

THE HURON SIGNAL

Published every Friday Morning, by Mc Gillicuddy Bros., at their Office, North St. off the Square.

GODERICH, ONTARIO.

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

By general admission it has a larger circulation than any other newspaper in this part of the country.

TERMS.—\$1.50 in advance, postage pre-paid by publishers; \$1.75, if paid before six months; \$1.00 if not so paid. This rate will be strictly enforced.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.—Eight cents per line for first insertion; three cents per line for each subsequent insertion.

FRIDAY, DEC. 14TH, 1883.

A CONTEMPTIBLE TRICK.

The desperate deal of Friday, when Col. Ross was abruptly dismissed as if he were a defaulter from the position of county treasurer, which he had so honorably filled for a quarter of a century, shows to what depth party rancour and partisan blindness have carried the Conservatives of this County.

The excuse that Col. Ross had declared his intention of resigning at this late county meeting was a false one. It was coined to enable the controlling party in the council to serve its own ends.

The county council of 1884 will not thank the old council for thrusting an official upon them, who entered upon his office (as Dr. Holmes will, if he enters at all) after they had been elected.

Huron is a solid Reform county, and a straight party vote should send at least six of a majority to the county council.

So glaring has this one-sided treatment been, that on Friday morning Messrs. Holland and Britton, Conservatives with independent leanings, introduced a motion regretting that party politics were introduced into the county council, and urging the appointment of the warden on other than political grounds.

In this they were assisted by two other Conservatives, Messrs. Hennings and Clare, thus turning a Conservative majority of 8 into a tie on the motion.

This fact is a strong condemnation of the tactics adopted by the partisan majority of the Huron County Council of 1883.

There is only one course open for our friends now. They have a majority of votes behind them in the county. Bring them out. Already the Tories have sent the word all along the line. Meet them on their own ground, and rout them. Men of Huron, you can do it. Rebuke this latest and meanest Tory dodge on the 7th of January.

A LESSON IN "SHAKING."

The senior editor of THE SIGNAL has joined the "pushers" brigade in West Middlesex this week.

If Mr. McGillicuddy were anxious to learn the art of "shaking" voters by the hand, he could find no better school than West Middlesex (except Lennox), and no better teacher than Richardson, the cheese man, unless it would be the Star's idol, A. H. Roe, of Napanee.

But Mr. McGillicuddy does not travel on that ticket. He has been delivering a series of addresses on public affairs, at the solicitation of leading men of his party.

The silly innuendo in the Star is characteristic of the author. A limp politician, a man with but little respect for his associates, he judges others by his own standard.

A BRIBER TRAPPED.

The Liberal rooms are situated in the same block as the Tory headquarters in Strathroy, and on Saturday a young man named Weekes, vice-president of the Caradoc Conservative Association, after receiving twenty \$5 bills in an envelope from a man who was to be "unknown" to him, went to the "Liberal-Conservative rooms" for further instructions.

By mistake he entered the "Liberal" rooms, and upon being asked if he had received any money, he pulled out the envelope containing the \$100, and showed the bank notes. The Reformers were astonished, but did not let the accident know of his mistake.

The blunder made by Weekes reveals a repetition of the system of wholesale bribery adopted by Johnston last year.

The Tory wirepullers in West Middlesex, are dumfounded. One said: "I would give \$300 of my own money, if I could disprove the story, but I can't."

It is not the sinning that troubles the West Middlesex Tory; it is the being found out and exposed.

The Tory county councillors are now following up their caucus scheme. The reve of Goderich is already in the field, by postal card. His platform is cunningly made up. "Just like Roger."

WEST MIDDLESEX.

How the Battle Wages—An Organized Attempt by the Tories to Debauch the Riding—Presence of the Muskoka Gang—Unreliability of the "Mail" Reports.

Editorial Correspondence.

Strathroy, Dec. 11.

The political fight in West Middlesex is at its height. All over the riding the most determined efforts are being made by the Liberals to repel the bribery brigade, which has come down upon the constituency like a plague of locusts.

We learn by a despatch from Lennox that no account is to be asked in that county, it being understood that three-fourths of the rejected ballots were marked for the Liberal candidate.

Some of the school trustees feel sore because we said they evidently secured their teachers as they bought their wood—the lowest tender taken.

HON. MR. PARDEE seems to be a favorite target for Tory abuse just now. The other day Mr. Meredith struck tragic attitude, and warned the Commissioner of Crown Lands of some terrible retribution in store for him.

We take the liberty of printing the following extract from a private letter from Mr. D. McGillicuddy, who has been delivering addresses in the Liberal interest in West Middlesex.

Our verdant friend, the editor of the Gorrie Enterprise, is given to fibbing. He says that THE SIGNAL had a long editorial the week before last in support of the statement that the Reformers cannot beat Sir John A. Macdonald.

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On Saturday last a case of bribery by the envelope system was unearthed in the matter of a young man named Weekes, of Caradoc. The full particulars, as published, are true in every particular, as young Weekes, (who was present at the Mount Brydges meeting which I attended on Monday night), acknowledged the corn, but pleaded that he must have been "under the influence of liquor at the time."

There is no truth in the statement made by the Mail that Hon. Mr. Mowat has "surrendered" on the Boundary question. No agreement has yet been come to, and the negotiations still pending are confidential.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR WEIR, on Friday afternoon, mumbled in his usual incoherent style on the subject of the county poor house.

The double headed articles in the Mail about West Middlesex and the "down-fall" of the Mowat administration, leads the Toronto Telegram, an independent journal, to make the following shrewd observations:

"Put a beggar on horseback, and he will ride to the devil," is a well known proverb, and in no instance has it come truer than in the case of Martin J. Griffin, the editor of the Toronto Mail.

"The Tory papers, our own local sheet among them, are insinuating that there was a 'trade' in connection with the resignation of John McMillan in South Huron.

The roads are badly cut up and almost impassable. The pupils of Belfast school have received a foot ball from Seaford, and are going to exchange 'foot-ball' for 'shin-stick.'

Mias Maggie Rutherford, assistant teacher here, steps out at the end of this year, giving place to Wm. Hackett, who has been attending the Goderich Model School.

Revival services are being carried on in Hackett's Methodist church, west of this place, by the Rev. Mr. Hamilton.

When is the Post Office going to be moved to Belfast?

A tea-meeting will be held in Hackett's church on Christmas evening.

The Good Templars purchased a handsome new organ for use in their meetings, from R. McGe, of Blyth, last week.

Missionary services will be held in the Church of England on Sabbath evening, Rev. Mr. McCosh, of Wingham officiating.

The Christmas examination in connection with the public school will be held on Friday the 21st inst. The pupils will give a public entertainment in the school house on the evening.

A missionary sermon will (D.V.) be preached in the W. M. L. church here next Sabbath evening by Rev. R. Davy, of Berlin.

The Temperance meeting held on Friday evening last was on account of the unfavorable state of the roads and it would have otherwise been.

Mrs. Wright, of Flesherton, was visiting in this village last week.

Rev. Mr. Carri's brother, from London, was visiting here last week.

Dr. McKay has purchased a fine parrot from Crane's bird store in G. Carleton.

Missionary services were conducted in the English church last Sabbath by Rev. Mr. Craig, of Clinton.

Fox hunting is a favorite pastime with our young men at present, but the foxes seem to be perfectly safe so far.

Mrs. Carrie has gone to visit friends in London. As this lady has been ill for some time past, it is to be hoped that the trip will completely restore her health.

One of those happy occasions which put everybody in good humor, occurred at the house of one of our neighboring farmers, Wm. Malrough, last Tuesday evening. The event was the marriage of his daughter Rebecca, to Ben. McClure, of Lucknow.

LITERARY CONTROVERSY.—This contest closed in the Temperance hall on Friday evening last. The judges, A. Cowan, A. H. Clutton and J. Hogarth quietly informed the leaders as agreed on, that Sister Ellen Horton's side was victorious.

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Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'MCLARY'S FAMOUS ROYAL' and other small notices.