Huron Signal.

GODERICH, C. W., JUNE 21, 1864.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

Truly, wonders will never cease! Our readers had no occasion to feel surprised when they learned that the so-called "strong Ministry" had succumbed almost before people had found out its proper name, but the whole country has been astonished at the developments of the past few days, which we will relate as briefly as possible: Ministers, finding themselves in a minority on the recent division, put their heads together to determine what steps should be taken. After much deliberation, and various communications with the Governor General, they announced to the House that his Excellency had consented to grant them a dissolution if required, but that they considered it most conducive to the interests of the country to make an effort at re-construction on a basis which would establish a strong government. And immediately afterwards comes the astounding part of the affair. On Friday last the Attorney-General West and Mr. Galt waited upon Mr. *Brown* "to invite him to aid them in the construction of a Government, with a view to bringing the existing difficulties between Upper and Lower Canada to an equitable and permanent settlement!" Mr. Brown did not scout the idea of such an alliance as preposterous; on the contrary he considered it in the spirit of earnestness demanded by the gravity of the occasion, and for an hour and a half discussed with the Ministerial deputation the various details involved in their extraordinary proposal. An eye-witness says: "The "floor of the House, when the adjournment took place, after the position of "matters had been explained, was perhaps "the scene of the most intense excitement "ever witnessed in the Canadian Assembly. As the Speaker left the chair, a "tremendous burst of cheers broke from "the Opposition, which was returned with "equal spirit from members on the Ministerial benches. Mr. Dufresne, of "Montcalm, crossed the floor of the House, "and shook Mr. Brown by the hand, with "the utmost warmth and cordiality. His "example was followed by many others, "and there was a general shaking of hands "between members on the two sides of the "House. Many were remarking that the "millenium must have commenced."

From the accounts given of subsequent negotiations it does not appear that the changes to be made in the Cabinet have been agreed upon, but it is understood that Mr. Brown, against his expressed wish, is being urged to accept office. The inducements are certainly tempting to one who has worked so long in the interest of legislative reform. If we are to credit current reports, it is proposed to adopt the principle of Federation—first applying it to the United Canadas, and then by ali legitimate means endeavoring to bring in the rest of the British American Provinces. On this point the correspondent of the *Leader* says:

"With regard, in the next place, to the proposed adoption of the federal principle in the government of Canada, the details of course remain yet to be worked out. As at present understood, the proposition appears to be something like this: that members elected to represent the people in Parliament shall hold the position and discharge the duties of both federal and local legislators. Thus, affairs relating to the whole of Canada, in which the people of all sections are alike interested, would be dealt with by the Legislature whose members represented all sections; while questions of merely sectional interest and of purely local concern, would be under the legislative cognizance of members from that section, acting as a body separate from the general Parliament, and independent in its supervision and control over sectional matters. To illustrate the working of this scheme: suppose that the Parliament now assembled in Quebec were elected under the federal principle, it would deal with all subjects in which the whole people are interested in common, such as the trade and finance, &c. Then when this general business was transacted, members representing Upper Canadian constituencies would meet as a separate Legislative Assembly, and deal with matters particularly affecting their own section. And so also with regard to members representing Lower Canadian constituencies. One merit claimed for this plan, beyond that which it is thought it would possess in removing all sectional difficulties, is, that it would involve very little additional expense. The same public buildings would answer the purposes of both federal and local legislature, and the the members of both being the same, their expenses would not be increased. One very important fact remains to be added, and that is that under the scheme contemplated the representation in the Lower House of the federal legislature is to be based upon population. So much for what I believe may be looked upon as positive."

The feeling caused by the proposition to Mr. Brown and the manner in which it has been received, is one of unbounded surprise. What! George Brown listen for a single moment to the syren singing of those whom he has so long and so bitterly denounced! What! John A. McDonald, Galt and Cartier seek a political alliance with one whom they have held up for years as a dangerous obstructionist, a political demagogue, a man whose ideas were as violent as they were impracticable! This exclamation, or something like it has been uttered by every thinking man in the country, and yet, when the situation is calmly considered, what other course is open! We have been in a state of chronic crisis for the past three years; within two years we have had four Governments in power, neither of which could hold the reins long enough to carry out any measure of importance, and already we are being looked upon as a set of fractious school-boys, rather than a vigorous, energetic people. And wherein is the future tinged with brighter colors?—Which of the two great parties so-called, can hope to govern with a strong hand? Would a dissolution of the House and a general election effect any appreciable change? We believe not, and certainly the Ministry could hope for no important accession to the ranks of its followers else we would not have had the present offer. Another consideration is, what great questions are there left to keep men of different parties apart? The old bones of contention have been disposed of one after another, and now a sense of patriotism would seem to dictate an honorable coalition, if thereby the Reformers of Upper Canada can obtain satisfactory guarantees that the rights and privileges for which they have been so long contending will be conceded. It is argued, we are aware, and with much justice, that Coalitions are dangerous in that forever after they open the way for legislators who may from interested motives transfer their alliance from one side of the House to the other. While we feel our inability fully to clear away this objection, we see that any other course is fraught with, perhaps, equal danger. Can it not be said that weak governments are almost necessarily corrupt ones, and we have ample evidence in the political history of the past that even under the pressure of strong party influence members could be found, the sliding scale of whose principles was very easily adapted to the varying flow of circumstances. Taking into consideration the danger of a serious conflict between the sections if the present system is to be pursued further, we shall feel it our duty to hail with satisfaction any arrangement which will adjust our differences in a peaceable manner and place Upper Canada in her true position. It must be remembered, however, that those differences are of a nature which will require mature deliberation ere they can be settled to the satisfaction of all concerned. In the meantime, Mr. Brown and those of the Reform Members who co-operate with him in this most important matter must be watchful lest they are led into a trap, and be certain that the negotiations are carried on in a spirit of fairness, and with an earnest desire to secure the boon of an *United Canada!* We shall soon be in possession of the result, which will be known in Quebec by this time. Until all the facts are produced, further speculation would be idle.

A TRIP TO SAGINAW.

An editor, of all men, requires once in a-while to drop scizzors, quill and pencil and run away anywhere to shake up his harness and save himself from utter prostration. The worst of it is, his journeyings from home have to be very short and his return timed to the moment. Of the various directions in which one may go from Goderich in search of fresh air and change of scene, there are very few comparable with a trip across Lake Huron in the month of June. If the pure breezes sweeping down from the Northern waters do not cool the business-fevered brow, nothing can, and if the beauty always connected with the most pellucid of waters fails to captivate, then the soul must have become incapable of delightful emotions. At the end of one's journey westward, too, there is the additional pleasure of witnessing a scene of activity and life, the like of which is seldom to be met with in this or any other country.

Impelled by a desire to escape from our duties for a day or two, we joined a party last week bound for Saginaw, which none of us had ever visited before, and now, in the hope that our observations of men and things in the Valley may not prove uninteresting, we lay before our readers a few jottings, which we will try to render as impartial as possible.

THE RUN ACROSS.

On Tuesday evening we went a-board the staunch Lake boat Huron, in time to witness the arrival of a considerable number of through passengers, some from the East on business, others bound home, apparently, with their wives and children—none of them, judging from appearances, in possession of robust health. Besides these, we noticed amongst the deck passengers not a few at ong young fellows, who were leaving the $12 per month, long hours, and other grievances inflicted by their late Canadian farmer employers, for the ten or eleven hours per day and $21 per month to be found by laborers in Saginaw towns. They freely admitted that taking the difference of the money into consideration the wages were about the same—the long hours demanded of them in Canada could not be got over. Lake Huron, as we left the drab cliffs of home behind us and shaped our course out on the calm, clear, blue waters, formed a most lovely object for contemplation, under the exhilerating influence of the bland, soft "sea breeze" which seemed eminently fitted to waft away care and call into full vigor all one's sense of manliness and independence. Ere the long hours of a June day had drawn to a close, we had lost sight of land, a twinkling light alone reminding us that yonder lay our own loved shore. After satisfying ourselves on deck, we went below and had a very pleasant conversation with Capt. Cole and Mr. Wilson, purser of the boat, who, by the way, has seen much of the world; has acquired a respectable share of book knowledge, and is, withal, one of the most intelligent men we ever met in such a position. Our conversation turned, as a matter of course, upon the War, the ability of Gen. Lee, and the probabilities in favor of Gen. Grant's success, each expressing his own views without restraint. At the conclusion, a *Dane*, who had, it appeared, been listening with one ear, suddenly asked why it was that the majority of the Press of Canada supported the South. We thought the answer a most appropriate one: *Because the Canadians are in a position to exercise a free criticism!* On "turning out" next morning, we found ourselves past Point au Barque, the Charity Islands and in the great Bay of Saginaw. A great bay it is, for we could not see land on either side, and we found that after passing "the point" we had at least 50 miles to sail ere we entered the River. The water of this bay is not nearly so pure as that of Lake Huron proper, owing, perhaps, to the muddy character of the streams running into it. About 10 o'clock, a. m., we entered Saginaw river by a winding channel, after passing several schooners lying at anchor in the offing which had not been able to complete their loading on account of the bar. The Michigan shore, wherever visible, is extremely low and flat, barely rising above the surface of the water. The Saginaw river is a winding, sluggish, *dirty* stream, varying in width from a hundred yards to half a mile, and in places so shallow that laden vessels find much difficulty in getting up or down. Along its margin there are extensive marshes overgrown with long coarse grass and wild rice.

SALT WORKS.

One of the first objects to attract attention as the voyager enters the river, is an extensive salt manufactory with its acres of evaporating pans, and wharf covered with barrels of the manufactured article awaiting shipment. Then for sixteen miles up the river, on both sides, these establishments occur at frequent intervals, and some idea may be formed of the vast saline production when we state that few of them turn out less than 1000 barrels per week. The whole of this gigantic trade has been built up within two or three years. Should the brine hold out, (the supply seems unlimited) what will the result be ten years hence?

PINE LUMBER.

Vast as the salt interest has grown to be, it is completely overtopped by the Lumber business. Let the reader imagine thirty miles of river literally lined on both sides with immense steam saw mills, running at high rates of speed day and night, and using, many of them, gang saws, which convert the largest pine logs into excellent lumber with inconceivable rapidity, and then try to form an estimate of the value of the year's operations. The sums total are *millions* of dollars. Every branch of the lumbering business is carried on in the most systematic manner. Amidst the wilderness of flying belts and whirling saws, every man has his place, the division of labor being complete from the hauling of the log out of the boom to the piling of the newly-made boards on the docks. There is no waste. The edgings and saw-dust go into the furnaces and in many instances the surplus steam is used in the rapid evaporation of brine, in the adjoining salt work. The stranger who visits this wonderful valley for the first time is filled with amazement at the progress made within the past ten years. No facts or figures stated on paper can give an adequate idea of its extent—personal inspection alone can fill the mind with the reality. We question much whether, in the whole world, within the same extent of space, an equal amount of lumber is turned out annually. The logs for the supply of the mills are cut in winter, and being joined together by ropes, are rafted down the river some fifty or sixty miles. It is asserted that the supply is almost inexhaustible. It would certainly require to be. Considering the great number of manufactories and the consequent employment of thousands of hands, it is not surprising that

THE SAGINAW TOWNS

are rising into cities with almost unparalleled rapidity. The first town reached from the Bay is called Bay city, and is situated on the left bank of the river. It has a population of about 4000 souls, and wears an air of much briskness and prosperity. There are very few public buildings, and no market that we saw. Stopping a few minutes at the crowded dock, we proceed up stream a distance of some sixteen miles to East Saginaw, the largest town in the valley, and evidently the chief centre of business. It has about 8000 inhabitants, and is improving very rapidly. The Bancroft House is one of the largest and best hotels in the State, if not *the* best. The gentlemanly proprietor, Mr. Andrews, informed us that although the building (a five story one) had been recently nearly doubled in size, he had not at the date of our visit a single room to spare, and that his average "running" expenses were at least $1000 a month! He complains that, owing to the want of a market, much difficulty is experienced in keeping his table supplied with fresh meats. It is possible he will act upon the hint that Goderich could be made an excellent base of supplies. With all the life and energy of the city of East Saginaw it struck us that the purely superficial predominated. There are not many churches, we saw no Court House, no fine School-house, no public reading room, and the stock in trade of the best book store we could find might be carried on one's back. People, we presume, go to Saginaw to "make their pile" before they have shaken their flesh off with the dreaded ague. About a mile further up the river on the right bank stands Saginaw City, which has a population of three or four thousands, and which is the pleasantest-looking place of the whole lot, although it is said to be less healthy than Bay City, owing to the latter possessing a position visited by the Lake breezes.

DRAWBACKS.

The Saginaw Valley, notwithstanding its almost unlimited resources, is not a paradise to live in. The sluggish water of the river and the stagnant marshes emit such an amount of malarious exhalations that about every second person is more or less afflicted with fever and ague. Then, again, there is no good water to be had by digging, and hence the sickly, sallow appearance of the people, amongst whom a Canadian can be picked out in a moment, and hence, too, perhaps, the number of drinking saloons in the towns. (We were informed that East Saginaw had ninety-nine of them.) The soil in the valley may be rich, but it does not appear to be well adapted for farming purposes, so that nearly all the produce for home consumption has to be imported. If there was not such a depreciation in American currency, the produce of this County might find a capital market across the Lake, and we hope more attention will be paid to the important subject.

THE WAR.

As far as Saginaw is concerned, might be in China, in so far as a visitor could observe. In fact, nobody seems to trouble his head about the matter at all. One would hear more discussion in Goderich on the subject in one evening than over there in a month. We witnessed an instance of the lucid opinions formed by the working classes with regard to military movements. We had been glancing over a late Detroit paper, when a tall, slim man, asked for the news. 'Morgan's defeated,' was the answer. 'I swan,' said the tall one, 'that's curious, I had a letter from my brother, and he told me the volunteers of Pennsylvania was all called out to *assist* Morgan! He hadn't oughter been whipped.' At Saginaw City we saw an American flag trying to float in the hot, insufferably hot breeze, a board barrack, and a hand-bill announcing that the Union *must* be preserved, in order to which a regiment was being got up by Col. Somebody, and young men were to rally, rally, rally!

HOMEWARD BOUND.

Having swallowed a hasty dinner in Bay City, and shaken hands with a number of newly-made acquaintances, we started for home at one o'clock on Thursday, glad to escape from the dust and heat and breathe once more the pure air, one of Heaven's best gifts. And here let us say a parting word about the steamer Huron. She is a staunch Lake Boat, and is owned and commanded by Capt. Cole, who has sailed Lake Huron since 1836, and is a good fellow in every sense of the word. The officers of the boat are remarkably attentive to the wants of passengers, who are made to feel that anything is wanting that can contribute their comfort.—We can heartily recommend the line to any person having business to transact in Saginaw, and to those of our neighbors across the Lake who wish to seek recreation and health in Goderich, which is, we believe, the finest watering place in Upper Canada.—To Capt. Cole and the purser, Mr. Wilson, we desire to tender our sincere thanks for the large amount contributed by them to the pleasures connected with the trip.

On our way out we passed or met a large number of vessals of various kinds, all evidently endeavoring to make the best possible use of rising freights and short a summer.

APRIL AND DECEMBER.

A newly-married couple, it is said, brings good luck to the vessel carrying the happy creatures. No wonder the Lake was calm as a mirror on Thursday night, for we had on board a young Saganite about 55 years of age, who had just started in life with a wife who had arrived at the mature age of "sweet sixteen." We could hardly account for the ill-concealed giggle that went round when the old gent. and his pretty young bride, ventured in dark. The bridegroom reminded us strongly of the pictures of "old Abe."

GODERICH.

After all, when we touched British soil early on Friday morning, we felt like shaking hands with Goderich. Here, thank Providence, we can drink in pure air and pure water, and if we cannot make money so fast, we can at least enjoy life, and show as bright a crowd of blooming, ruddy lads and lasses as any place of the same size on the continent,—while our yeomanry in virtue and intelligence is not surpassed by that of any other country. Yes, we can truly say,

"Canada, our home, we love ——— ll!"

THE RECENT REVIEW.

The Volunteer Review on Friday last was a complete success. There was a force of 150 officers and over 2000 men on the field, being composed of the various arms of the service. At the appointed hour the arrangements for Reviewing the men in the usual manner and a final mock fight were carried out to satisfaction of all concerned. The display in point of accuracy is said to have been very fine. Major Gen. Napier was in command. There were 20,000 spectators present.

LONDON QUARTERLY REVIEW for April is one of the most readable numbers we have received. The opening article, "The Prospects of the Confederates," is deeply interesting, and will repay perusal. The curious will find in the paper on "Pompeii" a description of all that is known concerning that wonderful buried city. "The Foreign Policy of England," shows up the vascillation of the British Government in a most unsparing manner. Reprinted by Scott & Co., N. Y.—Sold at this office.

GODEY is out for July, brilliant as a summer rainbow, and replete with matter of interest to ladies generally. Also sold at *Signal* office.

Two Fatal Accidents Near Paris, C. W.

Two fatal accidents, the following particulars of which have been furnished us, recently occurred in Paris: Two boys, one named Capron and the other VanBrocklin, were examining a photograph album in the parlor of Horace Capron, Esq., near Paris, on Thursday last, and a younger Capron was a few feet from them with a loaded gun in his hand. The latter in raising the hammer to see if there was a capron, let it slip from his thumb, discharging the weapon within two feet of his brother and VanBrocklin. The former was standing by the side of the latter, who was sitting at the table, with his hand upon his shoulder. The charge took effect upon both, taking the thumb and two fingers from the hand of Capron, and nearly severing the head from the body of young VanBrocklin. He died instantly. He was the son of P. C. VanBrocklin, Esq., who resides near Brantford, and was about 15 yea s old.

The other accident occurred yesterday.—Two boys named Jellett were descending the hill approaching the town on a load of wood, when the horses became unmanageable, and the boys were thrown from the load, dislocating the shoulder of one and breaking the neck of the other. The one injured fatally was about eight years old.

A RAT EATER.—This filthy fellow reappeared on the Sands on Saturday and devoured 30 or 40 live rats in the course of the day. He is a copper-skinned Kaffir, fully six feet high, and of stalwart proportions. His head-dress and the slight apron (which forms the only exception to his general nakedness) are decked with beads, shells and other baubles. His *modus operandi* is disgustingly simple. A cageful of rats are brought to him: he inserts his hand and pulls one out; the brute squeaks and kicks and shows its teeth; he puts its head wholly into his mouth, (a large one), and bites it off; he spits out the head, while the trunk is writhing and twisting in his hand; he then puts his mouth to the neck, sucks the hot blood with exceeding gusto, and while doing so he manages to skin the body. Eating it comes afterwards, if the people who show the savage do not interfere. What are the police about, that such a brutalising spectacle can be shown in public here? —*Carlisle Examiner.*

COULDN'T DO IT.—An old man whose locks were grey, and who appeared as though he had just finished the contents of a barrel of whiskey, appeared in front of Mr. Olin's residence on Sunday last, and attempted to thrust a knife into his abdomen. The knife refused to do its duty, and the man went on his way to Greenbrook, uttering fearful oaths.—*Millbrook Advocate.*

THE AMERICAN WAR.

WASHINGTON, June 18.—At the instance of the Danish minister, accredited to the government of the United States, the following amended notice is published of the possible resumption of the blockade of the Prussian ports of the Baltic as well as that of the ports of the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein:—It has been officially announced to the state department that hostilities between Denmark and the German powers would be resumed on the 12th of this month unless postponed by the proceedings of the conference of London, and that in such case the blockade of the Prussian ports of the Baltic as well as of the ports of the duchies of Schleswig and Holstein, which have been raised from the 12th ult., will go into force again immediately after the expiration of the term fixed upon for the duration of the suspension of arms.

NEW YORK, June 18.—The *Tribune's* correspondent, speaking of the grand movement, says that when a great army moves it fills all the roads and seeks every country cross road, every farm and by-road, and uses it, no matter how circuitous the road, no matter what direction it pursues, it must be used.

The army moved down the Chickahominy in this order, Wilson's cavalry in the advance and followed by the 5th corps, then the 2nd corps next to the river, the 6th corps parallel and to the left of the 2nd, and the 9th on the extreme left, each of the last three taking care of its own rear. A second line, perhaps a mile in the rear of that fought on, had been thrown up at Cold Harbor. The reserve divisions marched out in the afternoon, those holding the works as soon as it was fully dark, but not a picket fell back until two o'clock in the morning. The new line was held by a strong line until daylight. The withdrawal seems to have been undiscovered; only at one point had the enemy's skirmishers appeared when the last line was relinquished. In the scores of times we have left the presence of the enemy during the war, I do not recall another instance where this device of a second line, far in the rear, was used. In this case it proved to be unnecessary, but it was a wise precaution that would have been of vast service had our purpose been divined, and the enemy followed too eagerly. Ten miles down the stream from Cold Harbor is the remains of the long bridge that figures in the narratives of the Peninsula campaign. The causeways leading to it on either side are there still, and in good condition. The bridge proper has disappeared, and a few pontoons now fill the breach. The cavalry crossed unmolested save by the videttes of a North Carolina regiment, on the evening of the 12th. The 5th corps followed early on the following morning, and marched two or three miles directly towards Richmond, and formed a line of battle nearly up to White Oak swamp.

Sheridan is falling back rapidly within the federal lines, hotly pursued by the Confederates.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, June 16, 6 p. m.—Smith's command, which landed at Point of Rocks on Tuesday evening, advanced early yesterday morning on the City Point and Petersburg road, and finding the enemy near Harrison's creek drove them into their fortifications, some half a mile beyond. A line of battle was formed with Hinck's colored division on the left and a charge was made, and the entire line of works was taken, with 16 guns, 300 prisoners and several battle-flags. The position was one of great strength and should have resisted an attack from a much larger force. The colored troops are reported as behaving admirably, taking their part of the enemy's lines at the same time the others did. Our loss in the whole affair was not over 200, of whom some 40 were colored.—The 2nd corps came up in the evening and took position on the left of Smith. In the morning an advance was made by the 2nd corps, Birney in command, and the enemy were driven from another strong position with considerable loss in killed, wounded and prisoners. In the afternoon, Barlow's division came up and took position on the left of the 2nd corps. At 6 o'clock in the evening a combined advance was made along the line, and a desperate struggle ensued on the left and centre, both with artillery and infantry, which lasted until long after dark, Gen. Birney's command gaining a breastwork in their front and taking a large number of prisoners. This morning at daybreak, another advance was made along the line. Gen. Barlowe has sent in about 400 prisoners, mostly Tennessee troops from Gen. Beauregard's command.—Gen. Barnside has also sent in a battle flag captured this morning. Gen. Hancock has also taken a large number of prisoners, who are on their way to the rear. Our guns now command Petersburg and can shell the city at any moment.

Gen. Grant returned to head quarters from City Point last evening, and this morning has gone to the front. Our loss yesterday is said to have been about 1,000, while that of the enemy was fully as great if not more.

Grant's Tactics—Spicy but Truthful

From the Richmond Dispatch, June 9.

We think it may be safely asserted that, since war first became known to mankind, no General ever sacrificed his men so recklessly, so remorselessly, and to so little purpose, as General Grant. He started from his camp on the north side of the Rappahannock, little more than a month ago, with 130,000 men. He has been reinforced, according to the statements of his friends, by more than 80,000 since that time, viz: Stanton says he sent him 25,000 veterans after the battle of the 10th of May; Butler has sent him 20,000, and prisoners say he has received 40,000 from Ohio and other sources, making a total of 85,000. Yet his army, at this day, in the opinion of those best qualified to judge, does not greatly exceed 100,000 men, and is certainly greatly inferior in numbers to what it was when he started on the crusade. He lost 75,000 in Spottsylvania, and his loss in Hanover cannot have fallen very short of 25,000. Thus he has sacrificed 100,000 men, the flower not only of his army, but of the whole United States army. In return he has effected nothing, absolutely nothing.—Lee's entire loss since the campaign opened does not amount to 17,000, all told, killed, wounded and missing. He has never once been forced from a position, and has only fallen back when his enemy, despairing of victory, has attempted to slide off to his left, and get in rear, without further fighting.—Grant in the meantime has been brought up before McClellan's old lines beyond the Chickahominy, and is not able to take a single step in advance. He has thrown away 100,000 men to obtain what he could have had for nothing.

The confederacy has great cause to congratulate itself upon the choice Lincoln has made of Lieutenant-General. They desire to see this war brought to an end, and Grant is the very man to do it. Had the distance between Richmond and Spottsylvania been 100 miles greater we are disposed to think he would have reached the end of his journey with not more than 100 men.

If Grant is whipped on land, however, he is always victorious on paper. We have sometimes wondered why he takes the trouble to fight at all. He can demolish armies with a stroke of his pen, and capture cities by a flash of the telegraph. Why not confine his exertions entirely to the composition of telegraphic despatches? He succeeds far better at that than he does at fighting. Lee whipped him in at least ten battles, yet Lee continually flogs Lee on the wires. He inflicts very little loss on Lee with his army, but he slaughters men by the thousand with the telegraph. Where then, is the use of fighting with any other weapon than the wires? If he can gain so many victories with that instrument, why cannot he take Richmond with it? If a telegraphic victory can satisfy Lincoln and the rest of Yankeedom, we do not see why it should not satisfy Grant, since the applause of these interesting people is all that he aspires to. Let Grant sit down and telegraph a big victory every day for a week, and then the capture of Richmond. He will be a greater demigod with the Yankees than he ever was. Great advantage will be found in the fact that he will be without a competitor. General Lee can beat Grant in the field, but he is no match for him in telegraphing. Grant may lie as much as he pleases. General Lee will not contradict him. He will only flog him the next time he catch him, and set him to inventing more lies.

From Atlanta.

The Atlanta *Intelligencer*, of May 29, has come through the lines. It contains the following paragraphs of interest:—

THE SITUATION.

That the Yankees should have the temerity to insist on assaults on our lines, after the terrible repulses they have sustained, is surprising. They surely must be infatuated with the supposed idea of their overwhelming strength and numbers, or are incited to it under the influence of mean whiskey. They attempted at one time during the day to enter a wedge between Gen Hood's corps and the main body of our forces, hoping to isolate that position; and overwhelm them by a *coup de main*. They were repulsed terribly by the cool and steady fire of our veterans, who did not leave their commanding and impregnable position. The army at night remained nearly in the same position it occupied in the morning, but with the advantages retained of any positions that had been gained.

We stated on yesterday that the character of the firing indicated the enemy was only feeling our lines, and by our press dispatches in another column, it will be seen that this was the main feature.

On Friday, the firing commenced very heavily early in the morning and continued extensively and furiously all day; along toward evening the sounds receded, seeming to indicate a retiring of the enemy's lines.

At a late hour last night the wounded were coming in on the train in large numbers, thus indicating that heavy fighting had occurred during the day but we could not learn any satisfactory particulars.

ADDRESS TO THE LADIES.

The *Intelligencer* makes a feeling address to the ladies, in which it says:

Look at the desolated fields, ruined homes and insulted women of those sections where the enemy has passed, and learn what your fate will be if we are defeated. Can you, in this hour of peril, hesitate to come forward and render what assistance you can to your brave defenders? Upon the shoulders of a devoted few rests the heavy responsibility of attending to their wants, and we are finding the undertaking more than we can accomplish alone. Ladies, come forward and help us.—The ordinary avocations of life must be for a time suspended. Our brave soldiers are straining every nerve to win their own and our independence, and so must we lend all our energies to the task of attending those who require it. A few of us have determined to remain in the city as long as there is a Confederate soldier to care for; and we appeal to you all to lay aside your fears, forget your panic, dismiss all thoughts of running, and join us in this noble work; and when our liberty is established, you then can claim your share of its rewards.

The Conference.

(Liverpool Courier, [Tory] June 2.

The position of affairs at the Conference appears to be thus. The German Powers demanded the union of the Duchies and the establishment of a new State under Prince Frederick of Augustenburg, which would be connected with the Germanic Confederation. Earl Russell, on the part of the neutral Powers, proposed the division of Schleswig, annexing the southern portion lying south of the Schlei and the Dannevelle to Holstein, and thus constituting a new State under Prince Frederick. This proposal and coupled with the condition that there should be no fortified city nor military city in this new State. To this condition the German plenipotentiaries, and especially Baron Von Beust, objected on the ground that it is not remedied with the internal affairs of the Confederation. But they have consented to consider the proposed division of Schleswig. Russia has put in a formal claim on the part of the Oldenburg line, but will not, it is supposed, push this claim, nor refuse to become a party to the settlement suggested by Earl Russell. The attitude of the Danish plenipotentiaries has been negative. They have neither offered proposals nor rejected those which have been offered, but have simply declared themselves without instructions. The question of the armistice was raised at the last sitting of the Conference, but was adjourned to the sitting of the 2nd June. The matter that seems likely to cause the greatest difficulty is the strong objection entertained by Earl Russell to the fortifying of Kiel and Rendsburg. The German papers are very sarcastic, and naturally so, upon the jealousy of this country with regard to anything that seems likely to impair the supposed superiority of England. Sufficiently enough when the interests of Denmark only were concerned, she curious Mr. Disraeli has himself directly her own interests are touched in the slightest degree.

NEW RAILWAY CARS.—We have had the pleasure of examining three new cars, at the Great Western Railway Depot here, of improved construction, built under the superintendence of Mr. S. Sharp, who has given much thought to the subject. The cars present a better appearance outside, and are much superior to the ordinary cars in elegance, comfort and convenience. The roof is much higher, and its form is somewhat changed, being eliptical instead of semi circular. The interior fittings are of the most elegant description, the seats being fitted with comfortable springs and the backs formed something like an easy chair. Mr. McCullough, we believe, is entitled to the credit of this portion of the improvements in fitting up of railway cars. The arrangements for ventilation—a subject which Mr. Sharp has made a special study—seemed to us to be perfect; and if the idea answers the intention of the inventor, he deserves to be regarded as a public benefactor. The air enters the car through upright cylinders in the roof, the supply being regulated by valves; from this it passes into receivers half filled with water, which cleanses it of dust; from thence it is distributed through the car. In addition to this, each passenger has a side ventilator at the end of his seat, which he can either keep open or closed as he chooses; so could does this keep the atmosphere of the car that it is never necessary, even in the hottest weather, to open the windows. There are other improvements in the construction of these cars which will doubtless be generally adopted, such as the substitution of rubber, instead of steel springs on the truck.—[Spectator.

THE MODERN GREEKS.—The Greeks do not care an obolus about Homer, except for the sake of his weight and influence as a living power in the sentiment of educated Europe. The average Greek—and no Greek is above the average—is one of the vulgarest of men, and has a nature as hard and bright and cutting as a diamond. He is eager to be understood and valued for his own sake, and not for Homer's; and in his heart of hearts he resents and despises the weak sentimentality, and the ignoble abode of dislike of facts which accompanies it, however much he may speculate on it and trade upon it as an advantageous political investment. Buxton was no great genius—not a great intellectual leader or discoverer, but mainly an earnest, straightforward, resolute, energetic man. Indeed, his whole character is most forcibly expressed in his own words, which every young man might well stamp upon his soul: 'The longer I live,' said he, 'the more I am certain that the great difference between men, between the feeble and the powerful, the great and the insignicant, is energy, invincible determination—a purpose once fixed, and then death or victory! That quality will do anything that can be done in this world; and no talents, no circumstances, no opportunities, will make a two legged creature a man without it."

Another Destructive Fire in London.

A correspondent from London informs us that at one o'clock on Friday morning a fire broke out in the grocery store of Mr. J. E. Jacobs, north side of Dundas street, and west of Talbot Street, immediately to the east of the stores which were consumed in 1862. In consequence of the scarcity of water, the flames enveloped the hardware store of Mr. William Warren, on the corner of Dundas and Talbot streets, and east of Mr. Jacobs'. Whilst this was going on the fire proceeded also west, and attacked the hardware retail store of Messrs. Adam Hope & Co., from thence proceeding westward, the hardware store of Mr. Hiram Chisholm was next destroyed, and the stove and tin shop of Mr. Murray Anderson, still to the westward, was considerably injured. The buildings were all of brick, and contained valuable stocks of goods. At one time it was feared that the whole block would have been consumed, but by the strenuous exertions of the firemen the flames were subdued after levelling four stores. Little property was removed from the stores except from that of Mr. Murray Anderson, and what was removed was much damaged by rough usage. Mr. Warren was insured for $4,000, but his stock amounted to $15,000. Mr. Jacobs was partially insured. Messrs. Adam Hope & Co. are well insured. Mr. Hiram Chisholm was fully insured; so also was Mr. Murray Anderson.—*Globe.*

A MAN FOUND DEAD.—On Wednesday morning the night watcher, at the Great Western Railway Station, discovered the body of a man lying in a bin of a stable belonging to Sheriff Grange, situated a short distance from the station. The body is greatly decomposed, and, judging from appearances, it seems probable he has been dead for a long time. Nothing is known at present as to who he is or where he came from.—*Guelph Advertiser.*

Town & Counties.

☞ The United Counties' Council meets as we go to press. We will give a report of the proceedings in our next.

☞ W. S., Wawanosh.—Items of local news, &c., concise and to the point, will be thankfully received.

☞ S., Hullett.—Anything you may send will be welcomed. There is no reason that we can see why your powers should lie dormant.

☞ Mr. Charles Ferguson, the well-known blind piper, is about setting out on his usual summer tour. We bespeak for him a cordial reception.

MANCHESTER.—We learn that a man named Cassidy died suddenly at Manchester on Friday last from the effects of drinking cold water while in an excessively heated condition.

MASONIC DINNER.—We are requested to announce that the Members of Maitland Lodge No. 112, will hold their annual Festival on Friday evening, the 24th inst., at the Maitland Hotel. A full attendance is expected.

THE DROUGHT.—Following upon the heavy rains and cold north winds of the early part of the month, the present intense heat and continued absence of rain is very seriously injuring the crops in this section. We trust kind Providence will see fit to bring about a change for the better ere long.

☞ ACCIDENT.—On Wednesday last Mr. Edward Sharman, of this town, fell from a building on which he was engaged a distance of eleven feet upon a pile of bricks and was seriously injured about the head. We hope to hear of his speedy recovery.

CHANGE IN POST OFFICE.—Mrs. Sarah Leighton, who has had charge of the Bandon P. O., Township of Hullett, has removed with her family to Bay City, Michigan, and Mr. James Lee, of said village, has been appointed postmaster in her stead. From our personal knowledge of Mr. Lee, we are of the opinion that he will be obliging and friendly to the public.

BAYFIELD.—A correspondent writes to say that Prof. Simms, phrenologist, &c., is just concluding a course of lectures in that place, which has been largely attended. The Prof. intends visiting Goderich.

CONFIDENCES.—As another item of news, we are informed that no less than five ladies of Stanley have recently presented their lords with *twins*.

PROF. HAGARTY'S LECTURES.

By handbill's circulated through the town it will be known that Prof. Hagarty, the celebrated lecturer, is to deliver a course of lectures in Goderich, commencing to-night.—This gentleman drew crowd d houses when last here some years ago, and his reputation since, as evidenced by the Press of the country, has been a growing one. As a delineator of character he stands unrivalled in Canada. The lecture to-night in Crabb's Victoria Hall, will be a FREE one. We hope to see an overflowing audience.

A DEVILISH ACT.—On Sunday morning last some fiends in human form entered the garden of D. Kerr, esq., (Hawley Farm) near this town, and in a most wanton manner destroyed its contents, uprooting strawberry plants, melons, corn, potatoes, cabbages, in fact everything. Some three acres of fine looking and beautifully kept vegetables, fruits and flowers being destroyed as completely as could have been done by army of Vandals. The damage done is little short of $200. Such a dastardly outrage committed upon one who is a comparative stranger is sufficient to bring a blush of shame to our cheeks, when we think that it is possible in a civilized country and within sight of the county gaol. It seems that there is a gang of scoundrels in the neighborhood which has been a standing terror to those living in the vicinity for several years. We earnestly hope its members will not go long unwhip't of justice. Meanwhile, we ask, *who is safe?*

School Examination.

A public examination of the school in section No. 6, Goderich, under the charge of Mr. Lawrence, was conducted by John Nairn, Esq., L. S. C. S., on Friday, June 17th, 1864, in the presence of the Board of School Trustees. Everything seemed to pass off very satisfactorily. The pupils present acquitted themselves well in Reading, Writing, Spelling, Roots of words, Geography, &c., and were it not that this time of year draws away a good number of the largest and best pupils from the country schools, there would have been a much better display in Grammar, History, Euclid, &c. We would just mention, in addition, that on the 1st of July, proximo, the friends of education in said section intend entertaining the teacher and pupils with a pic-nic in the grove, at which another public examination is to be held and $10 worth of prizes are to be awarded according to marks kept by the teacher during the quarter then closing.

☞ A correspondent sends us an account of a trip from New York to Goderich, which is a droll affair in its way. He puffs the steamboats and railways which carried him, (had he a *pass?*) says he saw over 20,000 people in Niagara Falls to see the Review of Her Majesty's soldiers. Query, were the people in the Falls to cool themselves? Thinks the principal products of Canada are "lumber and some butter and eggs," and comes to the sage conclusion that Goderich can never become a pleasant place to live in. Why? Because its elevation is so great that shade trees cannot be grown! We would respectfully suggest to our Brooklyn correspondent the advisability of cultivating his legitimate business.—Neither by nature or education is he calculated to become a brilliant ornament to English literature.

County Court and Quarter Sessions.

The Courts are likely to close to-day, and the Grand Jury have already been discharged. On receiving the Presentment, which we publish, his Honor stated to the Grand Jury, that if any credit were due to any one for seeing the law enforced in the matter of Foreign enlistment Act, it was due to the magistrates and constables in the County of Bruce. We hoped the party accused might not be guilty, but the Judges in Toronto had decided that the Act was in force, and the question of guilt or innocence would come up at the assizes.

The following cases are disposed of:

The Queen vs. Jacob Bowes, Larceny. No Bill.

The Queen vs. H. Fewing, assault on a female. True Bill. Verdict, Not Guilty.

The Queen vs. White, Larceny. No Bill.

The Queen vs. John McLean, Larceny. True Bill. Verdict Not Guilty.

The Queen vs. John Law.—The prisoner pleaded guilty to an indictment for larceny and to another for horse stealing. He is not yet sentenced.

Many of the civil cases were mere money demands on notes and accounts, but others occupied a great deal of time.

One of Harrison vs. Gibbons—parties who seemed to have travelled a long distance and gone to great expence for the luxuries of law—had a half-day contest over a matter where the *real* disp