Huron Signal.

WEEKLY EDITION.

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

$1.50 PER ANN. IN ADVANCE] GODERICH, C. W., THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1863. [VOL. XVI.—NO. 18

THE AMERICAN WAR.

VICKSBURG NOT TAKEN!

GRANT REPULSED THRICE!

CONFEDERATES WELL SUPPLIED.

GEN. JOE JOHNSTON IN GRANT'S REAR.

WASHINGTON, May 26.—The following was received this morning at the navy department:—

"OFF NEWPORT NEWS, 6:20 A. M., May 26—*To the Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy*—The steamer State of Maine is just down from City Point with 100 officers, including those of the Indianola.

"The Richmond *Examiner* of the 25th has the following:—

"'MOBILE, May 23.—A special despatch to the *Advertiser and Register* from Jackson, yesterday, says that heavy firing was heard in the direction of Vicksburg this morning.

"'It is reported, and believed in official circles, that the enemy assaulted the works at Vicksburg on Wednesday and were repulsed. Snyder's Bluff has been evacuated.

"'The *Courier* reports that Yazoo city was captured by the Federals and the navy yard was burned by the Confederate troops.

"'An officer from Vicksburg reports that Grant has been whipped back.'

LATER:—"'The enemy had made three desperate assaults on Vicksburg and had been repulsed.'

"'Some official information has been received of the capture of Helena, Ark., by Gen. Price.

"'A letter from Jackson, dated May 19th, says that Gen. Johnston this morning threw from 10,000 to 12,000 men over the Big Black River to Vicksburg.

"'An official despatch from Gen. Johnston dated May 23, says that an officer who left Vicksburg on Tuesday, reports that an assault on the Yazoo road near Pemberton's intrenchment had been repulsed.'

"S. P. LEE, Act. Bear-Ad."

The following has been received at the headquarters of the army here:—

"MEMPHIS, May 25, 11:30 A. M.—*To Major-Gen. H. W. Halleck, Washington*—The Luminary is just from Vicksburg. There are no official despatches. Ordnance officer Syford writes, under date of May 22, as follows: Our loss is not very heavy for the position we have gained. The Confederates made a firm resistance. I think we shall take the place to-morrow. We completely encircle the town, and our men to-night have their colors planted on the enemy's works, and are lying on the exterior slope.

"The gun and mortar boats are in front working away.

"Our captures thus far are about 6,000 prisoners and 74 pieces of artillery, some of which were destroyed.

"Gen. Grant is in good spirits. If we take Vicksburg we shall take 15,000 prisoners, with Gen. Pemberton and all his stores, &c.

"S. A. HURLBURT,
"Major General."

The Confederates crossed the Cumberland river yesterday at Fishing Creek and Hartford, Ky., but were driven back by our forces after slight skirmishing.

NEW YORK, May 26.—A letter from aboard the flag ship Hartford, says Gen. Banks has organized two regiments of native Louisianians.

The Hartford sent him 7 men who had been hiding in swamps for six months.

WASHINGTON, May 26,—The President, Secretary of War, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, General-in-chief of the army, and Gen. Hooker, were in Council several hours to-day at the Executive Mansion.

It is understood that a despatch received to-day, states that another line of defences has been discovered in the rear of Vicksburg, which it would be necessary to take by storm.

It is reported, and believed, that Stuart has sent about 100 men to reinforce Mosby to the end of continuing the latter's depredations around our lines.

The impression prevails in the neighborhood of Rappahannock Station that Stuart is concentrating a large body of his cavalry between Culpepper Court House and Brandy Station.

FORT MONROE, May 25.—The water batteries of the fortress exchanged the national salute with the British vessels in the roads in honor of Queen Victoria's birthday.

CHICAGO, May 26.—From a private despatch received in this city to-day from an officer in an Illinois regiment, dated near Vicksburg on the 24th inst., the inference is that the city was not captured at that time. The despatch says nothing as to what was done on Saturday. The working of the wires to-night between Memphis and Cairo is interrupted by a storm.

Fort Monroe, May 27th.

The following items are taken from the Richmond *Whig* of the 25th inst:—

"Our Southern exchanges intimate a rumor that General Johnstone has taken from General Pemberton his sword and placed him under arrest.

"The steamers Margaret, Jessie, and Kate, arrived at Charleston last Wednesday from Nassau, with valuable cargoes.

"Gen. Forest and staff arrived at Shelbyville, Tenn., and is to take command of Van Dorn's Division."

Tollahoma, May 23.

A rumor of the capture of two of our regiments in front, with a piece of artillery, is not true. The enemy did surround and capture a small post of some 40 men. All quiet in front.

The Jackson *Appeal* of the 13th, says that "our loss in the first day's engagement, near Raymond, may be stated 600 killed, wounded, and missing. The loss of officers is said to be small."

Richmond papers also contain the following additional items:—

"An official despatch from Johnston, dated the 23rd says:—An officer who left Vicksburg, on Tuesday, reports that an assault on Gen. Pemberton's intrenchments, near the Yazoo road, had been repelled.

"It is said, to-day, that another assault was made near the Jackson road, and was also repulsed. Confidence in Gen. Pemberton's ability to maintain his position is expressed, and hopes are given of final success."

Atlanta, Ga., May 22.

Vicksburg has five months' supplies of every kind, and can be taken only when the force defending it have expended their supplies.

The Yankees report the capture of Alexandria, Louisiana, but it is not credited.

Washington, May 27.

The last official intelligence from Vicksburg is to 5 o'clock on Sunday morning, when all was represented as going on well.

Two ivory inlaid chairs, captured by Warren Hastings from the palace of an Indian Prince, were recently sold at auction in England for $2050.

Buffalo and Lake Huron Railroad

TIME TABLE.

SUMMER ARRANGEMENT.

GOING EAST.

		Day Express.
GODERICH	DEP.	8.30 A. M.
CLINTON	"	9.08 "
HARPURHEY	"	9.30 "
SEAFORTH	"	9.36 "
CARRONBROOK	"	9.55 "
MITCHELL	"	10.11 "
STRATFORD	ARR.	10.50 "
"	DEP.	12.35 P. M.

GOING WEST.

STRATFORD	ARR.	2.28 P. M.
"	DEP.	2.50 "
MITCHELL	"	3.33 "
CARRON BROOK	"	3.52 "
SEAFORTH	"	4.15 "
HARPURHEY	"	4.21 "
CLINTON	"	4.45 "
GODERICH	ARR.	5.30 "

Connects at Stratford with Grand Trunk and at Paris with Great Western. Daily Stages from Goderich to all parts of the surrounding country. Passengers reach Ports on the coast by VanEvery and Rumball's steamers.

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, C. W., MAY 29, 1863.

THE FIRST GUN!

We learn by special telegraph that the Premier, Hon. J. S. McDonald, was elected yesterday by acclamation, for Cornwall. A good commencement.

MR. DICKSON'S ADDRESS.

It is, we suppose, generally known that Mr. Dickson, who has so worthily represented this constituency during the stormy sessions just concluded, does not come forward at the present moment of his own accord. Although certain of re-election, if he had been left to consult his own private wishes he would have retired from the noisy arena of public life to the pleasant home hewn by his own hands out of the Canadian wilderness, and would gladly have satisfied himself with the quiet enjoyments of "his ain fireside." But it was not to be so. The unanimous voice of the Reform Association, and of the Counties generally, was that he should still enjoy the honor of representing the largest constituency in the Province, and he was therefore urgently solicited to accept the responsibility. His response to this unanimous call was that of a true patriot. He would bury his private wishes, leave his farm and family, and to the best of his ability, if re-elected, serve his country. We cannot help asking ourselves, and the question will occur to many others, How many of our public men, if sure of a seat in Parliament, would be willing to forego the honor, and above all, the *six dollars a day*, attaching to the position? This last action on the part of James Dickson raises him, if such a thing were possible, higher in our estimation than he ever stood before. It is the sentiment of a true lover of his country, and well may the farmers of Huron and Bruce be proud of the best representative they ever had!

Mr. Dickson's Address does not require any lengthened comments from us. It is plain, pointed and frank, and is as free from anything like equivocation as it is direct in its appeal to every lover of good government. A Reformer *in principle*, Mr. D. by his past conduct and in the present Address to the Electors gives all to understand that he will never "go it blind," as the vulgar phrase runs, for the sake of party alone; but that, on the contrary, he will continue to support what he thinks is *right* and what he sincerely believes to be for the best interests of the country as a whole. This is the great source of his strength, and this it is that recommends him to the support of every honest man. His position on the Representation Question is as sound as ever, and his views regarding Militia Organization, Municipal reform, emigration, and the general development of the resources of the country are beyond quibble or reproch.

Up to the present moment, no opposition has been proposed, and it is now admitted that Mr. Dickson will be elected on the day of nomination. But, in case of opposition, his numerous friends throughout the constituency are ready to work for him with a will, and his return is certain.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION OF CANADA.

(CONCLUDED.)

It is an opposition saying just now that every trace of honesty is fading from our Canadian politicians, and that every important ministerial change is dictated by an unprincipled greed for office, as an example of which the present reconstruction is cited. This is either a mistake or a gross fabrication, got up for the purpose of making political capital. Before a man can be convicted of displaying such a greed for the emoluments of official position, it must be shown, first, that he is *needy*, and secondly, that he is *unprincipled*. Unite both of these in one person, and you have the very quintessence of corruption—the soul of political vice. If the assertions of opposition scribes with regard to the rapid degeneracy of the followers of Mr. J. S. McDonald are correct, the new men received into the Cabinet must be decidedly the most unprincipled Canada ever suffered under. But we are happy to know that such is not the case, and that both premise and conclusion is false. So far from being the offshoots of a degenerate political clique, the new members of the Administration are devoid of the primary elements of corruption—they are *above want*, and *of known and long-tried integrity*. Even taking the Cabinet as a body, the whole of its members, with perhaps one exception, are men of wealth and respectable standing in society. Mr. Ferguson Blair is possessed of a large property in Scotland, and for purity of principle will compare favorably with any' man in Canada—indeed we have never heard a whisper against him except what emanates from certain hireling scribblers; Mr. Mowat has realized a considerable fortune from the practice of his profession, and is respected and esteemed by men of all parties; Mr. Thibaudeau is one of the most wealthy and respected merchants of Quebec; Mr. St. Just is a gentleman of landed fortune and admitted talent, and Mr. Wallbridge, besides being one of the oldest is among the most successful residents of the Province. These are facts which cannot be gainsaid, and we ask the candid reader, is it probable that gentlemen of this stamp, were prompted by motives of cupidity and corruption in accepting seats in the Cabinet? Is it reasonable? And yet you will find individuals who will sigh and groan about the degeneracy of the "*Grits*," how they are going on from bad to worse, and what a bad business it is going to be if the "Triumvirate" is not established on its old throne, to soften down the ruffled feathers of our *dear* brethren in Lower Canada, and to manipulate the Provincial safe keys in such a way that the threatened tax-gatherer may be kept away from our doors! Good, kind old Toryism, how lordly you are!—how you always recognize worth—*if* it is only found on your side of the fence; but, unfortunately, your vision is sometimes so seriously impaired that you take the name for the quality itself.

In contemplating the Political condition of Canada in the light of "Measures, not Men," it is really astonishing to find how few are the points on which tory and liberal differ in opinion,—how faint, as we have before remarked, the line which separates the two parties,—and leaving aside the question of the "Ins" and "Outs," it is difficult to find anything which should prevent Upper Canadians from joining heartily in pushing forward the vital interests of the country.—The thing can be done. The car of progress is gradually moving onward, and it only requires the application of a few earnest, manly shoulders to the wheel, to accelerate its speed and sweep away every factious obstruction. Let there be less *lawyer legislation* and a more combined action on the part of all independent members in carrying out really useful measures—let every representative be firmly pledged to carry out a system of thorough retrenchment, and true reform of long-standing abuses—let there be a concentration of energy in sustaining and developing the Volunteering System so happily commenced by the McDonald-Sicotte Ministry,—let a firm front be presented against every attempt to assail the rights of Upper Canada, while at the same time a desire is manifested to act justly and fairly by Lower Canada, and our country will yet rise above its difficulties and resume the place it had well-nigh lost through extravagant legislation, and general selfishness in high places. *The signs of the times are hopeful!* Upper Canada is at last being roused out of her long sleep! The people are beginning to demand measures calculated to benefit the masses, and most of their representatives have thrown off the yoke of bondage. We may cite the action of Mr. Buchanan as an example.—And the Press too is beginning to throw its vast influence into the right scale.—The *Leader* goes into opposition, and is denounced by the ablest of its old friends, and such papers as the Guelph *Mercury*, which have advocated toryism for many years past are dealing with questions of the day in a manner which proves that they have not lost every feeling of patriotism. The paper particularly alluded to above (a supporter of the McDonald-Cartier Government throughout) comments as follows on the new Cabinet:

"With the exception of two questions, we were in entire accord with the late Government, and we therefore give up no article of our political faith nor avow any principle we did not hold before, when we say with a contemporary that the present Ministry is not all that could be desired, but it is the very best that can be had under the present circumstances. On all questions of finance and economy it will be sound to the core; on the general affairs of the Province it will be liberal and vigorous; on the great sectional issue it will be in advance of any other that could now be formed, and when compared with a Macdonald-Cartier Administration (the only other possible at this moment,) whether as regards capacity or honesty of purpose, it is as light compared with darkness."

This is the verdict that is being recorded by the Press generally, and if the Electors of the country will only go to the polls in the same spirit, we shall soon see the present Ministry stronger than any of its predecessors for years back. The character of the men composing the Ministry is sufficient guarantee that they will be true to the weighty responsibility resting upon them.

THE MAGAZINES.

BLACKWOOD for May is before us. The first paper is a highly complimentary review of a Canadian Work: Prof. Wilson's Prehistoric Man. Sir B. Lytton continues his sprightly and interesting paper, entitled Caxtoniana. My Investment in the Far West, is a capital American story. Several of the other papers are of more than ordinary interest. For sale at this office.

ATLANTIC MONTHLY: Boston, Ticknor & Fields; Goderich, T. J. Moorhouse.

This, in our opinion, by far the most talented of American monthlies, is on our table for June. The contents are: Weak Lungs, and how to make them strong, Violet Planting; Paul Blecker; The Hancock House, and its Founder; Why Thomas was discharged; Light and Dark; Wet Weather Work; The Member from Foxden; Mountains and their Origin; Camilla's Concert; Spring at the Capital; Horrors of San Domingo; besides Reviews and Literary Notices.

MR. DICKSON.

To the Editor of the Huron Signal.

BLYTHE, May 25th, 1863.

In looking over a late number of the Clinton *Courier* I noticed a letter signed "80,000 souls," intended to be an attack upon Mr. James Dickson, which reminded me of the lines of Shakespeare:—

"Be thou as chaste as ice, as pure as snow,
"Thou shalt not escape calumny."

The letter and the writer of it merit but scorn and contempt nor would the thing be worthy of the slightest notice, only that it serves to place Mr. Dickson's character in the brightest position, when it is seen that no charge can be brought against him, but such as the party yclped by himself "80,000 souls" urges. If the fellow has a soul at all it must be an extremely small and mean one. I think that 80,000 souls like his would easily rattle in a nutshell. The man of so many souls is evidently a disappointed office-seeker, and angry with Mr. Dickson for not getting him a situation for which he was unfit. One of his chief charges against Mr. Dickson is that he refused to contribute to build a sidewalk to his own door, and the soul man felt it hard to be so often walking through the mud when he went to beg of Mr. Dickson to get him a gov. appointment. How much more comfortable he could go begging on a board walk. There are individuals like him in all communities, but happily not many in Huron. Mr. Dickson's course in Parliament has been all that his warmest friends could wish; nor can any intelligent, candid opponent even point to one single error in his Parliamentary career—He has delivered not only "*one*," but many important speeches during the session that has just closed, and he has ever been energetic and watchful in promoting everything connected with the interests of Huron and Bruce. Indeed since I became acquainted with Huron I must say that we never had a truly faithful representative in Parliament until Mr. Dickson went there. Since he was first elected he has not lost an old friend and he has gained many a new one. This will be seen at the polls. The idea of Tom Govenlock as a candidate to represent Huron and Bruce in Parliament is almost too absurd for notice, and I am sure Mr. Govenlock himself will agree with me in this opinion. As Henry Fielding has said in "Tom Jones," there is a fitness in things." Mrs. Govenlock I dare say is all right in his own proper sphere, but surely no one who knows him would ever consider him designed for a "Parliament man." However, there is no accounting for tastes, as the little boy said when he saw the old gentleman eating rotten oysters, and I shall not question the 80,000 man's taste in regard to Mr. Govenlock. The electors of Huron and Bruce will form their own conclusions on the coming election. Mr. Dickson is the man of their choice and Mr. Dickson they shall have. If time permitted I might easily point out various ways in which he has well earned the support of the people of Huron and Bruce. I could also easily point out how his acts have given the lie to the various calumnies and slanders circulated against him when he first offered; but this not now necessary.—In this neighborhood, although we do not apprehend any opposition, we are determined to organize efficient committees to ensure his return. It is as well that the enemy should know that we are prepared,—"with our lamps trimmed and our lights burning."

Yours, &c.,
H.

On Tile Manufacture and Drainage.

EDITOR OF THE CANADIAN AGRICULTURIST.

SIR:—In your number for January 1863, you call upon your subscribers to send on their contributions, to aid in filling up the pages of the *Agriculturist*. I would solicit through the medium of its columns, the insertion of a few suggestions, in reference to Tile-draining, and the pressing exigency for their manufacture.

In the county of Huron where I reside, being entirely a wheat growing county, many thousands of acres lie quietly undisturbed in a state of immersion, we might almost say waste condition, save perhaps what coarse pasture it may produce. Such land when once thoroughly drained, can be made productive of crops the most abundant. The neglect manifested in this important branch of agriculture is certainly much to be deplored, I know not in this county, within the range of my knowledge, of a single farm that does not require draining, to an extent more or less.—In this locality, where the country is for the most part cleared up, the first grand aim toward the developement of its agricultural resources, is that of draining. But the proper material used for such purpose is here awanting. No tile works in this section have as yet been instituted; and, from appearances no capitalist seems possessed of that daring energy, to embark in any such enterprise. In relation to the farmer, it would prove an enterprise of massive utility, though perhaps in the eyes of the projector of such a scheme it may appear a rather speculative and risky affair. I am confidently of opinion, that were tile-works to be constructed, in, or around the village of Clinton, they would ultimately prove highly remunerative; a lack of patronage at the outset might possibly cramp its energies, but assiduity combined with perseverance would certainly result in positive success.—The government we are well aware, have granted large sums for the building of canals and railroads throughout the country, and have also made liberal appropriations toward the promotion of Agricultural Societies. For so doing they are deserving of much praise.—Seeing that the government has heretofore aided the farmer in the construction of these great outlets for the products of the soil, the time has now arrived when they might give further "aid and comfort," by giving an impetus to the construction of tile-works, by granting appropriations in the shape of a loan, or in whatever shape they may deem proper; so as to give an impulse to the art of tile-making, whereby the farmer may be enabled to realize the benefit of this indispensible article at a moderate price.

Yours, &c.
JAMES TORRANCE.

Sixth Con. Goderich, Feb. 21st, 1863.

Latest by the 'Asia.'

HALIFAX, May 27.—The following is the very latest news by the Asia:—

The American steam sloop-of war Wyoming struck on a rock in Swallow Harbor and sustained damages to the extent of twenty-five thousand dollars.

The insurrection in Poland continues to increase, and acquires daily fresh development in Lithunia and Samagotta. In the latter district it has assumed an entirely religious aspect. The population there is strictly Catholic, and practically devoted to that faith, which is constantly threatened by the Russian government. Several volunteer corps are led by country clergy.

Within the last fortnight these bands have been victorious in several engagements, the most noteworthy of which took place upon the road between Wilmoker and Ponow, which passes through the forest of Rogow.—At this point Dolenga repulsed two Russian columns. The hero of the day was Father Macklewicz, who fell upon the Russian flank with a company of scythemen, and turned the scale of victory. The Russians left forty killed and an ammunition wagon upon the field.

After the engagement the band of Dolenga—in all two thousand seven hundred strong—divided into four parts. One of these, led by Father Mackiewicz, advanced as far northward as Onikschts, driving out all the Russian courts of administration and expelling the Russian officials.

The inhabitants of Onikschcs, consisting chiefly of peasants occupying the crown domains, received Father Mackiewicz with indescribable enthusiasm as he entered the village at the head of his troops, waving the Polish flag and singing the national hymn.

A large increase of volunteers has taken place in the district of Szakole, near Frischk. A very small division under Pisarski has gained considerable advantages over the Russian columns, commanded by Major Smoinoff. After the engagement the Russians set a country house on fire, consuming twelve of their wounded in the flames, in the hope of concealing the extent of their losses.

The more the insurrection increases the greater are the outrages committed by the Russian soldiery. Generals Lichatscheff and Majdell, the Russian commanders, make no efforts whatever to arrest the horrors and atrocities their troops commit. The younger Russian officers can effect nothing, owing to the insubordination of the men; and both officers and privates have been heard to declare that after the 13th of May, the term appointed for the expiration of the amnesty, they will burn, plunder, destroy and slay at pleasure. Even now all classes are infuriated at the savage brutality of the Russians, and it is quite possible that after the 13th of May the only comparatively secure place in the country will be the Polish camps.

In the governments of Helna, Grodno and Mansk, the scope of the insurrection increases daily.

In the district of Lida the volunteer leader, Marbutt, son of the Lithuanian historian, has particularly distinguished himself by his activity and daring.

The Paris papers publish telegrams from Ragusa dated May 13, announcing that fresh disturbances had broken out in Lebigne.—The wives of the Turkish inhabitants in the environs of the town assembled in arms, demanding the release of the rioters who were arrested, during the recent disturbances in which the Greek school was destroyed. The assembly was dispersed by the regular troops.

The Bhere Ghaut incline of the Great Indian Peninsula railway has been successfully opened.

THAT MILITIA CLOTHING.—The arrival of the English steamer, now hourly expected, will enable the officers whose duty it is, to commence the distribution of the new clothing to the volunteers in both sections of the Province. It is to be regretted that this could not be effected before the celebration of Her Majesty's birthday; but the causes of the delay are unavoidable. The whole, when completed, will consist of 20,000 tunics, 20,000 pairs of trowsers, and 20,000 shakos. The trousers were made in Canada, of cloth manufactured at Chambly, Almonte, Streets ville and other places, and are of excellent quality, appearance, and finish; the tunics and shakos had to be imported from England, both because they could scarcely have been made at all in the Province, and because if obtainable here, the price would have been double that actually paid for them. The outfit is, in every respect, far superior to the clothing provided for the British army, and will, we have no doubt, afford full satisfaction to those for whose use it is intended. The cost to the country will be about ten dollars per man, for the whole outfit, a rate wonderfully low considering the quality of the articles. The clothing and so forth for the officers, consists of tunic, trowsers, sword with belt, shako and sash, for which each is to pay, as we mentioned some days ago, from forty-five to fifty dollars, which is somewhat less than half the amount hitherto paid by our volunteer officers for a similar outfit purchased in the country. Already the demand for their clothing and accoutrements is considerable, from the officers of regiments and companies in both sections of the Province, and others will not fail to follow the example, as soon as they are aware of the advantages that will accrue to them by availing themselves of the care, foresight, and liberality of the Government. The writers of the Opposition press may sneer at the mission of Col. Powell to procure these necessary articles for our volunteer force; but it would be difficult for them to show that the many trips of their own precious leaders to England were attended with the same benefit to the country. He has something to show as the results of his labours and travels; what they did, besides getting us into trouble and debt, we have yet to discover.—Quebec *Mercury*.

The Church-Rate Question.

Two more attempts were made in the House of Commons yesterday to place the law regarding church-rates on a more satisfactory footing, but without result. Mr. Newdegate submitted a scheme for the commutation of the rates in the interest of the church; and Mr. Alcock a plan for their redemption; but both bills were rejected by large majorities. "No compromise" is now the watch word of both pro-rate and anti-rate men.—The Society for the liberation of religion from State patronage and control held its annual soiree in London the day before yesterday, when Mr. Barnes, M. P., Mr. E. Miall, and other speakers declared their conviction that the separation of the Church from the State would be materially helped by the non-repeal of church rates, because they constituted a practical grievance which kept alive in the public mind a feeling of interest in the deeper and larger question. It would really seem that the direct action of this Society had not a little to do with the voting on Wednesday week for Sir John Trelawney's Bill for the church rate abolition. I hear that the hon. baronet himself has written to the executive of the Society, saying that he will no more take charge of the Bill because of their course of action. He is disgusted at finding that they really do not wish to get quit of the rate, lest its loss should be hurtful to liberation, as they call total disendowment of all sects.

THE MAY MEETINGS.

The anniversaries of the great religious societies are largely engaging the time and attention of the Christian public. Exeter Hall is crowded day by day with thousands of pious men and women, eagerly listening to the reports of their operations in all parts of the world, and intent on increasing their efficiency. The Wesleyan Missionary Society is actually able to report a considerable increase in its funds in a year of unexampled trial, and the deficiency in the income of other organizations is not so large as might well have been expected. The Church Missionary Society, indeed, has to announce a falling off of nearly £8,000 in its subscriptions and legacies, but it only employs one missionary less than it did before, and can number seven additional native agents. And the noble Bible Society, foster parent and helper of all the rest, rallies to its side, with increasing enthusiasm, the best men of every communion.—But the distress in Lancashire has caused a falling off of over £9,000 in the year. The total receipts of the Bible Society for the twelvemonth are £158,750. The number of copies of the Scriptures circulated is 2,133,860. The total issues of the Society now amount to 43,044,334 copies. The Church Missionary Society's income for the year is £131,217, that of the Wesleyan Missionary Society £141,638, the Propagation of the Gospel Society £93,326, and the Baptist Missionary Society has not yet reported, but its receipts will be over £100,000, to say nothing of the scores of smaller though not less useful agencies. I shall give you a more ample account of the meetings in my next or subsequent letter.—*London cor. Globe.*

Grand Rebel Raid.

It is supposed by some, that Jeff. Davis is arranging for a startling enterprise, similar to that of Stoneman and Grierson, but on a larger scale. His object will be three-fold—to plunder northern stores of provisions, clothing, etc., for the replenishing of his own exhausted commissariat, to 'strike terror into the northern heart,' and to give England an example of southern prowess and enterprise that shall set all the silly secession geese in that country into a vigorous gabble. The New York *Evening Post* think there is something more than talk in this, and sets forth the following reasons for giving it credence:

"There are unmistakable indications that Davis is quietly withdrawing troops from the outlying camps along the sea coasts to reinforce Lee, which movement will be continued, we think, until that General has a command of from one hundred and fifty to two hundred thousand men. As soon as it is ready Lee will move, we conjecture, not in the direction of Washington, but of the Shenandoah Valley, with a view to crossing the Potomac somewhere between Martinsburg and Cumberland. I twill be easy for him, should he be able to reach the valley, to defend his flanks, by occupying the gaps which are the only access to it, and to maintain also uninterrupted communications with Staunton and the Central Virginia Railroad. The valley itself is filled with rapidly ripening harvests, and, once upon the river, supplies may be got from Pennsylvania.

The Latest Trick in Shoplifting.

In Paris, one day not long since, says the correspondent of the London *Spectator*, an alluring, though modest looking fashionably attired lady, sweeps in full crinoline into a rich *magasin*, at dinner time, when a solitary young clerk sits musing behind the counter. She tells him, in most dulcet tones, smiling and blushing all the while, that by some unlucky accident she has lost her garter, and feels so uncomfortable; would he not have the kindness to give her a tiny little bit of tape, as it would never do to appear on the boulevards with her stockings hanging down over her balmorals. The gallant youth offers her, of course, his finest silk braid, installs her into his mercantile throne, and modestly looks away whilst the fair creature is busy with her toilet. At last she leaves, but not without rewarding the obliging adolescent with her sweetest, most provoking smile. He fondly follows her with his eyes from his shop door, admiring her boots and her stockings, and never suspecting, alas! that his pretty tape has been made use of for tying a costly piece of silk to an ample and costly piece of silk to an ample and strong crinoline. Another time he will cast a sharper look at the enticing garter, and—*honi soit qui mely pense.*

A Prophecy by Coleridge.

In Coleridge's Table Talk (1834) there may be found in the following opinion, suggested by the mulification movement:

Naturally, one would have thought that there would have been greater sympathy between the Northern and Northwestern States of the Union and England than between England and the Southern States. There is ten times as much of English blood and spirit in New England as in Virginia, the Carolinas, &c. Nevertheless, such has been the force of the interest of commerce, that now, and for some years past, the people of the North hate England with increased bitterness, while among those of the South, who are Jacobins, the British connection has become popular. Can there be any thorough national fusion of the Northern and Southern States. I think not. In fact, the Union will be shaken almost to dislocation whenever a serious question between the States arises. The American Union has no center, and it is impossible now to make one. The more they extend their borders into the Indian's land, the weaker will the national cohesion be. But I look upon the States as splendid masses, to be used, by and by, in the composition of two or three great Governments.

GERMANS TARRED AND CUTTONED.—A number of Germans in South Carolina, who opposed the conscription, were tarred and cottoned! Southern journals thought it a good thing, and denounced them as "Yankees."

Last Sunday little Ike, three years and a half old, went to church for the first time. His mother gave him a penny to put in the contribution-box, which he did, and sat quiet for a few moments, and then wanted to know how soon the man was coming with the candy.

NEW FREAK OF THE KING OF PRUSSIA.—'For some days past,' says the Augsburg *Gazette*, 'the King of Prussia drives out in a carriage drawn by horses harnessed in the Russian manner, and driven by a coachman wearing the national Russian costume. His Majesty is always enveloped in a cloak, with a military helmet on, and is never accompanied by any person.'

Town & Counties.

GODERICH MARKET.—The Market Fees for the current year have been re-let to Mr. Samuel Sloan for the sum of $905. Owing to short crops, &c., we believe Mr. S. found the Market a losing speculation last year.

☞ Mr. Thomas Logan, the enterprising proprietor of the Goderich Woolen Mills, advertises by poster that he is prepared to do carding at the low rate of 4cts per pound. His establishment is deservedly popular.

THE 25TH AT BAYFIELD.—Our correspondent writes that the day was celebrated in grand style at Bayfield. Flags were displayed, the excellent Brass Band performed numerous pieces, and the large assemblage paid great attention to the various games and sports, some of which were of a highly amusing nature. During the recess for dinner a couple of men went out to cool themselves by a game at fisticuffs, but the order-loving magistracy of the place soon put a stop to that fun.—With this exception everything passed off well.

AT AINLEYVILLE also the people went in for enjoyment on a scale of unusual gusto. A great crowd was gathered into the place from all parts of the surrounding country, and games, &c., were indulged in until a late hour.

The 25th at Seaforth.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir, The inhabitants of Seaforth and surrounding country had a gala day celebrating Her Majesty's Birthday. The morning was dark and cool, a refreshing breeze blowing all the while a flag at Mr. Downey's Hotel, with the flag that braved a thousand years might be seen at a great distance, it being over 100 feet high. The J. O. of Calithumpians, a motley crew, went in procession from Seaforth to Egmondville, thence to Harpurhey and back to Seaforth, provoking the greatest mirth imaginable by their grotesque appearance. In fact, sir, both old and young, grave and gay, you would think would die with with laughter. Mr. Wilson of Seaforth kindly gave the ground to which a large concourse assembled. Mr. P. Ramsay called for three cheers for our Queen, three for Canada, three for the Calithumpians, and the crowd gave three for himself.

Athletic games commenced with determination, George Cinamon, (Clinton) Ballantyne, Todd Fox and O'Donovan carrying off the prizes. An exciting foot race took place among a score of boys; then the greased pole, greased pig, etc. But here's the train, and I must cut it short, leaving the horse races, Rifle Company to another time.

Yours in haste,
SEAFORTH.

Seaforth, 25th May.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We must respectfully decline the publication of "Snooks'" letter. The person shown up may be a mean man, and we don't think him possessed of a very colossal soul, but that is no reason why he should figure in print. The best plan is to avoid such customers in future, and if all who receive his 7ct duns for debts of 20cts act in a like manner, he will soon come to his senses.

H., Blythe, and V., Zurich—Thanks for the subscribers' names sent.

"Lucy."—Sorry to disappoint a fair friend, but our drawer is already crammed with verses of that kind. It is the easiest thing in the world to string out rhymes of "Trees and bees," "flowers and bowers," "streams and gleams," and yet there may not be in such effusions a spark of poetic conception.

A GLORIOUS PROMISE.—We have now in our office half a dozen stalks of Fall wheat, pulled on the 25th inst., on the farm of Thos. Govenlock, Esq., McKillop, measuring from two feet ten inches to three feet each in length from the root to the point of the leaf, being a fair sample of a fifteen acre field. The other crops in this section are in a very promising condition, and we have every reason to hope for an abundant harvest.—*Seaforth Express.*

WHOLESALE SLAUGHTER OF SHEEP.—On the nights of Wednesday and Thursday last Mr. Titus Tremere, of the township of Usborne, had his whole flock of sheep, consisting of eight, killed by dogs; and, on the night following, Mr. Joseph Dinin had three more killed. We think it time that the dog law was put in force.—*Ibid.*

PERTH.—Mr. McFarlane has been unanimously selected by the Reform Convention to run against Mr. Daly. If ever Tom had a hard row to hoe it will be this time. Besides, it appears he is not qualified to sit.

DOWN ON THE DOGS.—During the last session of the Georgia Legislature, a bill was introduced "to get rid of superfluous dogs," which bill was defeated. It was estimated that there were 100,000 superfluous dogs, that would consume enough meat to feed 5,000 men, and the wool that was lost by their killing of sheep would clothe 5,000 people the first year, not reckoning in the calculation the loss in breeding. The Georgia Legislature, however, maintained the right of dogs to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of" sheep!—*Detroit Free Press.*

HARD HIT.—The Kansas *Chief* talks of hailstones weighing three and a half pounds. It is uncertain, adds a cotemporary, whether the story or the storm passed through Philadelphia.

A WALK ABOUT TOWN.

THERE are at present pleasing signs of Improvement and Progress in our beautiful town, a few of which we may be warranted in pointing out. This duty is the more gratifying to us on account of the dullness of the past year or two, during which time no very sensible advancement has been made. Of the buildings already finished this spring there are several well-worthy of notice. The beautiful, spacious, and solidly comfortable residence of James Watson Esq., in the northern part of the town, with its fine sloping grounds, and elevated situation, is much admired by all persons of taste, and it may be doubted whether it is surpassed by anything of the kind in this part of Canada. Besides this addition to that part of the town St. Patrick's Ward has furnished several cottages of humbler but very comfortable dimensions. These buildings are all occupied, but the great feature of progress is in the buildings now in course of erection, ranging from the showy villa to the wooden structure intended for the use of the mechanic. We cannot give the particulars of all in detail, and will merely allude to the more prominent: Hugh Johnston Esq. has commenced a fine brick residence, which when completed according to the plans will be an ornament to his highly ornamental grounds, for it is well known that Mr. J. has one of the best gardens in Goderich. The situation is a charming one, and the house, or villa, if that is the proper term, will command an uninterrupted view of "our own broad Lake." Coming towards the Central School, past the "Ambrosial shades" encircling the cottage of A. M. Ross Esq., we see that the Episcopalians are erecting a substantial and sightly Parsonage in the rear of the old rectory. This is a much-needed improvement, and if the congregation would undertake to build a suitable church near the spot, there would be little left to desire with regard to the rectory grounds. We notice in coming a little further towards the square that Dr. McDougall has transformed his dwelling into a pretty two-story brick, and improved it generally. These are a few of the private residences.

The Square, towards Fall, will be pretty well filled up with structures of a more public character. On the South side, Mr. G. H. Parsons has given out contracts for the erection of a block which, when completed according to the plans of Mr. Smaill, will comprise a large Hotel and several stores. Although it is only to be two storeys in height, this block, we believe, will effectually fill up an ugly gap caused by fire some time ago. On the West side of the Square Mr. D. McAllister is putting up a neat brick block of two storeys, intended for a Boot and Shoe Store, residence, &c. This will, to a great extent, fill up the place left vacant by the fire last Winter. On the Corner of Kingston St, and the Square, Mr. Crabb has just about completed a splendid block of stores, and will soon have them ready for occupation. The new Concert Hall on the second flat is pronounced by lecturers, &c., to be the best in any town of this size in Canada. It is already becoming popular, and will soon be used to the exclusion of all others. The room is calculated to hold as many people as can be collected on any public occasion for some years to come. We took occasion to notice, some weeks ago, the new Bank of Montreal building. It is very convenient and admirably adapted for the purpose intended. The Bank of Upper Canada will follow suit, and, we are informed, is to be removed into the place at present occupied by Mr. Watson as a store, which is to be fitted up in proper style for the reception of that very desirable article—*cash*. Mr. Watson will open out his store further up the street, in a building to be prepared for that purpose.

In Manufactures and Trade, our good town is not standing still. At the wharf Messrs. VanEvery and Rumball are building vessels, loading vessels, receiving vessels, &c., with as much briskness as ever. Mr. Crabb is pushing along vessel building with his customary energy, and up town here has erected a large planing mill and factory, which will soon be in readiness for active operations. Messrs. Runciman & Co. are busily engaged in turning out agricultural implements of all kinds suitable for the country trade.

Last but not least we notice the new Woolen Mill in connection with the Foundry of Messrs. Forsyth & Cleghorn. We visited the establishment yesterday, and were not a little surprised to find that, in the short space of time since such a thing was mooted, the Mill was in successful operation and crowded with more work than could be very well got through with. Farmers seem very well pleased with the quality of the work, and when the weaving and fulling machinery is set in motion, we have no doubt the establishment will be largely patronized, especially by the people to the north of us, who find it very convenient to be able to get work of this kind done while in town. This branch of Manufacture was badly wanted here, and we hail its appearance with satisfaction.—It is to be hoped that the enterprising proprietors will reap a rich reward.

With a good prospect of full crops, and revived business