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, FEB. 16, 1865. [VOL. XVII.—NO 3.

Business Directory.

P. A. McDougall
CAN BE CONSULTED UP TO 10 A.M., at his residence on North Street, next door south of the residence of Rev. Mr. Elwood. 10:1

G. C. Shannon, M.D.,
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., &c., GODERICH, C. W. 13:40-1y

Thos. F. McLean, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., (Late House Surgeon, Kingston Hospital).—OFFICE—At Arthur's Boarding House, [xw60w9] Goderich, C. W.

Dr. Cole,
LATE OF STANLEY—CLINTON, HURON Road. (Mr. Thwaites's former Store July 1, '62.

DR. A. WORTHINGTON,
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., will attend, particularly, to diseases of and surgical operations upon the eye.
HOWICK VILLAGE, Dec. 15, 1862. [w47-1y

Ira Lewis,
BARRISTER AND ATTORNEY-AT-Law, and Solicitor-in-Chancery, County Crown Attorney, Goderich, Canada West. Office a Court House. v14n40

M. C. Cameron,
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY, CONVEYANCER, &c., Kingston street, Goderich, C.W.

Shaw & Sinclair,
BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, CONVEYANCERS, &c. Offices, over the Store of S. V. Detlor & Son, Goderich, and Queen Street, Kincardine.
D. S. SINCLAIR, Goderich | A. SHAW, Kincardine. 12:23

Henry McDermot,
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Notaries Public, &c., West Street, Goderich. 10:1

John Davison,
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR in Chancery, &c. Office, Market Square, Corner of Kingston Street, Goderich. 9:22

Letroy & Patterson,
BARRISTERS, ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, Notaries, Conveyancers, &c. Office McCay's corner, West Street, Goderich. 9:42

John B. Gordon,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, SOLICITOR IN Chancery, Notary Public, Conveyancer, &c., &c., Goderich, Canada West. Office—on the South side of West Street, third door from the Court-House Square.

William T. Hays,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, SOLICITOR IN Chancery, Notary Public, Conveyancer, &c., Goderich, C. W.—Office, over H. Gardiner & Co's Hardware Store, v15n29

Money to Lend on Real Property.

Shade & Gooding,
ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR, &c., Goderich, C. W.—OFFICE: Up Stairs Watson's Block, West St.; entrance First Door west of Dagow House.

Toms & Moore,
ATTORNIES, SOLICITORS, &c., Goderich, C. W. Office—CRABB'S NEW BLOCK
ISAAC V. TOMS. LEW'S C. MOORE.
Goderich, August 27th, 1864. xw105w31

B. L. Doyle,
ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR &c. OFFICE, Crabb's New Block, Goderich, C. W. v15xw3ly

Cameron & Elwood,
BARRISTERS, ATTORNEYS, CONVEYANCERS, &c. Goderich and Clinton.
M. C. CAMERON, Goderich. J. Y. ELWOOD, Clinton.
Office in Clinton—a few doors north of the Post Office. v12n47

William Fraser,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, SOLICITOR IN Chancery, Conveyancer, &c. Walkerton, C. W. of Bruce. v16n4yly

Frederick Proudfoot,
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, CONVEYANCER, NOTARY PUBLIC, &c. Southampton, Co. Bruce. [w42-6m

Thomas Weatherald,
CIVIL ENGINEER AND PROVINCIAL LAND SURVEYOR. Office and Residence, Hamilton Street, Goderich. v15n3

A. Bay,
PROVINCIAL LAND SURVEYOR AND Civil Engineer, Clinton. July 4, '61.

L. B. Hamlin,
CIVIL ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR Land Agent and Conveyancer, Kincardine

JAMES SMAILL,
ARCHITECT,
PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS OF Buildings, &c., got up in a neat and correct style. Office at the Huron Auction Mart, King Street, Goderich. [xw vlu'ly

G. M. TRUEMAN
LAND AGENT,
Market Square, Goderich.
Sends CLERKS every Wednesday, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 33:10

THOMSON & HAZLEHURST,
(LATE SMAILL & THOMSON,)
Auction & Commission Merchants,
Cameron's Block, Kingston St., Goderich;
And next Door to Strong's Hotel
SEAFORTH.
SALES of household goods, horses, waggons, &c. at the mart, every Saturday at noon. Particular attention paid to the Sale of Bankrupt Stock, Farm Stock, &c. Cash advanced on goods left on Commission. Goods appraised, debts collected, landlord's warrants executed, mortgages foreclosed, houses rented. Division Court Business attended to. Sales at the Branch Auction Mart, Seaforth every Thursday.
County Sales attended to on reasonable terms
Goderich, July 12th 1864. w22-1yr

D. McDougall,
LICENSED AUCTIONEER, BAYFIELD, County of Huron. Sales in village or country punctually attended to. w9-1yr$o

Alex. Findley,
LICENSED AUCTIONEER for HURON and HURON. Sales punctually attended to. Address, Bodwin P. O. w50-1yr$o

John Campbell,
GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT Commissioner in Queen's Bench, for taking affidavits, Conveyancer, &c., &c. Office on Broad way, Village of Kincardine, C.W. 9:9

Peter M'Rae,
FORWARDER AND COMMISSION Merchant, Inverhuron, C.W. Notes and Accounts collected. Business of any kind entrusted to him will receive prompt attention. w40-1y$o8x

NEW MARBLE WORKS
Main Street, Exeter.
D. & A. M'CONNELL.
MONUMENTS, TOMBSTONES, Posts, &c., of every description and style of workmanship, furnished on short notice, and at the lowest prices. Liberal reduction made for cash.
ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO
Designs of Monuments &c. may be seen at the shop.
Exeter, October 1st, 1864. w12-1y

Business Directory.

John Kaine,
COMMISSIONER IN THE COURT OF Queen's Bench, Conveyancer, &c. A Registry kept of Farm and Town Lots for Sale; parties having lots for sale, or desiring to purchase will please send full particulars.
Dungannon, Feb. 20, 1857. 9:9

COMMERCIAL HOUSE.
(LATE DARK'S.)
EAST STREET, GODERICH.
THE UNDERSIGNED BEGS sincerely to thank his friends and the travelling public generally for the very liberal patronage he has enjoyed for the past nine years, and would respectfully ask a continuance of their patronage. His new house has been thoroughly repaired, and will be found complete in every particular.
JOHN DONOGH, Proprietor
Goderich Sept. 26, 1864. xw7

MAITLAND HOTEL, GODERICH
P. WILSON, PROPRIETOR. THE above is most pleasantly situated on an eminence 120 feet high, overlooking the Harbor and Lake Huron;—good Orchards, Gardens and Rural Walks attached. Board $1 per day, single Meals or Beds, 25 cents. v15n10vly

DAYS' HOTEL,
WROXETER
IS situated on the Gravel Road running from Seaforth to Southampton, one mile north of where it leads off to Wroxeter, and any one travelling to
Belmore, Walkerton, Southampton,
or any place in that direction, will find accommodation such as he only expects to find at first class city hotels, in all respects.
ICE ALWAYS ON HAND
FOR HIS
Trout-Fishing Friends!
THE BUILDINGS COVER A LENGTH OF
A HUNDRED AND FIFTY FEET!
CHARLES DAYS,
Proprietor.
w46-1.

Commercial Hotel Mitchell C.W
JOHN HICKS, Proprietor. This is the largest and best Country Hotel in Western Canada, and charges as moderate as any House in Mitchell. Stage Proprietor. Good stabling for 100 Horses. Horses and Carriages for Hire, on the Shortest Notice 14-7.

Ohio Free Stone Kept on hand for Building purposes

GODERICH
MARBLE WORKS,
W. C. TRELEAVEN
Monuments, Headstones
Tombs, Tablets, Table-Tops, &c.
GODERICH, C. W.
Such as Caps, Sills, Bases, &c., Cheap for Cash.

HENRY GRIST,
DEPARTMENTAL
AND
Parliamentary Agent,
QUEBEC,
TRANSACTS BUSINESS WITH THE Crown Lands and other Government Departments; Takes out Patents for Inventions.—Drafts, etc., takes charge of Private Bills during the Session, &c., &c., &c., for Parties residing in Upper Canada, or elsewhere. xw105

GODERICH FANNING MILL
AND
Pump Factory!
THE SUBSCRIBER BEGS TO INFORM the inhabitants of the Counties of Huron and Bruce that he is still Manufacturing, and has on hand a number of his
SUPERIOR FANNING MILLS & PUMPS.
He would particularly draw attention to his Mills, as he will warrant them to free Wheat from oats, cockle, chess &c. Pumps made to order and warranted.
Factory on Nelson st., between Victoria street and Cambria Road.
Also, agent for the sale of Morgan's premium and patent CULTIVATOR, which has never yet failed to give general satisfaction to farmers who have used them.
HENRY DODD.
Goderich April 22nd, 1864. 39

BLANK BOOKS
AND
BOOK BINDING.
HAVING made arrangements with Mr. D. McGREGOR, Book-binder and Manufacturing Stationer, (who has lately returned from Philadelphia with a large stock of Binding and other material), I am prepared to Furnish Blank-Books of all kinds, size and styles with and without Printed Headings, at ten per cent cheaper than Toronto prices.
All kinds of Binding not giving satisfaction will be repaired free of charge.
sw46w2] JOHN BUTLER.

NOTICE.
ALL parties indebted to the Estate of the late JOHN ALLEN, either by note or otherwise, are requested to settle the same immediately with the undersigned, or their accounts will be placed in the hands of an Attorney for collection; and all unliquidated claims against the estate of the said John Allen, deceased, up to this date, are to be brought in to the executors at once for examination and adjustment.
ANTHONY ALLEN, } Executors
GEORGE COX,
Goderich, July 17th, 1864. w31 tf

THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON
FIRE & LIFE INSURANCE CO.
Capital, £2,000,000, Stg.; Accumulated Fund, $5,671,728.
Brittania Life Assurance Co. of London.
THE undersigned having been appointed Agent for the above highly respectable Companies, is prepared to accept both Fire and Life risks, at moderate rates of premium.
A. M. ROSS, Agent.
Goderich July 1st, 1859. v12n21

Business Directory.

INSURANCE.
WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.
British America Assurance Company; Head Offices, Toronto. Marine, Fire and Life Insurances effected on favorable terms.
☞ Office in Mr. J. B. Gordon's Law Chambers.
JOHN HALDAN, Jr., Agt.
Goderich, Nov. 24, 1866

ROYAL
Insurance Comp'ny
FIRE AND LIFE.
CAPITAL—TWO MILLION DOLLARS.
Accumulated Funds on hand, $5,000,000.
Annual Income Exceeds $2,500,000.
FIRE Insurances effected at the LOWEST RATES consistent with safety.
Life Insurance Ample Security.
LARGE BONUS AND RATES LOWER THAN MOST ENGLISH OFFICES.
Losses Promptly Settled Without Referenc to a Board of Directors
CHARLES FLETCHER,
Agent.
Goderich, May, 1864. w15

North British and Mercantile
Insurance Co.,
Office in Mr. Gordon's Law Chambers.
JOHN HALDAN, Jr.,
Agent.
Goderich, October 13, 1863. xw12-1yr

ALL ASSURING
ON THE
WITH PROFIT PLAN
Before the 25th instant with
THE COLONIAL LIFE ASSURANCE CO.
Will receive TWO years' Bonus at the Division of Profits NEXT YEAR.
W. M. RAMSAY,
Manager for Canada.
RICHARD BULL,
Inspector of Agencies.
For Rates and Prospectuses, apply to
J. D. BLACK, Agent.
DR. MACDOUGALL, Medical Referee.
sw75w17 june5

MATT. ROBERTSON,

MANUFACTURER
OF ALL KINDS OF
FURNITURE!
SUCH AS
Bureaus, Sofas, Lounges, Bedsteads in endless variety, Wardrobes, Book Cases, Mattresses, Center Tables, Dining Tables, Breakfast Tables, Toilet Tables, Wash Stands, Chairs, and many other articles too numerous to mention. All kinds of
WOOD TURNING
Promptly attended to. UPHOLSTERY, in all its branches.
UNDERTAKING, &c., &c.
Mr. R respectfully invites an examination of his stock. Warranted to be made of the best material and workman ship, and at greatly reduced prices. Call and compare, and be satisfied before going elsewhere.
☞ Cordwood and all kinds of Farmer's Produce taken in exchange.
☞ Warerooms on Elgin Street.
Goderich, March 24th, 1864. xw9

NOTICE.
INSHEREBY GIVEN, that J. B. Quinn, of Goderich, insolvent, has this day assigned all his Estate and effects to the undersigned for the general benefit of creditors without preference. All creditors of this estate are requested to send their claims to
JAMES SMAILL,
Assignee
Goderich, Nov. 17th, 1864. sw2-tf

ABRAHAM SMITH
Merchant Tailor,
MARKET SQUARE, GODERICH
HAS JUST RECEIVED A
Large & Well-Assorted
STOCK OF
FALL AND WINTER
GOODS!
And a variety of Fancy Articles, such as
Shirts, Collars, Neckties, Caps, &c., &c.
Which he is prepared to sell Cheap for Cash.
Goderich, Oct. 12, 1864 w12

NEW TAILORING
ESTABLISHMENT!
JOHN ADAMS
BEGS to announce to his former patrons and the public generally, that he has opened a
TAILORING ESTABLISHMENT!
IN HIS OLD STAND,
West st., next door to Fair & Co.'s Store
With a very nice assortment of
FASHIONABLE CLOTHS
suitable for the
FALL AND WINTER TRADE!
Which he is prepared to make up in first-class style and very cheap for CASH. A splendid stock of
OVERCOATS!
Of fine texture and remarkably cheap.
JOHN ADAMS.
Goderich, October 10, 1864. sw11

Poetry.

For the Signal.

On the Death of Richard Oliver.

Earthly happiness is fleeting—
Earthly prospects quickly fade;
Oft the heart with pleasure beating,
Is to bitterness betrayed.

Scenes of sorrow most distressing,
Scenes that fill the heart with pain;
Often yield the choicest blessing—
Present loss is future gain.

In the darkest dispensation,
Oh, remember God is just;
'Tis the richest consolation
In the faithfulness to trust!

Let the heart oppress'd with sorrow,
Let the bosom fill'd with grief—
Let the wounded spirit borrow
From his promise kind relief.

Though your brother, taken
From earth to Heaven,
Soon the sleeping dust shall waken,
And his spirit will return.

Yes, again you will behold him,
Fairer than the morning ray;
In your arms you may enfold him,
Where all tears are wiped away.

February 2nd, 1865.

The Fight Over the Way.

(From Blackwood's Magazine.)

Ludwig Tieck has a story of a visit he once made to a mad house, where he saw two of the inmates engaged at chess. Struck by what he imagined to be a strange instance of intellectual activity in persons so bereaved, he drew nigh to watch the game. What was his surprise, however, to perceive, that though they moved the pieces about the board at random—castles sidling along like bishops, and bishops playing leap-frog over knights—their intentness and eagerness all the while were fully equal to what real players might have exhibited. At last one cried out 'Check!' not that there was the slightest ground for the intimation, but he said it boldly and defiantly. The other, in evident trepidation, considered for a while, and moved 'Check!' reiterated the former; and once more did the assailed man attempt to escape. 'Checkmate!' exclaimed the first; and held up his hands in triumphant exultation; while the other, overwhelmed by his disaster, tore his hair, and gave way to the most extravagant grief. After a while, however, they replaced the pieces, and began once more, oblivious to renew the same mock struggle and mock victory; the joy of the conqueror, and the sorrow of the conquered, being, however, just as real as though the contest had engaged the highest faculties that ever were employed in the game.

Now, does not this immensely resemble what we are witnessing this moment in America? There are the two madmen engaged in a struggle, not one single rule nor maxim of which they comprehend. Moving cavalry like infantry, artillery like a wagon train, violating every principle of the game, till at length one gries Checkmate; and the other, accepting the defeat that is claimed against him, deplores his mishap, and sets to work for another contest.

At Bull's Run the word 'check' almost began the game. Later on they played out a little longer, but now, they usually clear the board at a large number of the pieces before either asserts he has conquered. So far as results go, everything is pretty much the same as if they had been consummate players.

If it were not that the stake on the issue is the greatest that man can play for on earth, I doubt much if War would ever have held that high position men assign it. As a mere game, its inferiority to many other games is striking enough. It is not merely that the moves are few and the combinations limited, but that the varying nature of the material it is played with with a ways prove a source of difficulty, and a great barrier against all exactitude. Imagine a game of chess where the pieces would have a volition—where your castle might tie down or your pawn refuse to advance—where a panic would seize your knights, or your bishops object to stand their ground—and you have at once an image of actual war.

It is this simplicity in the art of war, doubtless, that has led these people to believe that there is nothing in it at all—that its rules are voluntary, and its laws optational; for how otherwise should we see dry-goods men converted into generals, and county attorneys into brigadiers? There is not one of these men who unhesitatingly assumes the command of a corps or a division, who would sit down to a round game, at a high stake, which he had never seen played in his life. He would modestly own that he did not understand it—that he had never even witnessed it before. Not so with war; there, all is so easy, uncomplicated, and simple, that any one who ever mixed a julep can lead an army.

Like Tieck's chess players, then, they have made a game of their own, and it must be owned there is no lack of earnestness in the way they play it. They sweep off the pieces with a high hand, and they make a clearance on the board just as boldly as though they were all Phidiors. Now Tieck remarks, if these men had been playing a real game, wherein certain rules should have been observed, and certain obligations complied with, their weariness would have obliged them to desist long before they did so here. The brain would not have sustained such incessant calls upon it, and the man would have needed rest; and such, I opine, is the reason of the continuance of the struggle we are now witnessing. Each plays as he likes, takes what he likes, and goes where he likes. The game has no laws, and there is nothing to be learned. Any one can cut in that pleases—cut out, too, when he's sick of it.

Looking to this fact, nothing can be more unfair than any preference accorded to this man over that. Why Sherman before Meade, or Grant before McClellan? Surely the game Tieck tells of could have been played by the whole asylum.

Just, however, as I feel assured, nobody who ever played chess would have dignified with that name the strange performance of the madmen, so am I convinced that none would call this struggle a war. It is a fight—a very big fight, if you will, and a very hard fight, too, but not war. They go at it with a will. That pacific creature, Paddy, insures a considerable amount of activity in the past-time. Its very irregularity pleases him. It is a sort of gigantic Donnybrook, with oceans of broken heads and unlimited whiskey; and, like Donnybrook, nobody knows what he is fighting for, or cares either.

Such a millenium of mischief poor Pat never dreamed of in his most exalted moments. To have a row ready for him at his landing, and to be paid for fighting, is an amount of beatitude that he can scarcely realise.

I own I attribute a great deal of the persistency with which the conflict is carried on to this element, making a new career—converting a fight into a livelihood.

Another cause also contributed not a little to the continuance of this struggle—the immense notoriety it has attracted throughout the world to America and the Americans.—These people, for the first time in their lives, found themselves an object of European interest. Up to this they had been little known as a people at this side of the Atlantic. A rare ingenuity in mechanical invention, and a very curious taste in drinks, had certainly been associated with their name; but beyond gun stocks and gin juleps, sherry cobblers and India rubber boots, they had not been supposed to have contributed much on humanity. To become suddenly famous as a great military nation was then an immense bribe to national vanity. Hitherto it was their boast to consume more *pate de foie gras*, more champagne, and more Parisian finery, than any other people; but what if they could rival France in glory as well as gluttony.

Their pride was ever in a certain vastness which implied greatness. They had the biggest rivers, the biggest corn fields, the biggest forests, and why not the biggest battles and the biggest debts?

Now, I am much disposed to believe that these people would have made peace long ago if we had not given them so much of our attention and our interest. If, instead of sending out our own graphic correspondent to describe, and our artist to draw them, we had treated the whole as a vulgar commonplace row, from which there was no one useful lesson to be learned, moral or military;—had we ignored them in our journals and forgotten them in our readers—had the public speakers of our platforms omitted all their dreary lamentations over "fratricidal conflict" and "decimating war," my conviction is, the combatants would have been chewing the cud of peace together two years since.

You made a ring for them and what could they do but fight? You backed this one against that, and they went in with a will, only too fond to attract so respectable an audience, and be a matter of notoriety to such a well dressed company. Had you really been sincere you would have turned your backs on the performance. Had you felt half the horror you pretend you would have gone home and declared the sight too disgusting to look on. You would have had neither words of encouragement nor rebuke—neither caresses nor censures—which could only be provocatives in either case. Had you been simply HONEST, you would have said—this is not War, nor are these soldiers; but if these people imagine that their undisciplined valor is to inaugurate a new era in military science, they will go on slaughtering each other for half a century. Let us show them we are not of their mind, and they will come to their senses. Why, the very mockery of the names they apply to their generals discloses the whole nature of the imposition. The young Napoleon McClellan! The Decatur this—the Wellington that—what are all these but the confession of a rivalry that has long galled them? They would resemble with native performers the grand battle-pieces of the First Empire, and just as all their splendor and luxury are an insult to our Word extravagance, so would they make even their glory a travestie of the French article.

'Ex quovis ligno non fit Mercurius;' and so you can not make marshals of Finance out of drab-coated Philadelphians or pedantic Bostonians, no more than you can make the very names of their battle fields ring in verse.

Think of Rancocus, Little Lick, Spottsylvania and Funksville, and ask a Yankee laureate to commemorate them. What are poets to do with Manassas-no-ough, and Bull's Run, and Orange Court-House redolent as they are of tobacco juice and the tobacco quid?

In the report of a Mansion-House speech of Lord Palmerston's, just before me, I see that his lordship says he 'knows human nature will not long permit the deadly and disastrous strife to continue.' Now I am ready to concede a much larger knowledge for the noble Viscount as to what human nature is capable of than any I myself possess; but to what section of human nature he refers, and to what precise action it is to be in the premises, I confess I am ignorant. There is a very considerable element of human nature engaged in this same strife, and a much larger one on side evenmore interested in its continuance. How Lord Palmerston's other friends in human nature are to intervene, I am curious to know. Perhaps, as ladies say about mending silk, it can be done somehow with a spring; so his Lordship may vaguely ascribe the same unlimited resources to this agent. If so, I yield the point, and am quite ready to believe that the American conflict will cease whenever human nature has had enough of it.

Railway Meeting in Brantford.

MR. WOODS' BILL CONDEMNED.

BRANTFORD, Feb. 7, 1865.

At a large and influential meeting of the ratepayers of the town of Brantford, held in the Town Hall, this evening, to consider what is known here as Woods' Railway Amalgamation Bill, the following resolutions were unanimously passed:—

Moved by A. B. Bennett, seconded by Wm. Matthews, That this meeting view with astonishment and alarm the present proceedings now taking place in Parliament in reference to legalizing the the contract of amalgamation of the Grand Trunk and Buffalo and Lake Huron Railways, thereby, in said agreement, jeopardizing the rights and interests of the bondholders; and further—

Resolved, That this meeting take immediate steps to counteract this movement, and request the Mayor and Council to petition Parliament to protect our rights, and action to be taken by the Council forthwith.

Resolved, That memorials to our representative in Parliament is advocating this railway measure so evidently in opposition to the best interests of our town, and if the report of the Parliamentary proceedings, as published in the Toronto Globe and the Leader of this date in reference to this matter, be true, we have just cause of suspicion of his motives, and deem him no longer worthy of our confidence as our representative.

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting are justly due and are hereby tendered to Dr Bown, member for East Brant, for his timely move in deferring the consideration of this Railway Bill until the subject matter could be duly brought before them and duly considered.

Resolved, That the Mayor and Town Council be requested to meet at early hour to morrow evening, to execute the petition as set forth in the resolutions passed to that effect.

Resolved, That a copy of the resolutions passed by this meeting be sent by telegraph to the Toronto Globe and Leader, with a request that they will publish forthwith.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada in Parliament assembled:—

The petition of the ratepayers of the Town of Brantford, in public meeting assembled, held on Tuesday evening, the seventh day of February, 1865, in the Town Hall,

Humbly Sheweth:—

The we have read the Bill proposed to be passed by the Legislature of this Province, for the purpose of legalizing a certain agreement made between the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada and the Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway, bearing date the 7th day of July last.

That if the said Bill should become law, we consider that the same will meterially interfere with the rights and interests held by us in the Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway, by virtue of our holding upwards of four hundred thousand dollars of the bonded debt of the said Railway.

We, therefore, pray that your honourable body will be pleased to throw out the said Bill, and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Signed) JAS. WEYMS, Chairman.
THOS. JAMES, Secretary.

The Railway Amalgamation Bill.

In the House of Assembly on the 6th inst., Mr. Wood moved the second reading to the bill to legalize and confirm an agreement made between the Grand Trunk railway company. (Cries of "Explain explain.") He said, so far as the public were concerned, this bill went no further than was already authorized by the 131st clause of the Railway Act, that the directors of any railway company might enter into any agreement for 21 years for the regulation of traffic passing over their railways. There was a clause in the agreement which provided that during the term of six years the Grand Trunk company might buy up the share capital of the Buffalo and Lake Huron company for a certain sum. That was a power already on the statute book. The act was required because it contained a domestic arrangement between the creditors and the shareholders of the Buffalo and Lake Huron company that did not concern the public at all.

Mr. Mackenzie objected to the bill because it was not the first but one of a series for the purpose of placing the whole railway interests of Canada in the hands of one corporation. The member for West Brant had told them that the bill was merely intended to prevent the bondholders into whose hands the bonds of the company might fall, from adopting any measure to upset the agreement.

Mr. Wood—I said nothing of the kind. I said it was to carry out a domestic arrangement between themselves.

Mr. Mackenzie repeated that the power was wanted to compel the bondholders to stand by this agreement for 21 years, no matter how much they might find it to their disadvantage. The House to vote away the rights of these bondholders and the interests of Western Canada. The object was to bring about an amalgamation of all the railways in the country. He was prepared to facilitate the passing of any act to make running arrangements between these companies work harmoniously, but he must oppose this bill which was mainly designed to surround the Great Western with a pressure which would make it succumb to that gigantic corporation, the Grand Trunk Railway.

Mr. Shanly said the bill had only been distributed to-day. He thought discussion should be postponed till the members had time to consider it.

Mr. Wood hoped the House would allow the bill to go to the railway committee. He was astonished that the member for Lambton should have so far forgotten himself as to have made such an outrageous misrepresentation to this House. It was not true that the bill would have the effect of voting away the rights of bondholders. The bill was petitioned for by all the bondholders to ratify an agreement they had entered into.

Mr Mackenzie said what he meant was that the object of the bill was to prevent any bondholders, into whose hands the bonds might fall hereafter, from interfering with the agreement.

Mr. Wood went on to deny that the bill was in any way designed to make the Great Western succumb to the Grand Trunk company. But on the other hand it had been the policy of the Great Western for years past to crush the Buffalo and Lake Huron road and make it bankrupt. The Buffalo company had a right under the statute to make these running arrangements with the Grand Trunk, and the bill was not sought for that purpose, but while running the road for some years past, the proprietors had incurred certain bonded debts, and the creditors, as best they could do, had entered into this agreement, and asked the House to pass this bill.

Mr. Dunkin said the bill was one of a most extraordinary character. A private agreement entered into between two companies was embodied in it, so as to have the same effect as an Act of Parliament. It gave power to the two companies to raise an unlimited amount of new capital for joint purposes, which was to have a preference over everything else. The seventh section provided that the agreement should subsist for 21 years, and be without prejudice to the existing agreement of December, 1863; this other agreement at that time proposed to be legalized the House had not seen.

Mr Wood—It does not legalize that agreement. It merely says "Without prejudice to it."

Mr Dunkin said the bill did not expressly affirm it, but mentioned it in a way which implied approbation. In the next place, it gave the Grand Trunk the option of buying up, within six years, body and bones of the Buffalo and Lake Huron railroad.

Mr. Wood said the Grand Trunk had that power now.

Mr. Dunkin—If so, why seek further authority?

Mr. Macfarlane urged that the bill should stand over.

Dr. Down, in the interests of the town of Brantford, which would be very materially affected by the bill, also urged its postponement, to allow his constituents time to understand the effect.

Mr. Dickson also urged for postponement. He complained that large quantities of produce were lying unmoved along the line of the Buffalo and Lake Huron railroad. At Seaforth alone, there were 110,000 bushels of wheat in that position. The Buffalo and Lake Huron proper had between 400 and 500 freight cars before the arrangement, and of these all he could trace the week before he left home, as employed on the Buffalo and Lake Huron was 39; all the rest had been placed on the Grand Trunk.

The motion was then postponed till this day week.

Harbors on Lake Huron.

In his place in the Legislative Council on the 3rd inst., Hon. Mr. Macpherson inquired what amount of expenditure was intended to be made by the Government during the ensuing season, in the improvement and construction of harbors on the coast in the County of Bruce? With the permission of the House, the hon. gentleman proceeded to offer some remarks in connection with his inquiry. He said he might state for the information of the House that there was not one harbor on the coast of Bruce where a vessel, even of the smallest size, could load with safety, and the farmers of the county were, in consequence, subjected to considerable loss in the exportation of their wheat, of which staple the county exported annually not less than 750 000 bushels. He did not think a stronger reason than the extent of this export could be offered to justify the Government in making the necessary outlay to supply this so much felt want of harbors in Bruce. By their absence, the farmers of the locality were losers to the extent of five cents a bushel on their wheat, owing to the increased distance of transportation, and the loss to the county amounted to not less than $75,000 a year. Owing to the want of a harbor of refuge, the annual loss by shipwreck on this coast was also considerable. Last year, twelve vessels were wrecked, with their entire cargoes, and the loss by these disasters amounted to $250,000, besides several valuable lives. He ought also to state that an order in Council had been passed last year, ordering the survey of the coast for the purpose of selecting sites for harbors, but he was not aware what action had resulted from the step.

Hon. Mr. Campbell said that the necessity of establishing harbors on the coast of Bruce had long since impressed itself on the Government, and the only question now was as to the best situation for them. An order in Council had been passed to send a surveyor to the locality with a view to the selection of a site for the establishment of a harbor for commercial purposes and as a harbor of refuge. No report had yet been received, but when it came, he had no doubt that the necessary steps would be taken to carry out the work as soon as possible. As to the amount of expenditure, it was impossible to foresee it at present, but he might say that at all events it would be reasonable. The necessity of these harbors was recognised by the Government, and they would do all in their power to meet the want.

Provincial Parliament.

QUEBEC, Feb. 7.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

After routine business, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Confederation resolutions, Hon. Mr Campbell being the first speaker, followed by Hon Mr. Currie.

The House adjourned at 6.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

The following bills were introduced and read a first time:—Mr. Wood, to authorize the admission of George Thomas Webster as a barrister and attorney for Upper Canada; Mr. Currie, to incorporate the Ottawa skating and curling club; Mr. Bourassa, to amend Lower Canada act concerning abuses prejudicial to agriculture.

Mr. McIntyre moved for a number of returns relating to the trade and finances of the several Provinces proposed to be united in the Federal Union of British North America.—Carried.

Mr. M. C. Cameron moved that it be referred to the Committee on printing to make arrangements for the printing of the debates on the Confederation.—Carried.

Mr. Brown moved the re-appointment of the Committee of last Session on the promotion of agriculture, to consist of Messrs. Brown, McGee, M. Keller, Dorion, Perrau, Pope, Stirton, Wilson, Wallbridge, Chapais, and Dickson.—Carried.

Mr. Brown then moved that a message be sent to the Upper House praying them to concur in the appointment of a joint Committee on Agriculture.—Carried.

The House then resumed the adjourned debate, on the motion of Attorney-General Macdonald, for the adoption of an Address based on the Confederation resolutions; Attorney-General Cartier being the first speaker.

Feb. 8th.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Mr Somerville moved that the time for receiving petitions for private bills be extended to the 23rd inst., for receiving private bills to the 2nd March, and for receiving reports on private bills to the 16th of March—Carried.

Mr McFarlane introduced a bill re pecting the Canadian Land and Emigration Company, (limited)

In reply to Mr M C Cameron,

Atty-Gen. McDonald said it was not the intention of Government to introduce any measure during the present session for the payment of witnesses in criminal cases in Upper Canada.

Mr A McKenzie moved an address for a return of the fees and emoluments of registrars in certain counties of Upper Canada.—Carried.

On motion of Mr Dunkin, the Bill to establish the validity of acts performed in Canada by certain clergymen ordained in foreign parts, was read a third time and finally passed.

A number of Bills were then read a second and third time, after which the House adjourned.

Another Great Fire in Montreal.

A GIRL LEAPS FOR LIFE!

About 1 o'clock on Tuesday morning a fire broke out in a building opposite the Court House, owned by the Hon. James Ferrier, and occupied by Mr. Marcon, a furrier, who, with his wife, child and servant, slept on the third storey. The stair was on fire, and the e was no way of getting down. There was another family of four on the storey above the shop. They appeared at the window shrieking for help, whilst the flames were rushing up. Ladders were obtained, and the family on the lower flat were got down, but the ladders were too short to reach the third. They were spliced, and then reached far enough. The child was thrown down on blanket held by the spectators. The girl, in terror, leaped from the third storey, and fell on the snow, but sustained no fatal injury. The building was gutted. It was insured in the Queen's. Mr. Marcon's stock was insured for $2000 in the London and Lancashire. The cause of the fire is not known.—*Globe.*

Startling News from France.

"Druid," in his last letter, sends some news to the *World*, which, if true, is of a striking importance. He says a bearer of despatches from Mr Slidell in Paris to the Confederate government arrived recently at Richmond. The purport of his despatches is said to be a full confirmation of the statement heretofore made, to the effect that the government of France will recognize the South as an independent power early in March. This assurance is said to have been officially communicated to Mr Slidell by the Emperor's minister of foreign affairs. The reason that Drouyn D L'Huys caused to be conveyed to Mr. Slidell is that it has been the practice of all the nations of Europe to recognize the government *de facto* of a country; and that the Emperor can no longer close his eyes to the fact that the Confederate government, as administered by Mr. Davis at Richmond, is the government *de facto* of the Southern States. A period of four years of war, carried on with all the vast superiority of land and naval forces possessed by the North, has been, in the opinion of the imperial government, quite long enough to decide on the one hand the inability of the North to subjugate the South; and on the other, the ability of the South to maintain its independence. The Emperor is convinced, therefore, that all attempts on the part of the North to subjugate the South, will be fruitless, and that the latter, unaided could continue the struggle successfully for many years.

☞ The Guelph Town Council has adopted strong resolutions against Amalgamation, and will petition Parliament to throw out Mr. Wood's Bill.

CONTEMPORARIES.—The Essex *Journal* adopted the cash system, on entering upon its sixth year, which was last week; and states that as a first step, 132 "deadheads" had to be cast adrift. The Stratford *Beacon* now publishes an excellent supplement, in addition to its regular weekly issue. Both are beautifully printed. The mechanical part of the *Beacon* could not be better. The Huron *Signal* announces the commencement of its 18th volume; and speaks favorably of its prospects. All three of our contemporaries have our best wishes for their success.—*Spectator.*

Extensive Fire in Philadelphia.

2,000 BARRELS OF OIL BURNED.

Philadelphia, Feb. 8.

A large fire commenced about 3 o'clock, this morning, in a coal oil works on Ninth and Federal streets. About 50 dwellings have been consumed, occupying two squares on both sides of Ninth street, besides a few on Federal and Wharton streets. Fifteen lives are reported lost. The streets were at that time flooded with snow-water and oil. The oil ran along the streets in full blaze, setting fire the lower portions of dwellings and preventing the escape of the inmates. Four children are said to have perished in one house.

How Things are done out West.

A Yankee traveller who saw the live Hoosier, wrote to his mother as follows:—

'Western people,' said he 'go to their death on etiquette. You can't tell a man here he lies, as you do down east, without fighting. A few days ago a man was telling his neighbors, in my hearing, a pretty large story.

Says I 'Stranger that's a whopper?'

Says he, 'Lay there, stranger!'

And in a twinkling of an eye I found myself in a ditch, the worse of wear and tear. Upon another occasion, says I to a man I never saw before, as a woman passed:

'That isn't a specimen of your western women I should think.'

Says he, 'you are afraid of fever and ague, stranger, ain't you?'

'Very much,' said I.

'Well,' replied he, 'that lady is my wife, and if you don't apologize in two minutes, by the honor of a gentleman I swear that these two pistols (which he held in his hand) shall cure you of that disagreeable disorder entirely—so don't fear, stranger.'

So I knelt down and politely apologized. I admire the western country much, but confound me if I can stand so much etiquette—it always takes me so unawares.

The following beautiful lines, says *Once a Week*, are said to have been written by Mary Queen of Scots, a few days before her death:—

O Domine Deus, speravi in te!
O care mi Jesu, nunc libera me!
In dura catena, in misera poena,
Desidero te;
Languendo, gemendo, et genuflectendo,
Adoro, imploro, ut liberes me.

The musical sweetness of the Latin is scarcely translatable into English; but in default of a better, I subjoin an imitation:—

My Lord and my God, my one hope and stay,
My Jesus, thou dearest, O take me away;
In the bonds of my anguish, the woe of my pain,
I have longed but for thee—let me