



Editorial Notes.

THE question of new parliament buildings for Ontario and voted on last session is on the boards again. Estimates have been received and it is found the half million voted will not be sufficient to build such as the service requires, and it is wisely argued that it is better to do without than erect others which in a short time would require enlargement. It is certainly time Ontario moved in this direction. An old barracks is the proper term for the antiquated and dilapidated pile and it is a standing disgrace to the progressive people of this province that its Legislature should be allowed to meet in so contemptible a building.

RAILROADS, of all the monopolies of ancient or modern times, are the most dangerous to property and freedom. About half a century ago draft animals, waggons, row and sail boats were the principal means of transfer, slow, uncertain and expensive. The result was domestic production, manufacture and consumption. The great mass of the people were therefore isolated and self-supporting. No great political or monied influence could be brought to bear to corrupt the citizens or absorb their property. But how is it now? The farmer no longer supplies his wants in the old way; the cotton and woollen cloths, the wheat, the meats, and the thousand needs and luxuries of life, are procured only by commerce. He now raises cattle or sheep, or other products. He may eat some, but the remainder is sent abroad by rail or steamboat to distant markets, and the proceeds are invested in needed goods, and new freights are paid in return. Thus, too, the railroads have become a necessity. These corporations unhappily have been vested with the whole powers of the country. If these errors are sought to be remedied by the creation of rivals, the competing lines unite their stock and the evils are greatly aggravated. Coal, wheat and other necessities have increased in price by the making of railroads. The corporations grow rich and the people grow poor.—Peterboro' Times.

THE Washington Press says, in a long article on the subject: It is time that these tropical earthquakes and South American revolutions in Iowa school books were stopped; and the way to do it is, for the State to adopt a series of books and get them published at one-half or one-fourth present cost, and then freeze to them, and if necessary enact that school book agents shall be arrested and treated as tramps and robbers. Canada has enjoyed a uniformity system since 1847, and her books cost the people two thirds less than ours. Every fool new teacher that comes along does not suggest a new order of books, as is often the case in the States. California, we understand, has adopted a uniform system. An Ohio teacher of ours, now teaching in San Francisco, compiled a series of books, went to the Legislature and offered them the copy-right, free, in consideration of their publication by the State at low rate and their use made compulsory everywhere. He sent us his Speller, containing several thousand more words than common books, which were furnished at 75cts, if we remember correctly, and we believe the price of the dearest book was 67 cts. Some teachers would howl about this change, but it is not the teachers' affair, but the people's.

Mr. Charlton, M. P., is interesting himself in the matter of a reduction in our Canadian letter postage. He strongly recommends that Canada should follow the example set by the United States in this regard, and there is some appearance that the government will take a favourable view of his recommendation. The statistics show that the reduction of the United States of letter postage by 32 1/2 per cent. only reduced the postal revenue by 3 1/2 per cent., as the quality of mail matter was greatly increased by the lower charges. Taking into granted that this increased ratio would also be the experience of Canada if the reduction were to take place, the loss of revenue

from this source would scarcely exceed \$15,000 per annum. Mr. Charlton said this was not a sufficient amount to trouble the Finance Minister, and he earnestly hoped the Government would see its way to pass such an act, as it would be acceptable and popular with the entire population of the country.—Whitby Gazette.

The doings of the Salvation Army in the different towns in which they have established branches, and their novel modes of conducting their services, have excited a good deal of newspaper and other comment, the greater part of which has been of a favourable nature to the Army. There would seem to be no doubt among those who have watched them closely the effects produced, that much good has been done among the lower classes, and those who have been first attracted to the ranks by the novelty of the proceedings, have remained among the soldiers from love of the Master. This is well, and a few known cases of this nature, have done much to disarm the feeling of disapproval with which at one time many people regarded the advance of the Salvation Army. They are now on their march northward from Barrie and it is likely that in a few weeks their vanguard will be with us.—Peterborough Herald.

Thorah Township Council.

The Council of Thorah, met at the Town Hall, Beaverton, on Saturday, February 23rd at 1 o'clock, p. m. Members all present. Minutes of the last two councils read and approved.

The following reports were read:—

REEVE'S REPORT.

TO THE COUNCIL OF THORAH.—As a member of the deputation of Ottawa in the matter of the Trent Valley Canal I beg leave to report as follows: The deputation arrived in Ottawa at 10:30 a. m., Tuesday 5th day of Feb. and met in committee to appoint a committee to prepare and present an address to Sir Charles Tupper, Minister of Railways and Canals. Owing to some other appointment he, Sir Charles was unable to receive the deputation, until Wednesday at 11 o'clock, when several members of parliament representing counties along the route addressed Sir Charles on the advisability of carrying out the scheme. He in reply said that he had already appointed an engineer to examine into the survey and other matters and report to him at an early date. This report was not yet ready, but when ready he would lay the whole matter in a favorable light before his colleagues. In the meantime he had arranged for doing what work the engineers knew would fall on the route inland. He trusted at no distant day to see the canal built, as it was of much more than local importance. All of which I beg to submit.

ALEX. McRAE, REEVE.

Port Perry, Feby. 6th, 1884. ALEX. McRAE Esq., Reeve of Thorah, Beaverton.

DEAR SIR

I am instructed by Mr. John Sedore to bring an action against your corporation for damages sustained in November last when his horses ran away and his wagon striking against some boulders placed on the road by Mr. Chas. Thompson. If settled without suit my client will take \$100. I may add that I have issued writ to prevent the statute barring the claim but will wait to hear from you before serving.

N. F. PATTERSON.

REEVE'S REPORT.

I find upon making enquiry in the matter of the enclosed claim for damages that at the place where the wagon was broken some stones have been placed a few feet from the fence on the west side of the road to protect the foot-path from being cut up by wheels so as to allow foot passengers a dry and convenient walking track.

That at the said place there are about fifty feet of clear road-way between the telegraph poles on one side of the road and these stones on the other.

That there is also a good gravel track twenty-four feet wide for a road-way.

That there was every facility and convenience for driving along the said road without danger to any party.

That all the evidence attainable appears to show gross carelessness or incompetence on the part of the party driving.

That to admit a liability for damages without fully ascertaining how far the township can be called upon to pay for vehicles destroyed by reckless or incompetent driving as in the present instance would establish an inconvenient and expensive precedent which should not be allowed until it is fully and legally maintained.

In view of the above I would recommend that the claim for damage be not at present admitted but that the matter be submitted for legal advice with instructions to defend the corporation and as soon as the snow goes off sufficient, that a diagram be made of the road at the place indicated showing the exact distance with the road and other particulars necessary for a clear understanding of the case. All of which is respectfully submitted.

CORRESPONDENCE RE MIDLAND RAILWAY.

Feb. 11th/1884.

To GEO. A. COX, ESQUIRE,

President Midland Railway

DEAR SIR.

I am instructed by the authorities of the Midland Railway in the matter of the wharf on Lake Simcoe to be constructed and maintained by your company, under an agreement dated March the 13th 1870, which with other regulations

contains the following: 1st. To extend their said railway to the waters of Lake Simcoe within the limits of the Police Village of Beaverton. 2nd. To construct there a wharf suitable to accommodate all the traffic (both freight and passengers) that may be offered from Lake Simcoe. To construct the said wharf sufficiently substantial to carry the laden trains of the said party of the said part, to carry the said wharf into the Lake to secure a depth of ten feet of water at the time of low water in the Lake, to finish the said wharf by the 1st day of July 1871, and to maintain the said wharf in substantial repair."

That the said wharf was duly constructed and a track laid to the end of the same.

That the said track was taken up and the wharf dismantled.

That on June the 2nd 1883 the Council of Thorah instructed their Reeve to communicate with your company requesting them to carry out the aforesaid agreement and place the wharf in "substantial repair."

That June 7th you acknowledged the communication of the Reeve and promised to bring the matter before a meeting of the board of your directors.

That Aug 1st the Reeve again called your attention to the resolution of the council of Thorah.

That Aug 2nd you replied requesting a copy of the supplemental agreement between the Mid. Railway Co. and the corporation of Thorah. Copy furnished.

That Aug. 4th copy was acknowledged and a copy of the original agreement was requested,—copy furnished.

Aug. 7th copy of original agreement acknowledged and promised to be submitted to the board.

Aug. 29th the Reeve again called your attention to the matter.

Sep. 1st you replied stating that no meeting of the board had been held, but that you would take the earliest opportunity of submitting the matter, since then no further communication has been received.

I again in accordance with a resolution of the council of Thorah passed Jan 21st 1884, call your attention to it, you will perceive that the Township of Thorah have important and valuable rights under the aforesaid agreement, which rights have been set aside by the unauthorised action of your company, who it appears to us should have obtained the consent of our corporation before taking up the track from the station to Lake Simcoe and dismantling the wharf. In the present position of affairs it is important to the interests of our Township that a wharf should be maintained on Lake Simcoe, and before appealing to the Law Courts to assert our undoubted rights, under the aforesaid agreement we again appeal to the company to endeavour to arrange some amicable settlement, as, if the interests of the company do not require the track to the lake, the interests of the corporation of Thorah as before stated require the maintenance of the wharf.

Hoping you will bring this matter before the controlling powers of your line or inform me where it should be sent to obtain their notice.

I remain Yours Very Respectfully.

ALEX. McRAE.

Reeve.

REPLY.

Peterborough, 14th Feb. 1884.

ALEX. McRAE Esq.,

Reeve Tp. of Thorah, Beaverton.

DEAR SIR.

I am in receipt of your favor of 11th inst, which I have handed to Mr. White, as I have retired from the management of the road on the 1st of January, the control of the line as you are aware having been assumed by the Grand Trunk Ry. Co. at that date.

Yours Truly,

GEO. A. COX, President.

REEVE'S REPORT.

In laying this correspondence before the council I think it advisable to point out some matters bearing on the case for our consideration.

From the tenor of the said correspondence we may assume that we shall get no satisfactory settlement without a legal process, which, however it may result, will involve expenses to the corporation, especially as the Railway is now controlled by the Grand Trunk monopoly, who will possibly consider it to their interest to oppose our request.

That should they possibly defeat us in law contest the bill of costs will be considerable.

That in the event of our having the wharf reinstated it would be necessary to purchase, establish and construct a road to it.

That the tariff of wharfage for right to use the same would be controlled by the company, who might exact such charges as to make the same practically useless.

That the said wharf will probably be within the limits of the proposed incorporated village of Beaverton and the question arises whether it would not be better to leave that corporation to deal with it?

If after giving the above statements our best consideration we should decide that the interests of the Township would be best served by asserting our rights, I would respectfully recommend that the agreement be at once submitted for a legal opinion thereon, with a view to ascertain exactly what our rights are, and how to obtain them?

ALEX. McRAE.

Reeve.

Communication from F. J. Gillespie, Mara, claiming aid from the corporation for expenses incurred in the matter of lowering the waters of Lake Simcoe.

Statement of Clerk showing \$48.25 unexpended commutation money in Divisions 17, 18 and 23.

Applications for office of Township Commissioners put in.—Chas. Thompson, Ewen H. Cameron, Geo. Sator, P. E. McDougall. Applications for office of collector of Taxes.—Doh. Ross, John Murray.

Accounts presented, Township Collector's credits on his roll for the year 1883.

Moved by Mr. Galloway, seconded by Mr. F. McRae that the following credits on the Collector's Roll, of 1883 be allowed, viz: exemptions, commissions, charges in error

\$53.78; Fee for collection \$80.00. Carried.

Moved by Mr. F. McRae seconded by W. Westcott that a by-law be brought in to extend the time for the collector to return his roll. By-law read a first, second and third time and passed.

Moved by Mr. Galloway, seconded by Mr. W. Westcott that a by-law be now brought in to appoint township officers named.

Moved by Mr. Donnell, that Mr. Peter E. McDougall be appointed township commissioner. Moved by Francis McRae, seconded by Mr. Galloway in amendment that Mr. Charles Thompson be appointed Township commissioner. Amendment put. Vote taken: Yeas, Chas. Galloway, Francis McRae, Nays, Wm. Westcott, Jas. Donnell and the Reeve. Amendment lost. Motion to appoint Mr. P. E. McDougall. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Galloway, seconded by F. McRae, that by-law No. 4, of 1884, be now read the 1st, 2nd and 3rd time and passed. Carried.

By-law passed.

Moved by Mr. Donnell, seconded by Mr. F. McRae, that the sum of \$48.25, being the amount of unexpended commutation money be paid to Messrs. Alex. Hamilton, James Ritchie, Wm. Taylor and Wm. Smith, a delegation from a public meeting authorized to receive the same, to be expended for fire protection in the village of Beaverton. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Galloway, seconded by Mr. Francis McRae, that the sum of \$15.00 be paid to F. J. Gillespie Esq. of Uptergrove, in aid of the preliminary expenses incurred in the matter of lowering the waters of Lake Simcoe. Carried.

Moved by Mr. F. McRae, seconded by Mr. Jas. Donnell, that the matter of Mr. John Sedore's claim for damages, that the Reeve do submit the case to Jno. E. Farewell, County Attorney, for his opinion thereon and be governed by his advice, as to whether it be defended or a compromise effected with Mr. Sedore. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Donnell, seconded by Mr. Galloway, that the sum of \$2.00 per week be paid to Mr. Geo. Smith to be expended in necessities for the use of Andrew Dudge and family, and the sum of \$5.00 be paid to Mr. Chas. Thompson, for the use of Mrs. George Martin and family. Carried.

Auditor's Report on accounts for 1883 put in and read.

Moved by Mr. Galloway, seconded by Mr. Donnell, that the Auditor's report now read be adopted, that 50 copies of the same be printed, in the form of handbills for distribution. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Donnell, seconded by Mr. Henry Wescott, that Mr. F. S. Depew be refunded the sum of \$4.05 taxes paid in error. Carried.

A number of accounts were presented and ordered to be paid.

Moved by Mr. Galloway seconded by Mr. Donnell, that the council do now adjourn until Saturday the 29th day of March 1884.

GEO. SMITH, Township Clerk.

C. C. Jacobs, Buffalo, N. Y., says: "Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil cured him of a bad case of piles of 8 years' standing, having tried almost every known remedy, besides two Buffalo Physicians, without relief; but the Oil cured him; he thinks it cannot be recommended too highly." There being imitations on the market of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil, customers will see that they get the genuine.

Aug. 22nd, 1883.

Messrs. Churchill & Co., Gents.—I have been afflicted with Salt Rheum for the past three years, and have been treated by some of the best doctors in Eastern Ontario without any lasting benefit. I was recommended by Mr. C. J. Lindsay, of Kars, to try your Fountain of Health. After using five bottles of the Fountain and two boxes of your Clinax Salve, I believe I am perfectly cured. My general health is also much improved, and I now feel like a new man.

Yours truly,

ROBT. BURNETT,

Engineer Str. "Olive," Montreal and Portland Line.

Mr. R. C. Winslow, Toronto, writes "Northrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery is a valuable medicine to all who are troubled with..."

P. D. McARTHUR, BEAVERTON.

Has removed to the

Corner Store,

formerly occupied by John McRae, where will be found

The Largest & Best Stock in Town

OF PURE

Wines and Liquors

and a full stock of

GROCERIES,

FANCY GOODS, CROCKERY

AND GLASSWARE

FARMERS' PRODUCE TAKEN IN EXCHANGE FOR GOODS.

Beaverton Local News.

A beautiful line of Valentines and Birthday Cards opened this week. "The Medical Hall," Beaverton.

The new License Commissioners are getting down to business and all those desiring licenses are required by their advertisement to take them out under the new Dominion Act, on or before the 1st of March.

A shade of gloom has been thrown over the village by the unexpected death of Mrs. Don. McNabb, wife of our esteemed townsman Mr. McNabb. The deceased lady gave birth to an infant son of Friday of last week and was thought to be successfully recovering, until Wednesday, when she rapidly weakened and passed away on Saturday morning. The sympathy of all is with Mr. McNabb in his great trouble and sorrow and with his young family in their great loss of a kind and affectionate mother.

The Firemen's Concert on Tuesday night was one of the best of the many which have occurred here lately. The programme was all that could be desired, and with the exception of its extreme length, (the audience not being released until after the midnight hour) was in every sense a success. The gathering must have been very flattering to the firemen and we learn that the proceeds combined with the grant allowed by the Township will wipe off all liability on the apparatus. For the edification of the citizens, the equipment of the Brigade was tastefully displayed in the erection of a very artistic arch extending over the front of the stage built from such materials as ladders, hooks and pikes, ropes etc., with the arch proper, of pails, the genuine "hand engine" and of which the village may now count 140 all marked and ready for instant action. We hope the time is far distant when their use may be called for, but with all we are pleased to see the Brigade and its equipment a consummated fact.

It is the intention of the Agricultural Society to take steps to bring about spring Horse and Cattle show. All those who are interested in the matter of breeding (and we would remark it should be one of deep interest to all farmers) will please communicate with any of the directors of the society or to Mr. Geo. Smith, Secretary whatever entries or assistance they may be prepared to offer. It must be understood that this show is an experimental one and as such we ask for it every assistance possible so as to render the institution permanent among us. There can be no question as to its utility and advantages and we understand it is intended to also allow of classes for sheep and pigs. An auctioneer will also be employed for the purpose of selling any stock that may be offered. The show will possibly take place on, or about the first of May, and proper notification will be given.

Thorah Council met on Saturday last. An interesting budget of business appears in another column.

The "Judge" finding the council impervious to his overtures for salary the bell is soliciting subscriptions from the villagers. The bell is a very useful institution in the village and we should be sorry to see it fall into disuse. The "Judge" has also been a faithful servant to the bell and certainly deserves a more substantial remuneration than the trifling one at present doled out to him.

Mr. Angus McKinnon formerly of the "Ontario Hotel," of this village has left Toronto for Manila where he has leased another hotel.

Never Give Up.

If you are suffering with low and depressed spirits, loss of appetite, general debility, disordered blood, weak constitution, headache, or any disease of a bilious nature, by all means procure a bottle of Electric Bitters. You will be surprised to see the rapid improvement that will follow; you will be inspired with new life; strength and activity will return; pain and misery will cease, and henceforth you will rejoice in the praise of Electric Bitters. Sold at fifty cents a bottle by John McKinnon, Beaverton.

The report of the Minister of Education shows an actual decrease in the population of this province. The number of children of school age in 1873 was 511,603; in 1880, 489,924; in 1882, 487,317. The total attendance was highest in 1887, when it reached 500,989. In 1882 it was 484,035. From these returns it will be seen that the number of children between five and sixteen years of age in the Province of Ontario was nearly 23,000 less in 1882 than it was eight years earlier. This, of itself, is sufficient to show that our population is slightly decreasing and that the natural increase and the immigration have not been sufficient to overcome the loss that has gone on during the past six years emigration.

WARNING.

If troubled with constipated bowels, never neglect it, or the system becomes clogged, the secretions dried up and the system poisoned with foul gases. Burdock Blood Bitters cure constipation by unblocking the secretions and regulating the glandular system.

HOPE IN HOPEVILLE.

Mrs. McArthur, of Hopeville, declares she could not keep house without Hagar's Pectoral Balsam. It is a remedy in which the sufferer may safely hope for speedy relief and successful cure of Coughs, Hoarseness, Bronchitis, Throat and Lung troubles, which neglected end in hopeless consumption.