'The Liberal.

RICHMOND HILL, Thursday, March 13, 84

The License Question.

When Sir. John McDonald during the campaign, previous to the Dominion Elections, made the threat in his now-notorious speech at Yorkville, that "if returned to ment of to-day, in politics, in religion, power he would pass an act taking the control of the liquor licenses it will be found to partake considerably from the Local government," we feel of the latter. charitable enough to think he did not forsee the serious consequences likely to arise from such a measure. However, as he has started on his mad scheme, his late acts go to show, that he is determined to carry them out to the bitter end, and is bound to force the McCarthy Act upon the people, which is causing political fashion. much dissatisfaction, not only to the temperance people, but to those engaged in the liquor traffic, who rent of public opinion flows on. plainly see that it is a great injustice toward the provinces.

As to whether the McCarthy Act, as passed by the Dominion parliaface of so many conflicting arguopinion, but, from the decision in right. the Hodge case, by the Privy Counwhich it plainly declared, that the jurisdiction in the matter of dealing with the liquor licenses, there seems little room for doubting the legality of the Crooks Act, notwithstanding the opinion of the great constitutional lawyer, -as the admirers of Sir John are pleased to call him. It is now plainly seen by the people of Quebec, that something must be done in order to find some limit, after which the rights of the provinces must be protected, and even Mr. Meredith, the leader of the opposition has declared that Sir John has gone too far in this matter.

We think, the request of Mr. Mowat, in asking Sir John, not to appoint his officers, nor endeavor to enforce his act until a test case should government of these cities ruled by ignorbe brought before the courts, a very reasonable one, and it such were American gentleman. granted, hotel keepers, and licensed victuallers would know just where they stand, and could govern themselves accordingly, but in the present condition of affairs, they do not has shadowed such legislation, by some feel safe in trusting themselves to the mercy of either, and consequently are compelled to take out their tili I am convinced by arguments. Howlicenses by order of the Provincial and Dominion Legislatures.

No dealer dare ignore the Crooks Act, as he is sure to be fined under its provisions, and the decision in the Hodge case shows him that an appeal would be useless.

Then again, if he ignores the Mc-Carthy Act, in case Sir John persists in his attempts to enforce it, he will be as surely fined by the Dominion authorities, as no justice of the peace will take upon himself has gone to the City to attend to his the responsibility of declaring the act invalid.

While there are several points in the act, which should be met with favor by honest men, yet, as the Crooks Act is on the statute books and has given very fair satisfaction, we look upon this last measure as one of spite, calculated to embarrass friends of this village, as also did Mr. E. the Ontario government and throw it into confusion; nor does Sir John seem to care how much mischief he is the cause of, so long as he accomplishes his ends politically.

LASKAY.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Dehman's dam gave way, the water wear- clone. The names of the parties are well ing a large hole in the north side, bar known. fortunalely, Mr. Lehman got there in time to save it from being a regular by Mr. J. W. Crossley of Springhill, gave smash. He secured the help of some of a very good enterainment in the Music

Our Village Merchant drove up to Aurora to hear the Salvation Army shout given in the Music Hall on the 13th inst.

Manhood Suffrage.

o the Editor of the LIBERAL:

DEAR SIR, -Presuming that the columns of your paper are open to the public, for the discussion of questions of public interest. I venture this note, which is but an inquiry. For, Mr. Editor, I have no settled opinion, upon this question, but my inclination is toward the losing side, or which will be the losing side when the subject of "Manhood Suffrage "comes before the people.

This is an age of progress, or at least of change. Half a century later, the student of history, will be better able to judge, than we can now, whether the ferin everything, is progress or mere restlessness. It is more than probable, that

The change in political sentiment, is probably more marked than in anything else. The Radical of twenty years ago is a Conservative to-day, if he has not studied the questions of the passing years, and sought new occasions for Reform, as old grievances were redresed.

A political Rip. Van winkle, would not need to sleep twenty years to find himself forgotten by his friends. A ten year hybernation would find him clothed in the thread-bare costume of a forgotten

I have been in the habit of calling myself a radical in politics, but find myself in danger of being left aground as the cur-

Is manhood suffrage a necessary condition of a free people? I have always answered these questions with a decided negative, but what I have opposed is sure to be popular not many years hence, and sure to become law. It is unpleasment, is valid, we do not, in the ant to realize, that you are opposing what is sure to succeed, but unless one has a ments, feel competent to offer an popularity of a question does not make it very accommodating conscience, the mere

I am well aware that a step was taken in the direction of Manhood Suffrage, cil, the highest court in the land, in when the "Income Franchise" became law, but that law recognized the fact it Ontario Legislature had exclusive we have to fear but ignorance using it, is not the poorer class using the franchise the class privileged to vote by that franchise being supposed to be generally intelligent.

Would it be safe now to extend the privilege to all ? Is not the class that would be enfranchised by such a law, as a rule the most ignorant, and consequently might they not become easy tools of political demagogues? They have manhood suffrage, I know, in the great Republic south of as, but more than half of the States, are controlled by illiterate voters; more than three-fourths of the Senators and Representatives, are from States controlled by illiterate voters.

An American gentleman showed me, from census returns of the U.S. the number of native born and foreign whites, in several of the American cities. In a number of these, the foreign element outnumbered the native Americans, by a good many thousands-eight thousand in New York, if I remember rightly. We have all read or heard something of the mismanagement, and jobbery, in the ant foreigners. "The condition of their wretched system of voting" said this

Have we not the same thing to fear in our own cities, it all had the franchise. The right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, the "Greater Commoner" has spoken in favor of manhood suffrage, and I reverence him as an oracle in politics. Mowat remarks of his this winter, and I regard him as an honest and shrewd statesman; but still I cannot bow in acquiescence ever, Mr. Editor, I am open to conviction. Perhaps some of your readers can throw light on the subject.

INQUIRER. THORNHILL

(From Our Own Correspondent.) We have learned that Mr. Thomas

Lane has purchased Mr. Lymburner's farm consisting of 150 acres, for the nice little sum of \$12,000. We really think that Mr. Lane has succeeded in making a good bargain, as the farm is so nicely located, being on Yonge St., and within 13 miles from Richmond Hill. We wish him every success on his late purchase.

duties as a Juror. We hope he may enjoy himself and act leniently with the poor fellows who are awaiting their trial.

NOBLETON.

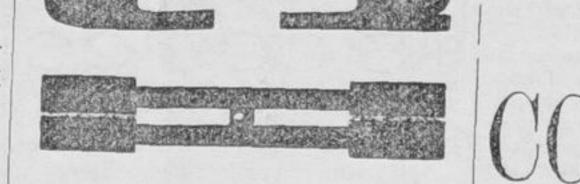
(From our own Correspondent.) Miss C. Card, of Woobridge, has been visiting amongst her friends here for the last couple of weeks.

Mr. Thos McDonald, of Newmarket, spent a few days amongst his many Y. Godfrey, of Meaford.

On Saturday evening, 1st inst., about fifty of the Nobleton Elcesior Lodge of Good Templars paid a fraternal visit to Kleinburg Lodge. A very pleasant evening was spent. Several upsets occurred on the way home through the maliciousness of some evil disposed persons who went to the trouble of digging out one side of the road, making it impossible for On Tuesday morning the 3rd inst., Mr. Fortunately for them no damage was

the village boys and has now got it re- Hall in this village on the 27th ult. The proceeds were applied to the Band Fund.

A Public School entertainment will be the glad tidings of salvation, and came A good programme is in course of prepar-





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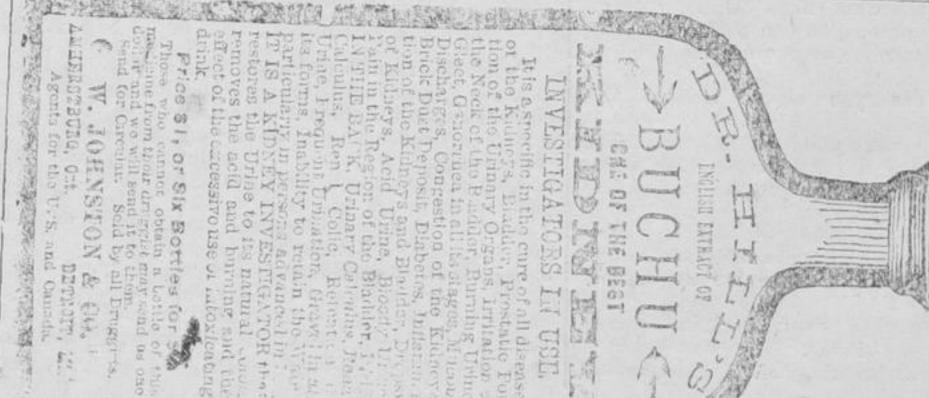
ISAAC CROSBY.

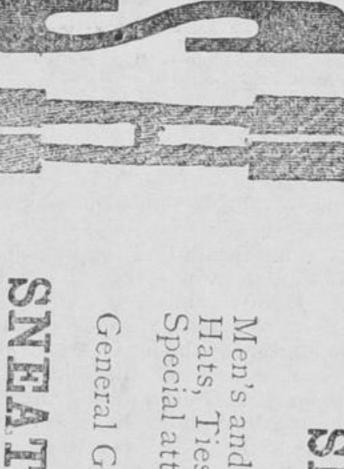
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