Huron Signal.

GODERICH, JUNE 29, 1865.

Brutal Murder at Dungannon!

Angus McCurdy killed by Wm. Woolley.

FULL DETAILS OF THE AWFUL OCCURRENCE.

McCURDY FLAYED TO DEATH.

The Inquest on the Body.

Woolley Makes a Full Confession.

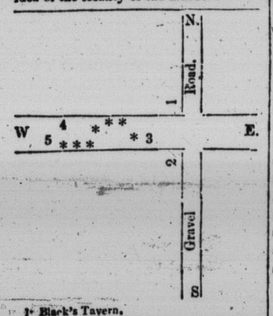
He is Remanded to Stand Trial for the Murder.

A most horrible murder was committed at Dungannon, about 12 miles north of Goderich, on Thursday morning the 22nd inst., between the hours of 1 and 3 o'clock. A party of men had been drinking whiskey in the taverns till a late hour, and in the morning a man named Angus McCurdy was found lying in a fence corner a few yards down the Ashfield Road, half naked, and bruized to a jelly from the hips upwards.

The alarm was given, and parties set off for the Coroner, who empanneled a jury, who at once caused the arrest of Wm. Woolley and two men named McDonogh who were last with deceased.—Woolley, against whom the strongest suspicions rested, was sent to gaol for safe keeping and brought back next day.

The following report of the terrible affair was taken on the spot:—

Words would fail to give an adequate idea of the feelings of horror expressed by the crowd of people gathered in and about Dungannon on Friday and Saturday last, when it became known that a horrible murder had been committed and that an inquest was being held. The almost unheard of concomitants of the crime, and the mystery surrounding it for a short time, had excited the honest yeomen of the neighborhood to a fearful pitch. And well they might. We were told on the spot by men who first saw the mangled body, and the blotches of fresh gore, that the sight was indescribably horrible. Poor McCurdy lay doubled up in a corner of the fence, to which he seemed to have been dragged from a few yards off, entirely nude with the exception of his pants and the *wristbands* of a red flannel shirt, and the body from the hips up to the head and face had been flayed with the butt ends of heavy rods until there was hardly a finger breadth that was not cut; a piece had been bitten or kicked out of the elbow of one arm, there were some five or six wounds in the head, and it is not surprising that some of the witnesses had trouble in identifying the body. When McCurdy left Black's tavern on that fatal morning he had on a white linen coat, a white shirt and under that a red flannel shirt. These, covered with blood, were found after sun-rise scattered along the road, and had evidently been torn or cut from his back with the rods. The rods used were cut from a beech tree, and were four in number, varying in size from the thickness of one's little finger to at least ¾ of an inch. They were, we should say, between four and five feet long, and from the bits broken off, the *small* ends appear to have been twined around the murderer's hands in order to give more effect to his blows. They were nearly used up and were found near the body. The following diagram will give a correct idea of the locality of the murder:—



1. Black's Tavern.
2. Swift's Tavern.
3. Where the first blood was found, about three rods from Swifts
4. Beech tree from which the branches were cut, about 125 yards from Black's tavern.
5. Where the body was found.
*. The ground covered with blood, bits of twisted twigs, beech leaves, and shreds of red flannel.

As stated in our Semi-Weekly edition of Friday, an inquest was opened before Dr. McDougall, on Friday afternoon, the following gentlemen composing the jury: Chas. Girvin, foreman, Wm. Mallough, Thos. Park, Jas. McCaig, Alex. McPherson, Wm. McMath, R. Finlay, Robt. Davidson, Alex. Dreany, Robt. Wiggins, Geo. Videan, David McCarron, Richard Wilson, and Jas. Cartwright.

The following is the evidence elicited:

Thos. Elliott, sworn. As I was going to Statute Labor this morning a little before 8 o'clock, a Mr. Bell told me there were some clothes or torn shirts lying on the side of the road; I saw a piece of a shirt lying by the side of the fence; I then saw the body of a man lying by the fence, which I recognised to be that of Angus McCurdy; did not go near the body; saw deceased yesterday evening before dark.

Wm. Mallough, of Ashfield, testified as follows:—This morning about 8 o'clock I was told I was wanted up at the corner, as there was a man dead. I crossed the fields and came to where the body was lying. I asked who he was, as I did not at first recognize him. He was lying on his back, the face turned to one side, and appeared to have been laid there, or removed to that spot from a place where there was a great deal of blood, around which the ground appeared to be much trampled. He was quite dead. We removed the body out of the sun.

Mrs. Ann Black testified that deceased had been in her husband's tavern the night before, and was well, although a little the worse of liquor. He was not quarrelsome. There were others in the house with him; they argued amongst themselves, but not with deceased. They all left the house about 1 o'clock in the morning or a little later. Robt. McDonogh, his brother and Wm. Woolley were in company with deceased when he left. They had no words before they left. I heard loud voices passing my window after I went to bed.

Eliza Ann Black's evidence was similar to that of last witness.

Susan Ann Hall deposed as follows:—I saw deceased last night about ten o'clock; during the night I was awoke by a dreadful noise down the Ashfield Road; there was cursing and swearing; one of the voices, which I thought to be William Woolley's, said, "Will you do it again?" The answer was, "No!" Then I heard the blows; heard one of the men moaning; it was so dark I could see nothing; am well acquainted with Woolley's voice. As soon as I got up in the morning I told our family what I had heard during the night; told Mrs. Pollock who was in the room with me what I heard.

James Whyard saw M'Curdy about a quarter past one that morning near Mr. Black's kitchen, and saw him enter the bar. Heard Robert M'Donogh and Wm. Wooley talking loudly in the bar at that time. Deceased was the worse of liquor and could scarcely walk.

James M'Connell saw deceased about 12 o'clock on the night in question.—Wm. Wooley, Robt. M'Donogh and his brother were in his company. They did not appear to be much the worse of liquor. Drank whiskey with them once; M'Curdy was a very quiet man. Heard no quarreling or threats. Woolley had a good deal to drink.

Francis McGinty saw deceased that night at Black's in company with Robert M'Donogh and others. M'Donogh took hold of him and said, "Go home, Frank, as I have got particular business to do that I don't wish you to hear." I drank with them; saw deceased drink two glasses of whiskey.

Andrew Sproul said: I came up to this house about 11 o'clock last night; saw Angus M'Curdy and Robt. M'Donogh with other parties in the bar-room; stayed some time thinking there might be a fight, but all passed over peaceably until I left, which was about 1 o'clock. When I left the two M'Donoghs, Wm. Woolley, Jas. M'Connell, and deceased were in the bar; Woolley showed a desire to fight but did not do any fighting.

The Inquest was then adjourned until 3 o'clock next day, (Friday).

On Friday the inquest was resumed at 3 o'clock, p. m.

James McDonogh, sworn. I live in Kinloss, where I work in a saw-mill. Saw Angus McCurdy about 1 o'clock on the night of the 21st; he was then alive and well. He was at that time at Mr. Black's door; my brother Robert was with me and Mr. Woolley. Immediately after I went up the gravel road towards home. I considered him able to take care of himself. All I can tell is that I shook hands with deceased and prisoner and started away. Woolley and McCurdy then appeared to be good humored towards each other; a few words had passed between them but nothing of consequence. Woolly appeared sober, but the deceased was like a man roused out of sleep. Woolley had no stick in his hand.

Robert McDonogh, sworn. I am a sawyer, living in the township of Ashfield. Was acquainted with the deceased; the last time I saw him alive was at the door of Mr. Black's tavern, on the night of the 21st; can't say exactly what hour. McCurdy, Woolley, my brother and I went out of the door together. We stood talking in a friendly way for a few minutes and then my brother and I went straight home on the gravel road. Heard no angry words, but prisoner and deceased appeared to act coolly towards each other. I had been in Goderich that day and had some liquor in me. The others also appeared to have been drinking. Am not sure that I saw them drinking.

WOOLLEY'S CONFESSION.

It having been announced to the Coroner and jury that the prisoner Woolley wished to make a statement regarding the murder, the Doctor warned him solemnly and clearly that he was not bound to make any statement at all, but that if he wished to state any facts after such warning it would be taken down and might appear in evidence against him at any future trial.

William Wooiley, being duly sworn, said: I am a framer by trade. I do not recollect leaving the McDonogh brothers at the door of Black's tavern on the morning of the 22nd inst., but I will not dispute their words. I do not recollect starting for home, or who was with me, but after going a-piece I remember first-rate that McCurdy was with me. I tried to get him home but he wanted to turn back. I said he should not go back.—He kept falling, and sometimes I fell with him. I had at a kitten in my arms all this time. At last he refused positively to go home, and I honestly acknowledge that if the man was killed, it was by me. I recollect getting them switches and striking him with them, as well as of kicking him. Oh, if any one had told me! Oh, what a man will do when under the influence of liquor and passion! Poor McCurdy! I am telling this voluntarily! I never told such lies in my life as I have about this affair, and never struck a man before but once. I think I struck McCurdy with a piece of board, thinking the switches not heavy enough, but it broke and I threw it away. I left him living and never thought of killing him. I had no spite against him. Had it only occurred in self-defence I would not have cared. I have known him for about two years, and have never met him before to my knowledge.—There was no hard feeling between us. I had been drinking that day, which was the cause of it all. Recollect getting the switches first-rate; I knew that I was striking the man to make him get up and go home with me, but, so help me God I didn't think I was killing him. But God help me! It was very near day-light when I got home. I now remember that poor McCurdy when we first came out of the tavern staggered and fell on his face. I had drink at both Black's and Swift's tavern, and I honestly state I would have sooner died myself than to have killed McCurdy if I had been sober.

Although there were some fifty or sixty persons in the room when the above statement was made, perfect silence was observed, strong men turning their pale faces towards each other as the awful recital went on.

Woolley seemed to realize his position very keenly, and wept profusely all the time that he was speaking.

The two McDonoghs, who had been under arrest on suspicion of complicity in the murder were now discharged from custody.

Dr. James McKay, who had been called upon by the coroner to make a post-mortem examination of the body, testified as to the wounds inflicted, which, in his opinion, were sufficient to cause death.

Dr. John F. Cassidy corroborated the evidence of the last witness.

Andrew Sproul, recalled, Under Coroner's warrant I searched Woolley's house to-day. I received a shirt from Mrs. Woolley, which had been washed but not quite dried, upon which I detected spots of blood, as also upon a pair of pants which had been newly washed. I found blood also in a wash tub. I found a newspaper which I now produce, and which is bloody.

James Trimble, postmaster, testified that when the prisoner called for his paper (the *Patriot*) on the 21st he could not find it in the W. box and gave a paper marked "Thos. Woods" instead. Identified the paper shown him as that which he had given to Woolley.

The room was then cleared, and the jury, after a short deliberation, returned a verdict of "Murder" against William Woolley, whereupon the prisoner was sent to await his trial at the next assizes, and the large crowd of people dispersed in silent sadness.

William Woolley is a stout man, wears a bushy head of hair and whiskers, and is 41 years of age. His general appearance is anything but murderous, and it is almost unaccountable that a man of his apparent intelligence should be led into the commission of such an atrocious crime. He has been married twice and has now a family of six children. When removed to gaol, his parting with a favorite daughter of fourteen (by his first wife) was a most painful scene to witness. The poor girl followed the carriage for some distance wringing her hands in an agony of distress. Woolley has lived in the neighbarhood for about 10 years.

Angus McCurdy lived near Dungannon for two years, was 40 years of age and leaves a wife and three children to lament his awful death. Deceased is said to have been a very quiet, inaffensive sort of man, and a good neighbor. Mr. Black, of Dungannon, gives as a reason for his being so late at his place on Wednesday night that he was waiting for the closing of the Scarlet Chapter of Orangemen, of which he was a member.

Taken altogether this will be considered the most cold-blooded and dreadful outrage perpetrated in Canada since the ill famed Mahon murder, which it would appear to surpass in some particulars. The confession of the real murderer, however, and his incarceration, will be an inexpressible satisfaction to the public at large.

The Fourth of July.

At a special meeting of the town Council, held last night, it was resolved that a very polite invitation from the people of East Saginaw asking our worthy Mayor and Council to enjoy their hospitality during the celebration of the 4th should be accepted, that the Goderich Firemen, who are going, should be permitted to take their "merchine" along with them, and that, in view of the large number of people who would be out of town on that day, it would be advisable for the mayor to proclaim it a holiday. Of course it is all right to have a holiday, but we must confess that a proclamation of the 4th of July for that purpose is liable to misconstruction, and may therefore prove unpalatable to a large number of our townsmen, who would otherwise do anything in their power to keep up a good feeling with the Saginaw people. However, holiday or no holiday we believe the str. Huron will have a good load of excursionists across the Lake.

MASONIC PIC-NIC.

The members of Maitland Lodge 112 celebrated the Festival of St. John, on Saturday last, by a pic nic held in the charming grove near Mr. Galt's residence, across the river.—The brethren, comprising many of our best and most respectable business and professional men, assembled at three o'clock p. m., accompanied by a considerable number of invited friends, and entered at once into the enjoyments of the day. Having placed the river between them and the cares of business, each present appeared desirous of recalling the joys of boyhood as vividly as possible.—Grave merchants and wise town councillors played at leap-frog, eminent jurists doffed upper clothing and rolled up shirt sleeves to give their legs full play in the foot-race, learned barristers "pulled the stick," and in fact all present threw dull care to the winds and went in for unadulterated fun. The jollity, the good-fellowship, the harmony of the occasion, combined with the superabundance of good cheer provided rendered it the most successful affair of the kind that has come off for many years in this neighborhood.

☞ We are requested to state that a preliminary meeting of teachers will be held here in the Central School House on Saturday, the 8th of July, at 1 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of forming an association of the teachers of the County of Huron. All teachers and others interested in Education are invited to attend.

☞ On Friday night last some rascal threw a number of large stones through a window of Mr. John Beatty's residence, Seaforth, breaking glass, injuring furniture, and frightening the inmates. Pity such scoundrels could not get their deserts.

☞ Several documents from Bluevale are unavoidably crowded out, but will appear in our next, together with other deferred matter.

☞ There will be a grand Temperance Festival in Londsboro on Friday the 30th instant.

☞ A few days ago a mad dog created considerable excitement in Seaforth. The animal bit a large number of his fellow canines but did not do much further damage.—He was shot by Dr. Coleman. Dog skins are selling cheap since, the people thinking wisely that prevention is better and safer than cure.

The Long Vacation.

The following interests persons having much business with our lawyers:—

"We the undersigned Barristers and Attorneys of the Town of Goderich do hereby consent and agree to limit our office hours, during the long vacation, to the following hours, viz: from 10 A. M. till 2 P. M.

(Signed,) A. Lefroy.
" M. C. Cameron.
" Toms & Moore.
" Ira Lewis.
" Henry McDermott.
" W. Torrance Hays.
" J. B. Gordon.
" S. P. Yeomans.
" D. Shade Gooding.
" John Davison
" B. L. Doyle.
" J. S. Sinclair.
" John Macara.
" P. F. Walker.

We mention for the benefit of those among our readers who don't understand what is meant by "long vacation," that the above arrangement comes in force on the 1st of July and ends on the 21st August.

LITERARY NOTICES.

SONGS FOR ALL SEASONS.—This little book, by the British Poet Laureate, is No. 2 of the popular series of companion poets being published by Messrs. Ticknor & Fields, the celebrated Boston publishers. It is finely illustrated, and beautifully printed on tinted paper. Price 50cts. Am.

From the same publishers, we have also received the current numbers of the *Atlantic Monthly* and Boys' Magazine, both of which are excellently written, and may be had at the Signal Office Book store.

LONDON SOCIETY is to hand from Messrs. Chewett & Co., of Toronto. This book, notwithstanding the keen competition to which it is subjected, succeeds in holding its high place in the estimation of every lover of elegant English as displayed in racy representations on London Society in its most sunshiny aspects.

THE CHURCHMAN'S MAGAZINE.—We have received the current number from the same establishment and would cordially recommend it as a first-class denominational book.

Township of Bruce.

DEAR SIGNAL,—As you have invited reports from all sections of the country as to the appearance and prospects of the crops, and as I see nothing from the Township of Bruce in your columns yet, and having a good opportunity of knowing the state of the Township, I am happy to say that the prospect of a good crop has never been so promising for a number of years. Although at one time the grubs made a savage onset upon some fields, which caused people in general to despond, recent rains, of which we have had a good supply, have dispelled all fears for the present, and if we have good harvesting weather the general opinion is that there will be abundance of all kinds of produce, both spring and fall.

COLBORNE.

The Municipal Council of Colborne met at Jas. McDonogh's Tavern, Smith's Hill, on Saturday the 17th of June. Present—the Reeve and Councillors.

Moved by Mr Rhynas, seconded by Mr Young, That on the application of D. Clark, Senr., and others, Lot 11 on the 9th Con., W. D., consisting of 127 acres, that 27 acres of the same be placed in the Assessment Roll in the name of David Clark, Senr., the remainder in the name of Alexander Hamilton, and the south part of Lot 29 in the Maitland Concession, in the name of Joseph Montgomery, Junr. Carried.

Moved by Mr Hussey, seconded by Mr Young, That the petition of George Neaves for relief from this year's Statute labor be granted. Carried.

Moved by Mr Young, seconded by Mr Rhynas, That the petition of School Trustees of No. 3 School Section praying the Council to pass a By-Law empowering the said School Trustees to borrow the sum of $900 for a period of three years be granted. Carried.

Moved by Mr Rhynas, seconded by Mr Young, That the By-Law now drawn empowering the School Trustees of No. 3 School Section to borrow the sum of $900 for a period of three years, be adopted. Carried.

Moved by Mr Malloy, seconded by Mr Hussey, That the petition of certain ratepayers of this township for a By Law to be passed granting a new School Section to be called School Section No. 7 be granted. Moved in amendment by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr Rhynas, that the petition of the said ratepayers be deferred till the next meeting of Council, that it may be shown the distance of Jas. C. Martin's land from the present school to the new school site. The Reeve gives the casting vote in favor of the petition.

Moved by Mr. Malloy, seconded by Mr Hussey, That Donald McMurchy be appointed to call the first school meeting for a new school session to be called No. 7, on the Maitland Concession. Carried.

Moved by Mr Hussey, seconded by Mr Young, That a By-Law be passed prohibiting any person from drawing logs on any bridge of the Township, unless upon wheels, or a sleigh, under a penalty of five dollars, one-half to the informer, the other half to the Township. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Malloy, seconded by Mr Young, That Ward No. 3 should be granted $100, the other Wards $50 each for road improvements, to be laid out, where the Councillor of each Ward may deem necessary.—Carried.

JAMES TEWSLEY,
Township Clerk.

HAY.

In my last to you I stated that there were ominous symptoms of a protracted drouth. I am happy to say that my fears were groundless. We have been blessed lately with some splendid growing showers. It rained copiously for about three hours on Tuesday night last, the 20th. Vegetation is growing rapidly and all kinds of crop really look promising. The Fall wheat is fully headed out—and in all cases where sown under favorable circumstances, looks first-rate; having, I think, rather an extra length of head, which augurs well for a good yield to the acre. Even where it was three weeks ago sickly, delicate and thin, it has rushed up almost beyond belief; and where almost nothing was expected, will make half a crop at least. I am watching closely for vermin. On damp calm mornings I see lots of flies on the newly fledged wheat heads. I am afraid they are making weevil—we will see. The three weeks' drouth perhaps stunted early sown spring wheat a little; but take it all over, there is every indication of an abundance of straw.—Turnips are brairding fine—potatoes are getting ready for the hoe—the hay will be upon us directly; so that if the present luxurious weather continue, we will be all over head and ears directly.—The weather has been cooler this week—last week it was dreadfully hot—Saturday, the 17th, was especially a day to be remembered for heat. Many of us had to beat a retreat from the fields to the shade, and lay up for a few hours in the middle of the day. As an instance of the forwardness of this season, I may state that there are bees in this neighborhood that have already swarmed the third time—having thrown off the first swarm about the 20th of May. This bit of news ought to be gratifying to our neighbors of Stanley if they intend, as suggested by your Bayfield correspondent, to feed their Municipal Reformers on "milk and honey."

PLATT'S MILL
NEARLY DESTROYED!!

On Tuesday night about 9 o'clock volumes of smoke were seen issuing from the roof of Platt's Mill, which were speedily followed by flames. An immense crowd collected and by noble exertions the firemen extinguished the fire, but not until the whole of the roof and works in the upper part of the building had been destroyed. Loss very heavy. Covered by insurance, we believe. Particulars in our next.

SEAFORTH.

SIR,—An instructive debate on the Evidences of Christianity took place here last night in Mr. Govenlock's Hall, (the Good Templars' Hall having been granted for the purpose, but refused at the eleventh hour through a squeamish fear that *Orthodoxy* should suffer from free enquiry.) between Mr. Wm. Campbell, of this place, and Mr. John McMillan, of Hullett. The subject was whether the Bible, (King James' version,) was of Divine origin and whether it contained the will of God to man: Mr. C. taking the affirmative and Mr. McM. the negative side of the question. S. G. McCaughey, Esq., the chairman mutually chosen by the respective disputants, introduced the tournament by some eloquent and pertinent remarks on the duties of free enquiry and the rights of free discussion on all subjects; and it is only right to give that gentleman credit for the impartiality he exercised towards both of the disputants and for the good order which he maintained in the meeting.

Mr. C. opened the debate by taking it for granted that his opponent believed in the existence of a God. Hethen went on to argue from the fact of the existence of the Bible—from the possibility and the necessity of a revelation owing to the fallen condition of man, that there must be a revelation and that that revelation could be no other than the Bible, since human reason could not elevate human nature. He adduced the authenticity of the Scriptures, the credibility of the New Testament writers, coupling his asservation as to their authenticity and credibility with a vocabulary of very strong and sonorous adjectives without, however, entering into a critical examination of the evidences and testimony of the books and their authors.—This was unfortunate, as this forms the foundation of the whole superstructure of the Christian Religion. He then argued that from the fact of an exact coincidence in the narratives of events related by the various authors was a proof of their truth, and gave a copious extract from Dr. Scott on the subject. He then dwelt on the antiquity of Scripture, comparing its antiquity with that of profane writing. In this his lack of historical knowledge was abundantly atoned for by a heap of confident assertion. He then dwelt on the rationality and possibility of miracles, and argued from their invariable benevolent tendency that they must be of Divine origin; and moreover, that they were openly and publicly performed and offered for unbelieving criticism. He then took the department of prophecy, dwelling chiefly on the woman's seed bruising the head of the serpent, &c.,—the tribes of Judah and Jermiah's prophecy as to the abolition of the Jewish ritual and the scattering of the Jews, &c. After half an hour Mr. McM. followed by a brief allusion to the importance, the duty, and complete vindication of mankind, and especially of unbelievers, to examine the question at issue; and proceeded principally to rebut the arguments adduced by his opponent, which candor compels us to state he did very effectually. His criticisms of 31st chapter Numbers—of Aaron's golden calf and of Paul's religious policy, and of the prophecies—showed that this gentleman, (gentleman, we say, although under a rough exterior,) possesses critical and debating powers of no mean order. After his half hour had been exhausted: both disputants followed each other alternately, first for 20 and again for 10 minutes, when the meeting broke up in very good order and in apparently very good humor.

ONE OF THE AUDIENCE.
Seaforth, June 21st, 1865.

Terrible Tornado on Lake Huron.

An Exchange says the tornado which swept over Lake Huron, in the locality of Point Au Barque, on Tuesday night last, was attended with serious results, and is pronounced by vessel captains who encountered it as the most violent experience for many years. Such was the singularity of its character, that within the brief space of twenty minutes and without any visible warning of its approach, vessels within reach of its fury were instantly stripped of their light spars, tophampers, and and a great portion of their canvass, notwithstanding the usual precaution had been carried out in taking the most of them in and getting them furled.

No Speech Makers.

One of the Most singular developments of the times is the appearance in American public life of a class of men who cannot make speeches. Thus, we have a Lieutenant General who, when he is fairly cornered by an admiring crowd, will make two or three polite bows, but will not let a word out of his mouth any more than he would Pemberton out of Vicksburg, or Lee out of his lines below Richmond. Gen. Sherman, on similar occasions, attempts but the most meagre replies, although he is ready and pungent enough with his pen. Gen. Thomas returns thanks and that is all; while the gallant Sheridan simply says, "Excuse me, boys, you know I never make speeches."

And yet the land is full of fluent spouters who are do-nothings, while these men who are tongue tied before a common audience are among the keenest intellects, the most resolute spirits and the ablest executors of modern times! It is a phenomenon worth studying. Probably, however, training has more to do with it than anything else. As rigidly reserved as Gen. Grant now is, we have no doubt that if his line of duty should call for it, he would be able in time to express his thoughts in public with sufficient fulness and force, just as the Duke of Wellington acquired that art in his later years. But in this speech ridden country such illustrious exceptions may have a salutary effect. Before the war, talking had become so largely a part of public life, that a man's worth and ability were almost entirely judged of by it. If he could not speak brilliantly, his chances of promotion were sadly lessened. But the rough experience of the last four years spoilt the reputation of many eloquent speakers; and now we have men who have shown themselves equal to the grandest requirements of the age, who are as "slow of speech" as Moses was and as modest as Washington. The fact cannot but have a correcting influence on the passion of our people for oratory, leading to a quicker perception and a juster estimate of the more solid qualities requisite in our public men, civil as well as military.—*Boston Journal.*

That's a Fact.

The Trade Review says:—If the commercial policy of Canada could be established on the basis of reciprocal Free Trade with the United States, so as to open a market of sufficient area for manufactured goods, the water power, local and commercial advantages, and the manufacturing facilities possessed by the city of Montreal, would place her in a few years far ahead in these respects of annother city in North America. Her magnificent water power, now running to waste would be fully employed, and become a mine of wealth to the city, greater than all the metallic deposits of the country of which so much is heard and so little occupied, would be alive with craft of all kinds.

The fact that there are no less than fifty tunnels to be passed between Bologna and Pistola will suffice to give a tolerable idea of the engineering difficulties encountered upon the line of railway which at present forms the sole means of communicating (omitting of course, the old postal road) between the northern and the central provinces of Italy. Some of these tunnels are very short, it is true—a mere momentary plunge into the darkness of the abyss; but others are of considerable length—one about a quarter the length of the Mount Cenis tunnel.

GREAT FIRE IN QUEBEC.

IMMENSE DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY.

[From the Leader.]

QUEBEC, June 22, 1865.

A fire which threatens to become fearfully destructive broke out in Champlain street this afternoon. It is raging with great fierceness, and already seventy houses or more have been destroyed, and thirty or forty more must go. Champlain street, as many of your readers no doubt know, fronts the river, being the only street between the water and the rock of Cape Diamond west of St. Peter street, the chief business part of the city. It is occupied principally by tavern and boarding-house keepers, and is the chief resort of the sailors and lumbermen who came to this port. Although the inhabitants are mainly of the poorer class, many of the houses are substantial and valuable, and on the piers and in the river along the front of the street much valuable property is stored, not to speak of the ships that line the wharves. When the fire broke out therefore and threatened to spread extensively, much excitement was caused and not a little apprehension felt in city. The police, who here constitute the fire brigade, were early on duty, and worked faithfully, but with little success, to extinguish the fire. There was a plentiful supply of water, but the flames soon gained such headway that water was of little service to quench them. Large detachments of the military stationed here, consisting of infantry, artillery and engineers, were ordered to the fire, and went to work pulling down houses in its neighborhood, and making preparations for tearing down others, should it become necessary. Two ships are reported to be on fire, and all the vessels are hauling into the middle of the stream. The river is crowded with small boats full of furniture, &c. The fire broke out near the Mariner's chapel, and at this hour has destroyed every house on both sides as far as the steps leading to the Plains of Abraham on the west, and on the east to within a hundred yards of the wharf of the Montreal Ocean Steamship Company. The steamer Peruvian, which is lying at this wharf, is getting up steam preparatory to removal from the dangerous vicinity. Many poor families have already been ruined and made homeless.

HALF-PAST SEVEN O'CLOCK.

The fire is still raging, and half a mile of houses on Champlain street have been destroyed. It is estimated that a thousand families are homeless. Two artillery powder waggons have just gone down to the fire loaded, to be ready to blow up houses should it be necessary to do so in order to arrest the flames. Thousands of people are congregated on the heights above the fire eagerly watching its ravages. Quebec has suffered severely from such calamities before, and this is as great as any that have preceded it.

EIGHT O'CLOCK.

The fire has been arrested, but the glare from the burning ruins is brilliant and appalling. The wind, which during the afternoon and evening blew strongly from the west, has gone down, and the police, military and volunteer firemen have now a better chance of stopping the further ravages of the flames. It was not necessary to blow up any houses.

TEN O'CLOCK.

Fully one hundred and fifty houses have been utterly destroyed, Champlain street on both sides being burnt for a distance of three quarters of a mile. Fortunately the flames could spread only in two directions or the loss would have been infinitely greater. As it is, everything has been swept away from the edge of the river to the rock behind, a space varying in width from two to four hundred feet. This area was closely packed with houses of every description, many of them tenement houses containing several families. Several extensive coal yards are still burning and many wharves have been injured or totally destroyed. The artillery and royal engineers were prepared to blow up houses to stop the progress of the flames, but on the representation of the civic authorities that an explosion would endanger the rock above, portions of which have already this and previous years spontaneously fallen with great loss of life and property, the project was suspended unless it should become imperatively necessary. The gale from the west abating the necessity did not arise, although at one time the whole of lower town was in imminent danger. One ship-yard at least is said to have been destroyed. I endeavored to-night to pass through the burning street, but was prevented by the dense smoke that covered everything. I can obtain no proximate idea of the total loss. Many valuable stone and brick houses have been entirely consumed, as well as many other of inferior construction. The real cause of the great spread of the conflagration was a shingle roof, which caught fire at a considerable distance from the spot where the flames originated, through burning flakes of wood transported by the gale. I think that no lives, or at most but one, have been lost. I have learned but little as yet of the value of property destroyed, or the amount of insurance upon it. The yards of all the ships in the harbor were manned to quench the burning embers which were constantly falling. All the tow boats, ferry boats and row boats were fully employed in carrying furniture and other property saved from the flames. The Peruvian did not leave the wharf, but had everything in readiness to move. The fire is still burning as I write, but as the wind has dropped it is apparently quite under control. Thanks are due to the military, who worked with great ardor to stay the progress of the flames and to save and protect property.

The Growing Crops in the States.

Unless all the indications are unusually deceptive the food crop of the united States for the year 1865 will be the largest known to our history. The high price of cattle, grain, hay and vegetables, which has obtained for the past two years, has had its effect in tempting farmers all over the North to seed more ground than ever before; while the high price of wool, butter, and cheese, as well as the demand for horses and mules in the army, has stimulated stock-raising to the utmost. The waste of war in provisions and cattle has been considerable; but the loss will be made up fifty fold by the excessive productions of the present year.

The absence of laborers in the army was more than compensated by the large emigration, and the increased stimulus to industry in those that remained. The increased use of machinery in western farming has added incalculably to production, without calling upon extra labor.

Nor is the food-producing confined to the North and West. Notwithstanding the disorganized industry of the South, it will raise this year an immense quanity of food, principally in the form of maze and root crops. It will have an abundance of flour for home consumption, and more Indian corn than it can use. All accounts agree in stating that the great cotton plantations in the South are now growing corn and potatoes. The stock of cattle will, of course, be small. Up to the last accounts, the cereal crop of England and the continent promised to be large; if so there is every reason to believe that the coming fall will see food of all kinds cheaper than it has ever been in this country. The South will afford no market, except, in a limited degree, for cattle and hay, and after the manufacturing states are glutted we must export breadstuffs at some price The certainty of cheap prices for food may not be agreeable to the farmers as a class, but it will be of immense benefit to the country at large.—[N. Y. World.

Arrival of the City of Boston.

NEW YORK, June 24.—The steamship City of Boston, from Liverpool on the 14th, via Queenstown on the 15th inst., arrived this evening.

The frigate Niagara arrived at Southampton on the 12th, exchanging salutes with a British frigate. She will probably dock and refit. The Sacramento arrived the following day.

The English armor-plated fleet, on invitation of Napoleon, is to make a tour around the French coast. The French armor-plated fleet is to do the same around England. The combined fleets will be at Plymouth about the middle of July.

Lord Brougham, in a speech at a banquet to the Prince of Wales, at Fishmonger's hall, earnestly called on the American government to use their victory in mercy as well as in justice, and not shame the scaffold with blood of prisoners whom they recently treated as warriors.

In the House of Lords, Earl Derby called attention to Lord Russell's letter withdrawing belligerent rights from the Confederates before the federal government had ceased to exercise those rights, and to President Johnson's proclamation denouncing the penalties of piracy against vessels visiting interdicted ports. He protested against such procedure, and asserted that the vessels could only be treated as smugglers. He hoped that the prisoners in Federal hands would be treated as vanquished and not disgraced enemies.

Earl Russell explained his withdrawal of belligerent rights. He said Sir F. Bruce had sought an explanation of Johnson's extraordinary threat of treating vessels as pirates, but could get none. His opinion was the the threat was merely one held *in terrorum.*

In the House of Commons Mr. Layard said several representations had been made to the Federal government to obtain compensation for the shooting of Mr. Grey by Lieut. Donovan, U.S.N., off the Cape of Good Hope, but they positively declined to make any compensation.

Parliament would be dissolved on the 10th of July.

The Gladiator won the Grand Prix.

Mrs. Lincoln sent a letter of reply to the Empress Eugenia's letter of condolence.

It is stated that the Emperor agreed to reinstate Maximilian in all his rights in the event of his return from Mexico.

London Markets.—Breads uffs quiet, but prices firm. American flour held for higher rates. Sugars quiet but study. Coffee unchanged. Tea in fair demand at late rates. Rice dull.

Awful Revenge.

The condition of affairs in Georgia and Alabama, as reported by the New York *Times'* correspondents, is perfectly awful. We make one brief quotation from a letter addressed to that journal by the Rev. Mr. Conway. That gentleman, writing from Mobile, says:—"The colored people will be murdered and driven to untimely graves if the government does not keep provost guards at the country seats and the cities. So great is the madness of the old slaveholders over their defeat and subjugation, that, on their return home, they amuse themselves by cutting off the ears, noses or lips of their former slaves. This is not a dream. It is a terrible fact, and I am sure that when it is known to our loyal people there will arise such a feeling of indignation as will surely reach the very heavens. At Montgomery, five men came in one day with ears cut off and in an almost nude state. Others came in with throats cut; while others appeared terribly marked over their bodies with blows from sticks and stones. The perpetrators are "chivalrous" men, high minded, well bred gentlemen, no doubt. Thank heaven, the dominion of such gentry is at an end. Gen. A. J. Smith and Colonel Geddes are vilignant in their search for the cruel monsters. But these cases are only samples. All officers and soldiers of the army here are filled with the deepest horror over these awful deeds, and are resolved that they must end." To aggravate this overwhelming social disorder, secret incendiarism has full swing. The blowing up of all the ordnance stores at Mobile, with the loss of several hundred lives, has been followed by a similiar catastrophe at Chattanooga. At all the great military depots of the South, with the exception only of New Orleans, similar disasters have occurred. They are all too clearly traceable to a terrible, silently working, all-pervading spirit of revenge.

☞ The Morning Post says that negotiations between England and Canada are about to be satisfactorily concluded. Canada as expected to undertake the whole of the western defence. The canals will be deepened and an efficient militia will be maintained. The Imperial Government will furnish the entire necessary armament and guarantee a loan to construct the Intercolonial railway.

The manner in which they weigh a hog out West, it is said, is to put the hog in one scale and some stones in another, and then guess the weight of the stones.

☞ The *Gazette* says that henceforth no candidates under eighteen years will be admitted into the military schools.

Births.

At Goderich, on the morning of the 22nd inst., the wife of Mr. Frazer, Deputy Registrar, of a daughter.

Married.

At the residence of the Bride's mother, township of Goderich, on Wednesday the 14th inst. by the Rev. E. L. Elwood, Mr. John Salkeld jr. of Goderich township to Miss Ellen Best, daughter of the late Thomas Best, of the same place.

On the 21st inst., at the residence of the bride's uncle, H. Glass, Esq., Sarnia, by Rev. P. McDermid, Thos. F. McLean, M.D., of Goderich, to Margaret, eldest daughter of Wm. Kay, Esq., of Goderich.

New Advertisements.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY!

WHEREAS intimation had been given to the Council that several cheap excursion trips by Steamboats and by Railroad would take place on Tuesday, the 4th prox., a resolution was proposed at a special meeting held by the Council, on Monday, the 26th inst., requesting the 4th prox. to be observed as a public holiday, that the inhabitants of the Town of Goderich might avail themselves of an opportunity thus afforded them of making excursions at reduced rates.

I, in accordance with the wishes of the Council expressed by said resolution, request that the 4th prox. be observed as a public holiday for said purposes.

JOHN V. DETLOR,
Mayor.

Dated June 27th, 1865. sw86td

Insolvent Act of 1864.

In the matter of EDWARD FERGUSON, of the Village of Southampton, in the County of Bruce, Merchant, an Insolvent.

THE creditors of the Insolvent are notified to meet at the law office of Frederick Proudfoot, Esquire, in the said village of Southampton, on Thursday, the twentieth day of July next, at ten o'clock, a. m., for the public examination of the insolvent, and for the ordering of the affairs of his estate generally.

Dated at Southampton aforesaid, the 14th day of June, A. D., 1865.

ALEX. PROUDFOOT,
Assignee.

sw86w22-2w

STRAY STEER.—Came into the premises of the undersigned about the middle of Nov. last, a white steer, about 3 years old—The owner is requested to prove property, pay expenses and remove him.

WM. JENNISON.

Johnson's Mills P.O., Hay, June 26, 1865. } w22*3t

New Advertisements.

BALL'S OHIO

Reaper & Mower

THE SUBSCRIBER HAS ON HAND & will sell cheap one of the above splendid machines, which is admitted to be one of the best made. May be seen at his shop, Victoria St., Goderich.

JOHN PASMORE.

Goderich, June 28, 1865. w22

1865. Spring Arrangement. 1865.

Goderich, Kincardine, Inverhuron, Port Elgin, and Southampton Route.

STEAMER

"BRUCE,"

A. M. McGREGOR, Master,

IN connection with the Grand Trunk Railroad, at Go