from the political arena, were but the voluntary acts of the Coalition of 1854. Both these measures were forced on that Government by their predecessors in office as the price of seats on the Treasury benches. And, sir, every child in the colony knows that for the small measure of Representative Reform, we now enjoy, we are not indebted to the great conservative party for it. With a zeal and a bitterness unworthy of them, every leading man connected with the party resisted the introduction of that principle into the Statute Law of Canada. Even now, though it prevails in the Dominion Act, under the new constitution, we are indebted for it to the laborers—the unwearied and never ceasing labors for many years, of the Great Liberal Party of Canada. (Cheers.) Reference has also been made, Mr Speaker, by most of the Representatives who have addressed the house to their electioneering experience and the unjustifiable interference of the Government with the free exercise of the franchise. I do not propose to trouble the House with my experience in South Huron, although I was honored with a visit from the missionary members of the Government and the power of the Post Office department. The Grand Trunk Railway and other instrumentalities were used to secure the election of the Government candidates. Permit me, however, to observe, Mr Speaker, to gentlemen on the Treasury Benches, that that if they will bring down to this House the measures referred to in the address, and make them the law of the land in a form acceptable to the people of Canada—and, Sir, if they will only administer the affairs of this Great Dominion in an honest and economical manner, although I sit on the opposition benches, they shall receive no opposition at my hands. (Cheers.)

THEATRICAL.—The Townsand family appeared in Goderich last (Monday) night, and will give representations of first-class plays to-night and to-morrow night. The play last night was the Merchant of Venice. As Shylock, Mr J. Townsand acquitted himself most ably, admirably supported as he was by Mr B. L. Townsand, as Antonio and Mr Harry Townsand as Bassanio. In the farce of "The Timid Lover," beside the superior acting of those we have mentioned, Miss Constance Townsand won much applause in her part of Louisa's maid. The company appears to-night with an entirely new bill.

☞ Mr, A. Smith's advertisement of the newest and best Sewing Machines will appear in our next.

THE NORTHERN GRAVEL ROAD.

We have received a letter from Mr. James Mercer, Ashfield, complaining of the weak state of a bridge on the Northern Gravel Road opposite his place. It is stated that Mr. Bay issues what purports to be a report under his hand, from Mr. Gordon's office. Now, we are pretty fearless, we flatter ourselves, when the interests of the public demand outspoken language; but we should deem it extremely uncalled for to send it out to the world that two gentlemen who are considered honorable men had, in the opinion of Mr. Mercer, with whom we have no personal acquaintance, conspired to forge a document of such a character. We have never exchanged two dozen words with Mr. Bay, apart from purely business matters, but if he is ever impeached before the County Council as a servant unworthy of confidence, it will most assuredly not be because he is capable of being bribed into favoritism, and we have no reason to doubt that Mr. Gordon's character stands just as high in this respect. No, no, if there is any legitimate ground of complaint against Mr. Bay let it be entered by good, responsible parties, (Mr. Mercer may be one of such, for all we know,) and no doubt the rights of the public will be maintained, and he will be heard on his own behalf. Fair play is a jewel, particularly in matters affecting private character!

The Summer Hotel Movement.

We are glad to see that our advice, for the holding of a public meeting for the purpose of discussing the steps necessary for starting the Summer Hotel project, is being acted upon, and that a largely signed requisition will be presented soon to the Mayor for calling the same. One thing is certain, if any action taken is not of an energetic, practical sort, the people of the town will only expose themselves to open derision. It requires that every man who has a deep interest in the town should come forward and assist in an enterprise of such great importance. This course alone can secure the unanimity which will secure success. On this subject our namesake of the Bay City *Signal* says:—

"The people of this Valley have, during the summer months, for many years past, largely patronized the Town of Goderich, or the Canada shore of Lake Huron. It has undoubtedly many great natural advantages which fit it to become somewhat of an inland watering place for the fast filling cities of the Saginaw River. Its natural beauty, its picturesque situation, its bold breezy cliffs, its bright sandy beach, its clear pellucid waters, and above all its bracing atmosphere, fit it to become a retreat for the tired denizens of casional resort for the overtasked man of business. Except Mackinaw, on our own coast, there is no such place, and even it has the disadvantage of being out of the line of eastern travel and too far off to be well made readily available. As a rule, yet, our business men cannot afford to go for months or weeks to a place of recreation and leave their business behind them, nor can they pay frequent visits to any place which would involve their absence more than three or four days, or so, at a time. But if business could be combined with pleasure, and a place like Goderich on the direct line of travel from the Saginaw Valley eastwards, furnished suitable accommodations for invalids or summer pleasure seekers, there is no doubt that it would be largely taken advantage of.

Last summer a number of our people had to return by the same steamer they went out on, unable to find any accommodation there. Some of the enterprising hotel men of the Valley have repeatedly tried to get up a joint stock scheme to prepare a suitable place of accommodation, but so far have failed through the apathy of the Canadians, who would neither assist to any extent in the project, or even grant the necessary land on reasonable terms.

* * * * * *

"If our Goderich neighbours will take hold of it in an up and down business way, they will be heartily met by men on this side, who can make such a scheme a paying thing for all concerned. But to expect our men to go into the Goderich market and buy or lease lands at an exorbitant rate, and unaided erect their own building, in which afterwards to spend their own money to enrich strangers is a little too much of a good thing, and need not be looked for. Canadians can however be readily met half-way or more than half way.

A Hotel of 150 or 200 rooms to start with built merely as a Summer House and therefore slight and unexpensive in construction need not cost a great deal more than a couple of first class well-furnished dwelling houses.—The money could be raised on the joint stock principle if the holders of shares were entitled to preference of rooms at the building. Who is there, at all in comfortable circumstances, would not invest his 400 or 500 dollars in well paying stock; especially if insured to his family and himself, comfortable quarters at reasonable rates in a healthy locality, during the oppressive summer heats, or if ample grounds were secured in connection with the Hotel how many would be glad to erect for themselves tasteful cottages of three or four rooms or so in which to enjoy privacy, whilst partaking of the table accommodations of the Mansion House We shall allude to this matter again and perhaps move in detail but in the meantime shall await and see whether on the other side of the Lake the "Mountain in labour" shall again as before bring forth a mouse."

OBITUARY.—We record with regret, to-day, the demise of Mr. John Slight, a relation of our respected friend Thomas Andrews. Mr. Slight, although of a retiring disposition was a man of thought, if not of actual genius. Seeking no applause or honor from his fellow men, he pursued what he believed to be right, looking for the reward of his independence in the recesses of his own mind. We well remember that during the American war no man was more ready to support the cause we advocated, and none more ready to uphold the glorious principle of "Right not Might!" For months past he had been laboring upon a new principle of telegraphy of his own invention, and it was just at the moment when he deemed his researches fully ripened and prepared for the verdict of the world, that he was prostrated by the disease which so suddenly cut short his career. He would have been a great man, but let us bow to the decrees of an ever wise Providence. The sorrowing family have the heart-felt sympathy of the whole community.

LONDON SOCIETY.—We have received from W C Chewett & Co., of Toronto, London Society for November. It is superbly illustrated, and will be an ornament to any drawing-room table. Messrs Chewett & Co., deserve credit for the introduction of such a purely English specimen of illustrative art and literary ability. For sale in Goderich by T J Moorhouse.

The Early Closing Movement.

An influential and respected clergyman of our town, is endeavoring, on behalf of the young men engaged in commercial house, to effect the closing of stores and shops at seven o'clock in the evening. Most of our leading merchants have already signed an agreement to close at this early hour, and we see no valid reason why some such reform could not be effected. It is fully established in such large places as Toronto and Montreal.—But, in our opinion, something further is required: When the young men of the town are released from toil, what is to engage their attention? Something is required for those who do not wish to spend *all* their time at billiards or other of the most innocent time-killers, and what is there in an intellectual way to meet their wants. In our humble opinion a literary society and debating club would be just the thing. Who will assist in taking the initiative in a matter of such moment?—We have been talking to a few young friends who would be perfectly willing to support some such institution.

MISSIONARY MEETING.—The Missionary Meeting in connection with the New Connexion M. Church of this town came off last (Monday) evening. Rev. Mr. Moss read the annual report, which was of a most satisfactory nature, after which very interesting addresses were delivered by Revds. Messrs. Poole, Walker, Shaw and Dr. Cocker of Toronto. A handsome collection was realized. The singing was confined to the rendering of a new and delightful order of music under the direction of Mr. James Thomson, our respected town Clerk, which seemed to give unbounded satisfaction to all present.

☞ A lengthy article relative to Banking is avoidably crowded out of this issue.

☞ The meteoric shower of the 14th was quite a success. It was witnessed at various places in Canada and the States.

☞ Detective Vanvalkenburg, of London, Ont., caught a thief named Burnham at Chicago a few days ago, who two years ago stole $16,000 from a firm in the latter city.

☞ On the 10th inst. a white woman, wife of a Charleston S. C. grocer eloped with a negro. The pair were nabbed and their booty recovered.

☞ The feeling of the Italian people against the French is said to have reached a perfect furore.

☞ Chicago is over-run with young men seeking employment.

☞ Wolverines are both plentiful and uncomfortably bold in some parts of Canada.

☞ The mammoth cheese made at Ingersoll is on its way to England.

☞ The cable informs us that the government has resolved to place all the telegraph lines of Great Britain under the immediate direction of the post office department.

☞ The *Globe* says:—The notorious counterfeiters, Ulrich and Hacco, who figured so long before our Police Court, and who have of late been contemplating the ills of life in our gaol, made their escape and all search for them has proved futile.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH.—On Tuesday, the 5th inst. a son of Mr. Robert Proudfoot, Colborne, fell from a horse and sustained such injuries that he died on the Thursday night following. The lad's age was 13 years.

☞ Arrangements have been made by which the students of the Commercial Academy can graduate and obtain the College diploma without being under the necessity of going to London for examination. Several of the students now in attendance are preparing for examination and now all are satisfied with the course, young men who wish to improve the winter months by adding to their education that which will be useful in every sphere of future life have an excellent opportunity of doing so by attending this institution. Merchants and others who are employed during the day may avail themselves of the night school.

RUNAWAY CARS.—On Wednesday last two partly laden cars standing at the railway station were started by the force of the wind and proceeded towards the harbor on the steep down grade at the rate of about 80 miles an hour. The switchman at the elevator discovered them, very fortunately, in time to turn the switch so that, instead of dashing through the elevator and destroying both life and property, the runaway cars only collided with two cars laden with sugar, molasses, &c. The damage amounts to something like $4000.

SEAFORTH.

From Our own Correspondent.

It is Saturday night and I am reminded of my engagement to send to the *Signal* a few items of news from this Village. For two reasons my letter must be short, first, because it is my first, and it would not savor well for me to begin by sending you a long one, and secondly, because the events of our village have not been very new or striking this week.

THE WEATHER.—We have experienced a change of weather and have had quite a quantity of snow, wind and hail. The snow soon thawing has left our streets in a not very enviable condition.

Though Seaforth claims the superlative degree in commercial enterprise, it cannot ignore the same degree of muddy streets during the fall and spring.

PRODUCE MARKET.—The amount of produce brought into the market has been quite small, and hence our score and a half of buyers have had plenty of leisure for cracking jokes, snow balling and grieving over the gloomy aspect of the markets.

Our merchants do not complain of too great a number of farmers coming in to buy goods; but they do of too many commercial travellers coming in to sell. One told me he thought that "they averaged a half dozen a day, that they were as thick as black berries." The "Farmers' Store" kept by West & Cox, failed so far as to suspend business on Wednesday.

NEW CHURCH.—The large new Presbyterian Church is progressing finely. The carpenters' finish shingling the roof to-night.

Mr. McIntosh, (formerly of Woodstock.) has erected and inclosed his new carriage shop this week.

NEW PAPER.—You must not be astonished if you are visited with the first copy of the Seaforth Expositor next week, Messrs. Penton & Colborne, have rented their rooms and got on their press, and there is talk of the first issue appearing then.

THEATRICAL.—A good many of our citizens witnessed the theatrical performances of the Townsend Family, in Downey's Hall two nights this week. The lovers of such things speak of them as being middling, but not very promotive of virtue.

Our village is pretty healthy, with the exception of the prevalence of whooping cough among the children.

LETTER FROM OTTAWA.

SPECIAL TO THE HURON SIGNAL.

OTTAWA, Nov. 18th, 1867.

The subject matter of our last letter was of such importance that it did not allow space for any considerable amount of side issues and chit-chat. The seat of government of any country is a peculiar place, presenting life in a manner wholly unknown elsewhere. For the two principal countries in North America, the cities occupying this position are comparatively unimportant. We say this without any desire to belittle our capital in the eyes of those who never visited it. Take the fountain of political and governing power from Ottawa, and it holds but a second-class position socially and commercially. Again, take things as they are, and the large influx of wealth, power and beauty render it attractive beyond more populous and desirable localities. While I am upon this subject it may not be out of place to free my mind of a few thoughts which suggest themselves, and may, if properly put, form a readable portion of this correspondence. Ottawa now occupies the position of capital of this Dominion, which makes it of considerable importance, to all who now inhabit this section of the globe. The city is situated on the Ottawa River, between the Chaudiere Falls, and the mouth of the Rideau River; it is intersected by the Rideau Canal which enters the Ottawa River after passing down a considerable descent through eight locks. This canal divides the city into the Upper and Lower Towns, the former of which is buildings, banks, etc., but the latter is most important, containing the Parliament by far the most populous. The building occupied by the two Houses of the Legislature is situated on the bluff, which rises to a considerable height above the mouth of the Rideau Canal. The ground under and around this and the Departmental buildings consists of about twenty acres. The two blocks occupied by the Executive Council and Departmental Offices are situated farther from the river and on either side of the Parliament House. The chief financial benefit which Ottawa derives from the Government is the amount paid for board, etc., during the session. Of course the number of attaches making this their home is not to be lost sight of but the swarms which attend the sittings of Parliament cannot fail to leave a large amount of money behind them, although it cannot be denied that they carry considerable away with them.

The families and friends of Senators and members attracted to the seat of Government by various causes form a large and generally desirable addition to its society. This is especially so when it is remembered that this influx is from all parts of Canada, and in the majority of instances holding positions above the average. The chief place of resort being the galleries of the House, the monotony is sometimes broken by levees, etc., one of which took place on Saturday last. The members of both Houses, together with gentlemen from the city, were presented with the usual number of gentlemen to keep up the needful amount of display.

Let us now turn our attention to politics and the situation of matters in that direction.

The debate on the address which was expected to close after some three or four day's duration, gained importance as it proceeded and almost exclusively occupied the attention of the House for a whole week. For some time after its commencement, the members for Nova Scotia held the floor and kept up a warm discussion, with the wrongs of their Province for a subject. As they are only nineteen in number, they had sooner or later to yield the floor and allow the address to pass; this they did to all appearances, but when all the clauses received the sanction of the House, except one, Mr. Howe rose and again delivered one of his soul-stirring speeches. The speech of this champion, of Nova Scotia, of course, must be answered, so Dr. Tupper felt called upon to reply.

After this revival of the debate many felt called upon just because some one else had spoken, to say a few words in vindication of their present and contemplated position.—Among those who were thus *pressed* into the service, we note Messrs Harrison, Cartwright, McKenzie, Morris, Young, McGee, Anglin, Smith, Tilley and Rymal. The answer to the opening speech is of such a nature that it furnishes a wide field for the introduction of all subjects into the debate, this is generally understood and always acted upon, especially by new members, whose ideas are often somewhat confused, which makes it necessary to allow plenty of space for floundering. To all who have for the last five years, listened to the discussion in the former Province of Canada, it is a relief to hear a new theme criticised by new men.

The bone of contention among the Nova Scotia men is something like this; the ministry led by Dr. Tupper proposed the scheme of Confederation, and carried it through the Legislature. After it became law, and the writs were issued for the Dominion elections, it became the all-important question at the polls. The returns show that out of nineteen members, eighteen at least are anti-unionists, and sixteen of these go in for repeal. In New Brunswick, out of fifteen members, twelve are union, and only three form the minority opposing it, but are now contented to abide by the decision of the majority. These parties being used to sharp encounters in small politics, take part in the debates with a determination that almost makes the Ontario and Quebec representatives stand back in wonder.

A majority of the speeches delivered on the address were of a style and tone not easily outdone. Those from Messrs. McGee, Howe, Tupper, Tilley, and Anglin were replete with information respecting the inception and carrying out of the scheme of Union in all its stages.—Mr. McGee being a Union man and Mr. Anglin an opponent, but both being Irish Roman Catholics, their speeches mainly directed at each other were grand specimens of Irish eloquence and sarcastic power. After a good deal of talk and some really able discussion, the address was passed on Thursday night about 12 o'clock. Contrary to the usual custom, the address was presented by the members of the Executive Council instead of the whole House. This plan is more speedy, and one in every way preferable.

The business of Legislation will now commence in earnest, since the field is clear.—Friday was but partially occupied in consequence of a certain amount of preparation being necessary to bring bills properly before the House for consideration. Sir J A Macdonald moved for a new writ to be issued for the County of Montgomery to elect a member to serve in the room of Mr Casshon, recently appointed Speaker of the Senate.—A number of motions appointing the preparatory committees were carried, thereby giving a start to that department of the work. The rules regulations and forms of procedure formerly in use here are to be observed until the necessary steps are taken to organize a new system.

Latest European News.

The bread riots at Torquay, Exmouth and other places have been suppressed, and all parts of Devonshire are now quiet.

England, France and Austria, have come to a common understanding as to the policy to be pursued by them hereafter in the Eastern question.

Great distrust is felt about the relations between France, Italy and Rome, which are regarded as liable to rupture at any moment.

A despatch from Glamorgan, Wales, states that a terrible explosion took place in one of the mines of the Ferndale Colliery, in that county. All the miners, three hundred in number, were at work at the time. At last accounts the mine was on fire, and