

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21st, 1883.

THE CONSPIRATOR MUST GO.

In our last issue we referred to the infamous conduct of the moribund County Council of Huron for 1883 in wantonly dismissing the county treasurer, Hon. A. M. Ross without cause, so that a worn-out Tory political hack could be hoisted into position in his stead. A few additional remarks on the subject may not be amiss this week, and for that reason we return to the subject.

The nomination of Hon. A. M. Ross for West Huron is not so far back that those who had the privilege of listening to the address which he then gave will have forgotten the tenor of his remarks on that day. Defining his position and stating his intentions on that occasion, he said that, although there was no reason why the holding of the two offices—the County Treasurership and the "Provincial Treasurership"—could not be maintained by one man, yet he had no intention of holding both positions, but would relinquish his old office at the close of his term, so that a successor could be appointed in his stead. This he purposed doing of his own volition, although one of his predecessors in the office of Provincial Treasurer, Hon. S. C. Wood had continued to act in the capacity of treasurer of Victoria during his incumbency of the higher position.

These words were uttered in the presence of all who attended the nomination—the President of Goderich Lib-Con. Association being amongst the number.

Such being the case, and the intention of the county treasurer, in the matter of placing his resignation, being known, the usual courtesy extended to any retiring officer, of being allowed to send in his resignation at any time before the expiration of his term should have been accorded to him. But such a course was not adopted by the majority of the County Council, and the treasurer of Huron, who had served the county faithfully for about a quarter of a century, was summarily dismissed at the beck of a reckless band of conspirators who found they had a majority at their back upon whom they could depend.

To-day these dwell in the county of Huron four well-thrashed Tory candidates for parliamentary honors. Their names are William Joseph Russell Holmes, Thos. E. Hayes, Patrick Kelly and Frederick W. Johnston. The two first named have been defeated in East Huron, and the two latter have been on the losing side in West Huron. The East Huron victors, when they heard that Hon. A. M. Ross had determined to relinquish the county treasurership, at once, after the fashion of defeated Tory candidates, sought the position, and, when the December meeting of the County Council was held, came to Goderich to place their claims. In Tory caucus it was settled that the long-headed, conniving, "cute, cunning, scheming Brussels medical man should be the Tory nominee, and the conspirators waited for the resignation of the county treasurer. But the treasurer had no intention of resigning at the December meeting, and upon enquiry by a committee appointed to wait upon him by the impatient Tories, it was found that the hon. gentleman intended to finish his fiscal year, and would place in the hands of the auditors of 1884, to be appointed at the January meeting, his books and vouchers, simultaneously with the placing of his resignation in the hands of the clerk of the county. When it was found that the treasurer had determined upon a different line of action from that which suited the conspirators and their friends, there was a loud howl of rage and dismay, and it was determined that Hon. A. M. Ross should be summarily dismissed, be the consequences what they might. To ease the consciences of those of the rank and file among the councillors who had computations about summarily dismissing a tried and faithful servant without cause, it was asserted by the tricksters that the treasurer had stated on nomination day that he would resign at the December meeting; and thus did the scheming gentry add lying to their other unrighteous methods of taking advantage meanly of a political opponent. Even the *Star* had failed to make so absurd a statement as that given above, but, on the contrary, as recently as Nov. 30, had said:

"There is some prospect of a fight for the County Treasurership, to be vacated by Col. Ross. That gentleman, we understand, will not resign until the new council meets, as he expresses a desire to hold office until the end of the fiscal year, Feb. 1st, 1884. Mr. Adamson, County Clerk, has filed an application, and Mr. Thomas E. Hayes, of McKillop, and Dr. Holmes, of Brussels, are also in the field. The political complexion of the next county council will be no doubt affected by the choice."

But honest work and square dealing was not to be looked for from a majority led by Kelly and Johnston, two defunct politicians, who had been relegated to the cold shade by the man who now stood in the way of the fulfilment of their wishes. The county council of 1883 had a Tory majority of nine, and as such a state of parties might not obtain in the council of 1884, it was decided by the moribund council to make a bold attempt to capture the office of county treasurer in the next election.

ing Tory, whose only qualification for the position consisted in the fact that he had been a defeated candidate, and was an indefatigable Tory ward politician. We know William Joseph Russell Holmes well, and we know nothing good of him politically. He has always been a political meddler, and were it not for that fact, he would have been able ere this to have built up a medical practice that would have enabled him to live comfortably, without putting forward a claim for the treasurership of Huron on the fact that he had suffered and bled as a Tory candidate, in 1879 and had always been a zealous party hack. Of course, we are willing to admit that William Joseph Russell Holmes had much to fear of late years from the incoming of clever, well-educated medical men, young men who had taken Canadian and British degrees (which, by the way, Holmes to our knowledge has not rejoiced in)—and as his rating, in a professional sense, did not extend higher than that of a graduate from Nashville, Tenn., anterior to 1867, and had not since been improved upon by the holder, his present action in endeavoring to galvanize a moribund council to do a reckless, disgraceful and unlawful act, must have been forced upon him by the fact that able and more proficient medical men were crowding so closely upon him, that William Joseph Russell Holmes "must go," and seek a livelihood outside of his chosen profession.

And now, a word or two on other points of the case. We contend the dying council of 1883 had no right to pitchfork into office a creature of its own, who, in all probability, would not be approved of by their successors in the council of 1884. Let us place an instance: Suppose the town council of Goderich, or, in fact, any municipality, had a Reform majority at its back this year, and were fearful of having a minority at the council board in 1883; and suppose, under these circumstances, they took upon themselves to dismiss, without cause, or complaint the clerk or other functionary of the council, who meditated sending in his resignation at the end of his present term of office, so that the council of 1884 would be forestalled in the appointment of an official for 1884. In such an event, we ask, would not our Tory friends condemn, in unmeasured terms, the disgraceful and unlawful act. Yet the usurpation of power by a dying council in what has been done in this instance, and a rascally attempt has been made by the desperate gang of tricksters and their tools to steal a county office in the interest of a Tory wire-puller who wants a billet.

But the nefarious scheme shall not work, and if the people of Huron be true to themselves at the January elections, a number of the municipal hold-lums who so recently forgot that decency and respect should always be extended to a tried and trusted public servant, will be relegated to private life. If Huron council, with a Reform majority of over 600 votes, is willing to allow a desperate gang to insult its public servants, to usurp the powers of their successors, and to become the bolsters up of played-out politicians who seek to feed at the public crib, then we are much mistaken in the metal of our people.

Let the watchword be raised in every municipality where a Reform majority exists that henceforth no quarter is to be shown to the enemy, but that the battle at the municipal elections must be fought out on strict party lines. This is not our doing, but has been forced upon us by the rascally tactics of our opponents. We have hitherto deprecated the introduction of party politics into municipal contests, but now the game of battle has been thrown down by our opponents, and we hasten to take it up. Our Tory friends in the council have "shied the castor into the ring," and if they are "knocked out in the first round" at the January election, they will have no cause to complain.

The action of the dying council of 1883 in the high-handed dismissal of Hon. A. M. Ross from the treasurership was unlawful. Fortunately the conspirators dropped into a trap after all. The motion which was carried by the majority in effect that the treasurer's books be handed over to the auditors on the 2nd of January, 1884, cannot be carried out if the integrity of the section appointing auditors be preserved. The duties of the auditors for 1883 are not carried over to the year 1884, and the auditors can have no authority to accept the books and do special auditing unless they have been re-appointed by a regularly drafted by-law duly passed. The auditors for 1884 will not be appointed until the third week in January, and on that account the 2nd of January will be too early for them to take charge of the books. So, you see, there is a fly in the conspirators' ointment after all.

The duty of the next county council is plain. It is to ignore the action of the moribund council of 1883, and to take upon themselves the lawful appointment of the county treasurer. If the Tories are in the majority in the next council, let them take decided action on the matter and legally constitute Mr. Holmes the county treasurer, so that he will not be holding the office by the fraud perpetrated by the county tricksters of 1883.

1883. If, on the other hand, as we trust will be the case, Old Huron is true to her best interests, and the strong Reform element of the county see to the county council its proper representation, then the majority must look upon the disgraceful act of their predecessors in the line of a crime, and ignore alike the action of the reckless tricksters and the person whom they would fain appoint.

Let the political jobbers be taught that "Honesty is the best policy." If they won't take to it naturally, convince them of the truth of the adage by hard knocks at the polls.

THE RECENT ELECTIONS.

Our roster still crowns. The Liberals of Ontario on Friday last met their opponents in four parliamentary contests, and the result was that victory perched upon the banners of three of the Reform candidates.

In the fourth constituency, Cardwell, the old member, Hammell (Tory), succeeded in being elected by a reduced majority.

In West Simcoe, a stern battle was fought, but our friends in that riding succeeded in resisting the encroachments of the corruptionists, who had gone in to do dirty work, headed by "Gum Swamp" Anderson. We congratulate West Simcoe on the result.

But of all the political contests fought in Ontario in many a long year, the election in West Middlesex was the most keenly contested. A dead set had been made on the constituency by the bribery brigade led by Hon. John Carling. "Big Push" Wilkinson, Roddy Pringle, Dick Purcell, Craigie Boyd, and a host of other corruptionists. In addition to the "brigade," the constituency was flooded with stumps along the range extending between St. Johns, N. B. (Sir Leonard's locality) and Windsor, Ont. (the old home of the redoubtable Major Lewis). Then there were Charlie MacIntosh, M.P. for Ottawa, the leader of the Lennox brigade, Tom Cowan, of Galt, the Grit Rag-baby-N. P.—everything by turns and nothing long-Tory, together with Clark M.P.P. for West Toronto, Ferguson M.P.P. for Welland, and a galaxy of other equally radiant stars.

In West Middlesex, however, as in many well fought battles, right was enabled to triumph over might, and on the evening of the 14th victory perched upon the Liberal banner for both candidates—Hon. G. W. Ross, for the Legislature, and D. M. Cameron for the House of Commons by a majority of 33.

The following is the result of the day's work in the three constituencies:

WEST MIDDLESEX.
Hon. G. W. Ross (Liberal) elected to the Legislature by a majority of 166.
D. M. Cameron (Liberal) elected to the House of Commons by a majority of 33.

CARDWELL.
Hammell (Tory) elected to Ontario Legislature by a majority of 45.

WEST SIMCOE.
Phelps (Liberal) elected to Legislature of Ontario by a majority of 39.
The result has been a gain of two on a division to the Local Administration, and goes far to prove the fallacy of the Mail's cry that "Mowat must go."

A SUBSCRIBER in Michigan writes to us to the effect that times are dull in the lumber region this winter. Wages are low, from \$12 to \$20 per month for the best men being paid.

The *Stratford Herald* (Tory) toes the mark, and delivers itself of the following truism regarding the Ontario Premier's position:—"His victories in Simcoe and Middlesex will enable Mr. Mowat to prolong his existence."

"What is Time?" asked the London *Free Press* in a learned editorial on the morning after the election. "Time," dear *Free Press*, is something your party failed to come to the morning after the West Middlesex election. You were hopelessly knocked out in two rounds.

F. C. ROGERS has evidently been coached by our own F. W. J., as he is out with his postal cards for the re-election of Brussels for 1884. It is well known that Mr. Rogers sat at the county council board of 1883 under the most questionable circumstances, being actually "counted in" by a most extraordinary manipulation of the ballots. Mr. McCracken is conceded to be away ahead of the old reeve in the race for the office, and will win by a length this time. He was a neck ahead last year, but was ruled out.

It is this time the editor of the *Mail* must be heartily sick of his "Bull Pup and Slogger" stuff. The *Toronto Morning News* is the latest paper to cast the ally phrase in the teeth of the editor of the leading organ, and rubs it in in the following manner:—"And now the *Mail* admits that Mr. Mowat's 'private character is irreproachable.' Then we suppose he is only a 'Bull Pup' and a 'Slogger' in a kind of a Pickwickian sense, as it were. Is it possible that the *Mail* has a lingering sense of shame yet surviving? Or has the conviction been at length forced home that the sort of abuse which it has lavished upon the Ontario Ministry defeats its own purpose?"

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1883.

THE HURON SIGNAL

FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1