Huron Signal.

WEEKLY EDITION.

W. T. COX, Editor and Proprietor.] The Greatest Possible Good to the Greatest Possible Number."

$1.50 PER ANN. IN ADVANCE] GODERICH, C. W., THURSDAY, DEC. 17, 1863. [VOL. XVI.—NO. 46

Poetry.

SONG OF COMPLIMENT.

TO MISS L. M'D.

Other bards may sing their ditties,
Loud in highborn maiden's praiss;
Busk them wi' angelic beauties,
Freight them wi' ilk heavenly grace;
To the empty air I fling them,
Vaunty lies, I winna sing them;
Simpler nature eith can ding them,
She's the muse o' my lays.

Rosy bow'r and gouden chamber;
Frequent themes o' amrous sang,
To sic' heights I needna clamber
Blyther, lowlier scenes amang;
Where adown yon braken dingle
Nature's varied echoes mingle:—
Eye, for shame, "lads living single."
Lexie wons the lee day lang.

Had Fate will'd me for a wanter
Ane o' your unhamely thrang;
Loud for her I'd blaw my chanter,
Loud for her I'd sing my sang;
Gossips needna count it treason,
Thus I'd lilt my rhyme wi' reason,
Prone I'd gather joys in season,
E're Time's blight their sweet's o'ergang.

What tho' Fortune's tinselled minions
Sport their fickle, sunny hour?
Birds that boast the gaudiest pimons
Canna aye the highest soar.
Warth has aye a modest nature,
Virtue tow'rs in inward stature,
What bespeaks the heavenly feature,
Such is loescme Lexie's dower.

Gi'e me—when the sun at twilight
Sink's o'er Huron's glancing waves,
Gi'e me Lexie's milder eyelight,
A' the wealth my bosom craves,
There I'd read the soul-born feeling,
A' the gifts o' worth revealing,
Seated by yon lowly shealing
Where the tinkling burnie laves.

WILLIAM BANNATYNE.

Ashfield, Dec. 1, 1863.

Insanity and Want or Longevity among the Agricultural Classes.

The Commissioner of the Agricultural Bureau at Washington has just issued his report which contains a vast amount of matter of the highest interest. We have been struck in glancing over it by an article entitled, "Health of Farmers' Families," in which some conclusions are reached that are very much at variance with those that usually have prevailed.

It has been usual from time immemorable to believe that the country is the source of all health, of longevity, elasticity of spirits, the very fountain-head of physical enjoyment, the land where are located the fountains of perpetual youth. What mountains of idylic composition have been created in praise of bucolic delights; and yet in the face of this, the stern statistics of the inexorable Commissioner demonstrates that country life is "vita brevis," and that the insane asylums recruit more largely from the ranks of the farmer than from any other. This assertion, at one fell blow, dashes to the earth all those beauti ful creations which have been our delight from the days of the poetical Theocrites down to those of the laurate Tennyson. What becomes of our Amaryllis and Daphnis, of Herman and of Dorothea, and of the thousand other characters whose rural loves and pastoral experiences have been our delight in all ages?

This report, based upon the statistics of Ohio, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, shows that from a seventh to one-fourth of the patients in the various insane asylums were from the farming classes. The largest proportion is from Ohio; the smallest from Pennsylvania.

In examining the two questions, why is the farmer more liable to insanity than the citizen? and why does he not average a longer life? the writer adopts the conclusion that the reason may be found in a lack of education and intelligence among these classes.—Insanity is in a large majority of cases, the result of pursuing a narrow, unvarying routine of thought, of dwelling too constantly upon one idea, as for instance, in the case of many inventors; or those afflicted with some heavy grief; of the incessant attention of the mind to any single study. This fact, it is claimed, explains the tendency of farmers to insanity—they exercise their minds upon an extremely limited number of subjects—there is a 'sameness and tameness about their life, and a paucity of subjects for contemplation most dangerous to mental integrity.'

These facts, with the addition of the exposures to which the farmer is necessitated, the quantity and quality of the food with which he destroys his digestive powers, the lack of judicious attention to dress, and more than all, the hardships, inattention, frequent brutality, unappreciation and unnecessary cruelties to which farmers' wives are subject, are the causes assigned for the prevalence of insanity and want of longevity among our farming population.

Of course the writer does not suppose that such is the condition which attends every farmer, but only that it is too much the case with the masses. In all time the agricultural element of society has furnished its quota of great men—of statesmen, orators, poets, philosophers and patriots—but still this does not invalidate the conclusion relative to a large proportion of those who till the soil.

What is needed to correct this evil is a more general dissemination of intelligence, a broader scope in their intellectual vision, a higher rank in the scale of intellectuality, and more than all the elevation of the farmer's wife into the position of a respected, trusted companion, instead of being, as she now is too often, the slave of her husband, the dispirited, brokendown drudge of the household.

DETERMINED SUICIDE BY A BOY.—On Tuesday, Dr. Lankester, the coroner for Central Middlesex, held an inquest at University College Hospital, touching the death of a boy named William Frederick Knapton, aged 13 years, who came by his death under very painful circumstanges. Charlotte Knapton stated that she was the wife of Thomas Knapton, a pianoforte-maker. The deceased was her son. On Friday last, he threw a fork at one of his sisters, and it stuck in her back. His father threatened to chastise him if he committed any similar act in future. On Saturday, when the family were at dinner, his father being absent at the time, he threw a piece of bread at one of his sisters. She was drinking out of a cup, and the bread struck the cup, breaking it, and causing it to cut the girl's mouth. Mrs. Knapton remonstrated with the boy, and ordered him to leave the room. He then ran up to a bedroom. His mother left the house for the purpose of visiting a neighbor, but was recalled in a few minutes by the screams of her children. On going up to the bedroom, she found the boy hanging by a cord from the hook behind the door. She lifted him off, but he showed no signs of life. Unsuccessful endeavors to restore respiration were made for three quarters of an hour after.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, C. W., DEC. 11, 1863.

THE WARD MEETING LAST NIGHT.

According to public announcement, a large number of the electors of St. Patrick's Ward, with a considerable accession from the other wards, met in the Town Hall last evening to listen to addresses from J. V. Detlor Esq., and others, with reference to the Mayoralty. The Hall was densely crowded; and we are happy to say that little or no effort was made by any person present to interrupt the proceedings of the meeting. Robert Gibbons Esq., was called to the chair.

THE CHAIRMAN explained that the meeting had been called by Mr. Detlor, and that he had hoped to see each candidates present, so that the audience might have an opportunity of hearing both gentlemen; but, of conrse, Mr. Detlor could not be accountable for his opponent's absence. He hoped good order would be maintained, and that the contest throughout would be carried on in a gentlemanly spirit. (Hear, hear.) He would now introduce Mr. Detlor, who was prepared to address the meeting.

MR. DETLOR, on coming forward, was greeted with a round of applause. He said, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I am glad to meet so many of the electors of St. Patrick's and other Wards this evening. Not being able to see you all personally, I thought, with the advice of my friends, that it would be advisable to request your attendance to hear what I had to say with regard to my past conduct and present position. I am happy, gentlemen, to be able to meet you to reply to, and, I hope, remove, some of the objections which have been raised against me. I am a candidate for the honors connected with the position to which I aspire, and it is for *you* to say, after a candid examination, whether there is any reasonable objection that can be brought against me, or whether I am unworthy to sit in the civic chair.—If your decision is adverse, I must comply with it, but if, on the contrary, my past conduct meets with your approval, I shall be happy to receive your votes at the ensuing election.

The first objection is that it has been my principal design, while living amongst you for nine years, to lessen the wages of mechanics. I am astonished that any person could have brought such a charge against me. I thought when I addressed you last year that I had sufficiently explained that matter, but I find that some parties are bringing it forward again in the present contest. I cannot trace the story to its origin. Latterly I did hear that it had been traced to a respectable elector in the Ward, but when I called upon him he emphatically denied that he had ever said such a thing. (Applause.) Gentlemen, my interests are involved in yours—my prosperity cannot be enhanced by your adversity. It is absurd to suppose that a rational man—one at all acquainted with the governing laws of commerce should seek to have the mechanic's wages lessened. No! it is false, and I am satisfied that no honorable man will come forward and charge me with having endeavored to lessen the price of Labor. (Loud applause.) A few years ago, as you are all aware, many families were suffering for want of the necessaries of life, and the Board with which I then acted felt called upon to take some steps to relieve, as far as possible, the suffering poor of the town. I am not alone responsible for the acts of the Council with reference to that relief, for it was a unanimous thing, as the Mayor and Mr. Gibbons will bear me out in saying. We had to borrow money for this object, and it was absolutely necessary that we should restrict the amount of daily wages of the men, in order that our available funds might be made to do as much good as possible to their suffering families, and be the means of carrying them safely through the time of trial.—(Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, was I to blame for my share of that action. We made that provision to relieve the distress of the suffering, and I positively deny that there is a particle of truth in the assertion that I ever, either directly or indirectly, expressed a wish that the laboring man should be always kept in that position.—[Great applause.]

Another objection brought against me is that I wish the poor to remain uneducated. My object, since I came to years of maturity, has ever been to have my own mind cultivated as far as possible, and to see all others brought under the elevating influences of education. My course in the County Council will show you my views with reference to this subject. In the printed minutes of the proceedings of that body, you will find that I was anxious that parents who were indifferent as to the education of their children should be compelled to educate them for a number of months in the year. My first motion to petition the legislature to pass an Act having this object in view was rejected, but I am happy to say that on a subsequent occasion I made a similar motion which was passed unanimously. [Applause.] My friend Mr. Knell, Reeve of Hay, informed me at the time, that such a system was pursued in his native country, and in consequence of the education of the masses within her borders, the little State of Switzerland has maintained her independence for centuries, while almost all other governments on the continent have been revolutionized and convulsed. [Loud applause.] Education is one of the mightiest levers that can be used in the elevation of the masses. As Blair says, "the intellect is like the block in the quarry, which only requires the sculptor to bring forth its hidden treasures of beauty and usefulness." If we wish to arrive at national greatness we must *educate our children*—we must educate the masses—then we shall be prepared to perpetuate and carry out the liberties granted to us! [Cheers.]

Another objection is in reference to my judicial actions as a Magistrate. Well now, gentlemen, that is a subject which demands your serious reflection. If a Magistrate is to be rejected in consequence of his decisions at the Magisterial board—unless corruption can be shown—you are tampering with justice, which should be done at all times with great caution. If it can be shown that I have ever, as a magistrate, acted partially or corruptly—if it can be shown that I ever abused the power vested in me, then reject me. The object of law is that order may be maintained. Society has entered into a compact, the object of which is to maintain its rights, and it is expected that it shall be done impartially. Whenever I take my seat upon that bench, I can assure you that I endeavor to divest myself of predilections in *any one's* favor, believing that it is my duty to enforce the law, suppress crime, and assist in the maintenance of order. I may mention here it is brought against me that on one occasion I heard a complaint against one with whom I had been on friendly terms, and who was a valued customer. He refused to answer to the subpœna, and the mayor and I acted as the law provides in such cases; we ordered a warrant to be issued agaist the party refusing to comply with the plain requirements of the law. Now, gentlemen, I ask you, should that detract from me as an administrator of justice?—should it not rather be accepted as an evidence that I have endeavored to act impartially in the discharge of my duties. Another man who, also, had always been my friend, was served in the same way on his refusing to answer to a subpœna. Did I screen him, although he had supported me and vote I for me—no, I was compelled by a sense of justice to act as in the other case. Was I right or wrong in pursuing such a course as this? Should that be brought against me as a magistrate?—There are, certainly, many cases that are so evidently groundless that the best course is to advise the parties to settle the matter amongst themselves, but when a direct charge of assault is preferred, or when anything serious is involved, I have always felt it a duty to act, irrepective of who the parties might be, (hear, hear,) and I declare that I have never been swayed through fear or favor. (Applause.) The rich have been brought before me—some who consider themselves aristocrats—but their fine coats have not screened them from the punishment which would have been inflicted upon the poorest man in the community for a like offence. Some have complained that I am too ready at hearing charges against people. As I said before, I have sent away many trivial cases without a hearing, but you all know that the only manner in which rowdyism can be kept down and order maintained is to punish every plain breach of the law. Were this not done, strife would abound, and in many cases result in the loss of human life.

It has been objected to me that I have labored for the suppression of saloons. Now, gentlemen, I acted from principle in this matter. I believed and still believe that saloons are injurious to the morals of the youth of this or any town, and, therefore, I advocated their suppression. In consequence of this action, I understand that most of the hotel keepers are against me. I cannot help that, of course, but I contend that it should not be so; for, by assisting in putting down saloons, I undoubtedly protected the honest *hotel keeper*, who has been at so much trouble and expense in providing suitable accommodation for his customers and the travelling community generally. (Hear, hear.) I am confident, gentlemen, that there is moral principle enough in Goderich to bear me out in this matter! ("Yes," and applause.)

Our municipal institutions are such that important powers are placed in possession of the electors. You should exercise those powers with caution and discretion. In offering myself as a candidate for the Mayoralty I have done so knowing that you have a right to investigate my character and to discuss it freely. I trust you will take my *actions* into consideration rather than my motives. If you find that my actions at the Council Board and in a magisterial capacity have been such as to advance your interests, I hope you will give me the advantage of it. (Cheers.) You are aware of the importance of having representatives at the County Council Board who will be able to battle successfully with those who are prejudiced against Goderich, and to keep your taxation within proper bounds. I have always endeavored to aid my worthy colleagues in effecting that very desirable object. (Cheers.)

I appeal to you, gentlemen, whether I have ever endeavored to rise above my position—whether because I sold pins and needles I have tried to hold myself aloof from the honest and and hard-working laborers who by their energy and toil contribute so much to our prosperity as a town? (Cheers.) I respect every honest man who tries to make himself and his family respectable, and my desire has always been to see every mechanic's family raised to a position of comparative independence. I have never disdained to associate with a working man who endeavors to cultivate his mind, and I have never wished to see him ground down.—[Applause.

I have ever felt the importance of Commerce to our town. Shut out on one side by Lake Huron, it is necessary that we should make a good use of our advantages by encouraging the shipping business as far as possible. A large amount of what I have earned amongst you has been invested in vessels, which have contributed largely to the material prosperity of the place, and will, I hope, be of great service in the future.

Gentlemen, if I am returned as Mayor, I pledge myself to perform the duties pertaining to the office on the principles which have actuated my conduct during the past. (Great applause.)

Before resuming my seat, permit me to say that Mr. Watson was invited to be present to-night, but refused, first, on account of a prior engagement, and secondly because he does not see the expediency of attending Ward meetings; hence, in my remarks, I have avoided any allusions to him.

Mr. Detlor was listened to during the delivery of his address with the utmost attention, and at its close was loudly applauded.

It was then

Moved by Horace Horton and seconded by J. S. Sinclair, That this meeting hereby tenders its thanks to Jno. V. Detlor, Esq., for the able and efficient manner in which he has for several years past discharged the onorous and responsible duties devolving upon him as one of the Councillors for the Town of Goderich, and for the anxious solicitude he has always shewn and the deep interest he has ever taken in the welfare, progress aud prosperity of the Town.

Mr. Horton made a few very appropriate remarks, commendatory of the course pursued by Mr. Detlor, as a Councillor, and hoped the motion would pass.

Mr. Sinclair said Mr. Detlor, in the town Council, had worked assiduously for the interests of the ward and the town generally, and he believed if there was a man at the Board who deserved the honor of being elected mayor more than another, that man was John V. Detlor.

Mr. Crabb denied that Mr. Detlor's claims were stronger than those of several other councillors whom he could mention.

The motion was carried unanimously.

A speech from the chair being called for, Mr. Gibbons said he would only remark that he had made up his mind as to whom he should vote for, and if they all voted on the same principle he had no doubt the candidate he favored would be returned.

Mr. Crabb was then called for. He said if it had been him he would have paid no attention to the objections alluded to by Mr. Detlor. He (Mr. D.) seemed to feel by the way in which he dwelt upon them that there was some truth at the bottom of the stories. (A voice, "Yes, yes.")

Mr Rumball said when Mr Crabb made his insinuation, he heard some one cry "yes."—He, (Mr. R.) had sat for years with Mr. Detlor, at the Town Council Board, and he had never heard him advocate the reduction of mechanics' wages. He defied any one in the room to come forward and say they had ever heard Mr. Detlor advocate such a principle. [Applause.]

No response.

Moved by Mr. Platt, seconded by Mr. Runciman, That this meeting having learned that Mr. Detlor is a candidate for the Mayoralty of the Town of Goderich for the ensuing year, and believing that that office would be but a fair reward for his long and valuable services to the Town, hereby pledges itself to use all lawful and legitimate means to secure his successful and triumphant return.

The seconder made a few pertinent and telling remarks, in the course of which he advised Mr. Crabb to act with his usual good sense in future.

The Chairman—shall the motion pass?

(Voices,—"Yes, yes, carried." A voice in the corner, "take the vote." Detlor men, "yes, yes.")

The Chairman said from the great number of voices in favor of the motion it was apparent that it was carried.

Mr. Walter Hick then said, his name had been mentioned a great deal about the seventy-five cents a day business. Parties had spread a story that he had heard Mr. Detlor state that it was sufficient wages for mechanics. He denied that he had ever heard Mr. Detlor make use of such an expression. [Applause.] Any bills he had ever brought to that gentleman were at once approved of.—[Hear, hear.]

The meeting then quietly dispersed.

THE BOOT AND SHOE GRIEVANCE.

For some years back the boot and shoe makers of Goderich have felt very much aggrieved on account of the alleged injury done to their business through the heavy importations of articles in their peculiar line made by general merchants. The results pointed to are, that some sixty or seventy journeymen have been compelled to leave the town, while those who keep boot and shoe stores have suffered severely in consequence of the excessive competition. Desirous of making an attempt to remedy this evil, the shoemakers and tanners held a meeting recently at which the following resolutions were passed:

"At a meeting of the Boot and Shoemakers and Tanners held on Wednesday the 9th inst., it was moved by W. G. Smith, seconded by George Acheson, and *Resolved*, That the continued importation of Ready Made Boots and Shoes from Montreal and other places is highly injurious to the Manufacturing interests of the Town as well as to the prosperity of the Town generally, for the following reasons: 1st, that the amount of Boots and Shoes annually imported would give steady employment to at least 100 additional journeymen, who, with their families, would add materially to the population as well as to the prosperity of the place, and would in turn furnish considerable employment to many other mechanics and laborers.—2nd, that the amount of money (which at a low estimate amounts annually to $40 or $50,000) would be kept in the place, which would assuredly make money much more plentiful than it now is. 3rd, that the large increase in the number of working men with their families would furnish a market for many articles of produce which the farmers now find it almost impossible to sell, and would thus be a great benefit to all classes, both in Town and country, and would eventually be a benefit to the merchants themselves.

Moved by Mr. Cassidy, seconded by Mr. Jessup, and *Resolved* unanimously, That a committee be appointed to prepare a petition to be presented to the Merchants requesting them to discontinue the importation of Boots and Shoes."

We believe there is moral justice on the side of the mechanics, and we sincerely hope that merchants who are at present engaged in this branch of trade may feel themselves free to give it up. Much depends upon the action of the merchants, but we can assure our mechanical friends that much also depends upon *themselves* in bringing about the change they desire. To render it beneficial to the town generally, they must be prepared to take the matter up in a spirit of enterprise. Improved Machinery must be put in use, skillful workmen must be employed, and manufacturing carried on extensively, before they can hope to compete with the larger houses of the Province. We wish them the utmost success in their movement, and hope it may conduce to the prosperity of all concerned.

QUARTER SESSIONS.

The following criminal cases were disposed of at the present December Quarter Sessions for these United Counties:

The Queen *vs.* George Markel—Embezzlement.—Markel was Station-master on the Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway at the Harpurhey Station in 1859, and absconded with money belonging to the Company. Verdict of the jury—Guilty, with a recommendation to the mercy of the Court. The County Attorney, Mr. Lewis, before asking for the judgment of the court on the prisoner, stated that the Company did not press for a heavy or severe punishment of the prisoner, but such an one as would be a warning to all others in like manner offending. Sentence of the court—six months in County Jail, 3 months of same to undergo hard labor.

The Queen *vs.* Robert Brown, jr.—Larceny. The jury failed to agree and were dism'ssed.

The Queen *vs.* Louisa Tomlin—Larceny.—Prisoner pleaded guilty. Sentenced to one month in County Jail at hard labor.

The Queen *vs.* William Robinson—Larceny.—Verdict of the Jury—Guilty. Sentence of the court, 4 months in County Jail at hard labor.

The Queen *vs.* Ralph Millen—Larceny.—Verdict of the Jury—Not Guilty.

PRESENTMENT.

United Counties of Huron and Bruce—Town of Goderich—to Wit:

The Grand Jurors for our Lady the Queen upon their oath present—that they have examined the Jail of these United Counties and find it kept in a very clean and comfortable state, and the prisoners feel perfectly satisfied with the treatment they have received since being incarcerated therein. We also congratulate the Court on the small number of criminal cases appearing before us, considering the population of these United Counties. We would also recommend to the Court and to these *United Counties' Council* the propriety of erecting lock-up houses, to be situated in proper places throughout the Counties in order to save expense in the administration of justice and, we feel satisfied, to the maintenance of order and good conduct throughout our Counties.

W. C. TRELEAVEN,
Foreman.

Grand Jury Room,
Dec. 10, 1863.

THE AMERICAN WAR.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.

Speaker Colfax, on taking the chair delivered the following brief and patriotic address:—

"Gentlemen of the House of Representatives—Monday will be marked in American history of the opening of a Congress destined to settle the most important question of the century, and during whose existence the rebellion, which has passed its culmination will beyond all question, thanks to our army and navy and administration, die a deserved death. Not only will your constituents watch with strictest scrutiny your deliberations here, but this friends of liberty in most distant lands will be interested spectators of your acts, in the greater than Roman Forum. I invoke you to approach these grave questions with the calm thoughtfulness of statesmen freeing your discussions from that acerbity which mars instead of advancing legislation, and unshaken reliance on that Divine power which gave victory to those who formed this Union, and give even greater victory to those who are seeking to save it from destruction from the hand of the parricide and traitor. I invoke you also to remember that sacred truth that all history verifies that they who rule not in righteousess shall perish from the earth. Thanking you with a grateful heart for the distinguished mark of your confidence and regard, and appealing to you all for that support and forbearance by the aid of which alone I can hope to succeed, I am now ready to take the oath of office, and enter upon the duties you have assigned me."

Special to the *Times*: Washington, Dec. 8.—The Provost Marshal, Gen. Fry, in his report, will recommend to Congress the repeal of the $300 commutation clause in the Conscription Act. It is thought this will compel every drafted man to furnish a substitute, or to take his place in the ranks. A curtailment of the list of disabilities which now exempt persons from military service, will also be urged on Congress. There seems to be a determination among members of both Houses to abolish the commutation clause, most of the bills thus far given notice of looking to this result.

The *Times* Washington despatch says that the estimates of the Secretary of War are $2,000,000 less than they were last.—His report will show on what view of the war this diminution is based.

NEW YORK, 9th Dec.—The *Tribune* special despatch from Washington says, according to the latest official despatches from Chattanooga the work of perfecting the lines of communication of Gen. Grant's army, by repairing the railroad from Bridgeport and increasing the steamboat facilities, is being pushed forward with great energy. The railroad, however, to Chattanooga is not expected to be in running order for weeks. The troops are receiving their much-needed outfits of clothing and blankets.

BOSTON, 9th.—The steamship Arabia sailed for Liverpool this a. m. She carried $12,000 specie. There are pretty well-founded reports that the steamer Chesapeake, from New York for Portland, was captured off Cape Cod by a steamer and taken into St. Johns, N.B., last night. We expect full details in a short time, if the rumor is true.

☞ A practical joke was perpetrated in Toronto, at the expense of Coun. Baxter, of that place. While in a store, a wag posted a placard on the back of his vehicle, with the words inscribed in glaring letters:—"Vote for Baxter!" The worthy gentleman, all unconscious, proceeded up town as usual, and found himself the subject of jocular congratulation on every hand.

PORT OF GODERICH.

The following statements of the movements of Produce to and from the Port of Goderich, for the year 1863, have been very kindly furnished by our respected Custom House officers. The statistics are valuable as indicating with exactness the amount of business done during the season, and we would advise all who are interested in commercial matters to save the paper containing them for future reference and comparison. It will be seen that the Collector and his able and painstaking assistant, in keeping track of every branch of the Produce Trade, have taken upon themselves a great amount of labor which brings to themselves no pecuniary reward, but, of which it is quite important that the public should receive the benefit. Now that the season of navigation has closed, we take the opportunity of thanking Mr. Cameron for his kindness in opening his well-kept books to our reporter at all times, and Mr. Eden for the trouble he has been at to furnish us with valuable information from time to time:

Statement of Produce arrived from Chicago in Transit, during the season of 1863.

205714	Barrels Four,
220638	Bushels Wheat,
236688	Bushels Corn,
15580	Casks Pork and Beef,
24129	Barrels Meal,
13425	Green and Dry Hides,
1324	Barrels Tallow,
3256	" High Wines,
1529	" Liquor,
793	" Alcohol,
2044	Bls. Hhds and Boxes Meat,
1969	Pcs Oil Cake,
7405	Bushels Barley,
6080	Barrels and Casks Lard,
640	Pkgs Butter.
613	Barrels Grease,
198	" Glue,
152	" Sizing,
200	Sacks Hams,
401	Barrels Oil,
66	Boxes Tobacco,
1221	Pkgs Seeds,
153	Boxes Soap,
57	Barrels Ashes,
18	Bales Wool,
19	Bds Sheep Skins,
52	Hhds Tobacco,
5	Bales Cotton,
101	Barrels Rye,
11	Bundles Corn Broom,
3	Boxes Beeswax,
7	Bales Rags,
11	Pig Skins,
1	Hhd Copper,
500	Pkgs sundry Goods,
8	Boxes Hides,
36	Bags Rags,
329	Bags Feed,
60	Loose Hams.

Statement of Produce arrived from Chicago, entered for consumption in Canada.

16642	Barrels Flour,
38050	Bushels Corn,
48137	Bushels Wheat,
1232	Bags Corn,
2641	Bls Beef and Pork,
199	Bags Oats,
741	Loose Hams,
901	Hides,
50	Casks Hams and Shoulders,
20	Tres Meat,
151	Bls Tallow,
33	Pkgs Lard,
49	Pags Salt Meat,
11	Barrels Oil,
120	Barrels Glue,
24	" Sizing,
50	" Apples,
21000	Staves,
3	Boxes Maple Sugar,
6	Boxes Tongues,
1	Bundle Wire,
2	Bundles Beans,
329	Barrels Meal,
53	Bags Seed,
21	Scoops, 7 Chairs.

Goods in Transit from Saginaw, in Transit for the season of 1863.

31240	Barrels Salt,
56	" Ashes,
41	" Hides.
2711	Bundles Shooks,
14126	Staves,
3	Bales Rags,
17	Rolls Leather.

Goods arrived from Saginaw for Canada consumption.

2216	Barrels Salt,
28	Hides,
2	Horses,
52000	Staves,
85000	Lath,
2	Barrels Apples.

Goderich, 10th Dec., 1863.

SCHOONER LOST.—We are sorry to hear that our former townsman, Mr. John Frame, has lost his small schooner, the Pioneer. He had been at Horse Island, north of the Saugeen Peninsula, and on Saturday last was bound to Owen Sound with a load of fish—60 barrels, the property of Mr. Lewis Smith, of this place. Toward night, as they were nearing Cabot's Head, the weather looked bad, and they were apprehensive of a gale from the east, and with sails and cordage so stiff with frost that they could not even reef sail, they concluded to put into Wingfield Basin, and wait for morning. As they were entering this small land-locked harbor in the dark, about 7 p.m., they found the breakers running fearfully high, and a wave took them on the broadside, and carried them into such shoal water that they immediately struck bottom. The little schooner was soon reduced to a wreck, though she continued to hold together Mr. Frame, together with Geo. Webb and Peter Brown, who were the only parties on board, got ashore without trouble, but dreadfully cold and wet. Fortunately, they managed to save a few matches and a little bread, and were able to make a fire, otherwise they must have perished with cold. Next day they got to a fishing station a few miles south, and were conveyed a portion of the way home. The schooner will be pretty much a total loss. The fish will probably be mostly saved.—*Owen Sound Times.*

☞ A recent visitor at Richmond says that Mrs. Jeff. Davis dresses very plainly, and usually walks when she goes out. When she does ride, it is in a plain carriage, drawn by two horses and driven by a negro, who is by far the more consequential personage of the two. She has had many rich dresses and superb articles of jewelry sent to her by the friends of Jeff. Davis in Europe; but these she seldom wears, except upon state occasions. She very rarely goes to places of amusement, but is always seen with her husband in church.

Fruitless Journey to Canada in Search of a Husband.

Not long ago, a young woman in the humbler walks of life, residing in the neighborhood of a village in Fifeshire, and who had for a long time kept up frequent correspondence with a lover in a Canadian settlement, made up her mind to follow him there 'for better for worse.' Being of a careful and saving disposition, she had managed to save from her earnings the wonderful sum of £105. Before departing she got this money in sovereigns ingeniously sewed up or quilted in an affair constructed for the purpose, being worn next her person. She set sail in one of the Glasgow steamers, reached Quebec safely, and proceeded several hundred miles backward to the place arranged for meeting her intended husband. Unfortunately or otherwise, she did not find him true to his appointment. A message only was waiting, requesting her to come to his own place in the township of Waterloo, which was about thirty miles farther. This slight flaw in the arrangements proved to be the turning point of the story. The young woman's latent shrewdness was awakened, and, instead of going on, she made inquiries respecting the circumstances of the betrothed, and found that, instead of being in the most glowing prosperity, the very reverse was the case—that he was in a position where her hundred sovereigns would be most acceptable. Her mind was quickly made up, and she resolved to return home again by the first steamer. This she did, and without her friends in the least expecting her, she walked into her old quarters in Fife, and inquired if they had any word from 'Jess' in Canada yet. Her absence did not extend over six or seven weeks. She is none the worse of her trip, nor (will it be believed) does her wallet count a dozen sovereigns the fewer. The cash is safe in the bank again, and the expense will soon be made up, and we doubt not that our heroine will yet meet with one more worthy of her purse and her pluck than the insolvent wooer whom she so dexterously escaped.

Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway.

The semi-annual meeting of the shareholders of the Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway was held in London on the 13th ult. From the report submitted at the meeting, we learn that the gross earnings for the six months ending on the 1st July last, were greater, by £2,820, than for any previous six months.

The following figures show the gross earnings of the road for the years 1862 and 1863:

	1863	1862
Gross earnings	£52,841	£47,084
Expenses	33,714	36,176
	19,127	10,908
Renewal of Rails	3,356	3,311
	15,771	7,597

Deducting exceptional expenses, amount paid for interest, loss by American currency, &c., &c., it is found the expenditures exceed the receipts on the road by £3,600. In other words, the income from the road has not paid expenses by that amount.—*Times.*

SERIOUS ACCIDENTS.—The Ayr *Observer* says that on Monday afternoon last Mr. Thomas Hall, farmer, of South Dumfries, suffered a serious accident while driving to Ayr with a load of hay. His horses ran away, and he was thrown off. His left leg was broken above the knee, four inches of the bone being smashed to pieces, and his head, face and shoulder were badly bruised. On Tuesday afternoon a young man named James Petrie was thrown from a horse in the village His foot caught in the stirrup and he was dragged along the road. The bridge of his nose was broken and he received a kick over the right eye.

ACCIDENT.—The London *Free Press* says that on Saturday last, the 5th, as some young men were out shooting, one of them named Chas. Gifford, seeing some wild grapes, reversed his gun, and, while trying to draw the grapevine within his reach, the trigger of the weapon which he carried caught in some of the limbs, and thus discharged the contents into the unfortunate young man's side. His comrades immediately conveyed their friend to his sister's residence, where, after lingering for twelve hours, the ill-fated youth died, in his eighteenth year.

PRACTICAL JOKING.—The Boston *Traveller* is disposed to be "a bit of a wag." That paper says:—"Sleep is sweet, but it isn't right for a whole company of cavalry to go to sleep at the same time, and have all their horses stolen. This actually happened the other night at one of the Federal camps, the enemy cleaning out the camp, and clearing out with all the horses of the drowsy heads.—They didn't leave a solitary nag to say 'neigh' to the proceeding. The sleepers were probably Wide Awakes of 1860, who haven't quite recovered from the fatigues of that memorable year."

☞ Quebec must be a semi-barbarous city. A lady arrived there a few weeks ago, on her way to Ireland. Through a hole in a wharf she fell into the river, was rescued only after clinging to a post for a quarter of an hour, went to three hotels, was repulsed at each with savage barbarity because she was alone and in a dying condition, and she might have died on the street had it not been for the humanity of a cabman who kindly took her to his own house. This tale is vouched for by a respectable writer in a Montreal paper.

☞ An old man, who has been living in the most abject property for several years, vibrating between Worcester county and Berkshire, Massachusetts and Connecticut, from their precincts, has at last found a refuge, but perhaps only a temporary one, in the State Almshouse at Monson. Forty years ago this very same individual done a very heavy grain and shipping business in New York, and was among the most influential and respected of the merchants of the metropolis. About the time of the completion of the Erie canal, with others, conceived a great scheme of doing an immense foreign trade, and went to Europe, taking most of his wealth with him. Family affairs did not run smooth, and he gave up his grand project, went to London, led a gay life, was feasted by lords, became very intimate with the household of a noble earl, and was presented at court by the American minister. Afterwards he crossed to Paris, where some imbroglio obliged him to accept the challenge of a fighting marquis, who sent a ball through his right arm; but our pauper being a poor shot, severely wounded his own second instead of the marquis, and he had to leave that city. Then he went to Munich, and made love to a niece of one of the royal families, was accepted, got drunk at a palatial ball over his conquest, made a bad thing of it, and left Munich with despatch. He continued in his excess, gambled away all his property, was a vagabond in England a few years, then in New York and throughout Western Massachusetts. His life is a sadder comment on fast living than was ever written.

The Battle of Ringgold, Ga.

A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette*, writing from Chattanooga on the 28th ult., gives a description of the advance of a portion of Grant's army under Hooker, after the retreat of Gen. Bragg from Missionary Ridge and Chickamauga Station. He says:—

"After the battle in front of Chattanooga, the glorious result of which you have ere this time fully had before you, our forces were divided into three columns, leaving a sufficient garrison at Chattanooga, and started in pursuit of the flying enemy Sherman was on the left, Baird's division in the center, and Hooker on the right along the Ringgold road. The object was, if possible, to flank and gobble up the rear of Bragg's retreating army, and to prevent Longstreet and Buckner from joining it. All along the road we picked up stragglers, small arms, caissons, limbers, &c., everything, in short, that marks the track of a retreating and demoralised army.

"At Chickamauga Station, Hooker drove the enemy from his works, capturing prisoners and stores. No formidable resistance was made till we arrived at Ringgold, on the the Chattanooga and Dalton Branch Railroad, the morning of the 27th. Here the enemy had taken position on Taylor's Ridge, at the foot of which is the village. The position is a very strong one—much like Missionary Ridge in front of Chattanooga. Opposite the town is a pass, on each side of which the enemy has arranged his lines, exposing but little of his forces to view. Immediately on our arrival, Hooker ordered Geary's and Osterhaus's Divisions to scale the hill and charge the enemy, which they did as bravely as ever troops moved against a foe; but when near the top, they were met by such an unexpected hort of assailants and such a determined resistance that they were compelled to fall back. The fight on the side of the ridge was by far the most desperate of this week. Geary's division held their ground until they were literally cut to pieces. The Seventh Ohio had thirteen officers out of fourteen killed and wounded in that charge. Col. Creighton, of the Seventh, who was commanding the First Brigade or Geary's Division, was killed instantly while urging his men to the charge. The enemy had six pieces of artillery, with which he played on us, but with little effect.

"The fight was then comparatively discontinued, until the arrival of our artillery, of which, up to the repulse, we had not a single piece.

"At 12 o'clock our batteries began to play on the ridge, seemingly with good effect, and at the same time a column of infantry was moved up the ridge. This time the enemy made but little resistance, but skedaddled in every direction, leaving four pieces of artillery in our hands, and all his killed and wounded, besides a number of prisoners. Baird's division, came in by another route just as our boys sent up the shout of victory on the hill. We captured some stores and small arms in this place, but the great sacrifice throws a shade on the success."

THE BATTLE A CONFEDERATE VICTORY.

A Washington correspondent of the New York *Tribune* gives what he calls the rebel version of the battle of Ringgold, which was decidedly a victory for the Confederates. He says:—

"However questionable the rebels' version undoubtedly is, their resistance at Ringgold's Gap cannot be passed over without some opportune reflections upon the locality in which that battle was fought. Bragg is certainly a master in the difficult art of ordering a retreat. His quickness in such circumstances is really prodigious. No sooner were his legions disbanded than he saw at a glance the points from which the Unionists could be kept in check long enough to allow him to safely secure his retreat. Without the least uncertainty or hesitation he threw Hardee's corps on his rear, at the entrance of the Gap, by which his shattered army was defiling, and ordered him to hold on till he was out of reach. His foresight was justified. The resistance he had extemporised was sufficient to suspend the onward march of our victorious columns. Hooker's, Sherman's, and Palmer's corps were stopped at the foot of the Gap, and