

HURON STEEL

TEN MILLINGS "THE GREATEST POSSIBLE GOOD TO THE GREATEST POSSIBLE NUMBER." TWELVE AND SIX PENCE AT THE END OF THE YEAR. VOLUME III. GODERICH, COUNTY OF HURON, (C. W.) THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1850. NUMBER IX.

Poetry.

From the London Weekly Times. THE WORLD IS FULL OF BEAUTY.

There is a voice within me,
And 'tis no sweet a voice,
That he who sings in me,
Till tears start to mine eyes;
Deep from my soul it springs,
Like hidden music, and
And evermore it sings
This song of love to me—
"This world is full of beauty,
As other worlds above;
And if we did our duty,
It might be full of love!"
If faith and loving kindness
Passed coin 'twixt heart and heart,
Old Ripley's dark blindness
And smiles would depart.
If men were more forgiving,
"Were kind words of an spoken,
Instead of scorn so giving,
There would be few heart-broken,
Whose plenty's round is smiling,
Why makes this cry for bread?
Why are crushed millions toiling,
Giant-clothed in rags—unfed?"
The sunny hills and valleys
Blush ripe with fruit and grain,
But the wealthy in the palace
Still robe his fellow men.
O God! what hosts are trampled
Amid this press of gold,
What noble hearts are supped of life,
What spirits lose their hold!
And yet upon this God-blessed earth
The poor man for every one;
The peasant's food will please,
To waste, not in the sun;
For the world is full of beauty,
As other worlds above;
And if we did our duty,
It might be full of love!

REMEMBRANCES.

She stands beside the open drawer;
What does she see the matron there?
A broken ring, a picture case,
A tress of auburn hair,
With many a letter, stained and worn,
The records of the past;
Of days of spring-time happiness,
That were too bright to last.
Why starts the lady thus aside,
As if some voice she heard?
Those few pale faded lily flowers,
What thoughts can they have stirred,
Save memories of a forest walk,
Or garden tangled o'er,
Or plashings of the mountain brook,
Beside her father's door?
"I thought they had led the flames
Upon my bridal day;
That summer winds had borne their dust
With life's young hopes away;
Why comes this shadow from the past
To mock my calmer hours?
Oh, would that every memory
Could wither like the flowers!"
She hears her children's laughing play
Beside their father's knee,
The lady's heart is far away
Across the Indian sea,
Her English home lies far abroad,
Her heart is in the grave.

AGRICULTURE.

HOW TO IMPROVE OUR COUNTRY.

No country can ever exhibit any signs of "ruin and decay" whose fields are well cultivated, producing clean and excellent crops whose pastures are covered with good herbage, and stocked with a good and suitable description of animals of every variety required, ample meadows to afford winter food for these animals, convenient and well constructed farm buildings, and a sufficient variety of suitable agricultural implements of the best description. If this were generally the case in Canada there could not be any signs of "ruin and decay" in either town or country. It is such a prosperous state of the country and her agriculture that would re-open the stores that are closed, and tenant the houses that are now empty, in our cities; and we feel persuaded that those who expect to re-open stores, and tenant empty houses by any other means than by the improvement of the agriculture of the country, will be disappointed. Every country must create its own means of expenditure, unless they find some other country to bestow them the means. This is a fact that cannot be too generally known, or too well understood, and all the philosophy and political economy in the world cannot disprove it. It would require a long explanation to show how this is the case directly and indirectly. The amount of the income of individuals from other countries, and that brought by emigrants to Canada, is an exception to this

general rule, both of these not being created in this country, and may be expended here, but this amount is not very considerable, although a great advantage so far as it goes, to increase the real annual income of the country. However capital may be employed, it cannot fail to be useful. It may not be profitable to the individuals who expend it, but after it passes from their hands it may go into channels that will make the very best and most profitable use of it for the country. The mode of employing capital is of very great consequence as regards the general benefit it may produce to a country; when direct and judiciously employed in creating a new produce; it must be infinitely better than by any less direct mode. By direct application to production, a new value is created at once, and the money expended for its creation has already gone into new channels of employment. The improvement and prosperity of agriculture is retarded and checked, because it has to wait for capital, and it creates it, or accumulates it from a surplus. Hence it is that a farmer may wait all his life for the necessary capital to effect improvements that would double his annual production.—There are some parties who have overcome these difficulties, but it is only when they have great energy, perseverance, and a good idea of their business. It is almost impossible for ordinary farmers, on worn-out and exhausted farms, to improve their condition without some means to commence with.—The amount might not be large that would enable them to better their condition very soon, but something is required, and for this purpose, and to supply this want we have suggested the expediency of introducing "Associations of Agricultural Credit" in Canada, which would benefit every class by the general improvement it would produce.—*L. Canada Agricultural Journal.*

GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGEMENT TO AGRICULTURE IN BELGIUM.

The Belgian Government has taken measures to propagate in the country the methodical improvement of the land by means of subsoil drainage, which has lately been found so beneficial in England. Machines have been constructed and conveyed to different points of the kingdom for the manufacture of the tiles necessary for carrying off the water, as well as the tools required for the construction of the trenches. A complete treatise on drainage has been written, and will shortly be published. Lastly, an engineer (M. Leclaire), from the first School of Civil Engineers of Ghent, has been sent into this country to study all the details of the new system; after a sojourn of some months this officer has just returned to Belgium, furnished with all the necessary knowledge; he will be in communication with all landowners or farmers who may desire to make trial of his plans. A decree issued by the Minister of the Interior regulates the conditions under which the works are to be carried on. A society has been formed to demonstrate the good effects of subsoil drainage, to enable proprietors more easily to construct the works, and to collect information treating of the new system; some of the richest landed proprietors have already enrolled their names as members. The Minister of the Interior has placed M. Leclaire at the disposition of this society.

THE TEMPERANCE CAUSE.

BY T. S. ARTHUR.

"Dear father," said Mary Edwards, "don't go out this evening; and the young girl, who had hardly numbered fourteen years, laid her hand upon the arm of her parent."
But Mr. Edwards shook her off impatiently, muttering as he did so—
"Can't I go where I please?"
"Oh, yes, father," urged Mary, drawing up to him again, notwithstanding her repulse. "But there is going to be a storm and I wouldn't go out."
"Storm! Nonsense! That's only your pretence. But I'll be home soon—long before the rain, if it comes at all."
And saying this, Mr. Edwards turned from his daughter and left the house. As soon as she was alone, Mary sat down and commenced weeping. There had been sad changes since she was ten years old. In that time her father had fallen into the habits of intemperance, and not only wasted his substance but abused his family; and, sadder still, her mother had died broken-hearted, leaving her alone in the world with a drunken father.
The young girl's trials, under these painful circumstances, were great. Night after night, her father would come home intoxicated, and it was so rare a thing for her to get a kind word from him that a tone of affection from his lips would move her instantly to tears. Daily the works of drunkenness went on. Drunkenness led to idleness, and gradually Mr. Edwards and his daughter sunk lower and lower in the scale of comfort. The pleasant home where they had lived for years was given up, and

"Sadly my wife bowed her beautiful head!"
How suddenly rose before him the sorrow-stricken form of the wife of his youth at these words, and when the old man's voice faltered on the line—
"Poor broken-hearted! 'twas well that she died!"
The anguish of his spirit was so great, that he only kept himself from sobbing aloud by a strong effort at self-control. Ere the spell was broken, or self-uttered by any one, he arose and left the house.

For many minutes after her father's departure Mary sat weeping bitterly. She felt hopeless and desolate. Tenderly did she love her parent, but this love was only a source of the keenest anguish, for she saw him daily passing along the road to destruction without the power to save him. Grief wastes itself by its own violence. So it was in this instance. The tears of Mary were at length dried; her sobs were hushed, and she was about rising from the chair, when a blinding flash of lightning glared into the room, followed instantly by a deafening peal of thunder.

"Oh, if father were home!" she murmured, clasping her hands together.
Even while she stood in this attitude the door opened quietly, and Mr. Edwards entered.
"I thought you would be afraid, Mary, and so I came home," said he in a kind voice.
Mary looked at him with surprise. This was soon changed to joy as she perceived that he was perfectly sober.

"Oh, father!" she sobbed, unable to control her feelings, and leaning her face against his breast as she spoke—"if you would never go away!"
Tenderly the father drew his arms around his weeping child, and kissed her pure forehead.

"Mary," said he, as calmly as he could speak, "for your mother's sake—but he could not finish the sentence. His voice quivered, and became inarticulate.
Solemnly in the silence of his own heart, did the father, as he stood thus with his child in his arms, repeat the vows he had already taken. And he kept his vows.

Wonderful is the power of music! It is the heart's own language, and speaks to it in a voice of irresistible persuasion. It is a good gift from Heaven, and should ever be used in a good cause.

WILD REVENGE.—The Celtic legends, like the Celtic language, though deficient in terms of art and refinement, are peculiarly rich in the expression of the passions. Joy, grief, fear, love, hatred, and revenge glow thro' many an impassioned strain which still lingers by its original wild melody. On the shores of Mull a crag pointed out, overlooking the sea, concerning which there is the following tradition: Some centuries since, the chief of this district, Maclean, of Lochbay had a grand hunting excursion. To grace the festivity his lady attended, with her only child, an infant then in the nurse's arms. The deer, driven by the hounds, and hemmed in by surrounding rocks, flew to a narrow pass between the cliffs of Mull a crag, and chief had placed one of his men to guard the deer from passing; but the animal rushed with such impetuosity, that the poor forester could not withstand them. In the rage of the moment, Maclean thrust the man with instant death, but this punishment was commuted to a whipping and scourging in the face of his own clan, which, in those feudal times, was considered a degrading punishment fit only for the lowest of menials and the worst of crimes. The clansman burned with anger and fierce revenge. He rushed forward, plucked the infant from the nurse's arms, and, with his hands on his forehead, here the rocks in a moment stood on an almost inaccessible cliff projecting over the water. The screams of the agonized mother and only child were placed may be easily conceived. Maclean implored the man to give him back his son, and expressed his deep contrition for the degradation he had in a moment of excitement inflicted on his clansman. The other replied, that the only conditions on which he would consent to the restitution were, that Maclean should have his back to the cord, and be publicly scourged as he had been. In despair the chief consented, saying he would submit to anything if his child were but restored.

To the grief and astonishment of the clan Maclean bore this insult; and when it was completely finished, begged that the clansman might return from his perilous situation with the young chief. The man regarded him with a smile of demonic revenge, and lifting the child into the air, plunged with him into the abyss below.—The sea closed over them, and neither ever emerged from the tempestuous whirlpools and basaltic caverns that yawned over them and still threatened the inexperienced navigator on the shores of Mull.

THE END OF THE WORLD.—To-day, tomorrow every day, to thousands, the end of the world is at hand.
And why should we fear it? We walk here as it were, in the crystal of life; at times, from the great chrysalis above us, we hear the organ, the choir; we can see the lights stream through the open door when some friend goes up before us; and we shall far to meet the narrow staircase of the grave, that leads us out of this uncertain twilight into the serene mansions of life eternal!

RAILROADS.

Now that the excitement arising from the late contest in Halton has subsided, and the "clear grits" are exulting in their inglorious triumph,—when all that can be said on the subject of retrenchment, law reform, reciprocity and free trade, has been repeated over and over again,—and when the attention of government has been directed to the internal improvement of the Province, and which are calculated to increase both commercial and agricultural wealth and activity. Canada has too long allowed itself to be torn by political dissension, and in fluctuating and fluctuating political animosity her energies have been wasted, in what has proved too frequently, barren strife, instead of being directed to the prosecution and accomplishment of material improvements in facilitating the communication between its distant sections, shortening the road to a market, lessening the cost of transporting its produce, and in short, increasing the happiness of the people, by rendering them wealthier and surrounding them with more comforts. Possessing within her all the capabilities of supporting a numerous population, of supplying them abundantly with all the necessaries, and many of the luxuries of life, and becoming ultimately prosperous, prosperous and happy; she exhibits a picture no means encouraging, of capital misapplied, and efforts misdirected. Having secured a system of government based on liberal principles, adapted to promote the welfare of the governed; let us employ our utmost endeavors to develop the resources of our country, and we will not need to blush at a comparison with any state on the face of the globe.

The importance of laying open the peninsula, bounded by Lakes Erie, St. Clair and Huron, composed of a soil, inferior in fertility to none in America, has for many years impressed itself on the minds of all who have turned their attention to the subject. Two companies were formed to construct railroads from one extremity to the other, the Erie and Detroit River Company, and the Great Western Company, the former proposing the line from Berio to the Detroit River, the latter from Hamilton to the same place. Owing to this rivalry neither have succeeded in disposing of their stock, it being perfectly obvious that both could not prosper. The persevering tenacity of the Hamilton Company has prevented the other line from being carried through the Erie and Detroit River, and will have invested their money in an undertaking, which, if without competition, would have given a remunerating profit, and largely furthered American interests.

Through the Erie and Detroit River, an agreement was entered into between the two Companies on condition of his withdrawing the Bill to incorporate the Erie Company, that if all the stock of the Erie Company, that had been subscribed before January, 1850, no opposition would be offered to a charter after that time. It is now proposed that the road from Berio should join the Great Western line at Brantford.

This we conceive to be the best course. The objections to Hamilton for a terminus are the following:—One of the principal sources of the anticipated revenue of the road is, the amount which will be received for the conveyance of American travellers. For three months in the year these could not reach Hamilton, the Bay being frozen, and the long tract of country intervening between Buffalo and Hamilton being only travelled by roads which for the same time are almost impassable. That would seriously affect the receipts from this source.—The cost of constructing the 25 miles from Hamilton to Brantford would be sufficient to pay 100 miles from London eastward, as it would be necessary to rise from the level of Ontario to that of Erie. The expenditure of so large an amount of money at the very outset would tend to restrain the progress in an undertaking the probability of which would thus be rendered so questionable. If, to avoid another of the objections, it were proposed to connect Buffalo with Hamilton, then the road would require to descend from the level of Erie to that of Ontario, thereby doubling the expense without increasing the advantage.

Both of these obstacles are avoided by tracing the line in the shortest way from Brantford to the Niagara frontier,—the American tract is secured, and the additional expense caused by leaving and re-gaining the level of Lake Erie is saved.—This route presents few difficulties, and these not of a very startling aspect. As the whole line cannot be completed at once, it is a point of some interest to ascertain what part should be finished first. And here we do not think there can be two opinions on the subject. From Hamilton to London there is a good road—macadamized or plank,—and if the transit is not very speedy, it is at least secure. The portion west of London is, in bad weather, almost impassable, while at the same time the construction of a rail-road would be less expensive than on any other section of the line.—*Free Press.*

REMEDY TO PURIFY WATER.—It is not so generally known as it ought to be, that pounded alum poses the property to purify water. A large tablet of powdered alum, sprinkled into a hoghead of water, the water stirred round at the time, will after the lapse of a few hours, precipitating to the bottom the impure particles, so purify it that it will be found to possess nearly all the freshness and clearness of the purest spring water. A pailful, containing four gallons, may be purified by a single teaspoonful.

The first iron furnace erected in North America, was by Governor Spotsylvania, in 1730, in Spotsylvania county, Va. The largest hotel in America has just been completed in Cincinnati, at a cost of \$225,000. It will lodge 550 persons.

ARRIVAL OF THE NIAGARA.

New York, March 23rd, 1850.
The steamer Niagara has arrived at Halifax, with dates from Liverpool to the 9th.
The Europa arrived at Liverpool on the 3rd instant; the Hermann at Southampton on the 4th.
The political affairs of England present little of special interest.

FRANCE.

The anniversary of the Republic of the 26th of February passed off without disturbance.
The Minister of Finance states that the revenue will be adequate for the public service this year, without a new loan or increased taxes.
The Postmaster General opens all letters addressed to suspected persons. This conduct has given rise to a warm debate in the Assembly.

It is said that France and Russia are completely united upon the Greek question. It is stated that the French fleet in the Levant had sailed for the Greek coast.
We learn from the French Budget, just published, that the army is to be reduced to 408,000 men, and that the expenses of the nation are to be reduced \$4,000,000 francs.

The conduct of Lord Palmerston, in continuing the Greek blockade, is severely commented upon by all the English journals, and were it not for a belief which exists, that his Lordship has made a demonstration against Russia, his conduct would meet with general reprobation.
The Russian Government has presented an energetic remonstrance against the proceedings of the English Government, and public opinion is general that, if necessary, the Czar will give the Greeks sufficient support. The Russian note to the Minister at London says: "You will demand of Lord Palmerston to what extent he intends to employ force in support of his claims, in order that the allies of King Otto may be in a position to consider what means may be necessary for them to adopt to guarantee the independence of that March and his people."

The London Gazette says that a Queen's messenger passed through Milan on the 25th ultimo, with orders to Sir William Parker to cease hostilities against Greece. Her Majesty has authorized the publication of the following liberal rewards for the discovery of Sir John Franklin, viz: £20,000 to any one who will effectually relieve the crews of the ships; £10,000 for the relieving, or information that may lead to the relief of any of the crews; and £10,000 to any one who shall first succeed in ascertaining their fate.

Accounts from the manufacturing districts are not satisfactory, and many of the mills in Manchester and other places are working short time, and some stopped altogether. It is not believed that this is more than a temporary arrangement.
LAST NIGHT'S REPORT.
New York, March 23—7, P. M.
The Niagara arrived at Boston this morning.

INDIA.

The news from India is not important.—Commercially it is not so favorable from Bombay as indicated by previous advices.
THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.
The result of the elections were not known on Thursday.
The Government has established a censorship on all foreign books.
SWITZERLAND.
The menaces of the Swiss cantons have been renewed; but as France and Austria interfered, nothing serious is apprehended.

DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.

The report gains ground that the armistice is to be prolonged. It is currently reported that Denmark has concluded a private treaty with Prussia, by which the latter is to have the Island Roulholm for its port. It is said hostilities with Schleswig Holstein will be renewed.

TURKEY.

The Sultan proposes that the refugees shall be sent to Asia Minor for a period not exceeding one year. Kossoth and others are to be removed accordingly.

NAPLES.

Fears are entertained at Naples that Admiral Parker will pay his respects to the Neapolitans as soon as he leaves the Greek coast. Like fears are entertained at Madrid.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

The Vienna journals state that intelligence has been received from Transylvania, the Russians were assembling in considerable military force at the defile of Guerto, with the intention of again occupying Transylvania, so as to allow Austrian troops to pass through to Italy and the German frontier. Haynau has called out the national guards of such large towns as Presburg, to make up new levies of 20,000 troops. Many of the people left home in consequence, knowing that they would be obliged to escape. A few political prisoners have also escaped.
Large numbers of the Hungarian refugees

ADVERTISING. Advt. first insertion, 20 c. second insertion, 15 c. third insertion, 10 c. fourth insertion, 8 c. fifth insertion, 6 c. sixth insertion, 5 c. seventh insertion, 4 c. eighth insertion, 3 c. ninth insertion, 2 c. tenth insertion, 1 c. All advertisements, unless otherwise directed, will be taken out at the expiration of the time specified. Advertisements for the year, at a special rate. Advertisements for the year, at a special rate. Advertisements for the year, at a special rate.

are collecting on the frontiers, and are treated with great kindness by the Turks. PRUSSIA and the GERMAN STATES.

The *German Monitor*, of the 5th inst., publishes the names of the Members of State named by the Government. A formal protest was entered by the Consul of the Administration, against Haanover, for withdrawing from the alliance of the 26th May. A Danish war frigate and a bark have been seen cruising off Bolk.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The steamer *City of Glasgow* will sail from Glasgow, for New York, on the 9th. The Bishop of Exeter has been defeated, in his contest with the Rev. Mr. Gorham.

LAST DAYS OF LORD DURHAM.

(BY HARRIET MARTINEAU.)

"It was on a fine September day, on returning from a merry drive, that Lord Durham and his family and advisers received the news of the dissolution of the Ordinance. His friend and host, Mr. Charles Buller, knew before dinner—knew by his countenance more than by words—that all was over—that his great enterprise was ruined. When they sat down in consultation, that adviser and friend would fain have persuaded himself and others that all was not over. That this was the result of an intrigue was to them clear. The Ministers and Lord Durham had a deadly enemy, who had given notice of what they might expect. He declared that he would defend at Lord Melbourne's head; and Lord Melbourne and his comrades dared not withstand him even while the first lawyers in the empire disagreed as to whether the Ordinance was legal or illegal. What Sir John Colborne had done was approved or passed over and when in a most critical difficulty which Sir J. Colborne should never have thrown upon him, Lord Durham used without question, his watchful enemy seized his opportunity to scare his friends from supporting him, as they were pledged to do. Considering all this and that Lord Durham was to blame in not having furnished the Government at home with sufficient documentary material for his defence, Mr. C. Buller earnestly desired to hold out, for a high prize of success in retrieving the colony, and forming a new and sound colonial system. But he soon saw that Lord Durham was right in proposing to return. The Governor General had no health for such a struggle as this must now have been. Energy, decision were not always to be commended in the degree necessary under such unequalled difficulties; and death in the midst of the work was only too probable. Again—the colony was still in too restive and unsettled a state to be governed by an encumbered hand; and while unsupported at home, Lord Durham was a feeble ruler than Sir J. Colborne, whom he would leave in his place. Again—it was now clear that the true battle field of behalf of Canada was in Parliament. With his presence in his hand, Lord Durham could do more for Canada in the House of Lords than he could do at Quebec while the Lords made nightly attacks which drew rebuke even from the Duke of Wellington, and thwarted the policy which they did not understand. Thus, resignation was an act of self defence and stern necessity; but, if not so, it was an act of great fidelity to Canada. It was hastened by rumours of intended insurrection, which, under the circumstances, could be dealt with only by Sir J. Colborne. He did what he could to obviate to the colony the mischief done by friends and foes at home; and he did so much that he must ever be regarded as the originator of good government in the colonies. Rarely has a greater work been done in five months than the actual reforms he wrought in Canada; but he did much more by means of the Report which he delivered on his return. By means of this celebrated Report, free and large principles of colonial government were excited in action, and endowed with so communicable a character that there are none of our more thriving colonies that do not owe much of their special prosperity to him; and probably few in a worse condition if he had not gone to Canada. By the utmost diligence in the completion of his measures during the few weeks that remained—by every effort of self-control, and by the quiet operation of magnanimity—he averted as much as he could of the mischief done at home; but one fatal consequence went beyond his power. His heart was broken. No malice, no indifference, no levity can get rid of that fact; and it is one which should not be hidden.

"He held to his work to the last. On the night before his departure, a Proclamation settled the right of squatters on Crown Lands. As he went down to the harbour, crowds stretched as far as the eye could see—every head uncovered, and not a sound but of the carriage. This display of sympathy moved him strongly; and he believed that this was his last sight of an assemblage of men; for he had no idea that he could reach England alive. As the frigate, the *Inconstant*, was slowly towed out of the harbour, heavy snow clouds seemed to sink and settle upon her, while over the water came the sound of the cannon which installed his successor. Those of his Council who remained behind to clear off a rest of business, were alarmed, during their and silent dinner, by a report of fire on board the frigate; and a fire there was; but it was presently extinguished. There was no intimation of storm until the moment of landing at Plymouth, on the 1st December. While the ship was in harbour, the weather was so disastrous that there was difficulty to the Queen's messengers in finding any seagoers who would undertake to convey on board the *Inconstant* the packet of orders to Lord Durham without the honours. It was done by a boat being allowed to drive so that the packet could be thrown on board. He met honours in abundance, however, on his landing, and all the way to London—crowded public meetings—addresses—escorts—every token of confidence and attachment that could cheer his heart. There was great joy throughout the liberal party which he knew. They referred to his declarations to the people of Scotland in 1834 as his present creed. But he disapproved the liberal's by his unambiguous determination to devote himself to the retrieval of Canada, and to listen to nothing else till that was effected. Lady Durham immediately on her return resigned her

situation in the Queen's household. Great efforts were made to bring about a reconciliation between Lord Durham and the Whig government; and his generosity aided the attempt. He could afford to do it; for he had never spoken evil of his enemies. Nothing had thrown upon him more reproach to those who knew him than his slowness to give up hope in Lord Brougham, and his quickness in seizing on favourable explanations, of doubtful conduct. He was never required of his friends silence in both houses about his quarrel; and he was himself. While the newspapers of all parties were commenting on the weakness of the Whigs, and declaring they could not remain in power beyond Easter at the earliest—a curious bit of state—Lord Durham devoted himself only the more to the support of a ministry which, with all its sins and weaknesses, professed a liberal policy. He was soon joined by his coadjutors from Canada; and they worked together at the celebrated Report. There was more haste about small circumstances on the publication of the Report—worthy of mention only as showing how he was prepared when called on for the cordial support of friends, and the generous forbearance of opponents. Much of his time and labour was devoted to the instruction of his successor, Mr. C. Poulett Thomson—afterwards Lord Seidenham—who wisely received the Durham policy as a finished and most complete. Many hours every day were spent in consultation and preparation of measures; and to good purpose. Not only were Lord Durham's plans adopted by Lord Seidenham, but his own best measures were planned and carried out by the latter. Lord Durham's house in London, prepared for introduction in Canada, and the agents informed and instructed. These duties done, few months of life remained to the baffled Statesman. When he returned to his home about Canadian matters, or vindicated the principles of good government at home or in the colonies, he was at his post in the House of Lords. But he was visibly sinking. In the summer of 1840, he was ordered to the south of Europe for his health; but he found himself so ill at Dover that he turned aside to Cowes, where he became too weak to leave his couch. Even then, and when he was unable to take any nourishment but a little fruit, there was so much life and animation in his countenance and conversation, that those who know him best could not but believe that much work yet lay between him and the grave; but on the 8th of July he sank rapidly, and died in a few hours. He left his large estates and other property as much as possible at the disposal of his devoted wife—the eldest daughter of Earl Grey; but she followed him in a few months, leaving their young son to complete the duties of his parents as well as he might after the spectacle of their example was withdrawn."

HOW HAVE THE TIMES CHANGED? In Mr. Webster's great Speech delivered on the 4th of March on the Slavery question, he reverts to the antiquity and venerability of the sacred question.

Slavery existed in the world, in time immemorial. There was slavery in the Oriental nations; among the Greeks, the Jews and the Romans. They generally justified the slaves on the ground that Africans, and in some parts the Asiatic tribes, were supposed to be inferior to the white races. The Romans admitted that slavery was against the national law; but that men were created equal. Mr. Webster established one fact which will surprise many of his readers; that is, when the Constitution was formed, the whole country, North and South, held slavery to be an unmitigated political and moral evil. That the slaves were the property of the Southern member of the Convention proposed a plan to get rid of the evil, and would allow twenty years to execute it; but a Southern member opposed it, as being too long. Mr. Madison of Virginia was a supporter of it, arguing that the admission of slaves into the country for that length of time would work too much mischief. The term slavery is not used in the Constitution. Mr. Madison, a slaveholder from Virginia, opposed its introduction into the Constitution, because, he said, he did not wish to see it recognized by the Constitution of the U. States of America that would confer its property in man. Very how have the times changed! In the Senate now they refer to admit California into the Union because her constitution does not admit or recognize this same slavery? American Citizen.

TRIAL OF DR. WEBSTER.

The indictment of Dr. Webster for the murder of Dr. Parkman was read in Court on the 19th in Boston, and then Mr. Clifford, Attorney General, addressed the jury in a deliberate and solemn manner, confining himself to a clear and succinct statement of facts in the position of Government prosecutor. At nine o'clock the prisoner entered the Court and took his seat in the dock—he exhibited the same calm demeanour. At ten o'clock the jury returned from the scene of the alleged murder. The examination of witnesses then proceeded. The trial still continued on Monday. The evidence was strong, but wholly circumstantial.

THE SPRING BUSINESS.

The Toledo Blade, commenting on the business of next season, says—We do not wish to indulge in gloomy speculations on the subject of the Spring business, but we cannot be insensible to a fact so painfully apparent as that which now stares our commercial men in the face. The late foreign advices are very unfavorable as to corn—almost amounting to a prohibition upon shipping it from the seaboard. This is the article upon which we mainly

depend for an active Spring trade. There is nothing to encourage the belief that the foreign demand will greatly improve. Our market must, in consequence, be limited, and controlled by the home demand and home prices. Farmers will hold on for better markets; and but little of the crop will come forward. Our boats will find but little to do. Never have we known a season which opened so unpromisingly. Fortunately the winter along our lines has been favorable for the wheat crop, and if this continues good, it is not improbable that we may have a very active season of fall business.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

We are authorized to state that the Provincial Parliament will meet for the despatch of business on the 14th May. An official prorogation to the 3rd May will appear in the GAZETTE, but this arises from there being more than 40 days between the last day prorogued to, and the time settled for the meeting of the Legislature.—[Globe, 28th March.



HURON SIGNAL.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1850.

THE COMING SESSION.

The Provincial Parliament is to meet on the 14th of next month for the despatch of business, and we believe that a much deeper interest, in the meeting, is felt by the public generally than on any former occasion, even excepting the Session of last year. Nobody beyond the members of the Cabinet pretends to know anything of the measures to be brought forward, and we see no advantage that can result from mere idle conjectures and surmises on the subject. For our own part we do not feel inclined to play the Prophet on the present occasion. We might possibly guess right, and there is a greater possibility that we might guess wrong—the chances are, therefore, against us; and, as we have no ambition to earn the reputation of a false prophet, we forbear guessing, entirely. Besides, we are aware that our hasty wishes and speculations would have no effect in changing the wise intentions and resolves of the Government: that they are about to meet the Parliament without having agreed upon some definite line of policy which they are prepared either to stand by or to alter. It would, however, be using the Ministry unjustly to conceal the fact that the people have also a line of policy, and they have determined that the Government that refuses to stand by the said policy shall be forced to fall under the weight of their own views and convictions. In fact, the man who could be induced by popular intimidation to bring forward or support a measure which he conscientiously believed to be wrong, is a more despicable being than he who would legislate despotically against the views and wishes of the people. But while we candidly denounce all attempts to frighten a Government to heed and obey the hiccups of the people, we at the same time deem it prudent to intimate that the people have a will and a power which must be felt. They may be ignorant, and rash, and obstinate, and unreasonable, but while they possess a representative form of Government, these bad qualities cannot destroy their influence at the poll. The Tory party are full of hope and prophecy. They declare that the Ministry will not stick together for a month, and that even in that period they will be deserted by the chief part of their supporters. Such prophecies are only a different modification of their hopes, and will shortly be numbered with the great multitude of false predictions that have amused us in other years. We feel quite satisfied that they will stick together, and that nearly all who supported them last Session will continue to support them even to the close of the present Parliament, and then, and not till then, will come the "top of war." In the meantime we hope the friends of Reform will be honorable, sagacious and patient. The Ministry will assuredly bring forward and carry some useful and liberal measures. They will not please everybody, but they are at least entitled to fair play and full credit for the good they do. And we trust that one of us will be so foolish and unreasonable as to feel disappointed and get into a rage, and use bitter and uncharitable language, should we happen to discover that Retrenchment—Law Reform and the fifty seven Retortives WILL CONSTITUTE THE PLATFORM OF NEXT GENERAL ELECTIONS.

THE ROADS.

We, last Fall, drew the attention of our readers to the miserable condition of our leading Roads, [for of this they were practically informed] and to the great facilities that we possessed for remedying the evil by the privileges conferred by the New Act for the Incorporation of Road and Bridge Companies. We expected that the readiness with which the inhabitants of many other Districts were availing themselves of the advantages of this important Act, and another season's experience of mud roads, would have excited a spirit of emulation in the more enterprising portion of our Farmers and Merchants, and that an effort at improvement would have been put forth. Since that time we have listened to numerous doleful complaints and lamentations about the "state of the roads," but, we regret to acknowledge that we have neither heard nor seen anything in the shape of an earnest, energetic attempt to form an active Road Company, for the purpose of improving the "state of the roads." We are aware that there is a very serious lack of capital among our Agricultural population at present, and that this deficiency is a very substantial reason for not entering into Road speculations. But, although we are aware of this fact, we are also aware that gold, silver

and Bank Bills form no part of a good Road. It is generally formed of wood, stone or gravel, and these we possess in abundance. In particular, we believe there are few Districts in which good gravel can be procured at less expense than it can be along the leading roads of the Counties of Huron and Perth. Labor is, therefore, the capital required to make good Roads in these Counties, and we would assuredly think little of the man who would tell us that we cannot supply the labour. We feel satisfied that there is scarcely one Farmer in the United Counties who, with his team, could not afford to work five pounds worth of labor on the roads, throughout the course of the year; and this amount of labor would make our leading Roads equal to any in the Province. Now, it must be understood that this labor so far from being bestowed by the Farmer, will be paid to him in full, in the course of a very few years, and that he will receive annually, a fair rate of interest on his outlay. It is thus certain, that exclusive of the incalculable satisfaction and comfort of travelling on good Roads, and the saving of time, teams and carriages, the investment will be one of real pecuniary profit. On this principle of putting in labor as stock or capital, it must be evident that more than one or two hundred pounds of cash would be required, merely to purchase the proper tools or implements of labor; and we feel confident that five times that sum can be raised from the merchants, tradesmen and gentlemen of Goderich and Stratford. We forbear entering into particular calculations, or urging any further remarks on the subject at present, as we understand that a prospectus for making a gravel road from Goderich to the Clinton Arms Inn, is about to be issued, and will contain calculations and estimates that may be depended on—and we trust the inhabitants of the United Counties, and the farmers in particular, will consider the subject with the interest and attention to which it is entitled.

SLANDER.

We seldom notice any of those small titillating stories that come under the head of private slander, and which are found floating as a secret under-current in every little community, in the shape of village gossip; for although we detest this cowardly process of murdering private character, and have ever regarded it as a sort of social plague, yet we feel inclined to avoid contact with it because we believe it to be infectious, and because there is everything that is difficult and unpleasant in tracing these malicious rumors to their proper source. We must, however, crave the indulgence of our readers at present, while we not only notice, but contradict in the most emphatic manner, one of those infamous slanders, of rather an aggravated description. During the past week it has been first whispered and then released in a London paper, that the Rev. Mr. Fletcher had been lately hawking a Petition through the village of St. Mary's, and the surrounding country, the object of which was the removal or dismissal of Judge Acland! And we regret to learn that this very improbable story was not the gossip of ignorant, talkative and excusable old women, but of men from whom far other conduct might reasonably be expected! By all who have the pleasure of knowing Mr. Fletcher no other refutation of this rumor will be deemed necessary than merely to state that it is a *malicious lie*, originated in the basest political and sectarian hatred. We neither know nor care who was the manufacturer of the falsehood, but we assert fearlessly that no man of honest, upright principles, who knows anything of Mr. Fletcher, and who has a proper appreciation of the value of truth and piety, would ever believe it himself or repeat it to others as a thing worthy of belief. And to intimate that he is in the habit of repeating it in such a manner as might lead to the belief of it, without being willing and able to name the person who saw Mr. Fletcher hawking the Petition, is, to all intents and purposes, a *bad man*. We do not express ourself thus strongly because Mr. Fletcher is a clergyman, but, whatever may be our faults, we are seldom blamed for cherishing a blind superstition or a prejudice for the "Gentlemen of the Cloth." We have known some, very bad men who are clergymen, and when we see a man distinguishing himself as a low, sneaking, cowardly, backbiting, titillating, slandering mischief-maker who blushes not to be confronted with his own falsehoods, and substantially confounded as a *common liar*, in the fact of such a man being a clergyman, is, in our estimation, an almost infinite aggravation of his guilt, and we play, and lose, and shun him with deeper shudders of disgust than could be inspired by the presence of the most degraded variety of the most abandoned specimen of infamy. But Mr. Fletcher is a *good man*, and this is a recommendation more valuable than all conventional titles, not even excepting the most coveted title of *Reverend*. It is Mr. Fletcher's honesty, upright, fearless and unending attachment to the eternal principles of truth and equity, that renders him obnoxious to the dastardly assaults of those who can perceive, in his very countenance, a rebuke of their own unprincipled sneaking and shuffling.

RETRENCHMENT.

The necessity for retrenchment in Government expenditure is almost universally admitted; various times it has occupied the public attention, and always has the voice of the People, when fairly obtained on the subject, given a similar result. It is by no means the desire or interest of the People of Canada to support a wasteful or useless establishment. The origin of the Reform party was the desire of the part of those who formed it to reduce extravagant salaries, to stop the plundering of the public treasury by the giving of bribes and gratuities to favorites; and, in short, to hinder a rapacious band of unscrupulous Tory office-holders from reeling in the public money. The mere amount of salaries at that time appeared large, but the stated salary was no higher price for his services than he now receives. Thousands of acres of land were given to one Member of Parliament for his assistance in procuring the like "gift" for another: thousands of pounds were paid in the shape of a bribe for a seat in the House of Commons never rendered or thought of; and the numerous defalcations of irresponsible favorites added still more to their systematic plunder. Nothing has contributed more to raise complaints against Reformers than themselves and families, and such like names, they have been honored with, on account of their alleged recklessness in breaking down time-honored but useless modes for consumption. The extravagance at the present time does not lie wholly in paying enormous salaries. The salaries of some who are employed in Government departments are too low in proportion to the services rendered;—these, however, are rare cases; but there are some, many, indeed,—who are receiving some three or four hundred pounds per year for nominal services, which, in reality, are nothing, or the very next thing to nothing. Thus would the officers of the general offices at present appointed be unnecessary, if the unfitness for office of those who hold them. It is urged often that if men are dismissed from office they should be provided for otherwise. In regard to this, it ought to be justly some peculiar cases; but generally speaking, are those who have enjoyed ease and good pay entitled on that account to public support? Are they made incapable of pushing their way in the world as other men do? Then why have they "claims" on the public? Necessary offices must be kept up, and they should be filled with the most efficient men—few in number, and individually well paid. But useless offices should be abolished at once, and their occupants allowed all the rights, privileges and advantages that good subjects enjoy; but nothing in the shape of plunder.

THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS.

The Court of General Quarter Sessions and the County Court opened on Tuesday. As usual the criminal calendar was a blank, and the Judicial view of their Worship will seemingly be allowed to rest for lack of exercise.—There are two or three venust cases in the County Court, but, as a whole, the business is light and will probably be closed this evening.

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Acland and the appointment of Thomas Gale, Esq., as Judge of the United Counties of Huron and Perth and Bruce!! Now, in the first place, we beg leave to remark that, although Judge Adams were out of office to-morrow, they would not be likely to get the offer of the office, and although he did, the said Thos. Gale, Esq., would not accept the said Judgeship even although the Government should promise to double the present salary! In the second place, we beg leave to remark that, all these rumors, or rather lies, after being fully matured by fear and malice; and in the third place, we beg leave to remark that, in nineteen cases out of twenty, the wisdom of Providence has arranged that this species of malignity can produce only one effect, and that is, the debasement and ruin of its authors!

FROM THE BRADFORD HERALD.

FREE TRADE, DIRECT TAXATION, &c. &c. At the present time, when there is scarcely aught heard save the note of preparation amongst the various countries of the earth for entering the lists as competitors for the prizes which are to be awarded to the victors, in the great though bloodless fight, between the nations, which is to take place, next year, with England for the battleground, and the present moment, when the most powerful and enlightened nation of ancient or modern times has thrown open her ports to trade of the world, and declared herself opposed to protection or to a system of exclusiveness fitted only for such nations as Paraguay, China, Japan, &c.,—at this glorious period, when the great principles of reform are being acknowledged and adopted by the educated portion of the people of all lands, it may not be amiss in Canadians to ask themselves the question, would they not act a wiser and more liberal part by immediately following the example of Britain in abolishing protection? We know that there are many, even amongst our reform friends, who would be inclined to oppose the free admission of American goods, unless the Americans were willing to reciprocate; but, though our neighbours might at first refuse to act as liberally it would be as well to desire, there is every reason to believe that they will soon see the necessity of exhibiting a larger share of liberality in their transactions with their nearest neighbours and best customers, the people of Canada. If, however, the liberality be confined to the people of Canada only, we are of opinion that Canadians would, nevertheless, be unjustly by such liberality, as the admission of American produce free of import, would not lessen the price of any of the articles which form the principal sources of the national wealth of this country. Such articles only, as the people of this country have to buy, would be imported, and those which they have to sell would still find as good a market as they do now. The only difference which the adoption of free trade principles would make between the present state of things and that which would ensue, is this,—The farmer, or other consumer, though getting no higher price for his produce than he now receives, would be enabled to purchase the articles which he is in the habit of purchasing, for a much smaller price than he is now compelled to pay. In some cases (the article of sugar for example) for a half or nearly a half of the amount now paid. The quantity of the same article could be bought for the greater part of their income on the purchase of necessaries and sometimes luxuries for themselves and families. "Destructives," "Levelers," "Radicals," and such like names, they have been honored with, on account of their alleged recklessness in breaking down time-honored but useless modes for consumption. The extravagance at the present time does not lie wholly in paying enormous salaries. The salaries of some who are employed in Government departments are too low in proportion to the services rendered;—these, however, are rare cases; but there are some, many, indeed,—who are receiving some three or four hundred pounds per year for nominal services, which, in reality, are nothing, or the very next thing to nothing. Thus would the officers of the general offices at present appointed be unnecessary, if the unfitness for office of those who hold them. It is urged often that if men are dismissed from office they should be provided for otherwise. In regard to this, it ought to be justly some peculiar cases; but generally speaking, are those who have enjoyed ease and good pay entitled on that account to public support? Are they made incapable of pushing their way in the world as other men do? Then why have they "claims" on the public? Necessary offices must be kept up, and they should be filled with the most efficient men—few in number, and individually well paid. But useless offices should be abolished at once, and their occupants allowed all the rights, privileges and advantages that good subjects enjoy; but nothing in the shape of plunder.

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now, no one question on which the public mind is so generally excited as on that of the Retrenchment of Government expenditure. On this point we may refer to the result of the Halifax election as a proof of the importance which the people attach to some endeavoured to prove that the result is owing to one or many causes; and how again to cause of a different nature. If, however, we join with some in condemning Mr. Hopkins, and subscribe to the "puffery" of certain Reformers,—we would ask, what more does this prove? Merely this, that all these circumstances the more fully establish the fact, that the People desire Retrenchment, and if the Government were to the country at, any time on the same question the result would be similar. It also shows that browbeating and "badgering" by a Ministerial organ is not productive of good. When a question is mooted, if it cannot be ably and manfully supported by its opponents, it need not be opposed,—but in the end it will triumph despite all opposition.—It is expected that the great question of Retrenchment will be fairly met, and fairly carried out; and no man more fitly to represent the nation in this respect, than the gentleman who will withhold his most cordial approbation and firmest support.

FROM THE BRADFORD HERALD.

FREE TRADE, DIRECT TAXATION, &c. &c. At the present time, when there is scarcely aught heard save the note of preparation amongst the various countries of the earth for entering the lists as competitors for the prizes which are to be awarded to the victors, in the great though bloodless fight, between the nations, which is to take place, next year, with England for the battleground, and the present moment, when the most powerful and enlightened nation of ancient or modern times has thrown open her ports to trade of the world, and declared herself opposed to protection or to a system of exclusiveness fitted only for such nations as Paraguay, China, Japan, &c.,—at this glorious period, when the great principles of reform are being acknowledged and adopted by the educated portion of the people of all lands, it may not be amiss in Canadians to ask themselves the question, would they not act a wiser and more liberal part by immediately following the example of Britain in abolishing protection? We know that there are many, even amongst our reform friends, who would be inclined to oppose the free admission of American goods, unless the Americans were willing to reciprocate; but, though our neighbours might at first refuse to act as liberally it would be as well to desire, there is every reason to believe that they will soon see the necessity of exhibiting a larger share of liberality in their transactions with their nearest neighbours and best customers, the people of Canada. If, however, the liberality be confined to the people of Canada only, we are of opinion that Canadians would, nevertheless, be unjustly by such liberality, as the admission of American produce free of import, would not lessen the price of any of the articles which form the principal sources of the national wealth of this country. Such articles only, as the people of this country have to buy, would be imported, and those which they have to sell would still find as good a market as they do now. The only difference which the adoption of free trade principles would make between the present state of things and that which would ensue, is this,—The farmer, or other consumer, though getting no higher price for his produce than he now receives, would be enabled to purchase the articles which he is in the habit of purchasing, for a much smaller price than he is now compelled to pay. In some cases (the article of sugar for example) for a half or nearly a half of the amount now paid. The quantity of the same article could be bought for the greater part of their income on the purchase of necessaries and sometimes luxuries for themselves and families. "Destructives," "Levelers," "Radicals," and such like names, they have been honored with, on account of their alleged recklessness in breaking down time-honored but useless modes for consumption. The extravagance at the present time does not lie wholly in paying enormous salaries. The salaries of some who are employed in Government departments are too low in proportion to the services rendered;—these, however, are rare cases; but there are some, many, indeed,—who are receiving some three or four hundred pounds per year for nominal services, which, in reality, are nothing, or the very next thing to nothing. Thus would the officers of the general offices at present appointed be unnecessary, if the unfitness for office of those who hold them. It is urged often that if men are dismissed from office they should be provided for otherwise. In regard to this, it ought to be justly some peculiar cases; but generally speaking, are those who have enjoyed ease and good pay entitled on that account to public support? Are they made incapable of pushing their way in the world as other men do? Then why have they "claims" on the public? Necessary offices must be kept up, and

