New Advertisements

Tailoring—H. Dunlop.
One and All—S. McKenzie.
Take Notice—Jas. Thomson.
By-law No. 10—Jas. Thomson.
Tenders Wanted—T. B. Stokes.
Estray Heifer—David Lindsay.
Notice to Contractors—F. Braun.
Estray Cattle—Duncan McLaren.
Fall and Winter Goods—W. & J. Kay.
The Western Advertiser—John Cameron & Co.

Grand Trunk Railway.

GODERICH STATION

Trains leave as follows.—

Mail	7.00 a. m.
Express	9.45 " "
Mixed	12.30 p. m.
"	3.30 " "

Trains are due as follows.—

Mixed	10.00 " "
Express	2.00 p. m.
Mixed	5.20 " "
Mail	10.00 " "

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, Dec. 10, 1873.

Our Gravel Roads.

After a years trial of the system of no tolls on the County Gravel Roads, the Council at its meeting at Seaforth last week decided to do away with the toll system—we suppose for ever—for the County Engineer was instructed to sell the toll houses as soon as possible. We commend the Council for their wisdom in this respect, but we cannot endorse their subsequent action in throwing the burden of keep the roads in repair on the township municipalities through which they pass. We fear that if they are left to the tender mercies of the townships, our county roads, which have always been our boast, will gradually fall into disrepair, and the money hitherto expended on them will be in a great measure lost. Townships have to depend principally on statute labour to keep their roads up, and we fancy they will have little labour to spare for what have heretofore been county roads. Besides, some townships will have more than their fair share of the burden. Under any system there will be grumbling and dissatisfaction, but we think the plan adopted during the past year, for the County to keep up the great leading roads which it built at a large outlay, is the correct one. We think it should have been continued in force, even if the county rate was a little increased thereby. What we lose in one way we gain in another.

With regard to the Northern Gravel Road in which the town of Goderich is interested, the Council have offered to purchase it for the sum of $20,000 in debentures having 20 years to run and bearing interest at the rate of 6 per cent. Of course this is only about half the value of the road, but it is the utmost limit of what the Council can give without submitting a by-law to the people. That was tried once before, we all know with what result. The town authorities have therefore concluded to accept the offer if the County Council of next year see fit to carry it out. Under all the circumstances it is perhaps the wisest thing the town can do to get the road off its hands even at this sacrifice.

Though the county has handed over the roads to the municipalities it has agreed to maintain all bridges over 60 feet in length, and also the bridges at Egmondville.

The Proposed New Railway.

We have never seen the people of Goderich go into any scheme for the good of the town so heartily as that for the construction of the new railway from Port Perry or some other point on the line of the Ontario and Quebec road, which it is proposed to call the Goderich extension. Mr. Fowler, the promoter of the road, paid us a visit last week and held a public meeting to talk the matter over. Though only a few hours notice was given there was a very large attendance of the leading business people of the town, and the utmost enthusiasm was manifested. Not a voice was raised against the proposed road nor against a liberal bonus being given by the town to aid in its construction. Mr. Fowler suggests a bonus of $100,000. The sum may seem at first sight large, but after all, unless we are much mistaken, the impetus given to the town and the increase in population and wealth which would result, would enable us to pay the amount without increasing our taxes a single cent. As Mr. Fowler said, if our town is ever to become a place of importance it must be through our harbour, and the business of the harbour would be infinitely increased by having such a road, giving us through connections with Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa and other points of importance. We have not space in this issue to enter more fully into the advantages which would accrue to Goderich from the building of the road but will return to the subject next week. A full report of the meeting will be found elsewhere. We are delighted to see our citizens take such an interest in the scheme. We trust they will not flag in their interest till it is carried to a successful completion.

The Welland Canal Solicitorship.

Some of the Tory organs are making a great fuss over the appointment of Mr. J. M. Currie to the Welland Canal solicitorship in place of Mr. Rykert. They allege that Mr. MacKenzie has inaugurated the American system of discharging former employees and filling government offices with his own friends. Were such the case we would be as ready to condemn Mr. MacKenzie as they are, for we look upon that system as being one fraught with great evil. The truth of the matter is however that the solicitorship is a piece of departmental patronage to which no permanence is necessarily attached. The person who holds it is not obliged like a government employee to give his whole time to it, and he is remunerated by fees and not by salary. The Crown has the same right as a private individual to employ whatever lawyer it chooses and MacKenzie is not therefore to be blamed if he employes Mr. Currie in place of the scrap-book orator. Besides Mr. Rykert has no reason to complain. He induced Sir John to dismiss Mr. Miller the former solicitor, against whom no fault could be found, in order that he might be rewarded for his subserviency and if he has been served in the same way as he caused Mr. Miller to be treated he must just "grin and bear it." Besides Mr. MacKenzie had a perfect right to do as he has done if he saw fit.

Rev. Mr. Simpson, of Knox Church Hamilton, has accepted a call to Louisville, Ky.

The President's Message.

The forty-third Congress of the United States was opened on Monday, 1st December. The President's Message was sent down the following day. It is a more lengthy document than usual. Had the "Virginius" quarrel continued an open one it would have been read with feverish anxiety in many a household, and every word of its statements in regard to pending war would have been flashed to the further extremities of the earth. But the "Virginius" question has passed into history, and is simply treated as history in the Executive message. The most important matter which now awaits the decision of Congress is the regulation of the currency, and the question of specie payments. The President's utterances on this subject are somewhat equivocal and contradictory. The conclusion to be drawn from what he says is that the Government favors some scheme by which the currency can be inflated according to necessity, and it is quite willing to wait for the time, thus rendered exceedingly remote, when the people shall regain possession of the only basis of currency which is self-regulating, namely, gold. Speaking of the document generally the *Scottish American* says:—"The message generally is a singularly unequal document—with sentences that provoke hilarity—and others that plunge the reader into hopeless perplexity. Among the minor recommendations it contains, are the taking of a quinquennial census in 1875 and the co-operation of a Committee of Congress with the Civil Service Board in maturing a plan to secure honest and capable men for office. There is also the proposal that the national Government should undertake the maintenance of the Erie Canal, the canal across the St. Clair Flats, and the canal connecting Lake Michigan with the Mississippi River, as soon as these water courses are made suitable for the navigation of large vessels. Amnesty for the few remaining southern "rebels" deprived of citizenship, is likewise urged, and sundry minor recommendations are made in regard to legislation, which will hardly be open for discussion by Congress for two months to come."

A Warning

The terrible poisoning case in Montreal, of which an account was given in our last issue, should prove a warning to all who allow their appetite for strong drink to obtain the mastery over them. The unfortunate occurrence arose from the man Flaherty's dishonesty in the first place and his hospitality in the next. Seeing a horse with an express waggon going along the street without a driver, he stopped it, and finding the fatal bottle in the waggon he appropriated it, no doubt congratulating himself on the opportunity thus afforded of having a "spree" with his neighbours, whom he called in to assist him in disposing of its contents. What appeared to them to be sherry wine proved itself a deadly poison and the thief and some of his companions paid the penalty of their appetite with their lives. There was a mistake in the dispatch which stated that eleven out of the twelve who partook of the fatal draught had died. It appears that only seven have succumbed, though the recovery of several of the others is yet considered doubtful. The moral of this sad occurrence is not far to seek and we trust it will not be wholly lost on the community. The following is the verdict of the jury which was empannelled at the inquest:—'That the seven persons now deceased came to their deaths by drinking and swallowing an excessive quantity of sherry wine mixed with a poisonous drug, Colchicum, commonly called and known as wine of Colchicum, taken and drunk in total ignorance of its poisonous nature and character."

That Surplus.

The Reform Government of Ontario have been frequently accused by the Tories of having squandered the surplus. We observe that at the Kent Warden's supper a few days ago Hon. Mr. McKellar stated that notwithstanding the payment of the large appropriation to assist railways, they would be able to show when the House meets that there was still a surplus of $2,000,000 at its disposal. He also said that the Government intended to pass a Ballot Bill, and a perfected Election Law, which would goa long way towards preventing the bribery and corruption at elections which recent disclosures had shown to be rampant throughout the country.

—Hon. E. Blake was re-elected by acclamation for South Bruce on Wednesday last. He is becoming more popular than ever with his constituents.

—Hon. Mr. Burpee and Mr. DeWeber, Reform, have been elected by acclamation for St. John, N. B., the latter in place of Mr. Tilley.

—Hon. Mr. Laird has been re-elected by acclamation.

—Hon. Jas. Leslie, a Senator over eighty years of age, died at Montreal on the 6th inst. The death of Senator C. Blake is also announced.

—The nomination for West Toronto took place on Monday. Mr. Moss' prospect of election is excellent.

—C. F. Fraser, M. P. P. for South Grenville has been sworn in as Provincial Secretary and Hon. Mr. Pardee has been transferred to the Crown Lands. Mr. Fraser will be re-elected by acclamation, as the Prog. party cannot get anyone to oppose him.

—The Ontario House of Assembly has been summoned for the despatch of business on the 7th of January.

—Hon. Oliver Mowat, premier of Ontario, and his wife had a narrow escape during the storm last Wednesday night. They were in temporary occupation of a room in the Parliament Buildings while their residence was undergoing repair, and a chimney was blown down and crashed through the roof into the room which they occupied. Fortunately they escaped any injury beyond a fright.

The gunboat Prince Alfred has gone into winter quarters at Chatham, and is being repaired by Capt. Wyatt.

Hon. L. S. Huntington is to be given a complimentary dinner in Montreal about the 23rd of December.

December 1st, the Ontario Government took full possession of the Agricultural College and Farm, at Guelph.

The death is announced of Sheriff Treadwell of the United Counties of Prescott & Russell. He was 71 years of age.

The death of Mrs. McTavish, relict of the late Governor McTavish, of the Hudson Bay Territory, is announced in the English papers.

Governor Tilley has announced that wines and spirituous liquors will not be permitted within the Government House during his term of office. He is a stanch teetotaller.

The Peel Conservatives have selected Mr. Gooderham, of Gooderham & Worts, as their candidate, and Mr. K. Chisholm of Brampton, is the choice of the Reformers.

LOCAL NEWS

OYSTERS.—D. Ferguson has received another barrel of those beautiful oysters which he is selling by measure.

JAIL SURGEON.—The County Council at its meeting at Seaforth last week, appointed Dr. Shannon Jail Surgeon in place of the late Dr. McDougall.

COUNTY COURT & GENERAL SESSIONS. These courts opened at the Court House yesterday before Junior Judge Toms. The docket is not a heavy one.

HELD OVER.—The pressure on our columns compels us to hold over a considerable portion of the County Council proceedings, a report of the Teacher's Association meeting and of Hon. Mr. Blake's speech at Lucknow.

SUDDEN DISAPPEARANCE.—On Tuesday of last week there was large quantity of snow on the ground with excellent sleighing. On Wednesday morning it was all gone. A heavy rain and soft wind did it.

THE RAIN which fell on Monday rendered the gravel sidewalks in town very muddy, and those who had occasion to be out after nightfall, when it was very dark, found pedestrianism anything but pleasant.

PLENTY TO CHOOSE FROM.—The Township of Colborne has now a sufficient number of ratepayers on the roll to entitle it to a Deputy Reeve. The electors will have plenty of material to choose from as there are five or six aspirants for the position.

SAFE IN PORT.—In our last a paragraph appeared with reference to a schooner belonging to Mr. Marks of Bayfield concerning the safety of which some fears were entertained. We learn that the said vessel was the *Katie Pringle*. We are glad to be able to state that she is safely laid up in Goderich harbour.

BRIBERY ACT.—Under the Ontario Municipal Act it is necessary for Township Clerks to furnish returning officers at the municipal elections with a certain number of copies of the act to prevent bribery at elections. We have the said act in type and are prepared to furnish any number of copies in time for the elections.

TENDERS WANTED.—The Public Works Department advertise in our columns to-day for tenders for the further improvement of our harbour. The late government mismanaged things so that a considerable portion of the work already done has been destroyed. The Reform government have taken hold of the matter vigorously and will no doubt have the work completed in a rapid and satisfactory manner.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.—Our townspeople are beginning to talk over the coming Municipal elections and some of the aspirants to a seat in the council for next year are actively engaged in canvassing. There will be contests for all the offices S. H. Detlor is in the field for the mayoralty and J. T. Garrow for the Reeveship, but their opponents are not yet fairly in the field. Abraham Smith and D. L. Doyle are candidates for the Deputy Reeveship. The temperance people intend to run a strong ticket in the various wards.

G. H. & B. RAILWAY.—The action of the Great Western Board in England has thrown a damper on the construction of the London, Huron & Bruce Railway. The directors are endeavouring to induce Mr. Hendrie the contractor to proceed with the work without the Great Western guarantee, but it is highly improbable he will. The Wingham *Times* states that he has taken all his horses to London preparatory to selling them, and that the engineers on the line have all been withdrawn.

THE GRAND TRUNK.—The Stratford *Beacon* says:—"We learn that the directors of the Grand Trunk railway purpose early next spring to double-track the road from Stratford to Sarnia, the change being demanded by the rapidly increasing traffic. It is also in contemplation to construct a new iron ferry boat, the same pattern as the *Int'ernational*, now in use at Sarnia, for service at that point. These improvements will greatly increase the efficiency of the road."

HIGH SCHOOL INSPECTION.—J. A. McLellan, one of the High School Inspectors for Ontario, paid an official visit to the Goderich High School on Wednesday last. He examined a number of classes and expressed himself well pleased with the appearance they presented. The school is in a very efficient state and we regret that parents and young people do not take advantage of the facilities it affords for acquiring a superior education to a larger extent. We trust to see an increased attendance after the New Year.

SAD ACCIDENT AT AYR.—A despatch from Ayr, Ont., under date of December 3rd says:—"The Nithvale flour mills, belonging to Jas Piper, Esq., were discovered to be on fire about 9 p. m., and were entirely consumed. Archibald Watson, foreman moulder to Jno. Watson, Ayr, in trying to save property, was suffocated and burned to death. The oatmeal mills were only saved by the extreme exertions of the firemen and inhabitants. The people deeply regret the loss of one of our most respected citizens. Loss on the mill about $1,200; scarcely any insurance." The Mr. Watson referred to is a cousin of Rev. R. Ure, pastor of Knox Church in this town. That gentleman left for Ayr on receipt of the news.

OUR MARKETS AGAIN.—A very marked instance of the evil we alluded to last week with reference to our markets occurred a few days ago. The son of a farmer who lives not far from town brought in a load of wheat for which the highest price he could obtain was $1.06. He sold at that figure and afterwards telegraphed to Clinton and ascertained that the price there that day was $1.12. The next day his father took a load to Clinton and obtained the latter figure. The sooner a Board of Trade is formed to deal with this very anomalous state of affairs the better. We have been found fault with by some silly people for speaking of this matter so plainly as we have done, but the criticism of such persons will not deter us from doing our duty. It is only by directing attention to and exposing such evils that there is any hope of having them remedied.

THE PEN VS. THE SWORD.—The debate on the subject whether the pen or the sword has the greatest influence, came off last Friday night in the High School building. The cause of the Pen was upheld by Messrs. Downey, Trainor, Runciman, Montgomery, W. Macara and Proudfoot, and that of the Sword by Messrs Cameron, J. Macara, Woodman, Naftal and Wilson. At the close H. I. Strang, who occupied the chair, summed up the arguments and gave his decision in favor of the sword. John Macara, Esq., Barrister, was elected Honorary President of the Society, J. Trainor Secretary and J. Macara, Treasurer. A constitution was submitted and adopted. The subject selected for next debate is "Does Sir John A. Macdonald deserve the confidence and respect of the people of Canada?" The Reform members of the Society take the negative and the Conservatives the affirmative of the question. A lively debate is anticipated.

SUBSCRIBE.—Those wanting a good local newspaper cannot do better than subscribe for the SIGNAL, the pioneer paper of the West. Sent from now till 1st January 1875 for $1.50. We will send Wood's Household *Magazine* for 1874 and a magnificent Oil Chromo 14 x 20 inches, of the celebrated Yo Semite valley to any person sending us the names of five new subscribers with the subscription price for one year in advance. This Chromo is a magnificent work of art and would be an ornament in any house. Those who would like to see the picture can do so by calling at our office. It is usually sold at $6. Wood's Magazine is an excellent publication. It contains good reading matter and is worth more than the subscription price, $1 per annum. Any one who has a little leisure can easily secure the names of five new subscribers and obtain the Magazine and chromo. Or we will furnish the SIGNAL, Wood's Magazine and the chromo for next year for $2.50. How many will accept of our offer?

ROSA D'ERINA's second concert last week was very poorly attended, partly because our people do not appreciate good music, and partly because the night was very unfavourable, a heavy rain storm prevailing accompanied by a high wind. Notwithstanding the discouragement of a small audience Rosa D'Erina sustained her well earned reputation. She again sang "Home, sweet home" and "Coming through the Rye," with those exceptions there was a complete change of programme. We need not recapitulate the various pieces she sang and played, but we specially admired her Spanish hunting song. Some annoyance was caused by several young men in the back seats who kept up a running conversation during her singing. It is very annoying to a performer as well as to an audience to have this sort of thing going on. We regret that our young men are not more mannerly. Rosa D'Erina will be in Stratford again early in January and she has kindly offered to come to Goderich and give a concert for some charitable purpose. Perhaps the Ladies' Benevolent Society will take advantage of her offer. They might materially augment their funds, besides giving those of our citizens who have not heard Erina's Prima Donna the opportunity of enjoying a musical treat.

TERRIFIC STORM—GREAT DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.—On Wednesday last we were visited by a terrific gale of wind which continued during the night and throughout Thursday. The "oldest inhabitant" does not remember of such another having been felt here. The gale blew from the south and west with terrific fury, and the waters of Lake Huron were lashed into foam, the waves sweeping completely over the highest part of the new piers. The storm appears to have extended over the greater part of the continent, and accounts come to hand of immense destruction of property having been caused, accompanied in some cases with loss of life. In this town no very serious damage was done, though sign boards, shutters and glass suffered to a considerable extent. The whole of the south side of the new concrete house belonging to D. K. Strachan and occupied by A. Adams as a grocery store came down, and had the roof not been promptly secured it would doubtless have been blown off. The wooden awning at D. Gordon's furniture store was blown down and the window broken. The awning and window at Saunders' shared the same fate. A chimney on A. Dickson's new house was blown down. Fences and trees were prostrated in every direction. An old saw mill building at the harbour came down on a boat which is being built by H. Marlton for Williams & Murray, but fortunately did not injure it seriously. A boat belonging to Jas. Addison was blown into the water and smashed. The schooner *Tidman* was driven against the steamer *Wm. Seymour*, her bowsprit making a hole into the cabin of the latter. The breach in the new south pier was considerably widened. The telegraph lines were prostrated in every direction and communication by that means was almost entirely cut off. The Montreal line along the lake shore suffered more particularly. In the country, barns were unroofed, hay stacks blown away and things scattered generally. In the neighbourhood of Porter's Hill no less than six barns were unroofed or blown down, and the brick school house was unroofed and one end blown in shortly before the children assembled for school. Farther east the storm appears to have been worse than in this neighbourhood. The rapid thaw of Tuesday night caused the Maitland river to rise to as high a point as it does in spring and we learn several bridges and dams have been injured. It was reported that the new dam and mill at Piper's had been seriously damaged but such turns out not to be the case. An embankment on the railway at Stapleton, near Clinton, was washed away so that trains were delayed and the passengers and mails had to be transhipped at the break for some days. This very severe storm was foretold by the weather bureau at Washington, the accuracy of whose predictions for the past year have been verified in a wonderful manner, over 75 per cent of their predictions turning out correct.

Town Council.

A special meeting of Council was held on Friday evening last. Present, the Mayor, and Councillors Pasmore, Campbell, Sinuill, Watson, Robertson, A. Smith, Doyle, Sloan, W. G. Smith, McLean and Clifford.

Minutes of last meeting read, approved and signed.

A by-law for dividing the Town of Goderich into polling subdivisions for municipal purposes was submitted, put through its various stages and passed.

A by-law for appointing returning officers and fixing polling places for the municipal elections for 1874 was submitted, the blanks filled and the by-law passed through its various stages. The following were appointed returning officers,—St. George's Ward, D. Gordon; St. Andrew's Ward, Eric McKay and R. Robinson; St. David's Ward, H. Gardiner and John Stewart; St. Patrick's Ward; S. Yates and T. B. VanEvery.

A by-law for opening up the Maitland Road through the Ransford property was read a first time and ordered to be taken into consideration on the 9th of January, the necessary notice being given in the meantime.

On application of Mrs. Hilliard her taxes were remitted for the present year.

Report of E. Clifford received, that he had procured a number of names for a fire company for the new steam fire engine.

Accounts of H. Gilkes, $10, for white-washing market house and of G. M. Trueman, $4, for selling market fees. Ordered to be paid.

A number of other accounts were presented and referred to the Finance Committee.

The Council then adjourned.

Another Railway to Goderich.

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING ON FRIDAY.

HURRAH FOR THE GODERICH EXTENSION OF THE ONTARIO AND QUEBEC ROAD.

We mentioned in our last issue that Mr. Fowler, the promoter of the proposed railway from Port Perry to Goderich, was about to visit us for the purpose of advancing the interests of the road. On the way up he was detained at Seaforth by the washing away of an embankment on the railway, and took the opportunity of seeing the County Council then in session there, and urging the claims of the road. On arriving here and consulting with some of our citizens it was considered advisable to call a public meeting, which was accordingly done on Friday night last, when, though only a few hours notice had been given, there was a large attendance of the leading people of the town, who showed much interest in the proceedings.

Horace Horton, Esq., Mayor of the town was called to the Chair, and J. J. Bell requested to act as Secretary.

Mr. Fowler was introduced by the chairman. He said he was glad to see such a meeting, it was larger than he expected and than he was accustomed to on such occasions. It showed the interest felt by the people of Goderich in the proposed road. It was a road which would pay, but it would cost money to build it. The Grand Trunk had cost the shareholders a large amount for which they never got any return. This had caused English capitalists to be careful about investing their money in Canadian railways, but the system of government aid which had been introduced and which was a good thing, had led people again to invest in railways. He then referred to some of the roads he had already built and went on to say that the proposed road would give us direct communication with Montreal and Quebec as well as with all other parts of the country. It would cross ten other railways between here and Peterboro. We would then be able to manufacture salt the year round as it would open up a larger home market than we now have. If it saved us 10 cents a barrel on the freight this would be a saving of $30,000 a year on the present production of the wells. If we had direct communication with Montreal we could get assistance from that city towards improving our harbour. They would then have as large an interest in our harbour as they have in their own, for their object is to bring business to themselves and divert it from the Erie Canal and other United States routes. He thought we were sleepy in Canada as compared with the United States in railway enterprise. It had been said that he was going into this scheme to make money but he denied that such was the case. He went on to point out that railways create business and that this road would do more than any other road in Canada. In winter the Grand Trunk is blocked up with Western freight and could not accomodate local business. This road would require a large amount of rolling stock in summer to carry the freight brought here by vessels and would therefore be in a position in winter to accomodate the local business, as having no connections west it would not get through trade at that season. Roads having connections west cannot accomodate local trade. The New York Central sends 15 miles of freight trains a day over its lines and would soon have four tracks to accomodate the traffic. The west is 1000 miles nearer Liverpool by Quebec than by New York. Three years ago there were no steamers running to Duluth, now there are no less than thirty. Minnesota is a great wheat growing state and would want a favourable outlet. He thought the road would want a double track at once. He was sure the project would take in England if small bonuses were granted by the municipalities. Of course there were difficulties to contend with. It was difficult to make strangers who were not on the ground see the advantages of the route and the Grand Trunk would probably oppose them, but with Sir Hugh Allan, Senator Skead and other leading men to help them he was sure the road would be built. The former would probably put on a line of steamers from here to Duluth. Sir Hugh wouldn't spend money unless he expected to get it back (Great laughter.) He was at present a little soured but he would soon sweeten up and go into this project. (Mr. Fowler here read several letters from Hon. J. J. C. Abbott expressing his own and Sir Hugh Allan's confidence in the success of the project.) He then went on to relate some of his experience in railway building. He expected $9000 a mile bonus for this road from all sources, $5000 from the rural municipalities, $2000 from the government and $2000 from the towns. It would pay as well for what we got in. The lake trade is yet in its infancy. With lines of vessels running here the town would be greatly benefitted. Our harbour which is of little value to us now would become important. We wanted competition and would benefit by it. The township of Brock had given $50,000 to the narrow guage two years ago and it was already repaid to them. They would now give $30,000 for a branch of this road to Cannington. They saw the benefit of competition. The Grand Trunk had built up the country but this road would do it still more. He instanced the town of Peterboro as a place which had largely benefitted by railways. It had given $100,000 to the Ontario and Quebec road and $80,000 to the old Cobourg road to re-open it. It had grown very rapidly in consequence. He would be glad to see Goderich similarly built up. Where Peterboro had gained one dollar we would gain ten. Vessels would bring grain from Chicago and Duluth and take return cargoes of salt. New markets would be opened up to us. If our town was to become a place of importance it must be through our harbour and the importance of the harbour would depend very much on the proposed railway.

In reply to a question, Mr. Fowler stated that the distance to Montreal by the proposed line would be 40 miles shorter than by the Grand Trunk, also that it would have a competing line to Toronto by way of Orangeville, where a connection would be made with the narrow guage, the distance by that route being 129 miles. Mr. Fowler also stated that this would be the main line of the railway and that the object of the road would be to encourage through trade by water.

Mr. Cameron, M. P. being called on said he was not a railway man, but after hearing Mr. Fowler he thought the project should receive the cordial support of the people of this section. If the Northern Colonization Road ran to Sault ste Marie this might only be a branch, but if we have the assurance of the projectors that this would be the main line he would cordially support it. We want a competing line with the Grand Trunk. Goderich is worse off now than it was ten years ago. Then there were lines of boats running here where there are none now. We should make the most of our natural advantages. He might state that he had heard from the Minister of Public Works last night that tenders would be advertised for at once for the completion of the harbour and the work would be pushed on vigorously. Our harbour would be of no use without a railway, and the Grand Trunk would not do anything for us. He referred to the Western trade and stated that this route would shorten the distance between Fort William and Montreal 100 miles. The bonus suggested ($100,000) was large but perhaps not too large for the benefits which would be conferred. He would do all he could to aid the scheme.

Mr. Sinclair said that we should aid the road and the only question was one of amount. We wanted competition, but we should consider well how much aid we can afford to give in order to secure it.

Mr. Crabb followed with a few remarks in favor of the scheme.

The following resolution was then submitted:—Moved by J. J. Bell, Editor of the HURON SIGNAL, seconded by Wm. Campbell, Town Councillor,

"That after hearing the explanations of Mr. Fowler respecting the construction of the Ontario & Quebec Railway through Port Perry, Uxbridge, Newmarket, Orangeville & Arthur to Goderich Harbour, this meeting is of the opinion that it will be of the greatest benefit to the whole Province of Ontario and worthy of liberal assistance from both the municipalities along the line and from the Local Legislature of Ontario, and that this Town will be justified in granting a liberal bonus. Carried unanimously.

The usual votes of thanks were then tendered and the meeting adjourned.

Stanley.

MUNICIPAL.—The movement against the old Council goes on with spirit. It is expected that Mr. George Anderson will consent to oppose Mr. Simpson, the present Reeve. If he does, there can be no doubt that Mr. A. will be returned. Mr. J. Bailey is out against Mr. Castle for Deputy, he will probably be elected. Mr. Pickford, Mr. Graham and Mr. Moffatt are expected to run for the Council. To show how baseless is the idea promulgated in the last *Star* in regard to this being a political movement it is only necessary to state that Messrs. Pickford and Graham are conservatives of the purest water. It is not politics we want in our Councils, but men of the right stamp.

Hullett.

THE STORM.—The wind storm on Wednesday night last did considerable damage to fences and timber in this township. Fences in all directions were leveled to the ground. In many places also, acres of valuable timber have been uprooted and now lies a tangled mass. Two logs were blown out of a log barn belonging to Mr. Reid, on the Tenth Concession; an eave trough 50 feet long was also blown off the same barn, and no traces of it has yet been found. Mr. Reid also had half the roof blown off a shed. The storm was the most severe of the kind experienced in this section for many years.—*Expositor.*

Dungannon

INDUCTION.—The induction of Rev. Mr. Hartley to the pastoral charge of the Presbyterian churches at Dungannon and Port Albert took place on Wednesday last. At the hour appointed, 11 o'clock, there was not a quorum of the Presbytery present so the induction could not be proceeded with, and the congregation dispersed, but they assembled again in the evening at 6 o'clock, when the ordinary services on such occasions took place. Rev Mr. Leask of St. Helens presided, Rev. Mr. Danby of Bayfield preached an excellent discourse from 1 Thessalonians chap. V, verses 12 and 13. Rev. Mr. Young of Manchester addressed the Minister and Rev. Mr. Sieveright of Goderich the people. The usual questions were put to Mr. Hartley by Rev. Mr. Leask, after which he was inducted to the pastoral charge of the congregation, who gave him a hearty welcome. The settlement is a most harmonious one and Mr. Hartley being an earnest and faithful worker the prospects of Presbyterianism in that congregation and neighbourhood is very encouraging.

County Council.

The County Council met in the Town Hall, Seaforth, on Tuesday, 2d December. The Warden was in the Chair and the following members were in attendance.—Messrs. Lackie, Young, Gibbons, Detlor, Patton, McDonald, Slemmon, R. Brown, Perkins, Gibson, Weir, Snell, Shannon, Hays, A. Brown, D. Scott, Benson, Simpson, Greenway, Fulton, Walker, Douglas, Willis and Girvin.

The minutes of the last day's proceedings of June session were read and approved.

The Warden addressed the Council. He stated that the Committee appointed to confer with the contractor for the Ben Miller bridge had met him immediately after the June session and succeeded in cancelling the contract for a consideration of $300. An expenditure of $1000 for repairs was authorized and the bridge would now, he thought, last for some years. The village of Clinton had appealed against its equalized assessment and Mr. Sinclair had been retained to defend the equalization. On hearing the case Judge Toms had sustained the appeal and reduced the assessment of the towns and villages 40 per cent. McGillivray and Biddulph had applied for a share of the Municipal Loan Fund accruing to this county, which claim had been disallowed by the Commissioners appointed to investigate the matter. The Master in Chancery had brought a suit against the County for an alleged claim for stationery which they had already disallowed. The memorial to have the village of Lucknow attached to Huron had been forwarded to the Provincial Secretary. The gaol Surgeon, Dr. McDougall, had died since their last meeting. He had appointed Dr. McLean to act in the mean time, and it would be their duty to appoint a successor.

The following documents were then presented:—

Letter from the Principal of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum. Referred to Finance Committee.

Presentment of Grand Jury at June Sessions. Fyled.

Applications from Drs. Shannon, McLean and McMicking to be appointed Gaol Surgeon. Fyled over on motion of Mr. Detlor, seconded by Mr. Greenway, till Thursday.

Letters from P. F. Walker, Attorney for H. Macdermott, threatening to take legal action against the Council to recover account for stationery and to compel them to furnish him with better office accommodation. Referred to Fin. Com.

Accounts of Deaf and Dumb Institute, E. Sharman, *Star* office, T. J. Moorhouse, McLean Bros., E. Grigg, J. S. Sinclair, J. J. Bell and J. M. Leet. Referred to Fin. Com.

Report of J. S. Sinclair in reference to appeal from the Municipality of Clinton against its Equalized Assessment. Fyled.

The Clerk was instructed to communicate with the County Council of Middlesex now in session, to ascertain if possible the course they intend to pursue with regard to the Toll Gates in that County.

The Council then adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, 3rd Dec.

Council met pursuant to adjournment. All the members present except Mr. Greenwell.

Minutes read and approved.

The following documents were presented:—

Petition from 120 freeholders and householders of the village of Wingham asking for incorporation. Referred to special committee appointed at June meeting to consider the matter.

Return of census of Wingham taken by John Ainley showing population to be 1112. Referred to same committee.

Petition of 135 ratepayers of Morris, Wawanosh and Turnberry to have a Graham's bridge rebuilt. Referred to Road & Bridge Com.

Moved by Mr. Benson, seconded by Mr. Carrick, that a committee of nine be balloted for to enquire into the matter of the Northern Gravel Road and to devise some scheme by which tolls on the County Gravel roads may still be abolished without injury to any Municipality, and report to this Council at its first session to-morrow.—Carried. The following were appointed said committee,—Messrs. Perkins, Leckie, Greenway, Patton, Girvin, Shannon, Gibbons, Willis and Gibson.

Letter from Wm. Sadler with reference to an unoccupied house on road allowance. Referred to R. & B. Com.

Report and Correspondence between Co. Treasurer and the Attorney General on the Municipal Loan Fund question. Referred to Fin. Com.

Schedule prepared by the Clerk on the same same subject as follows:—

SCHEDULE

Showing the amount that each Municipality in the County of Huron paid towards the Municipal Loan Fund Indebtedness, the amount to be received by each Municipality, from the Government of the Province of Ontario, on account of the Bonus to the Buffalo, Brantford and Goderich Railway, the amount received by each municipality out of the $100,000 raised for making Gravel Roads, and also the amount each Municipality received from the County for improving Roads and Bridges from A. D. 1855 to 1872 inclusive:—

	Amount paid by Municipality.	Amount received from Government.	Amount received from County.	Total Receipts.	Balance payable.
Ashfield	$7,111	$1,111	$1,000	$2,111	$5,000
Colborne	6,111	1,111	1,000	2,111	4,000
Goderich Town	10,000	2,000	1,000	3,000	7,000
Goderich Township	10,000	2,000	1,000	3,000	7,000
Hay	7,444	1,444	1,000	2,444	5,000
Hullett	7,444	1,444	1,000	2,444	5,000
Stanley	7,444	1,444	1,000	2,444	5,000
McKillop	10,000	2,000	1,000	3,000	7,000
Seaforth	7,111	1,111	1,000	2,111	5,000
Tuckersmith	7,111	1,111	1,000	2,111	5,000
Stanley	7,111	1,111	1,000	2,111	5,000
Turnberry	10,000	2,000	1,000	3,000	7,000
Wawanosh East	10,000	2,000	1,000	3,000	7,000
Wawanosh West	10,000	2,000	1,000	3,000	7,000
The Town of Goderich share received by Government		15,746		15,746	
	120,555	35,302	14,000	49,302	71,253
Deduct Debt paid by Goderich Town		15,746		15,746	
Leaves a balance of		19,556		33,556	
Deduct balance payable by Goderich Town				71,253	
Leaves a balance payable by the County of Huron				37,697	
Add amount received from Government				19,556	
Leaves a balance payable by the County				18,141	
Add amount received from County				14,000	
Leaves a balance payable by the Municipalities				32,141	
Deduct amount received from Municipalities				32,513	
Leaves a balance in favor of the Municipalities				372	

Moved by Mr. Leckie, seconded by Mr. Young, that 500 copies of said schedule be printed and distributed among the members of Council. Carried.

Accounts of A. M. Ross, N. R. Registry Office, S. R. Registry Office, R. Gibbons, P. Adamson and A. Bishop. Referred to Fin. Com.

Moved by Mr. Willis, seconded by Mr. Wilson, that $200 be granted to Exeter to aid in the erection of a Lock-up, said sum to be paid on completion of the building. Referred to Fin. Com.

Moved by Mr. Detlor, seconded by Mr. Benson, that the funeral of the late wife of G. E. Cresswell, Esq., an esteemed member of this Council, takes place this afternoon, this Council do now adjourn till 10 o'clock to-morrow in order to allow the members to attend the funeral. Carried.

THURSDAY, 4th Dec.

Council met pursuant to adjournment. All the members present.

Minutes read and approved.

Report of special committee on Northern Gravel Road was read as follows:—

REPORT.

"Your committee having carefully considered the question of the purchase of the Northern Gravel Road, beg to recommend that a by-law be passed in 1874 to raise the sum of $20,000 to extend over a period of 20 years, with interest at 6 per cent, for the purchase of said road, provided the Town of Goderich accept this as a final settlement."

"In the matter of Gravel Roads we recommend that the present County roads be thrown on the different municipalities, except bridges on said roads of 60 feet length and upwards to be kept up by the County, and that the Engineer be instructed to sell the toll houses as soon as possible, and that a by-law be passed confirming the foregoing and repealing by-law No. 9 of 1872."

"All of which is respectfully submitted."

THOS. GREENWAY,
Chairman.

The consideration of the report was deferred till to-morrow morning.!

Moved by Mr. Willis, seconded by Mr. Simpson, that Dr. Shannon be appointed Gaol Surgeon.

Moved in amendment by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Girvin, that Dr. McLean be appointed. Yeas 15, Nays 18. The motion was carried on the same division.

Petition of Mr. Davis and others to have a Fair established at Exeter, to be held on the second Tuesday of every month for the sale of live stock. Petition granted.

Report of special committee on the incorporation of Wingham, recommending that said village be incorporated, was received and adopted.

Letter from Inspector of Weights & Measures. Referred to Fin. Com.

Accounts from Wingham *Times* and Luke Ellard. Referred to Fin. Com.

By-law No. 9 of 1873 appointing Dr. Shannon Gaol Surgeon at a salary of $120 was read and passed.

Moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Weir that the Warden and Clerk memorialize the Legislature to have the Order in Council which compels School Sections having an average attendance of 50 scholars to build a second school house rescinded, and leave that matter and also the engagement of a second teacher in the hands of the trustees. Carried.

Account from J. Ansley. Refer