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The Huron Signal

DEVOTED TO COUNTY NEWS AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

THIRTY-FOURTH YEAR.
WHOLE NUMBER 2225.

FRIDAY, DEC. 11th, 1885.

CHAIRMAN DOYLE'S SPEECH

License commissioner Doyle's address on the Scott Act, which we give pretty fully this week, is deserving of close, analytical reading. His modest claims for his past work in the temperance field will let go, by merely saying that there are several old temperance workers who do not yield the palm for these campaigns to Mr. Doyle. His confession that his defeat for a re-election changed his attitude on the temperance question is one that only a very testy disposition would acknowledge. A fanatic, according to his reasoning is one who labors for temperance free; a practical temperance man is one who uses the temperance cry for place, and when unsuccessful turns around upon his old-time associates.

He fails to see the difference between private life and public character. The charges against the inspectors are made against them in their capacity as officials, not as private citizens. All the inspectors might be sworn total abstainers, and yet be utterly worthless so far as a vigorous and effective prosecution of offenders is concerned.

Mr. Doyle was too hasty in his assertion that not one single charge had been specified. Had he waited until the deposition, which had been hastily called together, had spoken all its mind to the matter, he would have heard specific charges enough. As it was he did hear some. The temperance people are ready and willing to make any specific charges before a government commission or an independent tribunal, but the board of commissioners will need to be rid of much partizanship before a committee of gentlemen will go before them to be treated as prisoners in the dock. The report of the inspectors will show that sufficient charges were made to satisfy the public, if not the board, that there is gross criminal neglect by the duly appointed officials in this county to fairly enforce the Scott Act.

The chairman of the board blames the people for the failure to enforce the law. It was the people who should furnish the information. If the officials explain the people to do half the work, will the officials give the people half the salary? The challenge we point out a single case where the inspectors had refused to prosecute cases, was promptly accepted by Rev. T. M. Campbell, to the confusion and silence of commissioners and inspectors on that point afterwards. Mr. Doyle's fling at temperance men in bars as a childish one. Are there such things as bar rooms now? If so, whose whose fault is it? Is it a crime to sit in a hotel, and smoke a cigar or drink a glass of lemonade? It may be, but it may not be. But the chairman gives away the two hotel keeping liquor vendors in town (one of them his own brother), when he attempts to make out that a hotel bar-room under the Scott Act is a place where no temperance man should patronize.

The appeal to the temperance people to ask for an increase of salary for the poor inspectors is really laughable. Why, these patriots say they are not working for money. Let them earn their present salary first.

The "Cooks Act," we agree with Mr. Doyle, is a good one, but it is its honest administration, raising anything like the Scott Act. The Scott Act, under similar administration, would be a social jewel.

The quiet sneer at the meeting being one of women, we can let go with the remark, that one of the commissioners is elected by the county council, which is now yearly elected by the votes of women, and they have a perfect right to take a part (and they always do it modestly and decently) in temperance work. Mr. Doyle forgot about the sneer at the meeting which adopted the memorial when he pleaded as an excuse for not giving a license to druggists that some ladies had come to him and asked him not to give a license to a certain druggist. The women appear to better advantage in this matter than the chairman of the board does. Their advice for the druggist goes should be also for the inspector's gender.

The excuse offered by the commissioner for his action in refusing to give licenses to respectable druggists in preference to hotel keepers (one of whom in this town had been time and again a violator of the Cocks Act while holding a license) was a very poor one. It was not thought by the public at the time that any such action would be taken. It had caused astonishment everywhere from Goderich to Ottawa. The commissioners do not wink at violations, they close both eyes. And perhaps just here it would be in order to ask, how does commissioner Doyle know that the inland revenue laws are being transgressed in Huron? He should give Mr. Cavan and Mr. Spence all the information, just as he expects the temperance people to inform the commissioner and inspectors of violations of the Canada Temperance Act. Mr. Doyle's remarks can be summed up as follows:— "The average liquor seller is more to be trusted than the average druggist."

Mr. Doyle's conduct towards Rev. T. M. Campbell was such as needs a public apology. There was not a member of the delegation who would have addressed a clergyman of the chairman's

NEWS ABOUT HOME.

A chief among ye, taken notes
An faith he'll print it.

Winter scenes, summer scenes, inside views, outside views, good photographs and first class picture framing at Geo. Stewart's studio, at Mrs. C. H. Girvin's, Hamilton St. Don't fail to call.

The recent sudden change in the weather brought every one of us into the street, and the birds are away down. They will give the usual discount to teachers and others getting up Christmas trees. "The cheapest house under the sun."

You will save money by getting your toys at J. G. Goderich, of a large assortment, and at rock bottom prices. A large discount given to parties getting up Xmas trees, cord-wood taken in exchange for furniture. Furniture from 15 to 25 per cent lower than any other house in the town.

The beautiful snow came a little too numerously at the start. The modelles have been undergoing examination this week. The lights will be put out for the season on Saturday morning.

W. H. Jacob, of Guelph, is the guest of his old friend, R. Bonnamy. The "gunned school" have had to come into vogue since our last issue.

Mr. J. H. Richards is at present the guest of her father, Wm. Biset, Wolfe street. We are pleased to learn that Capt. Ed McGrover is gradually getting around again.

Joseph Kidd, of the International salt works, has just returned home after a fortnight's business trip. The grand juryman was in town this week. He was numerous, and could be found almost everywhere.

Captain Ed Robertson, of the United Empire, was in town during the week, looking as fine as the flowers in May. J. G. Goderich, of Clinton, has resigned his position of school trustee, for St. George's ward, Goderich. Better late than never.

J. W. Smith, shoe maker left yesterday for North Carolina, to spend the winter. He will be missed in Sunday school on the 13th inst.

Rev. Dr. Williams, general superintendent of the Methodist church, is lying dangerously ill at Toronto of congestion of the lungs. A couple of young blades tried to get a hotel keeper to break the law on Friday last, and were ejected from the hotel for their impudence.

Robt. McLean is going largely into the packing of pork. Farmers who are raising hogs for market will be money ahead if they make a note of his advertisement.

Mr. Emerson, of the Peterboro Examiner, is the short-handed man who is taking the notes of the county court proceedings this week. He is a writer of Isaac Pitman's system.

Alck Strathan, the popular young Brussels merchant, was in town during the week serving the Queen as a juryman. He reported that his town was keeping up its end.

Now is the time to look around and choose your municipal candidates and school trustees. In a couple of weeks there will be blood on the face of the moon, in all probability. No sensible man should get angry because a newspaper man duns him for money. A dun is not an impeachment of a subscriber's integrity, but is simply an outcropping of a publisher's necessity.

THE POLICE MAGISTRATE.

By a Majority of Ten the County Council
Decides to Have One Without Salary.

Shortly after the council met at 4 p.m. on Friday, the question of the appointment of a police magistrate for the county without salary loomed up. At first it didn't appear to be as big as a man's hand, but it soon assumed proportions, and it took a square vote of the council to settle it finally. It started in this fashion:—

It was proposed that the county council ask the government to grant the prayer of the temperance people's petition.

Mr. Hayes—What right have we to ask, if it is without salary?

Mr. McMillan—We have just as good a right to ask the government to grant the prayer of that petition as we have to ask it for anything else. It had been one of the strong objections against the appointment that it was going to entail a great cost upon the county. It was reasonable to ask the local government to do this, as they had taken similar action in the county of Dufferin.

Mr. Clegg would like to know what was the prayer of the petition. It ought to be before the council.

Mr. Wilson replied that the prayer of the petition was to appoint John Beattie without a salary.

The warden also thought the petition should be before the chair.

Mr. Cook—The motion qualifies itself, and asks that the police magistrate be appointed in accordance with the petition of the Scott Act association, and have him without salary. He thought the motion should pass without discussion.

They had the president of the association before them, and he had stated distinctly what the petition had asked for. They should accept the word of honor of the reverend of Seaford, and carry the motion without a dissenting voice.

Mr. H. Elber was afraid that if the petition was granted the council might still be responsible for such expenses as constables' fees and rent, etc. The county solicitor should be asked on this point.

The warden—I asked the county solicitor yesterday if the police magistrate was appointed without salary would we have to pay him, and he said we will have to pay him.

Mr. Wilson said the question was, would the council consent itself to salary or not? To settle all doubt and dispute the matter should be submitted to the county solicitor.

Mr. Johnston said he understood that the government would appoint Mr. Beattie without salary.

Mr. McMillan said the government would not take any action without some action from the county council. They were waiting the action of the council.

THE SINGING EVANGELIST.

The revival services during the week have been of a most interesting and satisfactory nature, and many have testified to good results. The union services will be continued in Knox church next week, under the management of Rev. Mr. Crossley. All are invited.

The funeral of the late Mr. Joseph Heaton, of St. Peter's, was held on Thursday last. The old gentleman lived a very retired life, and died at the age of 86 years. He was a native of Germany, and amassed quite a fortune in his younger days as a jeweller. He has left several large bequests.

G. N. Macdonald, lighthouse keeper at Macdonald, has been granted leave of absence for two months. G. N. will take in New York city and other points of interest. He is a strange man, in George, who has been in the "summer hall" days after the leaves have turned. We wish him a pleasant trip and a real good time.

The Manitoulin *Expositor* says:—A square-stemmed sail boat drifted into Providence Bay last week. Near where the boat struck land two hales were found, one a man's and the other a woman's, while a little further out the sails were discovered. The boat is supposed to be a Goderich fishing skiff.

A week from next Monday will be nomination day for the township in this county. The village nominations for councillors and school trustees will take place one week later. The elections, both in the townships and the village, will take place on the first Monday in the new year.

A *Colt's Trip*—Mr. T. E. Calvert met with an accident on Sunday morning last while on his way to Leeburn church to preach. When near the house of E. Shaw the horse got stuck in a snow drift, and upon Mr. Calvert getting out to assist the animal it plunged out of the drift and left the driver in the deep snow. The horse was secured by S. Gibson, who afterwards came to the help of the pastor. The day was very cold, a blizzard was blowing, and Mr. Calvert was almost killed by the horse when the cold lake shore drive was nearly blocked. He was taken into Mr. Shaw's house, and restored to warmth and comfort, but was unable to fulfil his public engagement. Owing to the heavy snow storm only about a score of persons assembled in the church, and in the absence of the pastor, R. E. Brown conducted a brief service.

NEWS ABOUT HOME.

Miss McConnell, of Sarnia, spent this week with her sister, Mrs. G. C. Robertson.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception was solemnized at St. Peter's on Tuesday last, the 8th inst. on Tuesday evening next (Dec. 15th) instead of Wednesday as previously intended. Carriages at 7:30 p.m. as usual.

Dr. Nicholson, the West street dentist, has procured a nitrous oxide apparatus, and is prepared to furnish fresh gas, or, as some call it, "vitalized air," from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., by which means teeth can be extracted without pain.

We were glad to notice on the square on Friday Capt. Murdoch McDonald, of the schr. Mary Gordon. He states that his vessel is not much damaged. \$200 will put her in good order again. The vessel is now in Sauguen, where she will be repaired in the spring.

The following vessels are laid up for the season in Goderich harbor:—Steam barge City of Montreal, schooners Ariel, Midland Rover, Koffler, Evening Star, Rathbun, Garibaldi, Todman, Florence, Sligo, Ontario, dredge Challenge, tug Trudeau and James Clark.

Andrew Denholm, formerly of the Kincardine *Standard*, gave us a fraternal call on Wednesday. He looks hale and hearty, and is undecided yet where he will locate. Mr. Denholm was the guest of P. Adamson, county clerk, during his stay here.

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