T. F. Porter.

WHITING ARE WE DRIFT.

We, in

PORTER'S BOOK STORE

Offering for the

LARGEST & BEST ASSORTMENT

of

WALL PAPER,

Lindsay, March 21st, 1878. 969

G. H. Bertram,

BUILDERS' HARDWARE

Nails, Glass,
Locks, Paints,
Hinges, Oils

FARMING IMPLEMENTS.

Scythes, Rakes,
Forks, Spades,
Hoes, Shovels,

And a complete stock of

Carriagemaker's Goods.

HEAVY & SHELF HARDWARE

Now offered for sale by the undersigned at

As low a Price as any other firm in the Province.

GEO. H. BERTRAM,

Sign of the Golden Anvil,
Lindsay.

Banking and Exchange.

A. McALPINE

Broker and Insurance Agent.

Fire and Life and Accident Insurance effected only. Mortgages, Notes, Drafts Bought and Sold, money to loan on Mortgages or other security. Offices in Adams' new block, opposite the Benson House, Kent Street, Lindsay.

BANK OF MONTREAL

Capital $12,000,000.
Reserve Fund 6,000,000.

Interest allowed on deposits, drafts issued and collections made at all points in the Dominion, Newfoundland, France, Germany, and the United States. Buy and sell gold and silver coin. Receive deposits, discount approved paper, make advances on approved security, issue Drafts on London, England, and transact a general Banking business. Office in Lindsay, Williams' block, north of Kent St., building formerly occupied by the Merchants' Bank.

F. L. PORTRIS, Agent.

Reform Nominations.

SOUTH VICTORIA

Ontario Legislature—Hon. S. C. Wood.
House of Commons—John Connolly, Reeve of Ops.

NORTH VICTORIA

House of Commons—Jas. Maclennan, Q.C., Toronto.
Ontario Legislature—James Dickson, J. H. S. Fenelon Falls.

Canadian Post.

LINDSAY, FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1878

THE REFORM DEMONSTRATION

The necessary arrangements for the Reform Demonstration next Tuesday have made very satisfactory progress, and will, we are confident, be found in every respect complete, and such as will be creditable to the Reformers of the County. The event will be one of no little importance and interest; and we can imagine with what enthusiastic gratification the sterling old Reformers of the two Ridings, the men who have upheld the banner of Reform in times when fortune seemed against them and who are no fair-weather supporters, will welcome the Premier and his colleagues on his first visit to this county. Mr Mackenzie will find that he has in the Dominion no warmer friends and no more enthusiastic supporters than are to be found in Victoria, and we are confident that he will go away impressed with the conviction that Reform principles are growing in this county, and that the day will not be far distant when the Victorias will be classed among the strong Reform constituencies of the Province.

Elsewhere will be found the details so far as completed of the arrangements for the day.

It is proposed to have the usual addresses presented to the Premier as soon after eleven in the morning as possible. Mr Mackenzie and his colleagues will arrive by a Midland special from Port Hope at 11.15 and will be escorted to the Drill Shed grounds, where on the platform erected for the speakers, this ceremony will take place.

The young farmers of the county having expressed a desire to join in the proceedings of the day, it has been arranged that an escort of Farmers' Sons on horseback shall be formed, and take a part in the procession. This will constitute a pleasing and somewhat novel feature of the demonstration. From the reports we have received we are inclined to expect an excellent turnout, though there is a drawback experienced in getting saddles for all who have horses or who wish to come. We have no doubt that our young friends will make a very creditable parade, and we are equally confident that an escort of this character will be a source of great gratification to the Reform leaders, who have in a special sense enlisted the sympathy and support of the younger generation, especially in the country. It will be a cause of regret on this ground that the Hon Mr. Fraser, the framer of the Farmers' Sons Franchise Act, will be unavoidably absent, but in Mr. Laurier and Mr Hardy the young men will meet able and eloquent advocates of progressive Reform.

The banquet to the Premier and his colleagues in the evening will afford needed opportunity for hearing popular and effective political speakers. A capital programme has been arranged for this part of the Demonstration.

The Committee have not yet arranged with Mr. Vernon as to the weather for the 28th; but in the event of rain the afternoon speaking will take place in the Drill Shed, which can, it is said, comfortably seat 2,500, and into which, no doubt, more than that number could be accommodated. Everyone, however, will proceed on the assumption that Tuesday will be a fine day, and having a clear sky the Victoria Reform Demonstration will worthily open the series of picnics and gatherings that will no doubt be held throughout the country during the present summer.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Houlihan is at work again in the *Mail* grinding out a "frightful record of Reform extravagance and corruption."

We are pleased to learn from the *Examiner* that Mr. John Bertram has formally accepted the nomination for West Peterboro. No doubt is felt as to his re-election.

Dundas *True Banner*—"The *Free Press* thinks it is an 'outrage' because Mackenzie won't tell just when the elections are to be held. Sir John used to tell, didn't he?"

The by law authorising the issue of $150,000 of city debentures for the completion of the proposed new Agricultural show ground at the west end of Toronto was defeated on Wednesday by a vote of 1,420 to 1,045. A $45,000 school by-law was also defeated.

On the 30th next Thursday there is to be a grand and bona fide workingmen's demonstration in Toronto in honor of Mr Mackenzie for which arrangements are now in progress on a large scale. The workingmen of the city are taking the keenest interest in the affair.

On our first page will be found some valuable extracts under the heading of "Contemporary Opinion." The Bible Christian *Observer* places plainly before the electors the duty of the hour. Some interesting facts concerning the Protection question will also be found in the same place.

St Thomas *Home Journal*: "It is stated on pretty good authority that Sir John has intimated to his followers at Ottawa that they may prepare for another term of five years in Opposition. The outlook is certainly very discouraging to his party, but it is one full of encouragement to the country."

The Quebec *Chronicle* states a number of members have already chosen their seats in the Legislative Assembly. It is a significant fact as showing upon which side of the House the seats are mostly in demand, that twenty have already been reserved on the Government side only five have been yet taken of those to the left of the Speaker's chair."

Halifax *Chronicle*—"We have planted the Liberal standard on the citadel of Quebec," said Mr. Laurier at the close of the hard fought battle in the Eastern division of the ancient capital, and, he added, "it will be kept there." His words have been fulfilled. To-day the Liberal banner floats not only over all the divisions of the capital, but over the province at large."

Guelph *Mercury*—"Sir John told Donald A Smith in 1873 that Ontario was a sort of rotten borough which he could count on supporting him almost to a man. This 'sort of rotten borough' soon after showed Sir John that it was sound to the core for the Liberals, and it will do so again. A 'sort of rotten borough,' forsooth. What an insult to the intelligent electors of Ontario, both Reform and Conservative."

The recent assault on Mr. D. A. Smith in the House of Commons gives *Grip* a subject for one of its most cutting and effective cartoons. The scene is changed to a bar-room where Sir John and Dr Tupper are seated at a table with Burr-Plumb standing by, scrap-book and poetry in hand. Sir John is shouting excitedly, "Smith is a liar! I'll slap his chops! He's a coward! a liar!! liar!!! LIAR!!!" Dr Tupper is indulging in similar epithets, such as "Smith is a liar! a traitor! a villain! a liar! liar!! liar!!!" The Tory "party," a kind of Mrs. Gamp, is exclaiming, as her eyes roll with admiration, "How elegant, how clever, how perlite." Mine Host does not take that view of the question and with warning hand calls out, "Hold up, gents, this isn't the House of Commons. It's a decent groggery. None of your 'parliamentary language' here."

Chatham *Banner*—"We have no hesitation in saying that the action of the Reform convention in nominating Mr. Hugh Macmahon, Q. C., as the Reform candidate for the House of Commons, meets with the hearty approval of the party in all sections of the county, the feeling being unanimous that a worthier leader, or one more certain to command success, could not be named. Mr. Macmahon has taken an active part in the struggles of the party for many years, although yet a young man, and has assisted in many hard-fought battles in behalf of the Reform principles in other western constituencies, as well as in Kent. In sending him to the House of Commons as their representative, the people of Kent will do honour to themselves, and at the same time strengthen the hands of the Reform Government by giving them an able and energetic supporter."

Stratford *Beacon*—"We have heard a good deal lately about the destitution and lack of employment at Ottawa, and have more than suspected that the state of things there was exaggerated. This idea is justified by the statement of Mr. Lowe before the Committee on Immigration on Saturday, to the effect that in answer to enquiries the names of only twenty-seven unemployed persons had been sent in: nineteen agricultural laborers, twelve common laborers, three boys, a mason, a clerk, and a bricklayer, with their wives and children aggregating 111 souls. None of these were recent immigrants; some had been born in Canada, and the rest had been here from five to thirty-four years. The natural inference is that these people, who are all that have come forward out of the mob of hundreds of hooting savages who besieged the Parliament Buildings last winter, have not become destitute so much from lack of work as from their own improvidence or idleness, and it is more than probable that if removed to Muskoka or Manitoba, or anywhere else, they would be no better off, but would expect to be supported at the expense of the community."

St. John (N. B.) *Telegraph*:—"In reference to the Brown-Ross resolution for a duty on flour and wheat, Sir John stated he should vote for the motion, believing that piece by piece the people would be able to get what protection they required. We infer from this statement that Sir John is fully wedded to a protective policy for Canada, and that, as a first instalment of it, he will vote for the imposition of a duty on flour and wheat. If Sir John were merely a private member, the holding by him of such views might be quite harmless. But he is not a private member; he is the leader of a great party; he is the standard bearer of the Opposition in the House of Commons, and, in the event of a change of Government at any time, he would no doubt, be Premier of the new Administration. That being so, his views on so important a subject as the imposition of a duty on flour become of great importance and of great interest to the whole people of Canada, especially to those of the Maritime Provinces. We are glad that Sir John has had the courtesy thus plainly to define his position. He has warned in fairly of what we must expect should he return to power. There is now no excuse for any one not being aware that if Sir John A. Macdonald returns to power he will impose a duty on flour and wheat to prevent the importation of these articles from the United States. The people of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia will make a note of this fact, and act upon it when the proper time comes."

—The *Mail* has once more put the bugle to its lips and frantically announces that the elections are to come off immediately—that "those truculent Grits" are to steal another "midnight march" and have all the elections carried before the Tories get up in in the morning. For our part we think it would be preferable to have the contest brought on as soon if possible and not have it hang over the country during the whole summer. Each party is very well prepared and in a month could be ready in every constituency to go to the polls.

LITERARY NOTES.

THE FORTNIGHTLY REVIEW.—We have received the Canadian reprint (Belford Bros., Toronto) of the April number of this high-class publication. First comes a very interesting paper on "The Political Adventures of Lord Beaconsfield," to be concluded in another number. This is followed by first-class articles on "Politics in Australia," "Modern Japan," "The Resettlement of the Turkish Dominions," and "The Influence upon Religious Beliefs of a Rise in Morality." A paper on "Gustave Flaubert" reviews the life and works of that distinguished author, and an article entitled "Memorials of a Man of Letters," does a similar service for Mr. Napier, for many years editor of the Edinburgh Review, to which position he succeeded Jeffrey. Articles on "Ceremonial Government" and "The proposed Manchester University," with a short sketch on "Home and Foreign Affairs" make up a very able and interesting number.

THE WESTMINSTER REVIEW, just republished by the Leonard Scott Publishing Co., 41 Barclay Street, New York, contains articles on a great variety of subjects of present interest: 1. "The Literature of the Servians and Croats." 2. "Popular Buddhism according to the Chinese Canon." A very interesting account of the life and teachings of Buddha as it is accepted by the popular Buddhist mind. Many a reader will be astonished at hearing that "Buddha is a canonized saint of the Christian Church." 3. "An Indian District: its People and Administration." In this article we are presented with a minute description of the actual condition, social and political, of the Hindu population, and of the working of the British system of district administration. 4. "Peasant Life in France and Russia." The writer of this paper sets out to note a few of the characteristics of the peasant's life in three of its most interesting aspects—his relations to the priest, to the doctor, and to the dead; and points out close resemblances in the manners and customs, opinions and superstitions of peasant life in the two countries. 5. "Our Present Convict System" describes the leading features of the present system, and suggests the general direction in which reform ought to be attempted. 6. "Life of the Prince Consort" reviews the third volume of the life by Theodore Martin, just published. 7. "Russian Aggression and the Duty of Europe" takes strong ground against Russia, pronounces the Czar's victories to be the defeats of freedom, and advises the hand on the hilt of the sword while parleying with Russia. "Contemporary Literature" and an article entitled "India and our Empire" complete the number.

THE BRITISH QUARTERLY REVIEW for April, just republished by the Leonard Scott Publishing Co., 41 Barclay Street, New York, contains some interesting articles enumerated below. "The First Ten Years of the Canadian Dominion" briefly reviews the history of the period, describes the political parties of old Canada, the formation of the Dominion, the rise of the Opposition, and the defeat of the First Dominion Government. "Mycenæ" describes Dr. Schliemann's recent discoveries, and examines at length the traditions about the death and funeral of Agamemnon, with many doubts as to the "prehistoric" theory. A paper on "Victor Hugo" pronounces Victor Hugo to be the greatest European poet of our century, and in illustration of this opinion, criticises in detail his principal poems, dramas, and romances. "A Woman's Reply to Frederic Harrison" is a short protest by Frances Martin against Mr. Harrison's theory of the Soul and Future Life. "The North-West Frontier of India." In this article the principal features of the borderland are described, including the British relations with Afghanistan, and the Persian boundary; the apprehension of a Russian attack on this frontier is pronounced to be an absurd dream. "Constantinople" is an account of the present social and political state of that city, by a writer who has resided there for five years. "The Proposed New University in Manchester" and "The Duke of Argyll and Disestablishment in Scotland," are interesting papers. "The Russian and Turkish War," gives a short account of the actual events and course of the contest up to the present time. "Phases of the Eastern Question" briefly presents the questions which Europe is now called upon to decide or ratify. The closing section, "Contemporary Literature," reviews, as usual, the principal publications of the last quarter. The periodicals reprinted by The Leonard Scott Publishing Co. (41 Barclay Street, N. Y.) are as follows: *The London Quarterly, Edinburgh, Westminster, and British Quarterly Reviews*, and *Blackwood's Magazine*. Price, $4 a year for any one, or only $15 for all, and the postage is prepaid by the Publishers.

AN IMPORTANT BOOK.—Concerning the volume entitled "Canada, under the Administration of Lord Dufferin," now in course of preparation by Mr. George Stewart, the talented young Canadian author, the St. John *Daily News* says it is "a very important and valuable historical work—a book of incalculable interest to every Canadian, and which is destined to occupy a prominent place in our political and social history for all time to come. Mr. Stewart has been indefatigably engaged in gathering materials and his collection of state papers and manuscripts is now both large and valuable." The same paper adds: "Not only will all the beautiful and tender speeches of our accomplished Governor-General be included in the work, but a thorough history of the Dominion during the years of his rule will be given. All the great and absorbing political questions of the day will be ably and vigorously discussed in a fair and impartial spirit, and the book will wield an important influence in the Old as well as in this "true North" of ours. Mr. Stewart is admirably adapted for his work. He possesses a well-balanced mind, a mature judgment, a strong character for impartiality and fine judicial power. In his hands the history will fare well. * * The speeches of the Governor not the least interesting part of the narrative will add zest to the book, and many will be glad to get them in the elegant shape in which the Rose-Belford Publishing Company propose issuing them. The book will be very popular, and Mr. Stewart's name will remain to it a warm welcome from the people of Canada, who will always view with interest the successes which are in store for this brilliant young author. We learn that he is endeavoring to procure a full page steel portrait of Lord Dufferin to form the frontispiece of the new volume. * * In conjunction with this valuable work there will be published an elegant photograph portrait of His Excellency, 24 x 30 inches, similar to those published in connection with *The Atlantic Monthly*, of the poets Longfellow, Whittier and Bryant, and will be sold to subscribers only, at the exceedingly low figure of 50 cents. The whole enterprise is certainly one deserving the highest praise.

TRUE TO THE OLD FLAG.

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

SIR, The accompanying letter received me to-day it speaks for itself. So long as we have such men enrolled in our active militia I think we can afford to treat with contempt the so-called Fenian scare.—Yours truly,

J. DEACON,
Lieut.-Col. 4th Batt. Active Militia.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., *May 17, 1878.*

To Major Deacon, Lindsay.

SIR, I see by the papers, and other signs, that there is a probability of another Fenian raid into Canada. If such should take place, and the Lindsay Volunteers be called out, I, as an old member of the Company, would beg leave to be counted in. My daily occupation brings me in contact with some of them, and the more I see of them the more I learn them, as a force of Canada although at present I am a resident of Uncle Sam's dominion, I am still, and ever will be a Canadian in heart. I therefore beg that you will inform me if Lindsay Company be called out, that I may have a chance to show my devotion to my country. I remain, Yours, &c. &c.

THE "FENIAN RAID."

SENSATIONAL AND ABSURD REPORTS.

The daily papers have had telegrams of an absurd nature respecting another Fenian raid. We are told, for instance, that along the Canadian frontier the Fenian excitement is raging. The country border along the line is full of strangers, and appearances indicate that the rumours of invasion are correct. Every few hours a parcel of ten or a dozen men are passing through this village (Richford, Vt.) towards Canada. Evidently some are tramps. Several carriages by them are reported. The red coats are on the alert.

TRAMPS AT BRIGHTON, ONT.

Last Monday a number of hard looking tramps, supposed to be Fenians, were observed lounging around the woods and Grand Trunk Railway station at Smithfield. The villagers turned out and after a very hard and long chase succeeded in capturing some seven or eight of them. They were brought before T. Webb, Reeve of the village, who questioned them separately, but could not draw out anything more than that they were looking for work. They were allowed to go on promising to leave these parts. Considerable excitement prevailed for a time.

THE EASTERN CRISIS.

A Satisfactory Arrangement expected.

GERMAN MEDIATION—RESULT OF SCHOUVALOFF'S MISSION.

LONDON, May 21.—The following is from a source highly entitled to credit as to the result of Schouvaloff's mission. On certain points Russia and England are now agreed, but on others, one of which is at least of great importance, no agreement could be effected, and he was authorised to submit these questions to the judgment of Emperor William and Bismarck; in other words, Germany is to act as arbitrator. At the same time, however, neither party pledged itself to abide by the decision of Germany, but reserved to itself the right of rejecting the decision, although the chances are that each will accept. This explains Schouvaloff's pause at Berlin yesterday, and his interview with Bismarck, Von Bulow and the Emperor. Peace is now considered more probable than ever.

A Berlin despatch says it is reliably stated that Von Bulow, after an interview with Schouvaloff yesterday, announced that there was every probability of a peaceful settlement between England and Russia.

THE EMEUTE AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

An official despatch to the Turkish representatives abroad thus describes the *emeute* of yesterday:—"About 30 refugees entered the garden of the Palace inhabited by ex-Sultan Murad, and raised shouts of 'Long live the Sultan.' The sentinels opposed their entry into the Palace, and were fired upon. Troops arriving, the assailants were driven back with some killed and wounded on both sides. Ali Suavi, who appeared to be the organizer of the attack, was killed. Public tranquillity is undisturbed."

A Pera special says twenty-one were killed and seventeen wounded in this affair.

DISTRESSED REFUGEES.

A Constantinople despatch says five thousand refugees to-day sent a deputation to the Porte, asking for relief, declaring their provisions had failed, and sickness was increasing among them. The Porte promised them rations would henceforth be regularly distributed.

FAST CRUISERS FOR PRIVATEERS.

The British Admiralty are making extensive arrangements for opposing Russia's scheme of establishing a fleet of cruisers to prey upon British commerce. Counter centres are to be established at Bermuda, in the Bahamas, and at Newfoundland, in the Atlantic, and at Victoria and Fiji in the Pacific. At each station the fleet will consist of three turret ships and three gun-boats of the heaviest armament. Two fast unarmoured cruisers have been put in commission for special service. The Boadicea, an unarmoured corvette, with a capacity of steaming fourteen knots an hour, has just been commissioned, and will probably proceed to the Bahamas. The Admiralty is also considering the adoption of a new propeller which is claimed to increase the speed of steamers one sixth.

RUSSIAN PRIVATEERING.

THE CIMBRIA.

ELLSWORTH, Me., May 21.—There are evidences that the Russian forces on the Cimbria may soon be divided and part transferred. In addition to those who left last week thirteen Russian officers, including the paymaster, left yesterday for New York and Boston. To-day three Russian engineers from the Cimbria passed through Ellsworth on their way to New York. The officers in charge are endeavoring to arrange for the conveyance of the men to Bangor to take the cars for New York.

PORTLAND, Me., May 21.—It is rumoured that a sister ship to the Cimbria is shortly expected at South West harbor.

THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ACT OF 1878.

AN OUTLINE OF THE MEASURE.

[Montreal Witness.]

Many of our readers are congratulating themselves and the country upon the passage by the Dominion Parliament of the Temperance Act of 1878, which certainly reflects great credit upon the Hon. Mr. Scott, who prepared the bill on behalf of the Government, and upon those members of both Houses who for the time laid aside their political differences and heartily co-operated with each other and with the Government in perfecting the measure. We are extremely anxious that something better and more enduring than a mere outburst of enthusiastic joy from temperance people should follow the victory achieved in the halls of legislature. Earnest efforts should be put forth to make the country thoroughly acquainted with the provisions of the new Act, with a view to bringing it into operation in all places that are ready for its adoption. The Act is an additional recognition of the necessity for legislative action with reference to the liquor traffic. In its preamble the desirability of promoting temperance in the Dominion is clearly stated. The new Act repeals the Dunkin Act in the entire Province of Quebec, except in the Counties of Argenteuil, Missisquoi, Richmond and Brome, and the local municipalities where the Dunkin by-law is now in force; these counties and municipalities can continue to enjoy the advantages of the Dunkin Act so long as they see fit to do so, but when once repealed it ceases to be applicable to them and cannot be again submitted. The new Act may be voted upon in any of the counties where the Dunkin Act is now in force, and, if adopted, it *ipso facto* repeals the Dunkin Act as far as that county is concerned. It applies only to cities and counties, a county being defined as including every place, except a city, within the territorial limits of the county, and also a union of counties where united for municipal purposes. The difficulties experienced under the Dunkin Act in consequence of the forms to be observed by officers of municipal bodies are entirely removed, inasmuch as the Act is to be brought into force through the Governor-General instead of through municipal councils. The first step to be taken in any county where the submission of the Act is desired, will be to obtain the signatures of at least one-fourth of the electors to a petition, (forms of which will probably be furnished by the Alliance,) the petition, when duly signed, to be deposited with the county registrar of deeds, for public examination for ten days, then forwarded to the Gov.-General through the Secretary of State, with evidence that the necessary forms have been complied with. On receipt of such petition His Excellency issues a proclamation naming a date on which a vote will be taken, and giving instructions as to the mode of proceeding. The vote is to be by ballot, and to be taken throughout the county or city in one day. The Act contains most satisfactory arrangements for taking the vote, and provides for the prevention of corrupt practices, and the preservation of the peace in connection therewith; it also prohibits the sale of liquors during the day of voting. A majority of the electors voting decide whether or not the law shall be adopted in any city or county, and the decision so reached is unalterable for a period of three years. In the event of the law being adopted, a petition of one-fourth of the electors and a vote of a majority of those voting is necessary to secure its repeal. Where thought desirable to submit the Act, the vote must be taken at least one hundred and fifty days before the expiration of the annual licenses, at which time, if adopted, it comes into operation. The Act prohibits the common sale of intoxicating liquors, but affords opportunities for obtaining wine for sacramental use, and liquors for medicinal or manufacturing purposes. Even in those parts the sale is surrounded by guards, and the number of persons who under any circumstances may sell is very limited. Cider producers, licensed brewers or distillers and licensed wholesale merchants are not affected, nor sell in quantities of either eight or ten gallons (according to circumstances), but only to persons authorized to sell by retail as above, or to those who will carry the same beyond the limits of the county or any adjoining county in which the Act is in force. A person who sells or keeps for sale liquor is liable to a fine of $50 for the first offence, $100 for the second offence, and two months' imprisonment for the third. An employee to hold equally guilty with the principal. The Collector of Inland Revenue in the district is charged with enforcing the law, but prosecutions may be brought by or in the name of any person. Right is given to search places where there is reason to suspect liquors are kept for illicit sale, and the liquor, with kegs, barrels, etc., may be forfeited and destroyed. No appeal from any conviction except such as are made by ordinary justices of the peace is allowed, and several provisions of the Crooks License Act are incorporated to give completeness to the Act. This law is a decided improvement on the Dunkin Act, and we expect in value will be thoroughly tested in several counties before long.

NOMINATIONS AND NOMINATIONS.

[From the Hamilton Times.]

We are delighted to find our contemporary the *Irish Canadian* even partially satisfied, and are not unwilling that it should claim as a triumph for its policy, results to which it is not entitled. We also notice that, so far, the only victory the *Irish Canadian* claims is in the matter of nominations. This is prudent, for we are of opinion that polling day will show that while the Reform nominations in question have been honest ones, the Tory nominations are only for effect.

The Reform nominations to which our contemporary refers are those for South Victoria and Kent. On referring to the last election returns, we find that the opposition majorities in the last contest in those constituencies were as follows:—

South Victoria	69
Kent	72

In both places the parties appear to be not unequally divided, so that the nominations for them are evidently made in good faith and with an almost certain assurance of success. It may be fairly anticipated that the day of Mr. Rufus Stephenson in Kent is over, while South Victoria, which is represented in the Ontario Legislature by a member of Mr. Mowat's Government, is a certainty for the Reform nominee.

The Conservative nominees are for Bothwell, North Middlesex and Cornwall. This looks to us very much like a farce. The Conservatives have been defeated in Bothwell and North Middlesex in the last contested elections by the following majorities:—

Bothwell	508
North Middlesex	258

The Tories have not, under any possible circumstance, the slightest chance of winning either one of these places, so that in nominating Messrs. Hawkins and Coughlin, they well knew that they were going through the farce of nominating them for certain defeat. They might just as well have nominated Mr. Bovle himself for Lambton, for his chances there would have been quite equal to those of Messrs. Hawkins and Coughlin in Bothwell and North Middlesex.

TOWN COUNCIL.

The regular meeting of Council was held on Monday evening last. Present—His Worship the Mayor, Dep.-Reeves Cooper and Diament and Councillors Flavelle, Pilkie, Taylor, Heenan, Flurey and Pogue. The minutes were read and approved.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The CLERK read communications from the following: from C.E. Weller on behalf of H. Calcutt, Peterborough, asking for rebate of brewery license paid the town some three years ago—referred to Finance Committee; from Messrs. Ketchum & McDonnell on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Devlin for injuries received by the latter by falling into a hole in the sidewalk on Caroline-st., on the night of the 27th January last.

Coun. Cahill entered and took his seat.

Coun. PILKIE said the sidewalk on Caroline-st. was in a bad condition. He also called the attention of the Street and Bridge Committee to a bad hole in the sidewalk opposite Mr. Kempt's, on King-st.

The communication was referred to the Street and Bridge Committee; from the Clerk of the Peace notifying the Council that the Ontario Statutes were ready for distribution to Magistrates.

Coun. Ingle entered and took his seat.

FINANCE REPORT.

Coun. FLAVELLE submitted the Finance Report which recommended payment of the following accounts:—

T. A. Middleton	86 00
Montreal Telegraph Co.	2 05
John Irvine, charity orders	2 00

The report was adopted.

SIDEWALK TO CEMETERY.

His WORSHIP said the Cemetery Company had appropriated a sum of money for the construction of a sidewalk to the cemetery, and that the President of the Company was present to ask the co-operation of the town in doing the work. He considered that a sidewalk to both cemeteries was most desirable.

On motion Mr. McLennan was heard. He said the Cemetery Company was pushed by outsiders to build a sidewalk and as their last meeting $50 was appropriated for the purpose. Subscriptions to the amount of $80 had been received from private individuals and he asked that the town would make a grant. He showed that the people of the town who attended funerals were put to the unnecessary expense of hiring rigs, whereas if a sidewalk was constructed they would perhaps prefer walking. He hoped as the work would be a public benefit that the Council would make an appropriation.

In answer to Councillor Taylor Mr. McLennan said that a four plank sidewalk would cost about $450. He added that assistance was anticipated from residents in the township living in the vicinity of the cemetery.

On motion of Coun. TAYLOR, seconded by Coun. POGUE, the application was referred to the Street and Bridge Committee to report at next meeting.

A TAX MATTER.

On motion of Coun. FLUREY Mr. Richards was heard respecting twenty-five feet of his property which he alleged was sold in error for taxes and upon which he had illegally been compelled to pay taxes.

After the complaint had been clearly stated by the Mayor the matter was referred to the Finance Committee.

THE MARKET SQUARE.

Coun. FLUREY called the attention of the Council to the bad condition of the Market Square, caused by the work commenced some months ago not having been completed. He did not approve of the plan of laying down the sidewalks and thought the new arrangement would have the effect of causing the farmers to shun the market instead of making it more popular. He moved, seconded by Coun POGUE, that the south section of the sidewalk on the market square be removed near the market-building.

His WORSHIP said as the matter improving the market square was in the hands of the Committee and the work was not completed, he considered the motion would be one of censure on the Committee for uncompleted work.

A discussion arose as to the point to be gained by the removal of the sidewalk, in the course of which Dep.-Reeve Cooper explained that the walk was put down for the accommodation of parties going from the butchers' stalls to inspect the contents of farmers' wagons. He also said that the committee intended placing a large quantity of gravel on the square which would raise it nearly on a level with the sidewalks.

The vote being taken the motion was lost.

MONEY BY-LAW.

On motion of Coun. FLAVELLE, seconded by Coun. DIAMENT, a by-law was passed authorizing the Mayor and Treasurer to raise by way of loan the sum of $5,000 to meet current expenses of the town.

The by-law was read in the usual form and passed.

APPLICATION FOR A SIDEWALK.

On motion of Coun. POGUE Mr Pierce was heard respecting an application for plank and nails in order that he might construct a piece of sidewalk on Pottinger street. The matter was referred to the street and bridge committee.

THE GRAVEL PIT.

Dep.-Reeve COOPER reported that the Street and Bridge Committee had examined the gravel offered by several parties and had decided to accept Mr. McGinley's tender. He moved, seconded by Dep.-Reeve DIAMENT, that the Mayor be authorized to sign a contract with Mr. McGinley for the quantity of gravel required by the town this year.

Dep.-Reeve DIAMENT said the committee on Thursday last visited Sturgeon Point and afterwards Mr. McGinley's pit, where they procured specimens of gravel and submitted them to practical men who were unanimous in their selection of McGinley's as being the hardest and best.

His WORSHIP also reported to the same effect.

The motion passed.

SIDEWALK MATTER.

Coun. FLAVELLE called the attention of the Council to a bad hole on Bond street caused during the grading of Victoria Avenue by the Victoria Railway Co.

His WORSHIP said that when the attention of the Victoria Railway authorities was called to the matter it would receive attention.

The Council then adjourned.

THE CHINESE FAMINE.

FIFTEEN MILLION PEOPLE STARVING—SIXTY MILLION SUFFERING.

The American Minister to China sends accounts of the Chinese famine up to the middle of March. The district affected comprises parts of, or, the whole of the provinces of Shansi, Chihli, Shantung, Shensi, Honan, Suhnew and Kansu. The actual famine presses upon fifteen millions of people, while fully sixty millions are suffering. There is abundance of food in the country, but a great lack of transportation. The crops have been good immediately around the stricken districts, but as food can be transported only on wagons, or pack animals, it cannot be taken thither in sufficient quantities to save the people. The Chinese officials have done all that is possible. The Chinese have usually classed opium and missionaries as among the chief evils due to foreign intercourse, but the latter are now winning favor through the practical help they afford. There are numerous refugees from the famine district in Pekin and Tien Tsin. In the latter city a house made of mats for the recommodation of suffering women and children was recently burned. One hundred and fifty lives were lost. Recurring famines may lead the Chinese to recognize the need of encouraging adequate means of internal communication.

AN AMERICAN MISSIONARY'S DESCRIPTION OF THE FAMINE—HARROWING DETAILS.

[Rev. S. Wells Williams, in a letter dated Feb. 10.]

This day was the worst of all. I saw abundant proofs of men eating clay or stones, and bought three stone cakes. The stone is the same as our soft stone pencils. It is reduced to dust and mixed with millet husks, in different proportions, and then baked. It does not look bad, but tastes like what it is—dust. The dead seem to number more than on any previous day, for there were 29 in 18 miles along the road, and the circumstances were more frightful. In one valley the road branched into two, and my servant took one while I took the other—one each side the stream. On this road the servant saw a woman lying in a ditch, after being robbed of all she had, and still moving, though unconscious of any one passing by. Further on we saw a man's head cut clean from his body—a cruel murderer's deed. We saw also among the dead some wounded heads, but not dealt by the wolves, dogs or birds. The dogs barked and howled at us when we drove them off from the dead. Many of the corpses seen when we were going had disappeared, but their places were more than supplied by others. To these details of what I saw I give you a briefer account of what I have heard. Some men coming from Sichum, on their way to Peking, said that along the whole way they saw dead bodies here and there. Snow had fallen in Honan province a foot deep, and about eight inches in Shansi to the west and northwest, and none further north in that province. In all that region west of this the cold has been unusual. The solid stone is sold at from two to five mills a pound, and bark from five to seven mills per pound for food. The roots of sweet flags are dug, but they cause the head to swell. Grain is three or four times the usual price, and turnips and cabbage five or six times. Flour is seven, eight and nine mills per ounce. In every city I passed through the report was 20, 30 or 40 dying daily. At Pinge-ting ten great pits had been filled, and two carts were daily employed in carting the dead. One innkeeper told us that one of his customers reported having counted 270 dead on the road in a three days' journey. Whole families, old and young, die in their houses and lie unburied. In one district a third of the population is dead, and the people maintain that in many towns from one-half have perished, and they know villages where formerly dwelt 300, 400 and even 500 people, of whom not more than a hundred now remain.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

—The Wimbledon team sail from Quebec on June 15th.

—Two thousand seven hundred volunteers will take part in the review at Montreal to-day.

—The establishment of a "pop factory" in Guelph is a source of much speculation to the old maids.

—An earthquake on April 12th destroyed the town of Cua, Venezuela and killed three hundred people.

—Land is being rapidly taken up in the Pembina Mountain district. During the first week in May thirty thousand acres were recorded at the Emerson land office.

—A distressing accident occurred at Galt on Wednesday. A small pleasure steamer with eighteen persons on board capsized and eight were drowned, among them Mr. H. Jaffray, of the Galt *Reporter*.

—It is said the Pope has authorized the French Bishops to support the Republic, coupling with the permission a request to that Government to aid the inferior clergy of their country, who are in abject poverty.

—A gas explosion occurred Tuesday morning at the Old Sydney coal mines Cape Breton, by which six lives are known to have been lost. There were between thirty and forty men in the pit at the time of the accident.

—A slight disturbance took place at Ottawa on Monday night, a procession of Orangemen who had escorted a fellow-member to the railway depot having been stoned by a mob. Considerable excitement prevailed, but no one was seriously injured.

—An Orange Young Briton, who said he had joined the Penians for the purpose of discovering their secrets, wrote from Concord, N. H., to Mayor Beaudry, of Montreal, that a movement on Canada was to take place about 31st May. It turned out on enquiry to be a practical joke.

—In Dysart, Scotland, resides a widow woman, hale and hearty, at the advanced age of eighty-three years, who, for several months past, has been sorely afflicted with what mothers term the "teething." She is now in possession of her third crop of teeth, which she jocularly states never had the toothache.

—Mgr. Conroy, the apostolic delegate, will remain in Quebec for a short time to hear those who have complaints to make against the clergy, who are accused of having interfered in an unfair and injudicious manner in the recent election. Those of the dioceses of Montreal, Three Rivers and Rimouski are specially mentioned.

—Asbestos, a mineral worth $100 per ton, and which is reported to exist in Templeton, has been found back of Sydenham, county of Frontenac; it is a mineral of fibrous structure, having the appearance of a vegetable, often of flax. It consists essentially of silica, magnesia and lime, and is incombustible. It is a non-conductor of heat, and is invaluable as a coating for boilers.

—The jury at the inquest as to the cause of death of the late John Colligan, who was killed at the party fight in Montreal on April 29th, have returned a verdict of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown. The verdict was accompanied with a suggestion that the Legislature at its forthcoming session pass an Act prohibiting party processions in any part of the province.

—Ex-Governor Wilmot, of New Brunswick, died suddenly at Fredericton on Monday afternoon. Mr. Wilmot, on reaching home after a drive, walked in his garden. Feeling a slight pain in the region of the heart, he went into the house, and in five minutes was a corpse. The doctor says that the rupture of a blood vessel was the immediate cause of death. Deceased was 70 years of age.

—The resolutions in favor of the project for building a railroad across Newfoundland to form part of a short mail and passenger route between Great Britain and the Dominion, submitted to the Newfoundland Legislature late in the winter, were, it appears, unanimously adopted. In one of these resolutions an annual subsidy of $120,000 beside certain grants of land are offered to any company that will build and operate the road satisfactorily.

—Some 12 butter factories are to be started this spring in the country north of Wellington. The milk from 300 cows has been secured for some of these establishments. In the United States some 300 butter factories have been established this spring, and it would seem that these factories are destined to become as popular, and somewhat more profitable—to both the producer of the milk and the manufacturer than the cheese factories.

—A horrible case of mayhem was investigated at London, Ont., Tuesday morning, before Squires Peters and McGregor, a man named Jas. Ward being charged by Geo. W. Dale with a wanton and ferocious assault, in the course of which Ward attempted to bite off complainant's nose, and did, after much resistance on the part of the latter, succeed in biting off one of his ears. The prisoner made no defence, and was committed for trial at the next general sessions.

—The Ottawa *Free Press* states that the lumber trade is experiencing a revival which will no doubt in a short time restore it to all its old prosperity. Several large buyers are now in the city from the United States, and extensive purchases are being contracted for at improved prices, with an upward tendency. The Eastern market is in a better condition than at any period for some time past, and there are many indications that our lumbermen, have good