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THE HURON SIGNAL, FRIDAY, JULY 3, 1885.

The Huron Signal

DEVOTED TO COUNTY NEWS AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

THIRTY-EIGHTH YEAR. WHOLE NUMBER 2002. | GODERICH, ONT., FRIDAY, JULY 3, 1885. | McGILLICUDDY BROS. PUBLISHERS. $1.50 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

THE HURON SIGNAL

Is published every Friday Morning, by Mc GILLICUDDY Bros., at their Office, North St GODERICH, ONTARIO

And is despatched to all parts of the surrounding country by the earliest mails and trains.

By general admission it has a larger circulation than any other newspaper in this part of the country, and is one of the raciest, newsiest and most reliable journals in Ontario possessing, as it does, the fore-going essentials and being in addition to the above, a first-class family and fireside paper—it is therefore a most *desirable advertising medium.*

TERMS.—$1.50 in advance, postage pre-paid by publishers; $1.75, if paid before six months $2.00 if not so paid. This rule will be strictly enforced.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.—Eight cents per line for first insertion; three cents per line for each subsequent insertion. Yearly, half-yearly and quarterly contracts at reduced rates.

JOB PRINTING.—We have also a first-class jobbing department in connection, and possessing the most complete out-fit and best facilities for turning out work in Goderich, are prepared to do business in that line at prices that cannot be beaten, and of a quality that cannot be surpassed.—*Terms Cash*

FRIDAY, JULY 3RD, 1885.

SCOTT ACT MAJORITIES.

"The *Week* has continually insisted that the Scott Act has never been carried by an actual majority of voters in the localities which are subject to its provisions. In Middlesex, so far as is known at the time of going to press, hardly one-third of the total vote of the county was polled in the recent Scott Act contest.—[The Week.

There is another way of looking at the matter. If only one-sixth of the available vote could be brought out to vote *against* the Scott Act, then five-sixths of the entire county must be for the act. But the facts given in the above quotation are not correct. It will be found that the proportion of unpolled votes is not nearly as large as given by the *Week*. Similar statements were at one time made in this county. The figures were compared and it was found that in the keen Provincial election that preceded the Scott Act contest 11,585 votes were polled in Huron, and in the temperance battle 10,496 votes were polled, or over 90 per cent of the *available* vote at the Provincial election. A large number of electors residing in the county had votes in different ridings for the legislature, but could only vote once for the Scott Act, and that would lessen the difference by several hundreds. It will be found that the proportion of the *available* vote brought out for the Act is much higher than Anti-Scott writters or speakers will admit. In Perth the vote was 82 per cent of the political vote, and allowing for duplicate votes at the local election the percentage would be much higher.

The first sentence in the extract we quoted from the *Week* is stupidly inaccurate. In Huron, if all who remained at home of the available vote had gone against the Act, the temperance men would still have had a majority of 500. But the whisky men make a mistake when they claim the "stay-at-homes" for their side. They found out this to their cost at Halton. The Scott Act majority on the first vote in Halton was only 81. The anti Scott press and speakers claimed that the "stay-at-home," who numbered some 300 or 400 were all in their favor, and would have given them a big majority. The excitement grew intense during the vote on the repeal, and the Halton "stay-at-homes" were enticed out of their shells. And with what result? Simply to vastly increase the Scott Act majority. For while the thousands of those who voted in the first contest put the majority for the Act at only 81, the few hundred of "stay-at-homes" gave a further majority of 99, or a total of 180 for the Act. Therefore it is absurd to claim those who neglect to vote are opposed to the act, and in favor of whisky.

FRIDAY last was what is generally known as a "cold day" for the Ontario Tories. On that day three Local elections were held—Algoma, Lennox and East Simcoe—and in all three Reform candidates were elected. The *Mail* and its following had been big with prophesy as to the result, and readers of the Tory organs looked with fond anticipation to the realization of the prophesies. But, alas! disappointment was their portion—their hoped-for victories turned out to be disastrous Waterloos. In Algoma Conmee was elected over his opponent Gough by a large majority; in Lennox, Blackstock was a second time relegated to the cold shade by Hawley; and in Simcoe, Drury defeated his opponent, Thompson, by a largely increased majority. Meredith, Mackintosh, Shields, Tom Cowan, Lew Wigle, and others of that ilk, went around like wandering spirits of evil seeking to turn the tide of right, but their efforts were unavailing. Ontario is safe for Reform, the Tory roosters no longer crow, and crape of the broadest dimensions hangs on the Ontario Conservative hat. The Provincial treasury flesh-pots are farther away than ever; Tories mourn as without hope, and comfort is not their portion.

"NOW YOU SEE IT, AND NOW YOU DON'T."

Amonget the hangers-on at the circus in town on the 1st of July were several fellows running "skin games," such as "walnuts," thimblerig," "drop the marble" and "wheel of fortune." One would have thought these thieving expedients would not be able to do any trade in a community where the large majority of the people expect to receive nothing for which they do not give full value. Yet such was not the case on the 1st. Old men, who should have had solid sense; middle-aged men, whose wisdom-teeth should have been cut; and young men, who didn't appear to be born fools, went into one or other of the schemes, and, of course, got nipped. And they deserved to lose every half-dollar they invested. No honest person would have taken chances of the kind offered by the "skin game" dealers, even if he were assured of winning, for when anyone gets more than his money will legitimately buy, some one else has to suffer. During the day we were spoken to by several of the "tenderfeet" who had been bitten, to use our influence in decrying the roguish institutions. The interviews were not necessary, for THE SIGNAL has always been on the side of law and order, and is always outspoken on questions of this kind. But, our friends of the "tenderfoot" persuasion should know that when a gambler's den is raided, the frequenters do not always go off scot free, and if the rogue's tables were pulled on Dominion day the foolish fellows who were sending good half-dollars after phantom $5 bills would likely be arrested with the rogues who were running the tables. And now let us talk plainly for about half a minute to every man who spent money at these tables: If you were honest, you would not have done so. No honest man believes it possible that another man can take equal chances and return ten fold an investment of short duration. If your common sense tells you that fact, and you persist in going into the scheme, you are a fool. If you are not honest you should be in jail; if you are honest, but lack sense enough for ballasting purposes, then your permanent abode should be in an asylum. Of course you will say that you saw other men play and win. So you did, but the fellows that won invariably turned out to be "cappers" for the concern—"stool-pigeons" to attract the unwary. You were the gudgeons that jumped at the timselled bait. You needn't get angry about this plain speaking. You deserve it because of your foolishness on Dominion Day. If it leads you to be wiser and more honest on future occasions you will be the gainer. Sympathy will not get your money back; our sound advice, if followed, will save you from foolishly squandering your hard earned substance in the future. We have spoken.

THE beer case to be tried today is a peculiar one, and every friend of the Scott Act should be present to watch the proceedings. Some very interesting developments are expected. We understand that Mr. Saunders, of London, the government analyst will be present, and give important evidence as to the nature of the beer drunk.

AS WE go to press we learn that Mr. Lyon has been returned for East Algoma by a majority of 750, and that Mowat won't go.

The main debate on the Canadian Pacific resolutions concluded last night when the amendment moved by Mr. Cameron, of Huron, was rejected by 100 nays to 51 yeas. Mr. Cameron's amendment which will commend itself to the practical common sense of the country, was as follows:—

That all after the word "that" be left out, and the following inserted:—"Canada, in the contract with the Canadian Pacific railway company, gave the company vast aids, which were declared to be ample and final; Canada, in 1884, gave the company great additional aids which were again declared to be ample and final; the shareholders of the company have already divided among themselves about $7,000,000 in dividends, and have on deposit with the government about $14,000,000 more, to provide future dividends for themselves for over eight years to come, while they affirm that the railway will be profitable from the day of its opening; in the opinion of this House, the shareholders, if they desire more money for their operations, should propose to utilize their deposit for future dividends instead of asking Canada to impair its existing securities to make large further advances, and to allow the enterprise to be charged with $15,000,000 additional capital; the interest upon which must be borne by the trade of this country."

OUR CIVIL WAR.

Interesting Letter from a Volunteer from Huron.

He Places the Responsibility of the Uprising Upon the Ottawa Government.

The writer of the following, a wide-awake printer who learned the business with us over in Brussels seven or eight years ago, was loyal enough to shoulder his rifle in the defence of his country, and is surely competent to give an honest and fair opinion as to the cause of the unhappy rebellion in the Northwest. It will be seen by his letter that the half breeds are driven to rebellion by their unfair treatment by the Dominion Government. We commend the letter to all who would like to know what Manitoba volunteers think of the uprising, and how far justified the half breeds were in making some sort of a stand for their rights. That they erred in going too far, of course we all admit:—

CAMP 91ST BATTALION,
Fort Qu'Appelle, June 25.

Of late I have had a change in my life, as you will at once discover by this heading. We are at present encamped in the Qu'Appelle Valley—a place for grandeur of scenery, beauty of situation, and every adaptability for a prosperous town, I have not seen in the Northwest. The town proper is beautifully situated in a valley about two miles wide, and I have no idea how long. The hills on either side rise almost perpendicularly about 200 feet high, and at the summit the prairie is level, dotted here and there with small groves, and now in their dress of green, is most charming. But it is the valley that enraptures me. We are encamped midway between two lakes—both the full width of the valley—the west one being 8 miles long, and the east one 5, and are connected by the Qu'Appelle river.

FISH AND GAME

are very plentiful—not like Ontario fish and game, however—large fish, varying from 1 to 3 feet in length, and game, such as ducks, geese, pelicans, loons, turkeys, etc, (not tame ones, remember.)

Now, although we came here, a Manitoba regiment, to add our little mite toward quelling this rebellion, we have not yet fired a shot at the enemy. We have never had an opportunity. You in Ontario must not think *all* Manitobans blame the half breeds for asserting their rights. Had they, and they alone, risen, Manitobans would have said "Bad enough; but might have been worse." It was the Indians joining in and making prisoners of women that made our blood rise There is no use of evading facts,

THE HALF BREEDS HAVE GRIEVANCES,

and have used all lawful and reasonable means in their power to have them redressed, but the Government paid no heed to their appeals. They did not have any idea it was going to be carried so far as it has gone, or bring the desolation it has wrought. How quickly the Government appointed a commission when arms were resorted to, while people were loud in expressing themselves regarding their rights.

THE FARMERS' UNION

never openly, nor do I believe secretly, proclaimed arms as the only and surest channel by which they might assert their rights as British subjects, but winks and nods not only among them, but many in favor of the Government, made it apparent that all was not as it ought or should be, in this, the greatest country on earth. I firmly believe, I verily believe, that if the half breeds had not done as they have they would never have had their rights adjusted. Truly yours,

WILL S. ARMSTONG,
"B" Co. 91st Batt.

CONTEMPORARY OPINION.

The Sayings of the Brethren—Wise and Otherwise—Placed on Record.

A POSER.

In the supplementary estimates, the Dominion Government asks $35,000 for "expenses of Half-breed Commission," and a contemporary puts the poser: Why spend this large sum, if, as the Minister of Interior contends, "the half-breeds have no grievances whatever?"—[Stratford Beacon.

LENNOX, ALGOMA, SIMCOE, KENT.

The Mowat Government cannot under any circumstances last much longer, and when it falls, it will be without hope of resurrection.—[Mail.

Is there another conspiracy hatching among the brawling brood of bribers, that the *Mail* thus insults the common sense of the Province? This was the daily style of the *Mail* when Wilkinson and Kirkland had rooms at the Walker and Rossin, and Bunting was the 80th member of the Legislature.—[Brantford Expositor

MEREDITH MUST GO

Whenever Ontario constituencies get a chance, they show that they do not want a Premier who is tied to the coat-tails of Sir John Macdonald. The people of Ontario do not want their affairs controlled by a man who is ready to sacrifice our interests at the bidding of the scheming leader in Ottawa. They do not want their natural resources handed over to the pack of speculators and needy politicians whose misgovernment brought on the rebellion in the Northwest.—[Hamilton Times.

Modified Home Rule.

LONDON, June 27.—The Tory government is skilfully feeling its way along. Even Lord Randolph Churchill has become prudent. Since his party has had the responsibility of government the young orator has exhibited surprising repressibility and has judiciously held both his tongue and his pen. The only minister of the new government who has up to date publicly addressed his constituants in Balfour. Balfour is but 37 years of age, and a son-in-law of the Marquis of Salisbury. The most striking utterance in Balfour's address was the unqualified declaration that he desires not less than Mr. Chamberlain to see Ireland governed by equal laws with England and to see all exceptional legislation against the Irish people abalished.

Mr. Balfour has just caused to be published for general circulation a brochure on the Irish question. In this the new chief secretary strongly supports home rule for Ireland, but contends that this home rule shall extend to local interests only. His argument for this limit is a favorite one of the Tories, viz., that it is as necessary for the general welfare of Ireland itself as it is for the strategic security of Great Britain, that in all national affairs the present state of dependence shall be maintained, and that all concessions to Ireland shall be based on the absolute maintenance of England's imperial control. Another idea is elaborated in this brochure, namely, that in any new organization of the government of Ireland, the rights of the Irish Tories, such as the loyal minority in Ulster, must be respected and maintained, It must be admitted that these statements indicate a remarkable change of attitude in the Conservative feeling toward Ireland. Not only that, but there is an astonishing brood of Tory declarations of the same character as those made by Balfour. In fact all the reports from Conservative clubs and political circles show that Churchill has become the prophet of the Tory party on the Irish question. His policy, which from all present indications will prevail with the present government, favors a gradual replacement of the vice royal government at Dublin castle by the formation of an elective central board to sit in Dublin and possess the power of dealing with all internal questions of government.

Gladstone Still a Leader.

LONDON, June 29.—At a meeting of the Midlothian Liberal association today the chairman read a letter from Gladstone, expressing his deep and grateful sense of the fidelity of the Liberal majority in 1880 in dealing with difficulties almost unexampled. He refrained from criticising the Conservative cabinet, feeling it to be his duty to support and assist them in doing right. He says he is confident that the presence of Liberals in Parliament will be competent to exercise the necessary vigilance. Mr. Gladstone says he did not think he should again ask to be returned to Parliament, but that events had transpired which rendered it necessary that he should not imperil the unity and efficiency of the party. This is tantamount to a declaration that he will remain the leader of the Liberals.

A resolution expressing hearty confidence in Gladstone was adopted.

Glandstone's letter is the political feature of the day. The Liberals are now relieved of anxiety over the question of his continued leadership of the party, and are jubilant over his decision to remain.

Chamberlain's Idea.

LONDON, June 19.—Joseph Chamberlain contributes an unsigned article to the Fortnightly Review on Irish reforms. He proposes that national councils be established to sit at Dublin, Edinburgh, and, if the Welch desire a council, at Cardiff; the members of the councils to be chosen directly by the ratepayers or elected by the county boards. The councils, he proposes, shall legislate and administer educational works, the poor law and all measures not of an imperial character. The article is creating much discussion.

Sir John Tells a Story.

A few nights ago Sir John Macdonald told a story intended to illustrate the idea that he can hold out as long as the Opposition in the Franchise Bill discussion. And the following is the story:

An Indian, years ago, in Prince Edward county, had committed a murder and was condemned the death. All the ministers of the place, anxious to give him the consolation of religion, had instructed him as to his future state. One day he called his jailor, Maguire, and said:

"What kind of a place is hell?"

Maguire gave a description.

"Are there many there?"

Maguire replied in the affirmative.

"Who was the first man to go there?"

"The devil," was the reply.

"How long has he been there?"

"Thousands of years."

"Well," said the Indian, at last, "if he can stand it I can."

Sir John's characterization of himself as the Indian that did the murder, and on the way to future retribution may strike some as too accurate to be jocular. It must be a solemn thing for the Conservative party to see whither he is leading them.—[St. John's (N.B.) Telegraph.

GORDON'S JOURNALS

Strange Words Penned During His Immurement.

The Feelings of the Great Soldier and how He Regarded the Government, the Diplomats and the Expeditionary Forces.

BOSTON, June 24.—The journals of Gen. Gordon at Khartoum, published in London today and which will be published in this city next Tuesday, will make a volume of over 500 pages. The diaries are a strange medley, and were written evidently in perfect sincerity, but varying in style, manner and subject from page to page. One page will be an abstruse statistical discussion of the social and political aspect of the Egyptian problem. Then follows, perhaps, a page reading like a biblical commentary, with many scriptural quotations and cross references, giving Gordon's peculiar views, which the editors have been compelled to make a great effort to explain with foot notes. Then suddenly will come a bit of reminiscence of life in England or elsewhere, or a story about some Arab child. Then he turns aside to discuss his own feelings and habits and ends perhaps with a funny sketch, followed by the declaration that he is resigned to God's will. Much is underlined. The following extracts will give an idea of the varying character of the diaries and of Gordon's opinions:

"I do not judge the question of abandoning the garrisons or not. What I judge is the indecision of the government. They did not dare to say, Abandon the garrison. So they prevented me leaving for the equator with the determination not to relieve me of the hope—well, I will not say what their hope was. There is my point of complaint. A heavy lumbering column, however strong, is now here in this land, parties of forty and sixty men moving swiftly about will do more than any column. I can say I owe the defeats in this country to having artillery with me which delayed me much, and it was the artillery with Hicks, which in my opinion did for him.

"I altogether decline the imputation that the projected expedition has come to relieve. It has come to save our national honor in extricating the garrison, etc, from a position which our action in Egypt has placed these garrisons. As for myself I could have made good my retreat at any moment I wished. I came up to extricate the garrisons and failed. Earle came up to extricate the garrisons and (I hope) succeeds. Earle does not come to extricate me. The extrications of the garrisons was supposed to affect our 'national honor.' If Earle succeeds the 'national honor' thanks him, and, I hope, rewards him. But it is altogether independent of one who for failing incurs its blame. I am not the rescued lamb, and I will not be. As for her majesty's government keeping the Soudan itself, it is out of the question, and as for giving it back to Egypt, in a couple of years we would have another mahdi. Therefore, our choice lies between Zubar and the Turks. Therefore give the country to the Turks. * * *

* Let 6000 Turks land at Saukim and march up to Berber, thence to Khartoum. You can then retire at once.

"When one thinks of the enormous loss of life which has taken place in the Soudan since 1880, and the general upset of all government, one cannot help feeling vicious against Sir Auckland Calvan, Sir Edward Malet and Sir Charles Dilke, for it is on account of these three men, whose advice was taken by her majesty's government, that all these sorrows are due. We are an honest nation, but our diplomatists are cronies and not officially honest. I declare solemnly that if it were not for the honor's sake of our nation I would let these people slide. They are of very feeble nature and Arabs are ten times better, but because they are weak there is so much more reason to try and help them.

"As for those wretched Sepoys they are useless. I have the greatest contempt for these Indian Sepoys. I hate these snake-like creatures. Any man accustomed to judge by faces sees that they hate us. I would back the Mussulmans of India against the lot of those snakes. India to me, too, is not an advantage. It is the centre of all party intrigue, while if our energy were devoted elsewhere it would produce tenfold. India aways all our policy to our detriment. I must say I am against doctors. If a man is suffering intense pain, and in a more or less desperate condition, I would give as much morphine as would still that pain. There is nothing like a civil war to show what skunks men are. One of my greatest worries are the shaggy men who are continually feathering towards me or towards the mahdi. I expect both sides despise them equally. If in two days I find the news correct, that the mahdi is still in Kordofan, I shall let out the political prisoners, which will shock the people, but will be a true joy and delight to me, for it has been a work utterly repugnant to me. I like free will. I hate a forced subjection, and feel sure that to let these people out with free will to go to the Arabs or not will be good policy.

"I must say that I feel it a great compliment when my councillors say to me: 'Do what you think right, irrespective of our advice,' when they know I am ignorant of all that goes on; ignorant of the Arabic language except in my style; ignorant of the Arab customs, etc.

"You will do better than we do,' is what they say, and I, poor devil, do not know where to turn. Oh, our government! What has it not to answer for? Not to me, but to these poor people. I declare if I thought the town wished the mahdi I would give it up, so much do I respect free will."

"I must say that I hate our diplomats. I dwell on the joy of never seeing Great Britain again, with its horrid wearisome dinner parties and miseries. How we can put up with those things passes my imagination. It is a perfect bondage at those dinner parties. We are all in masks, saying what we do not believe, eating and drinking things we do not want, and then abusing one another. I would sooner live a dervish with the mahdi than go out to dinner every night in London. I hope if any English general comes to Khartoum he will not ask me to dinner. Why men cannot be friends without bringing their wretched stomachs in is astonishing.

"I am afraid to say what numbers have been killed through this present policy, certainly some 80,000, and it is not yet over. For my part, I hope they (the Arabs) will all run away. We have in a most effectual way restored the slave trade and slave hunting, for her majesty's government cannot keep the Soudan and never will Egypt be able to govern it. The only thing to be done is to give it to the sultan. What an end to diplomacy of her majesty's government. It was so easy when I left in January, 1880, to have settled it with decency and quiet. I want to get out of the affair, but with decency.

"I could write volumes of pent up wrath on this subject if I did not believe things are ordained. All work for the best.

I have done what I can, and one man can do no more than trust. Now what has been the painful position for me is that there is not one person on whom I can rely. * * * I may truly say I am weary of my life. Day and night, night and day, it is one continual worry.

"The near approach of the mahdi has not troubled me. I have always felt we should meet face to face ere the matter ended. I am tossing up in my mind whether if this place is taken to blow up the palace and all in it or be taken, and, with God's help, maintain the faith, and if necessary suffer for it. I think I shall elect for the last.

"If any emissary letter comes ordering me to leave I shall not obey it, but will stay here, fall with the town and run all risks."

The last entry is on December 14, and says:

"Now mark this, if the expeditionary force (I ask for no more than 200 men) do not come in today the town may fall. I have done my best for the honor of our country. Good bye."

Two Letters of Interest.

The following letters, which speak for themselves, have been handed us for publication:—

CLINTON, ONT., June 16, 1885.

M. C. CAMERON, ESQ., M.P.—DEAR SIR,—We, the members of the Clinton Branch of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, desire to express to you our thanks and admiration, for your determined and valuable assistance in support of temperance legislation, as the representative of this riding in Parliament during this present session, and for your strong opposition to the attempts now being made to set at naught the will of the people, as expressed in this and other counties. We sincerely hope that you will continue to exert your influence privately, and on the floor of Parliament, in preventing the final passage of the wine and beer amendments to the Canada Temperance Act, and in securing the amendment thereto, which will render it most effective, and set aside the difficulties in the way of its due enforcement. This is a crisis in the history of our country, and we look to you as our mouthpiece and leader at this critical time, to sound the warning against a threatened blow being struck against the peace of our land, by those who are sworn to do all in their power to secure peace for us.

Signed on behalf of the members of the W.C.T.U.

OTTAWA, 18th June, '85.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION, CLINTON,—I am in receipt of yours of the 16th instant, and can assure you that I fully appreciate the firm approval expressed by the ladies of the W.C.T.U., of my action on the temperance question. I have always taken strong grounds on the temperance question. The people of my county having pronounced so strongly in favor of temperance, I am bound, in so far as I am concerned, that the will of the people, expressed at the polls, shall prevail. I have the honor to be, yours faithfully,

M. C. CAMERON.

Money Thrown Away.

Among the items in the supplementary estimates laid before the Dominion Parliament the following item appears:

Liquor Licence Act expenses to pay remuneration to Commissioners and Inspectors under "Liquor License Act, 1883," in districts where the expenditure exceeded the revenue, $52,000; to pay contingencies of Boards, and for printing forms, etc., $8,000.

That is to say, the Dominion Government asks for $60,000 for the carrying out of an act that the Supreme Court has decided to be outside of the jurisdiction of the body that passed it.—[Advertiser.

A big crowd attended the Palace rink on Tuesday night. The band was in attendance.