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Publisher's Notices.

CASH SYSTEM. In accordance with resolutions adopted by the Canadian Press Association, on August 1, 1877, the leading country newspapers publish on and after the first of January, 1878, strictly on the cash or cash in advance system, viz:

TRANSIENT ADVERTISING such as farms and property for sale or to rent, school notices, lost or found, stray or trespassing cattle, business changes, auctions, etc., must be paid in advance or in cash week or month of publication. Rates and estimates furnished on application. Small notices published three or four times, cash or in advance.

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Canadian Post.

LINDSAY, FRIDAY, JAN. 11, 1878.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATION

Mr. Justice Patterson, who was commissioned to investigate the charges brought in the *Mail* against certain officers of the Education Department, has made his report to the Government. The character of that document will no doubt prove a surprise to some people, though, after all, we cannot see why it should. The evidence on the charge that there was in the Central Committee a "ring" the members of which had improper relations with the publishing house of Adam Miller & Co. was submitted by the *Mail's* counsel to be insufficient to sustain it, and those who took the trouble to go into the evidence on the charge of collusion between the members of the Central Committee and parties interested in the work or results of examinations must have been satisfied that the break-down of the case was as complete on this side as the other. While, however, Mr. Justice Patterson's decision is just what might have been expected in itself few expected that it would be so vigorously worded or so strongly directed against the authors of the charges. In his opinion there was not only no foundation for the allegations in so far as the officers of the Department were concerned, but the attack was apparently due to pique, or personal animus, or some equally unjustifiable cause. It is best that the truth, though it may not be pleasant, should come out, and we have no doubt that the finding of the Commission will carry the country with it. If the malcontents will only settle down now to their proper work and cease their unseemly assaults against men whose hands are tied, and who are to a great extent debarred from replying, they will better fulfil the end they were intended as teachers to serve. If the *Mail's* editor is not yet satisfied we hope that the new proprietary, which has already made some improvements, will curb his marked propensity to make a political foot-ball of the Education Department.

OUR COUNTY MODEL SCHOOL

The county model or training school system may now be regarded as a permanent feature of our educational machinery, and from all appearances it is destined to become one of the most popular as well as most useful. There is little need that we should point out at any great length either the necessity for such institutions or the advantage derived from them when they are properly conducted. The great defect of our otherwise admirable school system has always been the want of trained teachers, and it was only after repeated attempts to overcome that defect by other means that county model schools were resorted to. For many years there has been a Provincial Normal School in operation at Toronto, but the number of trained teachers in the profession increased very slowly, notwithstanding. Two or three years ago a second institution of the same kind was started at great expense in Ottawa, and the country was threatened with others in London and Kingston. The enormous expense of a system of Normal Schools naturally deterred the Government and Legislature from engaging hastily in the work of supplying such institutions, and Mr. Crooks, with the aid of the officers of his department, devised the more economical and at the same time more effective system now in active use. The intention is not to allow anyone, no matter what his educational qualifications may be, to engage in the work of teaching until he has received a certain amount of special training with a view to teaching him how to manage a school and give instruction in the subjects of the programme. This training is to undergone in the county model schools where the candidates for third-class certificates are made acquainted with the principles of school organization and discipline, the best methods of teaching, the leading features of the school law, the laws of health and the necessity of attending closely to personal habits and deportment. It is safe to say that the intending teacher will be better prepared for taking charge of a school at the end of an eight-weeks session in a good training school than he would be at the end of two years spent in actual teaching without any oversight or professional instruction. It does not require any great amount of intelligence to see what a saving this must prove to the country, as well as to the candidates themselves. Formerly, while they were learning by slow degrees and painful experience to teach, the time of their pupils was very largely wasted simply because the young teacher did not know his business. Now he cannot get a certificate at all, no matter how well educated he may be.

We do not mean to imply either that every graduate of a training school will become a good teacher or that good teachers cannot be produced without their aid. All that can be guaranteed is that each teacher starts now with a fair amount of practical knowledge of his business, and that the blunders every inexperienced teacher must fall into and learn to correct as he acquires experience he can to a great extent avoid from the outset. It is quite true that many of our best teachers have never attended training schools, but these are, as a rule, the very men who support them enthusiastically because they know from painful experience the loss of time and the annoyance caused by the want of preliminary training. Every teacher knows that his first year was almost entirely lost to his pupils and to a great extent lost to himself, and in view of this fact parents everywhere have a very direct interest in the maintenance and working of county model schools. We might dwell at greater length and with additional emphasis on the benefit such institutions are calculated to confer on the community by replacing with well drilled and skilful masters the raw recruits who swarm each year into the profession; but we forbear for the present in order to point out the claim which our own county model school has upon the County Council, which is made up of representatives of the ratepayers who profit by its existence.

The establishment of the model school in this town has added considerably to the financial burden of our citizens. This addition to their annual expenditure would be cheerfully borne by them if there were no aid from any other quarter. But it must be kept in mind that the school, though situated in Lindsay, is attended by students in training from every part of the county. Under these circumstances it would not be out of the way for the county to contribute a large share of the Principal's salary since, nearly all the candidates belong, and must always belong, to the rural districts. The whole amount asked, however, is only $400, the rest of the extra expenditure being made up by the town and the government grant. The town can pay $200 because it receives the benefit of Mr. McFaul's services during the period the model schools are not in session. The Lindsay Board have incurred this extra expense in order to secure a teacher of Mr. McFaul's ability and experience and to establish a model school here. It is questionable if they would have incurred the extra expense if it were not for the model school scheme, but under the circumstances we think they have shown a wise enterprise and liberality that the people of the town will approve and which should secure them the hearty support of the county. The County Council has already responded to the appeal of the Lindsay Board by voting $100 as a part payment of the expenditure already incurred. This is all right so far as it goes, but what is wanted is a fair amount for the whole year and an acknowledgement from the Council that the grant is made in compliance with a perfectly fair request. It would be unwise in the last degree to leave the model school dependent for its support on grants supposed to be made once a quarter, but made, as would in all probability soon be the case, semi-occasionally. It is better to place the matter at once on a business footing by acknowledging the liability and making provision to meet it year by year in the ordinary way. This will make the institution a permanent one, and will enable the Lindsay Board of Education, the Principal of the Model School, and the teachers-in-training, or who are desirous of coming up for training, to make their arrangements accordingly. It is far better to have the institution made permanent, than to leave it in an uncertain position. We believe it can be made very successful and that it will in every sense more than repay the ratepayers for the additional expense incurred. From what we know of the members of our County Council we feel warranted in saying that the matter may safely be entrusted to their honorable body, and that they will see the necessity of acting liberally towards the model school of this county so as not to fall behind others in the race of educational progress.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The King of Italy succumbed to the pleurisy and other disorders which a few days ago were said to be serious, and expired Wednesday afternoon. He received the last sacraments from prelates specially sent from the Pope. He is succeeded by Humbert, who, on ascending the throne, proclaimed his adherence to liberal principles.

It is reported that an armistice for six weeks has been arranged between Turkey and Russia, and during that time the former will endeavour to secure peace. Military operations have not been important the past week; but at Constantinople there is much excitement and a revolution may take place any moment. Lord Beaconsfield's warlike propensities have apparently been curbed, and it appears that England did not go as far in her mediatory efforts as was reported, and that the danger of war with Russia was magnified. There has, however, been great uneasiness in England and a cabinet crisis was expected. Lord Carnavon and the Marquis of Salisbury being opposed to a policy that would sustain the Turks.

The originators of the attack on the Hon. George Brown in connection with the investigation into the management of the Bureau of Statistics at Washington seem to be thoroughly ashamed of the mare's nest they managed to hunt up. On the strength of a newspaper rumour they assailed Mr. Brown in the most dastardly fashion, asserting or insinuating that he spent large sums of money in the endeavor to secure the adoption of the draft treaty framed by himself, Sir Edward Thornton and Secretary Fish. As the merits of that document are not just now in question we need say nothing about them, but before the subject passes out of the public view we must call attention to the unpatriotic conduct of those journals who thus seek to discredit in advance any commissioners Canada may at any time see fit to send to Washington for the negotiation of a new reciprocity treaty. That such a treaty is wanted the depressed state of our lumber interest loudly proclaims, and we can attach no other meaning to the assault on Mr. Brown than that it indicates a wish on the part of his maligners to prevent the conclusion of any reciprocity treaty at all. That this is the policy of the *Mail* is beyond question, for it would be impossible to frame a draft treaty which it would prefer to its absurd protection theories, but it seems surprising that the London *Free Press*, an anti-protection journal, should allow its partisanship to get so much the better of its judgment. The *Free Press* is in favor of reciprocity and yet rather than miss the chance of sending home a shaft dipped in a potent temperance of

Washington stand chaffer and its every party malice it does not hesitate to take the most effectual steps possible for the prevention of any successful negotiations in future. The execrable tactics of the Conservative organs will gain little by such tactics.

The St. Thomas *Journal* advocates the employment of an official shorthand reporter in the county courts of Elgin, and shows clearly that a very great saving would be effected in the items of payments to jurors and crown witnesses alone. Under the the Act of last session it is optional with County Councils to engage shorthand reporters for the inferior courts, and York and Hastings have already done so. The use of shorthand in the superior courts has been eminently satisfactory, and has proved a great economy. The present Elgin County Councillors, however, seem to think that the only advantage of the shorthand is to "make it an easy thing for the judge." We are confident they will soon become dispossessed of this notion, and that before many years every county in the Province will employ shorthand, and then they will wonder that they did not adopt it sooner.

The Canada Southern Railway Co., now under Vanderbilt control, propose to remove their head offices from St. Thomas to Buffalo, and as St. Thomas and Elgin County very liberally bonused the project with the understanding that the headquarters were to remain where they are now, the proposed violation of the agreement naturally creates some indignation. The President seems bent on making the change, but his reasons as given to a St. Thomas deputation quickly disappear when analyzed by the *Journal*. American railway magnates are sharp and keen and by no means scrupulous but they must be taught to carry out their bonus engagements. We believe the Ontario Legislature has indirectly, to use an expression our Yankee friends will at once appreciate, the "whip hand" in connection with legislation required to complete some recent financial arrangements on the part of the Vanderbilts, and it should be used promptly and without hesitation. It would be a great mistake to allow the present New York combination controlling the Canada Southern to defraud the people of Elgin County, and we trust the Legislature will not allow it.

Communications.

REPLY TO MR. JAMES ROSS.

[*To the Editor of* THE CANADIAN POST.]

LINDSAY, January 4th, 1878.

In the issue of THE POST of to-day a letter appears from Mr. James Ross, Manager of the Victoria Railway, in which certain statements are made, which it is our duty to correct. Referring to the non-completion of the work on the Victoria Avenue, Mr. Ross asserts that he gave some members of the Town Council an assurance that this work would be done in the Spring; and *that they agreed to allow it to be incompleted until that time.*

Mr. Ross is very well aware that this statement is entirely untrue. No such proposal for the postponement of any part of the work in question to the Spring was ever made to, or accepted by us, or any of us, either individually or collectively or by any one representing the Town in the matter. On the contrary, Mr. Ross repeatedly pledged his word of honor to us, both as a professional engineer and a citizen, to have the entire work completed by the first of last November, and promised also at that date to enter into the necessary arrangements for adjusting the claims of the citizens for damages.

If the completion of this work be a "small matter," as Mr. Ross alleges, it was so much the easier performed, and his breach of faith in the premises is the less excusable.

Whether any members of the late Council are "aspiring politicians" or not, does not affect the conditions of the by-law; neither does it release the Victoria Railway Company from carrying out those conditions, specifically by their Manager for transferring his prevarications heretofore practiced in private to the public press.

Mr. Ross does not tell the people of Lindsay that he is the contractor for the work in question on the Avenue, and, as a consequence, that he has a personal interest in getting it off his hands as easily as possible.

The members of the Street and Bridge Committee up till the present have insisted on the carrying out of the conditions on which the street was granted. Hence they are not popular with Mr. Ross, whose personality appears in the matter when he says: "I plainly perceived their scheme, I determined that I could do no more business with such Councillors as had taken the Victoria Avenue in their hands, etc." Mr. Ross evidently hopes that by damaging the late committee in public estimation, their successors will be more pliable. Hence his present appeal to the people of Lindsay, for what? to so influence the elections and the formation of the new committee that he may be enabled to put a few hundred dollars in his pocket at the expense of the town.

THOMAS W. POOLE, Mayor.
W. L. RUSSELL, Reeve.
J. L. WINTERS,
Chairman Street and Bridge Com.
J. MANN,
WILLIAM DUFFUS,
TIMOTHY HEENAN,
JAMES GROWDEN,
All members of the Street and Bridge Committee.

THE MCARTHUR LIQUOR CASE.

[*To the Editor of* THE CANADIAN POST.]

SIR, It can hardly be expected that editors of newspapers can at all times report cases as they really are, although as a general thing reports may be correct. In the report of the case McArthur vs. A. A. McLaughlin in the recent County Court a number of errors have crept in, and in being a case in which a very important question is involved, I have felt it my duty to make some corrections.

It is said that "it was a case under the Temperance Act." It was a case under the License Acts of 1874, 1876 and 1877. It is stated that "the fine was $20, in default of payment imprisonment for 15 days." The fine was $20 and if no goods then 15 days imprisonment. The Act of 1874, 37 Vic., chap. 32, the half an hour. Section 38, provides "Save and except in cases where a requisition for medical purposes, signed by a licensed medical practitioner, or *by a Justice of the Peace* is produced by the vendor or his agent." Section 34 of said act provides "for punishment of offences against section 28 of this Act a penalty for the first offence against the provisions thereof of not less than $20 with costs or fifteen days imprisonment with hard labor in case of conviction shall be recoverable from and levyable against the goods and chattels of the person or persons who are the proprietors in occupancy, or tenants of agents in occupancy of the said place of places who shall be found by himself, herself or themselves, or his, her or their servants or agents to have contravened the enactment in the said 28th section *or any part thereof*." The magistrates on the hearing of the case found that a bottle of whiskey had been given to Alphonso Greenlie on Sunday, the 19th day of Aug. The defence set up that time made by Mr. McArthur was that he had given the liquor on a medical certificate in accordance with the provisions of the License Act, and produced the following order as such:

"Lornville, August 19th, 1877.

"Mr. McArthur, Dear Sir, Please give the bearer Mr. Dan Drouille 1½ pint whiskey for veterinary medical purposes, and oblige,

"To A. McARTHUR, Esq., Lindsay."

The magistrates trying the case held first that the order produced was not a certificate under the meaning of the Act. Secondly, that a veterinary surgeon was not a licensed medical practitioner; and further, the defendant had placed Mr. Dunn in the witness box who swore that he signed the above order, but on cross-examination he stated that several days after the whiskey had been obtained Mr. McArthur came to him at Woodville and he had signed the above order. The magistrates could not do otherwise than fine McArthur, which they did, and in default to commit him to jail for 15 days. Against their decision Mr. McArthur appealed.

McArthur did not attempt to prove a single fraudulently obtained certificate but simply rested his case on the fact that the whiskey was sold to be given to a sick horse, which by the bye died under the treatment, which is no wonder, having had in a short time to drink ten bottles of whiskey, three being enough to kill a man, letting alone a horse. And what are the facts as to the certificate. The horse belonged to Neil McLaughlin, whose house and barn is not forty rods from McArthur's, and Peter McAlpine, a J. P., was present when the whiskey was sent for and could have made the proper certificate, but the fact is this certificate question was all an after-clap, and I am sure had all the facts come out His Honor Judge Dean, with all his largeness of heart, would have given us costs as well as the verdict.

The spirit and meaning of the Act is that tavern keepers are not to be the judges as to when it is right and proper for themselves to traffic in liquor. If the question is left to them to decide they will almost invariably decide that every application is a proper one. You may not be aware that license laws have been in force in Ontario for 37 years, and in that time no less than 67 statutes have been made to regulate the traffic, and the Crooks Act is the first placed on the statute books that effectually deals with the traffic. With all due respect I say that if magistrates and judges would do their duty and banish all sentimentality from their minds, we would soon see the violation of the Sunday clauses of the Act respected at least.

His Honor Judge Dean did not say that he held the penalties would not be enforced. He simply said that he thanked the jury for their finding and that he was pleased to find they had sustained the magistrates who had tried the case, and then added that for himself he would be pleased to hear that the fine was not collected. Very truly yours,

A. A. McLAUCHLIN, License Inspector.

CONCESSION, Dec. 31st, 1877.

—A lad named Stoneman has been arrested in Hamilton on a charge of larceny. There were eighteen fires in that city within the past three weeks, and many of them are supposed to have taken place the work of incendiaries.

BOBCAYGEON RAILWAY.

MEETING IN LINDSAY.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS OF THE PROJECT—ITS MAIN FEATURES—BONUSES REQUIRED—UNITED ACTION NECESSARY—PETERBORO OPPOSITION.

The proposed railway to connect Bobcaygeon and Lindsay has been brought before the leading citizens of Lindsay by Mr. Mossom Boyd, Mr. Geo. Bick, Mr. W. B. Read, Mr. C. R. Stuart, Mr. C. Fairbairn, Mr. Crabtree and Mr. Bottum, of the deputation appointed by the meeting in Bobcaygeon referred to in the *Independent's* report subjoined. Mr. Boyd arrived in town on Saturday and had a conference with Messrs. Austin, Holden, Fulton and Ross of the Whitby Railway Company, and has since been actively engaged in the preliminary work necessary for obtaining a charter. It is proposed to form an independent company to build the road, and then to lease it to the Whitby Company, which would supply the rolling stock and work it. Messrs. J. Knowlson, T. Keenan, W. L. Russell, Jno. McLennan, Jno. Dobson, W. McDonnell, sen., C. L. Baker, A. Hudspeth, Col. Deacon, and J. W. Dunsford have agreed to become provisional directors; and the following gentlemen are also on the Board in the same capacity for the northern municipalities. Messrs. M. Boyd, C. R. Stewart, Geo. Bick, W. B. Read, Chas. Fairbairn, Alex. Orr, Jno. Aitken, S. Crabtree, Wm. Snowden, John Junkin, W. Thurston, W. Hewitt, Jas. Oliver, M. Hartnett, W. Playfair, E. Bottum, John Petrie, P. N. Murdoch, J. S. Cairnduff, Jas. Hicks, Reeve of Harvey, and Jno. L. Reid.

In order to give the Bobcaygeon deputation an opportunity of explaining the leading features of the project, a meeting of the members of the old Lindsay Railway Committee was called for Wednesday evening at the Benson House, and at the hour appointed there was a large attendance. Mr. W. McDonnell, sen., was chosen chairman, and Mr. J. Ketchum, secretary. An informal discussion then took place. Mr. Boyd said the road could be built for about $130,000, and that of this they expected municipal bonuses to the extent of $90,000 or $100,000; Government grant at $2,000 a mile, $30,000; and bonds taken by the contractors, to the same amount, $30,000. The members of the deputation expressed the opinion that Harvey would grant $15,000 or $20,000; Galway, say $5,000; Bobcaygeon from $10,000 to $20,000; and Verulam the latter figure. The opinion was frankly expressed that Bobcaygeon should be prepared to go $20,000 or $25,000 if it wanted to have the road built, and with equal candour that Lindsay was in no way apprehensive of Peterboro's designs in that direction. Mr. M. Deane, P.L.S., who has been making a preliminary survey of the route and preparing maps, etc., said the route was very level and easy and cheap of construction, and it would be 15 miles, or 15½ miles to a point on Pigeon lake, after passing or reaching Bobcaygeon. Opinions in favour of having the railway, were expressed and the following resolution was unanimously adopted, after which the meeting closed:—

Moved by Mr. W. L. Russell, seconded by Mr. E. D. Orde, that this meeting desires to express their interest in the proposed railway to Bobcaygeon and their opinion that the people of Lind say will cordially cooperate with the Bobcaygeon people in every way in their power to insure the success of the undertaking.

Public opinion generally has not fully formed concerning the project and it would be impossible at present to say to what extent, if any, Lindsay will give financial assistance. We have heard opposition expressed to the idea of an extension, and there is a strong feeling that as we have given railway aid with unusual liberality already it is more than can be expected for the town to go any more. The northern municipalities named will be greatly benefitted by the road beyond all doubt, and they should be prepared to go their "bottom dollar" in its support. That is plain to everyone; and it will be wise not to depend too much on Lindsay. However the question will probably be fully discussed in all its details before long.

PUBLIC MEETING IN BOBCAYGEON

THE PROJECT HEARTILY SUPPORTED.

[Bobcaygeon Independent, Jan. 4th.]

A public meeting was held in the town hall on Wednesday evening, to discuss the project of connecting Bobcaygeon with Lindsay by railway. The meeting was numerously attended. Mr. W. B. Read, the Reeve of Bobcaygeon, was called to the chair. Mr. Read having made a few introductory observations, and explained the origin and object of the meeting, Mr. M. Boyd addressed the meeting at considerable length, pointing out that the present scheme proposed to form a Company to construct an independent line of railway from Bobcaygeon to Lindsay. It would be an entirely independent company, but would no doubt eventually be worked by the Whitby and Port Perry Railway Company and would practically become an extension of that line. Mr. Boyd said he was of opinion that the line proposed would be the one most conducive to the interests of this place, as it would give a direct route with an easy grade to a lake port and a short connection to Toronto, the capital of the province. The time had come when the people of Bobcaygeon, and the surrounding district must do something for themselves. They had waited for many years expecting that some one would come to them and present them with a railway. This expectation had not been realised, and at the present moment there was no charter in existence for a railway to Bobcaygeon, nor had any Company given notice of an intention to apply for a charter. It was, therefore, clear that if the people of Bobcaygeon wished for a railway they would have to take the matter into their own hands, and initiate the movement. This could only be done by applying to Parliament for an act authorizing the construction of the road, and to obtain this Act during the coming session it was necessary that immediate application should be made. It was now for the meeting to determine what course they would take, and if they decided to take action he would be glad to work with them heartily, and he would cheerfully pay any money for which he might fairly be assessed, and something more. Mr. Boyd sat down amidst loud cheers.

Mr. Bick moved a resolution to the effect that an Executive Committee be appointed to carry out the project of forming a Company to construct a railway to Lindsay, which after some discussion was carried. The following gentlemen were nominated as the Committee: Mr. W. B. Read, Reeve of Bobcaygeon; Mr. C. Fairbairn, Reeve of Verulam; Mr. M. Boyd, Mr. C. R. Stewart, Mr. Geo. Bick, Mr. S. Crabtree, Mr. A. Orr, Mr. J. Aitken, Mr. J. Petrie, Mr. W. Snowdon, Mr. J. L. Read, Mr. E. Bottum, Mr. John Stewart, Mr. John Bredin, Mr. Wm. Morrow.

An interesting discussion followed and the meeting separated in good spirits. The Executive Committee then assembled, and having appointed Mr. Boyd chairman, and Mr. Jones secretary, proceeded to make the necessary business arrangements. A deputation, consisting of the Reeves of Bobcaygeon and Verulam and Mr. Boyd and Mr. Stewart, was appointed to visit Lindsay to confer with the Council and people of that town, and to interview the Managing Director of the Whitby and Port Perry Railway.

A Peterboro View—Railway to Bobcaygeon.

(*To the Editor of the Examiner.*)

SIR,—I see in the Bobcaygeon *Independent* a letter from Mr. Hugel in reference to the connection of his road with the back country by the way of Omemee and Bobcaygeon, and this plan appears to me to be, at present, the only feasible one for this town to avail itself of. If the Midland were extended from Peterborough to Omemee direct, and thence to Bobcaygeon we would have all the advantages of the best country lands that we should have by means of the completion of the Coboung railway to Bobcaygeon, and we would have it without the difficulties attending the making and keeping of Pidgeon creek and the road would be easy and practicable, and I think it would be to our benefit to have some reasonable patience in the undertaking in place of waiting the slow and uncertain action of the Coboung railway authorities. If we must wait and wait, we might have to a connection by rail with Bobcaygeon, which, if afterwards be extended so as to intercept the Victoria road, and divert our trade with the back country will be placed on a satisfactory basis. I think some inquiries should be made of Mr. Hugel and the people of Bobcaygeon and the back country, to ascertain their views on the subject, and that this should be done with as little delay as possible. And there is no doubt but that if the Grand Junction railway, which is as the proposed Peterboro' & Ottawa railway would rapidly unite in extending all to the connection between Peterboro' and Omemee with the view of running over the Midland road to Lake Huron, which would be a great advantage to this town. I hope this matter will receive the attention from all parties interested which it deserves.

PETERBOROUGH.

December, 31st, 1877.

Another Peterboro Opinion.

The Peterboro correspondent of the *Independent* writes as follows:—The defeat of the Ottawa and Toronto Railway scheme by the citizens of Toronto was the heaviest blow this place has ever sustained. They had calculated upon that line as a certain, and were indulging by anticipation in the glorious delights which would result from innumerable blacksmiths' shops. The defeat was a cruel disappointment, but a chasm is the bereavement of this place that in a few days the people began to look around for something else, and now they are looking towards the best country, the letter from Mr. Hugel, addressed to the *Independent* having directed attention into that channel. What is now proposed is that the Grand Junction and the Midland, when they enter into an arrangement, which they certainly will, shall buy the Railway from Peterborough to Red Lake, and carry the line to Bobcaygeon and Fenelon. This, as Mr. Hugel says, would be the best thing for this place which could happen, as it would again give Peterborough the back country trade, and restore its old connection with Bobcaygeon. Let us hope that it may be done.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

The third session of the third Ontario Legislature was opened on Wednesday with the usual ceremony. The speech from the throne was of more than usual length, but there is in it nothing of particular importance. We quote one paragraph, all we have room for this week:—

"The subject of railway facilities has engaged the attention of the Legislature for several years, and the province has year by year contributed largely, both from capital and revenue to encourage and assist useful railway enterprises. In view of the extensive system of railways thus already assisted, and in view of the increasing demands upon our revenue in various forms, you will probably be of opinion that special caution has become necessary in dealing with new projects which cannot be carried out without public aid."

MURDER IN OMEMEE.

A FATAL SLUNG-SHOT BLOW.

HENRY WOOD STRIKES DOWN CHARLES HAMILTON.

The death of Charles Hamilton on Saturday last from the effects of a slung-shot blow delivered by Henry Wood on the previous Friday week startled the usually quiet community of Omemee and caused the conviction that an unprovoked murder had been committed in their midst, and naturally there was a good deal of excitement. It appears that Hamilton was in Bowman's Hotel on the 28th Dec., where he gave some apples to the crowd. On going out he was struck on the head by one Henry Wood and fell insensible to the floor. From the effects of that blow he never recovered; and it is supposed Wood must have wielded a slung-shot, as he is reported to have carried that dangerous weapon and to have exhibited and boasted of its terrible force. Hamilton was in his fifty-ninth year and has long been a resident of Omemee, and several years ago lived in Lindsay. He came from a highly respectable Irish family, his father having been a landed proprietor in Co. Monaghan, but the son did not prosper in this country and his course was downhill. He was at first a clerk, then for some years a carter and finally did little or nothing and led a worthless, drunken life. Henry Wood, the other actor in this tragedy, is a young man of about thirty, and has led an irregular vagrant course. He is the son of a Manvers tavern-keeper, and has relations through that township and in Emily. A year or two ago he went to Maine and came back minus one arm which he said he had lost in lumbering. He was with the gypsies last summer, trading horses and carrying on operations for which those people are well known. Latterly he has been loafing about the village. There is a report that he had threatened to strike Hamilton but it is not known that there was a quarrel between them and the murdered man was not of a quarrelsome disposition. When the reports concerning the affair began to circulate Wood decamped Sunday morning. He has been traced to Lindsay, where it is believed he took the Whitby Railway train for Toronto. The police authorities along the front have been warned and an Omemee constable is now on his track. We have received the following description of Wood's personal appearance:—Height about 5 ft. 6 in.; build, slim and slight, and little stooped at shoulders; colour of hair, dark; no whiskers; features of face, somewhat sharp and round; occupation, trading horses and the like; left arm off at shoulder; and wears a felt hat generally. Hamilton lingered until Saturday, at times sensible and at others insensible. An inquest was held by Dr Norris Coroner, with the following jury:—John Kimmis, foreman, Wm. Neill, Wm. Wilson, Jno. Henderson, Richard Nugent, John Johnson, Wm. Clarke, John Scarff, E. A. English, John Williamson, Robert White, David Ker. Subjoined is the evidence.

The Evidence at the Inquest.

JAMES MONGROW, being duly sworn, said:—I saw Mr. Charles Hamilton between 3 and 4 o'clock p. m. on Friday the 28th December, in the bar room of the Bowman House; Henry Wood was in there; both were talking together; Mr. Hamilton had a parcel of apples; then he gave Henry Wood one of them, as also my self and Mr. Finley; he turned around to go out of doors; Henry Wood ran up behind him and struck him; Hamilton fell. I saw him strike him with his hand; he had nothing in his hand that I know of; he then hit the counter twice with his fist and made an offer to strike Mr. Bowman; he then turned around and hit the wall and passed a few remarks, I do not know what they were, and went out. Mr. Hamilton still lay on the floor; we then picked him up and put him on the settee in the bar; he sat here or rather lay there; I put my overcoat under his head till about 9 or 10 o'clock p. m., I then brought him home in the bus; he was quite sensible when I brought him home and left him; there is a mark on the wall where Henry Wood struck; could not say if he had anything in hand or not.

WM. FINLAY, being duly sworn, saith.—Was in Bowman House bar on Friday, the 28th Dec., 1878, in the afternoon between 3 and 4 o'clock; I am the bar tender; saw at that time Mr. Charles Hamilton and Henry Wood in the bar; they were in conversation; the conversation was rather abusive on both sides; I paid but little attention as it was but a common occurrence; as far as I could understand they were joking with each other, and during the conversation Mr. Hamilton turned around and took out some apples and gave Henry Wood one; Mr. Hamilton turned round to go out of the door he said to go home; stopped talking with me a moment; Henry Wood came behind and struck Mr. Hamilton at the back of the head; Mr. Hamilton fell from the blow and nothing else; he remained in the bar from half-past three o'clock to half-past nine o'clock perfectly insensible; was then sent home; did not see him after that, tried to wake him up but could not; put him on the seat in the bar and put an overcoat under his head; William Hamilton, his son, was in several times during the evening.

ARTHUR MCQUADE, being duly sworn, said—I was in Joon Blackwell's tavern on 28th December, 1877. Mr. Sutcliff and I went in. When I first went in Mr. Charles Hamilton and Mr. Trotter were in the front room. Mr. Sutcliff and I passed through to the adjoining room—the dining room. Mr. Hamilton followed in after us and passed us by, and as I supposed was going into the bar. After a short time we heard a heavy sound as if some one had fallen and on looking round we saw him (Mr. Hamilton) lying at the foot of the stairs with his head to the wall on his back. I went forward with Mr. Sutcliff and picked him up and set him against the wall. I said he is dead, then afterwards we put him in a chair and put some water on his head and tried to put some in his mouth, but he could not swallow. Mrs. Blackwell came down with, I think, a broom in her hand. I made a remark:—"Best send for a doctor." Some one else said the same. Mrs. Blackwell said, "best remove him to the lounge in the front room." Four of us carried him there. Shortly after Dr. Norris made his appearance. I stopped for a short time, then went to Mr. Knowlson's office for half an hour. I talked to him then and he seemed all right, perfectly conscious. I saw him the afternoon of the same day in Mr. Bowman's bar. He asked me how it happened. I said I hardly knew. But he said he was all right only the worse for liquor. Did not see him after. Was in such a position as to be unable to see him fall. I did not hear any words between Mrs. Blackwell and Mr. Hamilton. He was lying on his left side when in the position. Mrs. Blackwell remarked he fell down the height of six steps.

EDWARD A. ENGLISH, sworn, said.—On Wednesday, the 2nd January, 1878, Mr. Charles Hamilton came into our place about 7 o'clock p. m. He did not sit down, was only a moment or two in the house. My wife asked him did he not get badly hurt a little before. He said My God I got nearly killed. He was walking with a stick at the time. He stood talking. I was sitting at the stove. He said he was going down the street. He said he was all right.

WM. BOWMAN, sworn, saith.—I saw Henry Wood strike Charles Hamilton; I was coming in the back of the bar, Wm. Hamilton was going out. Wood sprung after him and struck him (Hamilton.) Hamilton fell forward a little and then it seemed as if his legs gave out and he fell in a heap. I do not think he struck anything in falling. Could not say if he (Wood) had anything in his hand. I ran forward to save Hamilton. Wood struck at me. He then went into the counter and afterwards the wall where he left an indentation. Mr. Hamilton was capable of taking care of himself before the blow. Woods hit the wall only once.

Post Mortem Examination.

Drs. HIGINBOTHAM and CORNWALL being duly sworn, made a post mortem examination by the Coroner we proceeded to make a post mortem examination of the body of Charles Hamilton, deceased. Upon external examination the hypostatic congestion following death was noticed, otherwise the body presented a normal appearance. A very slight abrasion of the skin was noticed in front of the right ankle. There was a vesication on the posterior surface of the neck, covering a space, say as large as the hand, and having evidently been produced by a blister. The scalp was then reflected in four places and a contused spot covering say an inch and a quarter square was noticed on the inner surface of the scalp near the superior border of the frontal bone. On removing the cap of the skull and correspondingly to the contusion found on the inner surface of the scalp aforesaid, and on the anterior lobe of the right hemisphere of the brain was seen a large mass of congealed blood, say covering a space of two inches in diameter. The coverings of the brain were seen to be very much congested. The substance of the brain presented a slightly injected appearance. A quantity of effused and frozen blood was found occupying the right anterior fossa and the right middle fossa of the base of the bone. The contents of the thorax were examined and found normal except a large quantity of congealed blood, say covering a space of two inches in diameter. The contents of the abdomen were found normal. We are of opinion that death was caused by pressure of the effused blood upon the brain as aforesaid.

VINCENT CORNWALL, M.D.
F. HIGINBOTHAM, M.D.

The jury after due deliberation returned the following verdict:—That the deceased, Charles Hamilton, came to his death from the effects of a blow given by one Henry Wood on the 28th day of December, 1877.

Our Omemee correspondent writes:—The deceased was born in Ireland and was 59 years of age. He was of humble parentage, a cousin to Lord and Lady Dufferin. He came to this country in 1856 and entered on a business life in the state of Ohio, but failed in business, and came to Canada say. He joined the volunteers and was stationed with his Company at Beauharnois during the Fenian raid of 1866. He married in Lindsay and married Miss Jennings, daughter of the late David Jennings. He was always esteemed as a man who was willing to do a kind turn to his neighbor. His remains were carried to their last resting place on Tuesday by a very large concourse of sorrowing friends, who followed him his widow and two respectable family to their last home.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

—The Simoons are preparing for war with China.

—The Pacific Railway is ironed for eight miles west of Red River.

—Fearful atrocities have been committed by the Christians in Kurdistan.

—The deficit in the German Budget is now expected to reach 35,000,000 marks.

—Lord Roseberry is about to be married to the only daughter of Baron Rothschild, of London.

—His latest in the London *Advertiser*: At the general election in the fall,

When Johnny comes marching home,
We'll get our pull at the cash-box.—
And oh, let that happy time come!

J. Burr-Plumb, his X mark.

—Lennox and Addington Division Grange Patrons of Husbandry, has passed a resolution expressing regret at the action of the Counties Council in granting a vote on a by-law for the repeal of the Dunkin Act, and pledging the Grange members individually and collectively to do all in their power to aid the temperance organizations in supporting the Dunkin Act.

—The Barrie *Examiner* says:—A very delicate surgical operation was performed about two weeks ago, at the east end of the town, by Drs. Morton and Ardagh. An infant of nine months old had partially swallowed a brass wire hook and button, such as is used in connection with pantaloon suspenders, and nearly two inches long. The hook caught in the child's throat, and stuck fast there. Chloroform had to be administered to the little sufferer, and the operation of extracting the hook was successfully performed. For a week or more the child appeared to be gradually wasting away, as very little nourishment could be got into its stomach, but it is now doing well."

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It is the duty of every person who has used BOSCHEE'S GERMAN SYRUP to let its wonderful qualities be known to their friends in curing Consumption, severe Coughs, Croup, Asthma, Pneumonia, and in fact all throat and lung diseases. No person can use it without immediate relief. Three