New Advertisements

Music—Miss Shillington.
Millinery—Mrs. Stewart.
Dress Goods—J. Carson & Co.
Valuable Farm—Wm. Pearson.
Boots & Shoes—E. & J. Dowling.
Blackberry Syrup—J. C. McIntosh's.
Sheriff's Sale of Lands—R. Gibbons.
Auction Sale of Real Estate—C. Clark.
Central Exhibition—J. B. Armstrong, Pres.

Law Regarding Newspapers

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary are considered as wishing to continue receiving the paper.

2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their papers they must pay all arrears, or the publisher may continue to send them until such payment is made, and collect the whole amount for papers taken.

3. A. Newspaper is not to be taken by the post-office, or a subscriber from the office to which they are directed, they are held responsible till they have settled their bills, and ordered their papers discontinued, or have the papers taken from the office, or will satisfy the publisher they are unable to do so.

4. Persons taking papers in other places and refusing to take the Publisher, and their postmaster has sent them a notice that the papers are lying in the office, are held responsible.

☞ Geo. P. Rowell & Co., 40 Park Row, and S. M. Pettengill & Co., 37 Park Row, are our only authorized Advertising Agents in New York.

Subscribers will confer a favour by notifying us of any irregularity in the delivery of their papers.

We shall be glad at all times to receive items of local news, reports of meetings, accidents, or any incident of interest either in the locality where it occurs or to the county at large. Such matter may be sent at the rate of one cent per oz. if marked Printer's Copy and not sealed. To ensure publication in any particular issue it should reach the office not later than Monday evening.

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	9.45 a. m.
Express	2.00 p. m.
Mixed	7.00 " "
Mail	10.00 "

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, Aug. 19, 1874.

The Governor's Visit.

Since our last issue active preparations have been carried out for receiving His Excellency the Governor General, Lady Dufferin and suite on the occasion of their visit to Goderich on Friday next. The programme we gave has been modified in some respects. His Excellency will arrive by steamer from Sarnia and is expected about half past one o'clock. The harbour tugs and as many fishing boats as possible will be decorated and go out to meet the steamer when it comes in sight. A salute will be fired by Capt. Thomson's battery as the boat enters the harbour, and on landing His Excellency will be received by a Guard of Honor, and an address will be presented by the Town Council in a body. Carriages will be in waiting and the party will be driven to the residence of M. C. Cameron, passing around the Square and up North Street. A halt will be made in front of the Central School where the children will be congregated and sing "God Save the Queen" and present an address. After lunching at Mr. Cameron's their Excellencies will hold a levee at the Court House at which ladies and gentlemen, so desiring, will be presented. Admission to the Court Room will be by ticket which may be procured on application to Mr. Garrow, and to avoid crowding none will be admitted but those desiring to be presented. Visitors should be provided with two visiting cards with their names plainly written or printed thereon. After the levee the International Salt Works will be visited when the party will return to Mr. Cameron's for dinner. In the evening there will be a display of fireworks and an illumination. It is desirable that those at least on or adjoining the Square should light up their buildings as fully as possible. The Committee trust this will be attended to. The day's proceedings will wind up with a grand ball in the drill shed, which has been floored and decorated for the occasion. Tickets for a lady and a gentlemen are fixed at $4, each additional lady $1 extra. Parties are requested to procure their tickets for the ball at once from Dixie Watson, Secretary, or any of the Committee.

Four arches are being erected over North, South, East and West Streets and an arch of salt barrels, representing our chief industry, will be erected at the top of the hill. It is desirable that all the bunting possible should be displayed. Let everyone who has a flag unfurl it in honour of Her Majesty's representative.

The Guard of Honour will be furnished by the Dungannon and Goderich township companies and the men will be paid for their day. Capt. Thomson's battery will also be on duty. Whether our business men close their shops or not they are requested to keep the shutters down so as to give the place a more business like appearance.

His Excellency will leave for Stratford by rail on Saturday morning and citizens are requested to turn out as numerously as possible to see him off.

Should the day prove favourable there will be a large influx of visitors, and we are satisfied His Excellency will leave as favourable an impression behind him here as he had done in other places he has visited.

The Beecher Scandal.

The investigation in this matter has about closed. Mr. Beecher has submitted a full and explicit statement to the committee and has been subjected to a rigid cross examination. Nothing further has appeared to criminate him, and the only thing against him is Tilton's unsupported statement. The press has expressed its satisfaction with the accused's vindication of his character and its belief in his innocence, and the report of the committee will be in his favour. Tilton appears to be a vain, egotistical person and the general impression is that the charge was brought by him for the purpose of levying blackmail. He declares his intention to bring the matter before the Courts.

—A woman named Flynn has been arrested at Bennington Vt., for having kidnapped a boy named Charley Ross from Philadelphia some time ago. The disappearance of the boy was very mysterious and caused much sensation.

General Election for Ontario.

Early next year a general election for the Ontario Legislature will take place. Only one more session will be held before ministers and members will have to go before their constituents to have their actions justified or condemned. There has been a considerable amount of clamor raised against the Mowat administration by the Opposition quartette of shrieakers and their satellites, but in almost every instance the charges have been founded on falsehood, and the present government stands to-day before the country, all thing considered, as pure, as upright and as honest as we have ever had. What their opponents have lacked in numbers and ability they have made up in virulence and mendacity, but we are fully persuaded they are estimated at their true worth by the intelligence of Ontario.

Reformers must however remember that the most insignificant foe is not to be despised. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, and the friends of good government must beware lest Cameron, Rykert, Louder, Boultbee et al steal a march on them. If honest Oliver Mowat and his Reform colleagues are to be retained in office, their friends must stand by them and show that they appreciate the blessings of good government by doing what they can to elect good Reformers as their representatives.

Though some months will elapse before the election, it is not well to leave all arrangements till the last hour. The voters' lists are all printed, and in this County there is only till the 4th of September to enter appeals against them. They should be closely scanned and if it is found that the Tories have added fraudulent votes, as they have done in other counties, means should be adopted to have them struck off, and if fraud has been practised to have the perpetrators punished. If this and other necessary matters are attended to, as signal a victory may be won as at the Dominion elections last winter.

Hosea Biglow says, "Don't prophecy unless you know," but we think we are not far astray in prophecying that Huron will be found ranged as usual on the side of Reform. If the party do their duty it will. Let no apathy or indifference on the part of our friends allow a single riding to fall into the enemy's hands.

The Montreal "Land Swap."

The last Conservative government in Canada is about to break up. Some time ago a public property at Montreal reserved for a small pox hospital, was "swapped" by the government to a friend of theirs for another lot worth less. The whole affair appears to have been a notorious job, and having leaked out its perpetrators are condemned on all sides. Attorney General Irvine is so disgusted with the action of his colleagues that he has resigned. Treasurer Robertson is in England and has been telegraphed for and is on his way but. It is believed he too will resign. The onus of the transaction is thrown on Solicitor General Chapleau, who has attempted a weak defense, and it is quite certain the government will be broken up. What is most surprising is that all the Tory journals condemn the Quebec job, while they heartily approved of the sale of the Pacific Railway charter. After swallowing the camel they strain at this gnat.

South Huron Protest.

"It is said that a certain member of the House of Commons approached certain parties and offered a guarantee that the Government grant to a certain harbour would be doubled—that is from $30,000 to $60,000—provided the protest was withdrawn."

The above language is used by our local contemporary in its last issue in speaking of the South Huron protest. If it refers to Mr. Cameron, and no doubt it does, we have authority for saying that the statement is without a word of truth. There is not the shadow of a foundation for such a statement.

—It is stated that owing to some irregularities in the voting papers, Mr. Geyer, the Ministerial candidate, has been elected in Naplerville by a majority of one. Should such turn out to be the case, Tory journals will discover that the election didn't amount to anything, as it was a fight between Grits in which one got a little ahead of the other. It is only necessary for it to appear that Coupal is defeated, and the organs that boasted of his victory a day or two since will drop him like a hot potato. The sell would be equal to that of the South Huron election last fall.

—The report of the select committee appointed last session to inquire into the causes of the difficulties in the North west in 1869-70 has come to hand. It is voluminous and contains all the evidence taken. We have not had time to examine it yet.

County Items.

Clinton High School Board propose purchasing three acres from Mr. Ransford on the Huron road as a site for a new High School building.

Mrs John Lawson of Morris had her arm broken by jumping off a load of hay a few days ago.

Wm. Armstrong of Brussels has gone to Manitoba.

Exeter taxes this year are 2½ cents on the dollar.

Exeter's share of the Municipal Loan fund is $3,859. 21 with interest from 1st February.

B. Shantz, formerly of Seaforth is now in Nebraska growing flax.

Typhoid fever of a malignant type is prevalent in Tuckersmith.

A few days ago a son of W. H. Bayley of Hullett cradled five and a half acres of fall wheat in nine hours.

Previous to leaving Egmondville Rev. Mr. Graham was presented with an address, and a purse containing $134.

W. Vanstone of Brussels had a stack of hay containing the product of five acres burned in his field last week. The fire caught from a burning stump.

Railway Accident.

FOUR PERSONS KILLED.

A shocking accident occured at five o'clock on Thursday morning on the South Eastern Railway, at Abercorn. It appears that the train due at Montreal at nine o'clock had arrived at the bridge over the stream at Abercorn, when the bridge gave way, having been undermined by the storm the previous night. The engine and tender fell in, fortunately filling up the gap, and thus preventing the rest of the train from following the same fate. The engineer, Frank Lanctot, the fireman, whose name has not yet been received, and the road master, named Harris, who were on the engine, were killed. A little girl who was in one of the passenger cars was also killed, it is supposed by having been thrown violently against a seat.

Hon. David Laird, Minister of the Interior, is on a visit to Manitoba.

LOCAL NEWS.

Appointment.—Dr. McMicking of this town has been appointed a Coroner for the County.

Moses Brown, again swarms with children. The schools re-opened last Monday.

Launch.—On Monday, Mr. Hayes new yacht Flora, Mr. Marlton builder, was successfully launched.

Excursion.—The Goderich Silver Cornet Band had an excursion to Kincardine on the *Tommy Wright* on Monday.

Runaway.—A pair of horses belonging to Mr. Carey ran away on East street one day last week, upsetting the carriage and doing considerable damage.

Course.—We have just received a telegram to say that Taylor's Equisgrticlum will exhibit in Goderich on Friday, 28th inst. Further particulars will be made known in a day or two.

Property Sale.—We understand that Isaac Rattenbury of Clinton has sold his half acre lot on the corner of Lighthouse and Wellington streets for $1000.

Personal.—We regret to learn that Rev. Mr. Vos of Knox Church is so unwell that he is unable to officiate for the present. We trust he will soon be restored to health.

On a Cruise.—The sailing yacht *Phantom*, of Cleveland, with a party of gentlemen on a pleasure cruise through Lake Huron and Georgian Bay, arrived here on Sunday night and remained till yesterday.

Cornet Band.—The Silver Cornet Band visited Point Farm on Tuesday evening of last week and treated the guests to some of their best music. The Band was handsomely entertained by Mr. Wright.

Fire Insurance Co.—A mutual fire insurance company for the County is talked of. A meeting will be held at the meeting house, Brownson line, Hay, on the 5th of September to take the matter into consideration.

Commissioner of the Peace.—We understand that the new Commission of the Peace recently issued by the Ontario Government was only supplementary, and that all qualified Magistrates previous to its being issued are still entitled to act.

Southern Extension.—A public meeting is to be held at Lucknow this afternoon to discuss the Southern Extension of the W. G. & B. Railway and represent if necessary the grievance of its not being opened to the Government.

Lay Delegates.—The following have been appointed Lay Delegate to the Wesleyan General Conference which meets in Toronto in September, for the Goderich District:—J. V. Detlor, Goderich; A. S Fisher, Clinton; A. Williamson, Stratford.

Personal.—J. R. Miller, Public School Inspector, of this town, returned a few days ago from the meeting of the National Convention of Teachers of the United States, at Detroit. The meeting was a very successful one and the hospitality of the Detroit people unbounded.

Huron and Quebec Railway.—A by-law granting a bonus of $100,000 to the Huron and Quebec railway was carried in the town of Peterboro last Friday by a majority of 115. The despatch announcing the vote says there was very little excitement, the feeling being general in favour of the road.

Cheap Money Orders.—After the 1st of September next, money orders for sums of four dollars and under are to be granted by all money order Post Offices, for the low price of two cents. This provides a cheap and safe mode of transmitting small sums through the Post Office and will no doubt be largely taken advantage of.

Reduction of Rates.—The Allan line of ocean steamers have further reduced their rates. The steerage fare from Quebec to Liverpool, Londonderry or Glasgow is now only $19 and for return tickets $31. Prepaid passage certificates issued for $15. Children from 1 to 12 half fare. P. H. Carter is agent for Goderich.

Slat Blinds.—Mr. Entieknap's agent, who was taking orders for rustic blinds a short time ago, was round last week delivering them. Those who have procured them are well pleased. The blinds are durable and neat and serve the purpose for which they are intended admirably. They are made at Packbill by A. D. Entieknap.

Taxes.—The Town Council on Friday last fixed the rate of taxation for the current year at two cents on the dollar. High, but there is no help for it with Municipal Loan Fund indebtedness to pay off, docks and school building to erect and other improvements to make. Last year it was one and a quarter cents, the year before one and a half.

The Appeal Case.—We direct attention to the article from the *Nation*, entitled "The Inequalities of Local Taxation." We presume it is from the pen of Mr. Hodgins, Q. C., who acted as counsel for the County in the late appeal case. He justifies the appeal, saying, "There were plenty of grounds, it is not difficult to conceive, for an appeal against the equalization arrived at."

Sunday School Pic Nic.—The Sunday School of St. George's Episcopal Church had a pic nic at Mr. Attrill's point on Wednesday last. The children were conveyed across the harbour by the tug *George Maytham* which was placed at their disposal by the owners. There was a large turn out of children as well as a goodly number of grown persons, who all appeared to enjoy themselves.

Wesleyan Pic Nic.—The Wesleyan Sunday School had its usual pic nic on Thursday afternoon last. The teachers and children assembled at the Churches 2 o'clock and marched out to Ransford's grove where the afternoon was spent in an appropriate and pleasant manner. There could not have been less than five hundred present and the affair was of the most agreeable kind. The only drawback was the heat, which was intense.

Fatal Accident at Seaforth.—A despatch from Seaforth of Monday last says.—An accident which terminated fatally occurred about four-and-a-half miles from here this morning. Dr. King, a resident of this village, was driving out in a double buggy when the horses took fright and in endeavouring to stop them he fell forward, and becoming entangled, was dragged about a mile. The unfortunate gentleman lived only a short time after becoming extricated from his perilous position.

Beatty Line.—The Quebec, the new steamer for the Beatty Line, was launched at Chatham last Wednesday. A despatch announcing the fact says:—The magnificent propeller *Quebec*, of Beatty's Sarnia and Lake Superior Mail Line, was successfully launched at four o'clock this morning from Chisholm & Simpson's shipyard. Over 2,000 persons were present. Her dimensions are:—Length, 200 feet; breadth, 34 feet; depth 14 feet. She is supplied with double cylinder engines, 800 horse power, built at St. Catherines, Ont., by Mr. G. N. Gill. She has staterooms for 150 cabin passengers, and also fine steerage accommodation, a provision peculiar to this line. She will be under the efficient command of Capt. E. Anderson, with Thomas Pottegrew as Chief Engineer. She is a beautiful model, and built for fast running. Her saloons are elegantly finished with all the modern improvements for comfort and safety.

Murder.—A man named John Klumpp was committed to jail here last week on a coroner's warrant, to stand his trial for the murder of a boy named Michael Lewis, at Crediton. It appears the two were working together in the harvest field when some dispute arose about binding a sheaf, and after some altercation Klumpp lost his temper and struck Lewis on the head with a rake he had in his hand. One of the teeth penetrated the boy's skull and broke off and from the injury done he died a few days after. An inquest was held by Dr. Hyndman of Exeter and as the cause of the boy's death was quite clear

Klumpp was committed to jail to await his trial. The inquest [illegible] session in the township [illegible] occurred as both parties [illegible] connected. It is [illegible] Klump will be charged [illegible] the crime of manslaughter [illegible] death having been caused by a jumper.

Improvements.—[illegible] For some time improvements [illegible] going on at the Court House [illegible] now nearly completed. The [illegible] flat has been thoroughly [illegible] cleaned, the plaster [illegible] and ceilings whitewashed and the woodwork painted. The lobby [illegible] side has been enclosed and a [illegible] chamber for the judge, who is hitherto been obliged to use the Grand Jury room. [illegible] touches, but on completion next [illegible] important alterations [illegible] in the Court [illegible] also be provided [illegible] side the building, where [illegible] occupied by him will be [illegible] other purposes [illegible] a great advantage [illegible] rangement is [illegible] public and the [illegible] are needed [illegible] stone [illegible] room [illegible] occupied [illegible] and no doubt will [illegible] to at once.

Town Council.

The Council met on Friday evening last. Present, [illegible] and Messrs Garrow, [illegible] Campbell, Alison, Sloan, Sanders and Cook.

Minutes of previous meetings read and confirmed.

Communications.

From County Clerk requiring the sum of $2697.95 as County rate for the year.

From W. R. Snider giving copy of decision of County Judge in Appeal case. Filed.

Report of Finance Committee recommending payment of following accounts, Kerr & McKenzie, [illegible] $1,57; Williams & Moore, [illegible] $17.74; [illegible] Noble, [illegible] for [illegible] $1.12; As Dickson, [illegible]

Account of [illegible] attendance at Appeal case, $3. [illegible] to be paid.

Accounts [illegible] Porter, $105.; 37, C. H. [illegible] Referred to Finance Committee.

Report from Finance Committee with estimated Revenue and Expenditure for current year.

Revenue	
Licenses	$1276 00
Market	581.00
Maitland Cemetery	354 00
Justices' Fines	43.00
Rate on $930,333 at 2 mills to $	19306.66
	$22260.66
Expenditure.	
Municipal Loan Fund	$3917.00
County Rate	2697.95
High School Salaries & buildings	2000.00
Common School	4780.00
Separate School (say)	150.00
Public Works	2500.00
Maitland Cemetery	500.00
Fire Department	1000.00
Salaries	1421.00
Relief	1000.00
Special Services	150.00
Rent of Armoury	50.00
Rent of Council Chamber, Engine Room &c	159.00
Sundries to balance	1764.71
	$22260.66

The Committee recommended that the rate for the current year be 2 cents in the dollar.

By-law No. 5 for 1874 for striking said rate was read and passed through its various stages.

Mr. Robertson called attention to the fact that the docks at the harbour were not being built high enough and pointed out the necessity of having another tier of timber added. The matter was referred to the Harbour Committee.

The question of re-letting the market was referred to the Market Committee to report at next meeting.

The Council then adjourned.

The Council met again on Monday evening and appointed a number of special constables for the occasion of the Governor's Visit.

Dungannon

Teachers Association.—The regular meeting of the Dungannon Teachers Institute will be held in the School House Dungannon, on Saturday, August 29th. Mr. R. Treleaven will illustrate his method of teaching a class in the Second Book, Reading, Spelling, Arithmetic, and Geography. Miss Dobie, Grammer as required for Second Form, Mr. S. J. Kilpatrick, Arithmetic as required for Fourth Form.

D. E. MUNRO,
Secretary.

Lucknow.

Lucknow, August 13.—The completion of the Southern extension of the W. G. & B. Railway has induced many of the most enterprising men of the villages along the line to operate in grain and timber, believing from assurances from time to time that the road would be opened early in the spring. Those people who certainly deserved better at the hands of the promoters of the road are now shamefully deceived. Timber men have lost this season's market. Grain merchants have lost the good prices of May and June, and are now compelled to team it miles at double what it would cost to do so last January. The crop of 1874 is now being offered, but under the present uncertainty of matters none will operate. Thus our legitimate trade passes through our streets seeking a market twenty mies south, while we pay annually $6,700 taxation for what we are told is all finished railroad. A meeting is advertised to be held at Lucknow on the 19th inst., calling on all timber men and others interested to be present.

Hay.

Draining Swamp Lands.—In compliance with a petition signed by the parties interested, the Township Council of Hay have taken the preliminary steps to have the extensive tract of swamp land in that township drained and rendered fit for cultivation. The money for this purpose is to be borrowed from the Ontario Drainage Fund, and is obtained at a very low rate of interest. We believe it was the intention of the Council to have the Zurich swamp and the East marsh drained, as soon as the necessary preliminaries can be arranged and the contract let, and that the drainage of the big marsh will probably be left over for a time, unless the owners of the land desire to have the work immediately proceeded with. The interest on the money borrowed and the sinking fund for the liquidation of the debt is raised by a special levy on the lands drained in proportion to the benefit each lot derives. This is certainly an excellent movement, and one which should have the entire sympathy of the people. There is a vast tract of swamp land in Hay, which is now utterly unproductive and worthless. It is all capable of being drained and made fit for cultivation. The cost of securing this improvement is a mere trifle, in comparison to the benefits which will be derived from the improvement. Most of the land which it is proposed to drain could, in a short time, be brought into cultivation and made to yield abundantly, as when dry it is the richest and most fertile of soils. We hope to see other townships in the County following the example of Hay. —*Expositor.*

At a largely attended meeting of Canadian lumbermen, recetly held in Ottawa, it was resolved to curtail the supply of lumber by shortening operations. Over production has been the means of lowering the price, and causing a stagnation in the trade, and it is hoped by curtailing production for a time to raise price and revive trade.

Goderich Township.

Council Meeting.—The Council met pursuant to adjournment, the members all present, the minutes of last meeting were read and passed. Clerk absent owing to death.

Moved by John Rea, seconded by Gabriel Elliott that James Patton be appointed Clerk pro tem. Carried.

Moved by Henry Ford, that the Council do now adjourn to meet again on the 10th day of August at 10 o'clock A. D. M.

JAMES PATTON,
Clerk, Pro tem.

Council Meeting.—The Council met pursuant to adjournment. The members all present. The minutes of last meeting were read and passed. Moved by Henry Ford, seconded by Gabriel Elliott that James Patton be appointed Clerk in the room of Thos. B. Stokes deceased.—Carried.

Moved by George McKee seconded by Henry Ford, that the Reeve and Clerk get from the late Clerk's office all books, papers, &c., belonging to this township.—Carried.

Moved and seconded that the following sums be paid. John Kirkpatrick error in assessment $1.02. Deputy Reeve for handing notice of County rate $2.25. Reeve going to Goderich for Township Books and attending on appeal against County $5.20.

Moved by Gabriel Elliott seconded by Henry Ford that the application of the Trustees of No. 11 School Section for a loan from the surplus fund, now in the hands of the Government, to build a School house be received, and that the matter be completed at next sitting of Council.—Carried.

The Council then adjourned to meet again on the second Monday in September.

JAMES PATTON,
Clerk.

Ashfield.

Council Meeting.—The Council met to-day (August 10th, 1874,) at Hawley's Hotel, Dungannon. All the members present. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

These communications were laid before the Council,

Notice of Mr. Hussey & Corporation of Ashfield.

Letter from John McLennan, Esq., on behalf of Trustees of U. S. S. No 4, Ashfield, and Huron, objecting to the act of the Council in annexing the N. E. lot 13, con. 14, to their School Section.

Letter from County Clerk requiring the following sums for the current year:

County Rate	$3714.44
Leg. School equivalent	574.00
	$4288.44

Letter from James McCaig, asking for money to assist him in bringing his son and three other deaf mutes to Belleville.

Letter from A. C. Simmons, Esq., *Star* office, requesting payment of his account.

The following accounts were ordered to be paid,—A. C. Simmons for printing voters' lists, &c., $60.48; John Cooke paid for postages in distributing the voters' lists pursuant to Statute, $4.34 and $2.25 paid for the use of the Temperance Hall for holding the Division Courts, also Trustees of U. S. S. Luck, now, non-resident tax for 1873, $2.64.

Moved by A. C. Hawkins, seconded by A. Dreany, that this Council grant the sum of $10 each to Edmund Ross and James McDonald to assist them in defraying expenses for medical attendance consequent on the sad accident which happened to their sons last June.—Carried.

Moved by A. Dreany, seconded by P. Clare, that the sum of eight hundred and fifty dollars be granted out of the surplus funds for building a bridge over the nine mile river on side line 3 and 4 and cutting and grading the hills on both sides of the river according to plans and specifications to be furnished by this Council, subject to Government inspection. If not sufficient surplus money, that the balance be raised off the township.—Carried.

Moved by A. Dreany, seconded by A. C. Hawkins, that $10 be granted to James McCaig to assist him in paying his travelling expenses in taking his son and three other deaf mutes to the Deaf and Dumb Institute at Belleville.—Carried.

Moved by A. C. Hawkins, seconded by A. Dreany, that this Council levy the sum of $4288.44 for County rates and $1500 for local purposes, also the necessary amounts for School rates.—Carried.

Moved by A. Dreany, seconded by A. C. Hawkins, that this Council do now adjourn to meet at Wilson's Hotel, Port Albert, on the third Monday in September next.—Carried.

JOHN COOKE, Tp Clerk.

Sangsterism in a Nutshell.

If Mrs. S——No. 1, had good reasons for obtaining a divorce, Dr. S——must have been a very immoral man; and if Mrs. S——had not good reasons for obtaining a divorce, the divorce would be no good, and, in the eye of the law, she would still be the wife of Dr. S——, consequently he would be a man of two wives—a bigamist. But *she has* obtained a divorce either from good reasons or *vice versa;* therefore *he* is either a very immoral man or a bigamist.—*Stratford Beacon.*

CANADA.

London had its civic holiday last Friday.

Senator Hazen of New Brunswick died last week.

The residence of Mr. Wm. Holt of Barrie, father of P. Holt of Goderich, was destroyed by fire on the 13th inst.

A meeting of manufacturers was held at Hamilton at which the Reciprocity Treaty in its present form was condemned.

Lady Dufferin has been requested to lay the corner stone of the Young Ladies' College during her visit to Brantford.

Mr. Fowler is now agitating the Huron and Quebec Railway in the neighborhood of Peterborough, with very poor success, judging from reports in the local papers.

A base ball match was played last Friday between the Maple Leafs of Guelph and the Tecumsehs of London where the following remarkable score was made—London, 0,0,0,0,1,0,0,0,1; total, 2. Guelph 1,0,0,0,0,2,0,2,0: total, 5.

One day last week two stallions belonging to Mr. James Otterson, McNab, falling foul of each other, fought so viciously that one of them, a fine animal, died soon after from its injuries. The poor brute had one of its sides almost entirely gnawed away by its maddened antagonist.

Mr. Crawford informs the Rond Eau *News* that his new peach orchard at present promises to give him a yield of three thousand bushels. Mr. Crawford made a pretty heavy venture in planting out so large an orchard of this tender fruit, but this, his first crop, will more than repay the whole expences.

The first sod of the Stratford and Woodstock section of the Port Dover Railway was turned at Stratford last Thursday. Mr. Walter Marshall, one of the directors of the road, performed the ceremony, and very generously stood champagne for the crowd. The contractors, Messrs. Irwin Bros., of Paris, with a large staff of men, are hard at work, and hope to have the road bed ready for the rails by the fall. The grading on the Woodstock and Port Dover section will be completed about the 1st of September. The ties are now distributed the whole length of that section, and the fence and bridge timber has all been delivered. Negotiations for purchase of rails are almost concluded, and indications point to an early completion of the road.

Another Fearful Fire in Montreal.

OGILVIE'S FLOUR MILLS IN FLAMES.

Last Tuesday morning another disastrous fire took place in Montreal, at Ogilvie's mills. We are glad to learn that though the loss is heavy it will not interfere with their operations at Goderich. We take the following particulars of the fire from the Montreal Witness:—About half-past eight this morning an alarm was sounded for a fire discovered burning in the extension on the eastern end, in the elevator wing of Ogilvie's mills, St. Gabriel Locks. It ran along, and crossing the wheat carriers, which are made of cotton, had connection into the main building, or flouring mill, which is about 40 feet by 60, and five stories high, and caught in the flour bins near the roof. The flames rushed through all the dry and dusty partitions like so much powder, and were at 9½ o'clock shooting fiercely through the roof.

Shortly before half-past nine the large Stand & Mason engine came on the ground, but as there was no coal for it some had to be brought from the Sugar Refinery. This caused a great deal of growling. Meanwhile, the fire rose higher and higher in the flaming, which fell at 9:30 and nearly crushed several firemen on the roof of the storehouse. The Brigade was well divided under Chief Bertram's and the sub-chief's directions. The firemen easily got on the roof of the north wing, facing on Seigneurs street, from which position they played on the burning roof, but it was early seen that the flour mill would be gutted, as the flames had obtained a firm hold of the upper section. Powerful streams were also brought to bear from the mill yard on the south side. At a quarter to ten the roof of the central section had fallen in, and the debris tumbling into the mill yard, endangered the firemen's lives. The steamer from St. Catherine street arrived early and did good service. As the roof fell in sections the men had to take refuge in the windows of the basement story. The flour bins have not been burned through, but the fire at 10½ was very fierce in them.

An immense crowd of spectators was present, the canal banks being lined with men, women and children. The police roped them off so as to give room for those engaged fighting the fire.

At ten o'clock a very large quantity of water was being thrown from the mill yard through five branches on the south side,—one into the second story windows, two into the fourth story windows, another at the south west corner of the building, and one into a window of the east wing. The edges of the roof, cornices and tops of walls crumbled away and kept falling into the yard piecemeal, giving some trouble and causing a part of the yard to be avoided. However, the men were quite cool, and cheered every now and then as some of the walls would come down with a crash.

10:15 a. m.—Great hopes are entertained of now confining the fire to the central section—lying east and west. The fire has ceased to be visible, and as the water pours in, dense grey smoke arises, which is a cheering sign. Messrs Tees' line of hose in full play, also from Messrs. McDougall's Foundry, next door, and give considerable aid.

The following is one statement as to the origin of the fire:—A mill-wright was at work in the upper story of the north-eastern wing, when he upset his lamp, the flames communicating at once with a quantity of shavings, and spreading with lightning-like rapidity through the dusty place. The roof of this north-eastern wing is partly turned off; the fire, however, has not got through the flour bins into the lower stores, and is confined to the upper portion of the building. The fire has been confined to the flour mill, in which were not ever 1,500 bags of flour, the bran store, and the north-east wing,—a storehouse. The grain storehouses are sayed.

The loss is variously estimated to be between $15,000 and $30,000. The buildings are insured in a number of companies. The flour mill and the north-eastern storehouse, which were gutted, are insured as follows:—The mill for $10,000 in the North British and Mercantile,—$4,000 reinsured in Montreal Insurance Co.; $5,000 in the Guardian, and $3,000 in the Provincial. The north-east warehouse for $3,000 in Western. Other buildings not much damaged, insured for some $80,000.

A subsequent despatch states that the fire was extinguished by eleven o'clock, the flames having been confined to the grist-mill proper, and to a storehouse and elevator on the east end. The firm have leased an adjoining mill so that their business will not be interfered with.

The report that the fire originated from the upsetting of a lamp is denied. It is thought to have caught from the friction of the machinery. One man lost his life by being smothered in the upper story of the mill.

The Southern Extension.

(*From the Guelph Mercury.*)

The indignation felt by the people along the line of the Southern Extension of the W. G. & B. R. at the delay in opening the road is beginning to find expression in more ways than one. Last week we published a despatch from Lucknow, giving an account of a public meeting held there at which the strongest feeling of dissatisfaction was expressed in the plainest language. Business men along the line are suffering severely, many of them having bought grain, &c. in expectation that the road would be opened long ago. They are now obliged to send all the stuff purchased, by teams to stations on other roads, in many cases a serious loss. An immense quantity of square timber was also got out last winter along the line—the estimate being 680,000 feet—which with about twenty million feet of sawed lumber, is lying at the different stations and cannot be taken to market. The locking up of so much capital is a very serious blow to many engaged in the business, which some can scarcely recover from.

The first excuse for the delay in opening the road was that the Company were unable to settle up with the contractor. It now seems that he has been settled with, but that the Company has presented a claim of some $28,000 for incidental, &c., to the Great Western Company, which claim is now under consideration, and a decision will most likely be arrived at respecting it at the meeting of the shareholders of that Company, this week. Some of the parties who have large quantities of timber lying at the stations propose getting up a subscription to help to pay off this claim, but we fancy nothing will be done till after the meeting refered to.

The people along the line have had great patience, but it is now all but exhausted, and their condemnation of the shiftless, dilly-dallying policy of the Company is expressed in the strongest language. They have been most unjustly dealt with, and grievously disappointed in their expectations. We trust for the sake of the section of country through which this road runs that this last difficulty will soon be removed and that the Great Western Railway, for the sake of their own interests, will make arrangements for opening it at an early day.

A short time ago a man, living near Port Albert, purchased at that place half a pound of Paris green. When going home he lost his parcel in a field. Two mules, worth $300, which were pasturing in the field, came across the parcel and ate it. They were, of course, poisoned and died.

At a recent meeting of the Orangeville Council, a lady, who had occupied a seat in the chamber, listening patiently to the deliberations, rose suddenly, advanced majestically, and before the Aldermen were aware of her intention deposited carefully in the lap of the Reeve an interesting specimen of humanity, in the shape of a plump young infant, with the remark that "he'd better take charge of this young fun." There was a sensation in the Council Chamber, and, before it had subsided, the lady had disappeared.

The Inequalities of Local Taxation.

From the Nation.

Until assessors can be brought to realize that the oath they take to perform their duty is as binding on them as if it were taken in a case of life and death, and that swearing to a false value is perjury, there is very little prospect of the inequalities of local taxation disappearing. It is probable that this time is at least rapidly approaching. In the appeal of the town of Goderich against the equalization of the County of Huron, it was found that assessors had sworn from them in the witness box, contrary to what caused the Deputy County Judge and all concerned that "should anything of the kind come before him next year, he should be compelled to call the attention of the County Attorney to it, as it appeared to him to be very like perjury." This is a severe remedy, but perhaps if it is applied, the disregarding of [illegible] oaths so common among assessors will continue. Every assessor swears that the value he puts on property is the true value. Let us see, by the light of this Huron revelation, how assessors sometimes keep this oath. One witness, who had been assessor for six years, swore: "We assessed land at a little more than one-third the value. I thought that if the assessment was equal, as between one piece of property and another, it was no matter how it deviated from the real value. Under cross-examination, he said he understood his duties when he entered on the office, had read the Act relating to assessors and taken the oath prescribed, but had not attempted to arrive at the actual value. Another assessor made it a rule to assess at about half the real value. A third tried to fix on the actual cash value. He valued the whole of the property in the village of Clinton at $480,000, and he swore, at the trial of the Appeal case, that he did not think it was worth more than $475,000. One of the Goderich assessors swore that none of the assessments in the town were 10 or eleven per cent below the real value. Every grade of inequality was shown by the witnesses in detail, to have been sworn to as the true value.

After the assessors had done their work in a way peculiarly their own, and one which is a stranger to law and common sense, the Equalization Committee of the County Council appeared upon the scene. The chairman of that committee tells us how the process of equalization was gone through: "We first arrived at the number of acres of land in each municipality; this was ascertained from previous years' reports; we made some alterations in Turnberry and Stephen from last years report; we took the cleared land and made the rate upon it the same as last year; we took Tuckersmith at $22 per acre for cleared land and $14 for bush land, the calculation for equalization of the townships was made on that basis; the committee decided on taking the same value as last year; other townships were made on that basis; the committee decided on taking the same value as last year; other townships were equalized on the same basis as Tuckersmith at $22 and $14 per acre. The village property in township municipalities we made considerable alteration in; I went through all the rolls and took all small parcels of land and the same proportions, and we arrived at a comparative value of these parcels and added the same proportions as on the township property." This seems like setting aside the assessment altogether, and arbitrarily assuming one equal value for all wooded, and another for all cleared lands. No calculations were made to ascertain the percentage of values in Tuckersmith. The assessment of personal property was made on the basis of the acreage of land, and the only way of getting at the value of such property. The amount per acre varied from eighty cents to two dollars. What goes by the name of equalization is often little more than a game of grab: every member of the committee aiming to get the amount placed on the locality in which he is interested lowered as much as possible. The confession by the chairman of the hap-hazard way in which the work was done is startling indeed. "Where," he says, "we came to the townships and villages we had considerable wrangling; the first resolution was made by Mr. Perkins that Goderich should be put down for $600,000; we finally placed the assessed value of Goderich at $650,000, personal property $75,000 and real property at $575,000; we did the same way with Clinton; the total equalized assessment was first arrived at, and then divided into personal and real property, and we took 69 per cent of the total; do not know exactly how we arrived at the first basis of equalization; there was no basis for arriving at the equalization as between the towns and villages; the last years report was not entirely taken as a basis." There were plenty of grounds, it is not difficult to conceive, for an appeal against the equalization arrived at, the chairman himself cannot tell how. He only knows that, as between towns and villages, the result was reached without any basis having been previously settled.

The junior County Judge, before whom the appeal was tried, raised the total assessment of the county from sixteen to twenty-four millions. And what strikes us, in looking at these figures, is that this is an immense power to be exercised by a county judge, without appeal, whose duty is liable to be performed, as it actually was in this instance, by deputy. In all cases of importance there ought to be an appeal from the decisions of the local judge to a higher tribunal. It is not part of our intention to criticize the decision of Judge Toms; but we cannot help remarking that it is difficult to see how he arrived at the basis for a general revision of the assessment over the whole county, when the evidence, except of what was done by the Equalization Committee, related to less than half the townships.

It is impossible not to see in the evidence which was wrung from the reluctant witnesses in this case, that there is something radically wrong in the way in which the assessment law is worked out. The root of the evil consists in the departure from the real value, and the substitution of an arbitrary value in its place. The remedy is plain: all that is necessary is to assess all property at its real value. The best indication of what that value is will be found in current sales, a record of which is easily attainable. Assessors will do well to take note that they are liable to be