

Wm. Donnelly, the Historian.

In a recent letter to the London Free Press Wm. Donnelly stated that the article which appeared in the above mentioned paper was incorrect, and that crime does not exist in Bidulph now as much as it ever did.

About thirty-five years ago all of the farms around the Shamble hill were taken up by colored people. Some of the folks who now call themselves law abiders of Lucan lived that time convenient to the Shamble hill, and being eager to get the lands out of the hands of the poor Africans, were willing to use any means to accomplish their ends.

About twenty-five years ago there lived on the Cedar Swamp Lane, a man named Dunigan, he had a falling-out with some of his neighbors about an oak tree that was stolen off his farm. Dunigan and his neighbors met at a bar where whiskey was plenty, and what occurred? Nine or ten men stripped poor Dunigan, and then put red hot irons all over his body, roasting the flesh on his bones.

About twenty-five years ago an Englishman moved in on a Canada Company lot adjoining Bidulph, and built a house upon it. A gentleman, who now uses more of the side-walk in Lucan can be seen every day, coveting the farm and lot of the Englishman, and threw a lot of trees on the house, smashing it to pieces and frightening the poor stranger, so that he ran away with his life.

Twenty-three years ago a man named Brinigan, from near St. Thomas, bought a farm in Usborne, adjoining Bidulph, and is by the way a Vigilant magistrate, and figured conspicuously in the law suit between my father and Ryder for the burning of the barns, was Brinigan's next neighbor.

About this time the building of the Grand Trunk Railway was being let to contractors. There was a large contract of cutting on a farm owned by a man on the Roman Line. This man had eight sons, who were noted for their treachery and crime.

Twenty years ago a man named William Cahalan, living on the 11th con. Bidulph, had some words with his next neighbor, Mike Cain, better known as "Butt."

In the fall of 1867 my father had his barn full of grain unthreshed, but about three o'clock in the morning we were awakened by the barn being in flames.

In the fall of 1868 old Mr. Tooley, living on the Roman Line, had some trouble or other with his sons, and they would not take off the crop nor allow anyone else to do it.

About the year 1870 Mr. Thomas Morgan's barns were burned on the Shamble Line. The man who set it on fire was running away, but no one suffered for it.

VOL XXIII.

AROUND THE WORLD.

Such is the strength of brigandage in Italy that 8,000 rural policemen are kept on duty in order to make the principal routes safe for traffic.

A new symphony, in three parts, called a Jewish Trilogy, has been written by Mr. Dager Hammerick, director of the musical school attached to the Peabody Institute of Baltimore.

Robson and Crane, the comedians, are members of an old church at Colchester, Mass., which was built in 1719.

The mints of France belong to private corporations, but coin money under the supervision of the national authorities. Any one possessing silver or gold can have it coined.

An eccentric Englishman, long a resident at Paris, has just committed suicide, after having devoted twenty years to a coffee mania.

A magistrate at Stockport, England, stated under oath that he overheard a woman tramp say to a sister: "How much has she got to-day?"

On Wednesday morning the occurrence of a rare nature took place in the exhibition grounds, Toronto. A well known stock breeder from Gaeln, named McEae, has been in that city, for the past week making preparations for the exhibition of his cattle.

COMIC BUDGET.

A good prophet—100 per cent. The latest thing in boots.—Stockings. The trout is often "caught on the fly."

What made of eating oysters reminds you of New Jersey town? The Rah-way, to be sure. The older a sparkling coquette or a fashionable belle grows the more matchless she becomes.

There have been 140 dnels in France within eight months, without the loss of a single life. "Fruit is very high this year," said the tramp wistfully, as he passed the ten-foot wall of a garden.

The Rev. Father O'Reilly, a priest of Osage City, Kan., is undergoing an investigation by the church authorities. He is accused of Becherism.

The perishable nature of eggs has naturally attracted from the value of a standard article of diet. The peculiar excellence of eggs depends upon freshness.

The latest news from Upton to-night says that the wind is rising. No news of fresh disasters had been received, except that in the case of a young man named Tessier, who had been so badly burned that fears are entertained that he cannot recover.

ENGLISH RAILROAD PROGRESS.

A report just issued by the Board of Trade shows, says the London Globe, the development of the railway system during the past decade, in spite of the depression of the past few years.

The whole capital of the railway system in 1879 was £1,776,000, or about 38 per cent. An increase of gross receipts from £2,696,000 to £1,776,000, or 45 per cent., the increase of receipts from railway traffic proper, excluding "miscellaneous," being £1,075,000 to £93,395,000, a 44 per cent. increase.

The whole-souled John McCullough speaks in the following way of the hospitality of London actors: "I must say that I was never treated better in my life than by the members of my profession in London."

The writer of the words and music of "God Save the King" is now unmistakably known to be Ronget de l'Isle, the author of the "Marseillaise."

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THE MURDEROUS FIRE.

Full Account of its Destructive Ravages.—MONTRIAL, Sept. 8.—Most of the inhabitants of Upton and the surrounding district spent a sleepless night, and at an early hour this morning were afoot, the reddened eyelids bespeaking the effect of smoky air and lack of rest.

The wind had fallen and the smoke hung heavily over everything, while the sun seemed to have been smothered by the fog, which was cold and raw, and very disagreeable.

On the morning of the 7th, the wind rose to a gale, and the smoke was driven away, but the fire had done its work, and the district was a scene of desolation.

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